

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

Pathway to Law School

Brief Overview

Statewide program - CALawpathways.org



California LAW
PATHWAYS

- Purpose- increase diversity in the legal profession by supporting students who start at a community college - founded by the CA Bar and now run by CCCF
- MOUs with selected CCs, transfer, and law schools - in SD region:
 - Mesa, Southwestern, and Palomar
 - USD, SDSU, CSUSM
 - USD Law, CWSL
- Programming
 - Curriculum and support structure
 - Frequent virtual events
 - Annual Summit in February
- Benefits
 - UC application - recognized program
 - Waived law school application fee
 - Scholarships
 - Power of early self-identification and goal-setting



Awards Ceremony, Annual Summit 2024 at UC Davis Law,
Mesa student Ella Jaravata won the statewide California Law
Pathways student scholarship

CA Law Pathways Grant

SAN DIEGO
MESA COLLEGE

Pathway to Law



Find your path
at Mesa...

Grants of \$99K to selected community colleges

Mesa was selected in 2023

Expenditures

- Annual program fee - \$5000 per year (2024, 2025, and 2026)
- Release time for “faculty champion” for curriculum and program development
- Funding for NANCE support for outreach materials and social media development
- Stipends for 6 mentors and counselor
- Faculty and student travel to Summit (2024 and 2026)
- Stipend for former Mesa student (current UCLA law student) to develop and deliver LSAT workshop
- Guest speakers and events
- Supplies, printing, and tablecloth

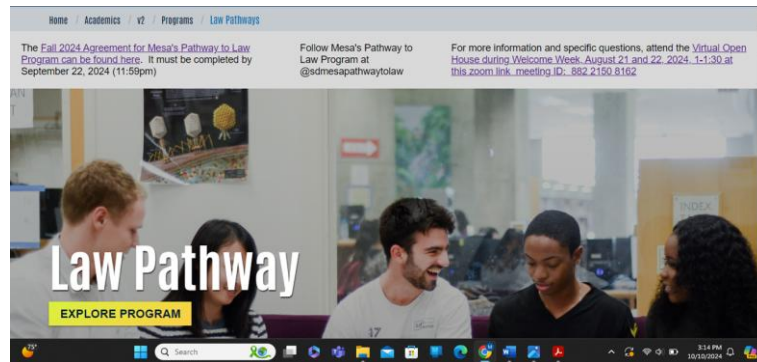
Next steps..

Visit our website at
tinyurl.com/sdmesapathwaytolaw

Complete the Pathway to Law
School Agreement - open at the
beginning of each semester.



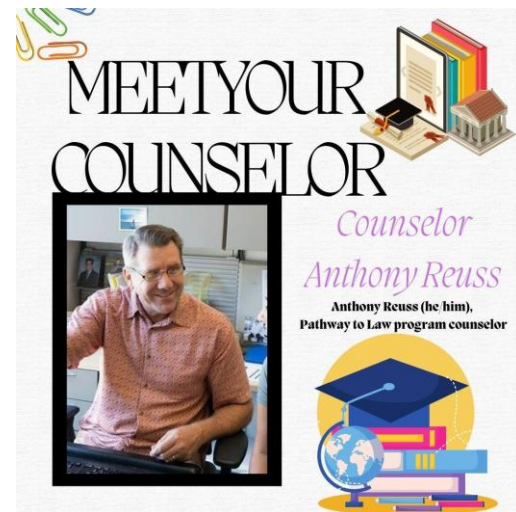
Overview of the pathway at Mesa



tinyurl.com/sdmesapathwaytolaw

Student cohorts:

- Complete program agreement
- Orientation
- Ed plan with Anthony Reuss
- Check-ins each semester
- Spring transfer celebration
- Yearly alumni survey (tips and advice to current students)



Student spotlights



Sheba Candor

2024 SDSU Most Outstanding
Public Administration
Undergraduate

Paralegal certificate from Miramar

Maintained 4.0 while working full-
time

Returned to college after raising a
daughter as a teen mom

Currently L1 at USD Law



About Simon:
Current Senior @ UCSD
Incoming law Student @
UCLA

PREPARING FOR LAW SCHOOL

Curious about attending law school? Join the Mesa Law Club & SDCCD alum Simon to talk about:

Applying to Law School
Studying for the LSAT
Strengthening your Application



🕒 Friday, May 9 @ 11:30AM
📍 Mesa College, SB 111
Zoom Link: To Be Announced!

