



**PRESS RELEASE
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EARN AN ACCREDITED HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AT THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

Career Online High School Program Available for Free to Residents

RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CA. (March 8, 2016) — The Riverside County Library System is offering qualified community members the opportunity to earn an accredited high school diploma and credentialed career certificate through *Career Online High School*, a program brought to public libraries by Gale, a part of Cengage Learning. Part of the world's first accredited, private online school district, *Career Online High School* is specifically designed to reengage adults into the education system and prepare them for entry into post-secondary career education or the workforce. Currently, more than 41,000 adults aged 18 to 24, in Riverside County lack a high school degree or equivalent according to the 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-year estimates.

"Earning a high school diploma is a life-changing achievement," said Dawn Wasley, Riverside County Library System Director of Operations. "By offering *Career Online High School*, we're empowering our residents to seek new opportunities and transform their lives."

"We're delighted to partner with the Riverside County Library System to offer *Career Online High School* and give residents access to education and the potential to change their lives," said Paul Gazzolo, Senior Vice President and General Manager for Gale.

Riverside County Library System will award scholarships for *Career Online High School* to qualified learners looking to earn a high school diploma and advance their careers. Once enrolled, *Career Online High School* pairs each student with an Academic Coach, who assists with developing an individual career plan, offers ongoing guidance and encouragement, evaluates performance, and connects the learner with the resources needed to demonstrate mastery of the course material. Classes are supported by board-certified instructors and students have 24/7 access to the online learning platform. Coursework begins in one of eight high-growth, high-demand career fields (across a wide spectrum from child care and education to certified transportation), before progressing to the core academic subjects. Many students are able to graduate in as few as 4 to 6 months by transferring in previously earned high school credits.

Residents can learn more about *Career Online High School* at Riverside County Library System or by visiting the library's Web site <http://rivlib.info/riverside-county-library-system/diploma>.



For more information or questions, please send an email to mydiploma@rivlib.net.

The Riverside County Library System is a division of the Riverside County Economic Development Agency. For more information, please contact the Riverside County Library System at (951) 369-3003 or visit www.rivlib.net.

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