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## **VENTURA COUNTY LIBRARY**

## 5600 Everglades St., Suite A, Ventura, CA 93003

# www.vencolibrary.org

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 2, 2022

SUBJECT: **Ventura County Library Offers Free Access to University-Quality Classes That Help People Get a Job, Or a Better One**

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## DATE: December 2, 2022

**Ventura County Library Offers Free Access to University-Quality Classes That Help People Get a Job, Or a Better One**

Ventura County Library cardholders can now access CAreer Pathways, a collection of digital platforms for online learning tools to meet the needs of those entering the workforce or who want to get a better job, for free.

CAreer Pathways is funded by the State and administered by the California State Library, offers Coursera, GetSetUp, Linkedln Learning, and Skillshare – resources that offer specialized courseware that help people improve job skills and prepare for well-paid jobs.

Coursera offers university-quality classes without the need to enroll in a university and no prior experience is necessary to get started.

GetSetUp offers educational courses to students 50 years of age and older. It offers over 500 classes on various topics, including technology for beginners, vocational and physical health, well-being, and hobbies such as book clubs, cooking, and gardening.

Linkedln Learning is an online learning site that specializes in career-relevant courses in business and technology. The resource offers over 16,000 online courses taught by professionals in practical and career-relevant subjects like time management and creative topics such as mindfulness.

Skillshare focuses on creative professional topics and offers coursework in freelancing skills, graphic design, lifestyle and marketing.

This suite of ADA-compliant resources offers accessible and exemplary educational tools to meet the needs of students and professionals alike. The California State Library has made all this collection of online tools universally available to Californians to accelerate recovery from the pandemic and offer continuing help in returning those unemployed and underemployed to the workforce.

“Unemployed or underemployed Californians are disproportionately women, people of color, young people (under age 25), and people with less than a bachelor’s degree,” the State Library said. “The choice of platforms took this information and other workforce development needs into account and was informed by the responses to a workforce survey sent to library directors in April 2021.”

Access to CAreer Pathways is available through Ventura County Library’s website, [vencolibrary.org/elibrary](https://www.vencolibrary.org/elibrary) with a Ventura County Library card. Library cards are free and can be obtained at any Ventura County Library location. Providing access to CAreer Pathways is another way that the library furthers its mission to serve as a community hub to connect individuals to tools and resources that assist in closing the opportunity gap. The resources available through CAreer Pathways allows the Library to aid in personal economic development, increase digital equity, and support the information needs of a 21st Century society.

For more information on library programs and services, visit [vencolibrary.org](https://www.vencolibrary.org/).

To learn more about CAreer Pathways, visit <https://library.ca.gov/grants/career-pathways>.

*Ventura County Library:  
Inspiring our community to explore, discover and connect.*

The Ventura County Library is available 24/7 at [www.vencolibrary.org](http://www.vencolibrary.org).

[Color_FB_icon_2021_50px](https://www.facebook.com/Ventura-County-Library-68759970694/) [Color_IG_icon_2021_50px](https://www.instagram.com/vencolibrary/) [Color_Twitter_icon_2021_50px](https://twitter.com/vencolibrary)  [Color_YT_icon_2021_50px](https://www.youtube.com/user/vencolibraryvideo)

**Ventura County Library has 12 locations and a Mobile Library**

See our hours of service at <https://www.vencolibrary.org/locations>

El Rio Branch:

* Albert H. Soliz Library, 2820 Jourdan Street, Oxnard, CA 93036

Heritage Valley branches:

* Fillmore Library, 502 2nd Street, Fillmore, CA 93015
* Piru Library, 3811 Center Street, Piru, CA 93040

Mobile Library <https://www.vencolibrary.org/locations/mobile-library>

Oak Park branch:

* Oak Park Library, 899 North Kanan Road, Oak Park, CA 91377

Ojai Valley region branches:

* Meiners Oaks Library, at Meiners Oaks Elementary, coming 2022
* Oak View Library, 555 Mahoney Avenue, Oak View, CA 93022
* Ojai Library, 111 East Ojai Avenue, Ojai, CA 93023

Port Hueneme branch:

* Ray D. Prueter Library, 510 Park Avenue, Port Hueneme, CA 93041

Ventura region branches:

* Avenue Library, 606 North Ventura Avenue, Ventura, CA 93001
* E.P. Foster Library, 651 East Main Street, Ventura, CA 93001
* Hill Road Library, 1070 S. Hill Road, Ventura, CA 93003
* Saticoy Library, 1292 Los Angeles Avenue, Ventura, CA 93004

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