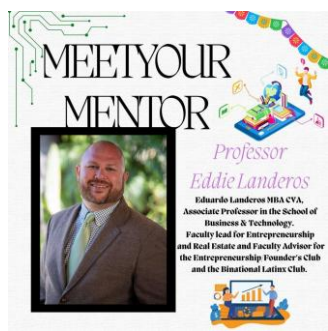
Simon Roberts

UCSD Political Science graduate

Created LSAT workshop for our
students

Interned with SD District Attorney

Currently L1 at UCLA Law

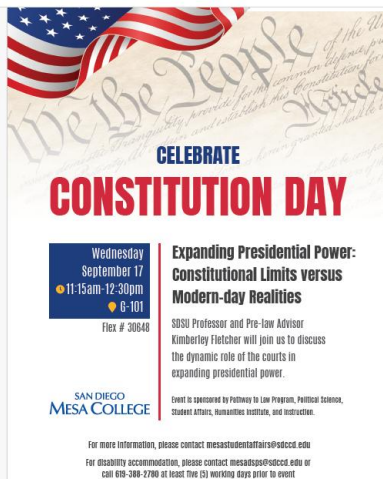


Curriculum

- Law classes: PADM 110 and BUSE 140
- WE 272 - Job Shadowing pilot Spring 2026
- Pathway to Law Certificate of Achievement
- ADT Law, Public Policy, and Society (under review)

Individual support and advising

- Mentors across the curriculum
- Inclusion of Miramar and City students



Visit to USD Law Moot Court Final Competition, 2/2025



● Extra-curricular

- Guest speakers and field trips
- Canvas site with resources including internships and networking resources
- Student Law Club - Wendy Smith advisor
- LSAT workshop
- USD Law/CWSL class session experience
- Internships supported by MIP
- Travel to Summit -5 students in 2026



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!

A presentation by the San Diego County
Public Defender's Office on your civil liberties

Students in the Pathway to Law Program, political science majors, and anyone
interested in civil liberties are invited to attend.

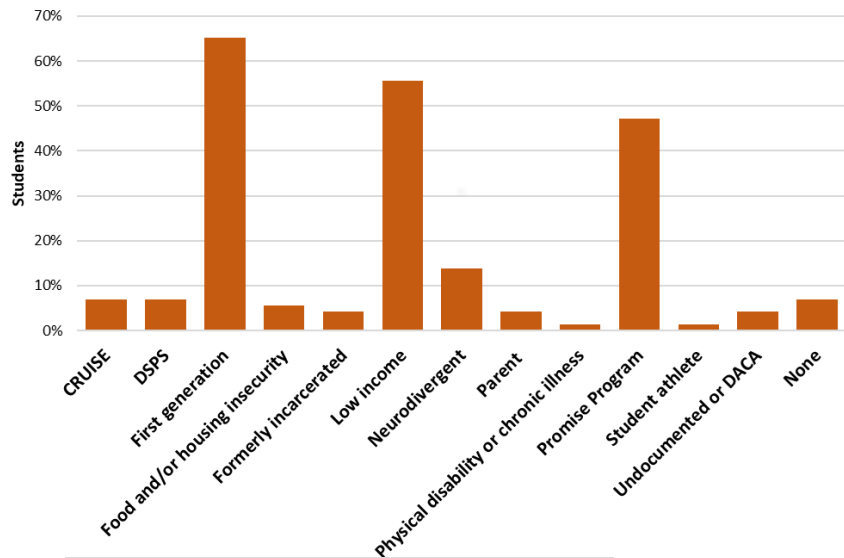
■ Tuesday, March 11
● 11:15 AM- 12:45 PM
◆ D-101

For more information,
please contact Michelle Rodriguez
mrodriguez@sdccdc.edu
SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

