[Your Agency Name/Letterhead]

[Address]

[City, State, ZIP]

[Email Address]

[Phone Number]

[Date]

Dr. Kevin Walthers

Superintendent/President

Allan Hancock College

800 S. College Dr.

Santa Maria, CA 93454

Subject: Support for Bachelor of Science in Applied Professional Studies at Allan Hancock College

Dear President Walthers:

On behalf of [Your Agency Name], serving our local community in [City/Region], I would like to express our support for the proposed Bachelor of Arts in Applied Professional Studies program at Allan Hancock College. This welcome initiative addresses two challenges we face: the lack of viable options for our existing employees to advance their skills and degrees, and the difficulties we can face in recruiting qualified nonlocal candidates for positions because of what can be a prohibitive cost of living.

At [Agency Name], we are fortunate to employ dedicated individuals who are passionate about serving our community. However, many of our employees face significant barriers when it comes to pursuing four-year degrees. The lack of affordable, local in-person options for four-year degrees often forces them to choose between uprooting their lives or forgoing further higher education. The introduction of the Applied Professional Studies bachelor’s program at Allan Hancock College offers a solution to this dilemma. By providing an accessible, local path to a baccalaureate degree, it empowers our employees and community members to advance their education while remaining a vital part of our community.

Our agency, like many others in our region, has encountered challenges when recruiting candidates for positions requiring a four-year degree. The high cost of living can deter potential candidates from relocating to our area, despite their qualifications and enthusiasm for these positions. The proposed Applied Professional Studies program at Allan Hancock College offers an innovative solution to this dilemma. By providing an accessible, in-person pathway to a baccalaureate degree, it not only supports our current employees who would like to advance their education but also creates a pool of well-prepared individuals from our community who can take on leadership roles within our organization and others like it. For these reasons, we fully support the establishment of this program, recognizing its potential to strengthen our workforce, foster personal and professional growth, and enhance our community's professional landscape.

We thank Allan Hancock College for its vision and dedication to addressing the educational needs of our community. The Applied Professional Studies program represents a crucial step forward in creating an accessible, affordable pathway to higher education and, ultimately, in fostering a thriving and professionally diverse community.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Your Title]

[Your Service Agency Name]