Achieving the Dream -- Open Educational Resources (OER): Our faculty’s embrace of OER, low- or no-cost online teaching and learning materials, is relieving many students of the burden of the high price of textbooks. To date, our PimaOnline distance education division has saved students $892,600 in textbook costs by using OER. In Fall 2018, an OER pathway for an Associate Degree in Liberal Arts became available fully online. Students who choose this pathway will have no costs for textbooks as they complete the degree. That translates to approximately $2,000 in savings per student.

The average cost of a textbook is $100 and the average enrollment per CRN after drops/NAs is 25. *Savings for Fall 2018 are based on enrollments captured as of the drop date of 9/17/18.
The OER pathway for the Online Liberal Arts Associate of Arts degree maximizes the opportunities for all students to decrease the cost of their education. Historically, this degree (but not modality- mode or manner) is the most frequently completed at the College, thus PimaOnline is fulfilling our most basic goal to support low income and minority students who struggle to pay for college. PCC students reflect the demographics of Pima County and the City of Tucson which can be characterized by high unemployment, high poverty and low levels of academic attainment. Nearly half or 48.2% of families live at or below 150% of poverty level which is more than double the state level of 21.9% and almost three times the 19.2% national average (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics).

Online courses developed with OER include ANT112, BIO100IN, CMN102, ECN201, GLG101IN, HIS101, HIS102, HIS142, LIT280, MAT142, MAT151, MAT167, PHI101, POS210, PSY101, PSY240, SOC101, SOC120, WRT101, WRT102.

*Enrollments for Fall 2018 are captured as of the drop date of 9/17/18.