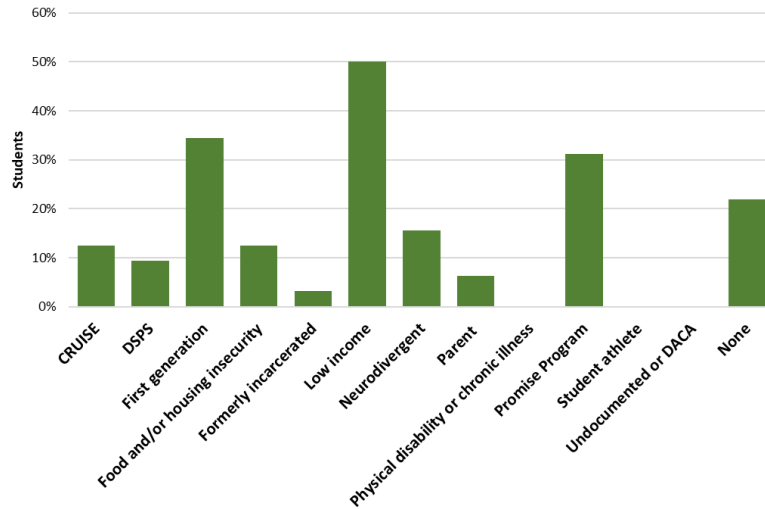


Data on student participation and completion

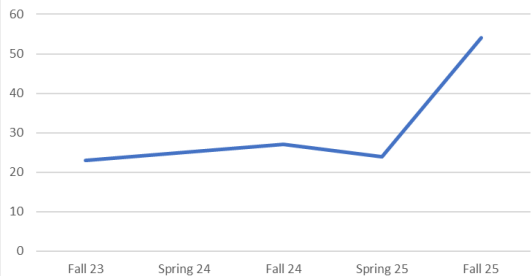
Participating student characteristics



Completing student characteristics

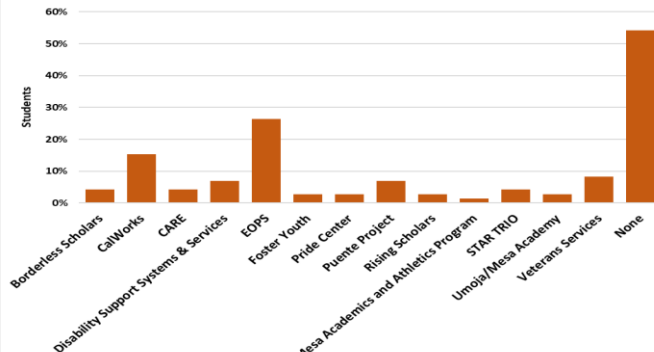


New agreements per semester



Completions
 Spring 24 = 26
 Spring 25 = 18
 Miramar = 3
 City = 3

Participating students: Services Received

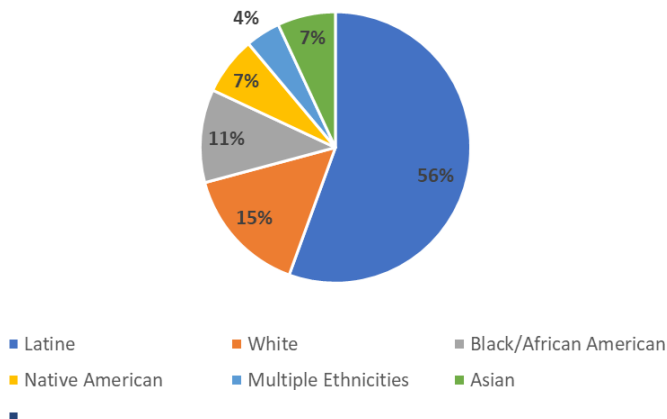


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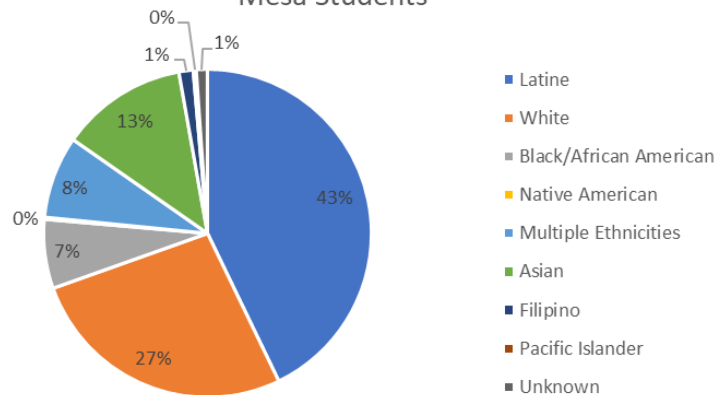
Started collecting demographic data in fall 2023

Participation - does our program reach student populations on an equitable basis?
Students in our program (spr and fall 25) vs students at Mesa

