

Candidate's Form

Consolidated Election Office April 4, 2023. Candidates, please respond with short sentences (like bullet points/numbered lists). Your canvassers and community members need to describe your candidacy concisely. The information we are gathering may be present on the DGTD website.

For what position are you running? List the position and the district or municipality (examples: School Board District 99, Mayor Downers Grove). *

College of DuPage Board of Trustees

How is your name listed on the ballot? *

Haroon Atcha

What is the best way for voters to learn more about you (website, facebook or other platforms)? *

<https://www.haroonatcha.com/>

What experiences do you have to help you succeed in the position (e.g. employment, volunteer)? *

I've taught as a college instructor, have worked as a researcher at a community college and currently serve on the student success committee. I've also been working to make CoD a more equitable college since I was a student there nearly 10 years ago.

What do you want to accomplish (list your top three)? *

1. Close equity gaps. Only 10% of CoD's Black students complete a degree in 3 years while roughly 25% of CoD's white students do. These are unacceptable numbers.
2. Make CoD more sustainable. Replacing resource-intense fixtures like water structures and large lawns with indigenous grasses and other, sustainable fixtures.
3. Improve material access to CoD. The cost of tuition is important but transportation, cost of textbooks and access to reliable internet also need to be addressed.

Why are you running (list three short reasons)? *

1. I believe in the importance of public higher education. Higher education shouldn't just be for the wealthy. It belongs to us all.
2. I am a product of CoD. I needed a second chance after high school. I got one at CoD and went on to get my Ph.D. because of it. Others should have the same chance.
3. I've dedicated my career to community colleges. I've taught, done public advocacy and researched at community colleges.

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