Participation Race/Ethnicity



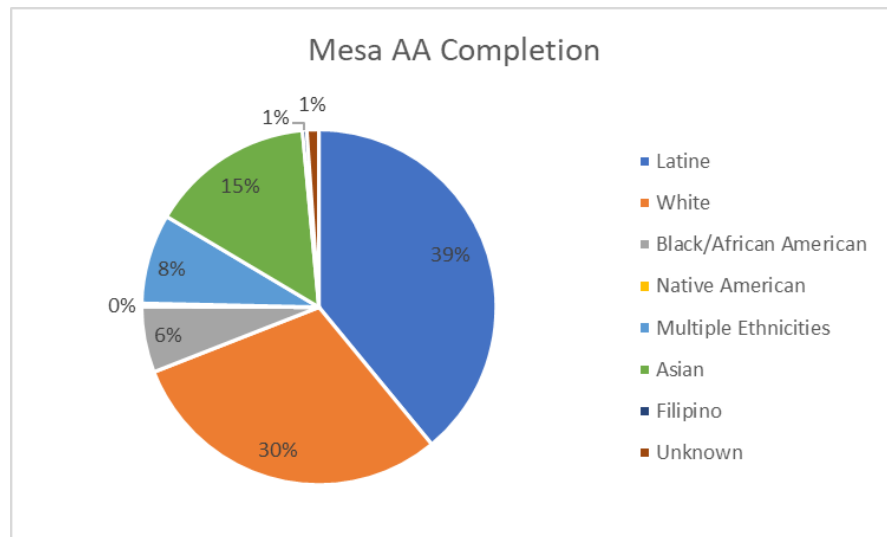
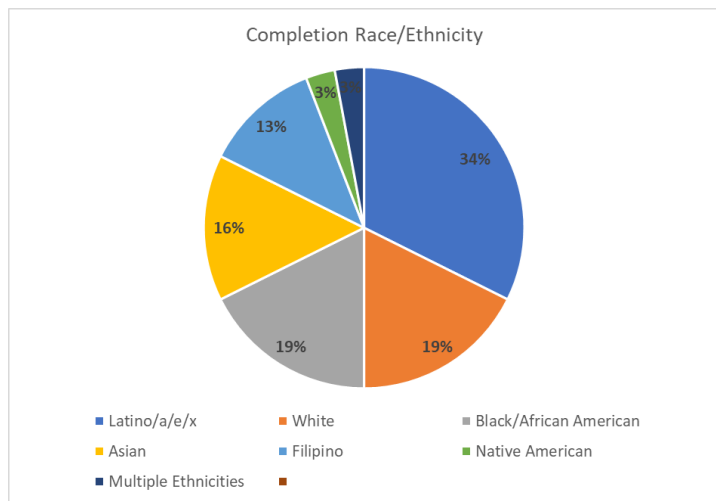
Mesa Students



Data on student participation and completion

Completion - do students complete our program on an equitable basis?

Students who completed our program in Spr 24 and Spr 25 vs students who completed an AA at Mesa in 2024/25



Completion of Pathway to Law CA

2024/25 52 awards. 3.4 years (one of the most efficient CAs at Mesa)

Future Plans

- Job Shadowing WE 272 Pilot during Spring 2026
 - Students co-enrolled in PADM 110
 - 16 hours job shadowing
 - LSAT prep
 - financial workshop
 - law school research
- Increased networking with affinity groups
 - La Raza Lawyers
 - Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association
- More outreach to feeder high schools
- More outreach to student services and counseling
- More collaboration with Miramar Paralegal program
- Fundraising through Mesa foundation
- Continue to track our students: does our program support students in following the path to a legal profession? What is most effective?

MESA COLLEGE
PATHWAY TO LAW PROGRAM



Want to help
community college
students on a path to
a legal career?

we are looking for firms willing to:

- host job shadows and/or interns
- provide guest speakers
- sponsor students to attend the annual conference
- help in other ways...

Contact Michelle Rodriguez
mrodrigu@sdccd.edu

For more information about our
program:
tinyurl.com/sdmesapathwaytolaw

Logos of partner law schools: University of San Diego School of Law, UC Davis School of Law, UCI Law, UCLA Law, Berkeley Law, USC Gould, Chapman University School of Law, San Diego Mesa College Pathway to Law, California LAW PATHWAYS.



THANK YOU!