

SAN DIEGO  
MESA COLLEGE



WEEKLY UPDATES FROM

*Prez Hands*

*Hello Mesa College Community!* .....

**Weekly Update from Prez Hands** provides a brief overview of the exciting efforts taking place within our community. The updates are also a great way to tell our collective story of success, and to document our journey of becoming the Leading College of Equity and Excellence. Enjoy!

.....

OFFICE OF THE *President*



### ***ACCJC Follow-Up Site Visit Successfully Concluded***

We are pleased to share that the ACCJC Follow-Up Site Visit successfully concluded on October 27.

During the visit, our Mesa team had the opportunity to present to the ACCJC Peer Review Team how we have addressed the two ACCJC requirements regarding outcomes assessment, remained in compliance, and built systems, tools, and processes that embed this work into our institutional culture.

A team of 11 Mesa representatives participated in the presentation to ensure the ACCJC team heard directly from the people who have been closest to this work over the past 1.5 years. Together, they shared how our collective efforts have strengthened alignment, consistency, and accountability across the college.

We are proud of what we accomplished and how we worked together to tell Mesa's story of collective action and impact. We look forward with optimism to the Commission's final decision, expected in January 2026.

We extend heartfelt thanks to our presenters, Mary Gwin and Mandy Johnston, and to the entire Mesa team who came well-prepared to represent our campus so thoughtfully and passionately.

**#WeAreMesa**



### **The Presidents Circle: Leading Change for Student Parents**

President Hands was announced as a member of the Generation Hope's California Presidents Circle, the first in a new national initiative designed to equip higher education executives with tools, data, and peer support to truly champion parenting students and their families.

As a part of our FamilyU programming, **the Presidents Circle connects college presidents and chancellors from across California**—who are reimagining how higher education can better serve student parents. Through this 12-month experience, they will receive peer learning, individualized coaching, and space to innovate. In California, where nearly 300,000 undergraduates are parents, the impact is vast and generational.

Read the [full announcement here](#) and watch this space for future Presidents Circle opportunities.

### **DEIA News Mesa October 2025 Edition**

The **DEIA October Edition Newsletter** highlights a series of important cultural and historical celebrations, recognizing and honoring the rich diversity within our community. This month, we celebrate:

**Filipino American History Month**  
**German American Heritage Month**  
**Indigenous Peoples' Day**  
**Italian American Heritage Month**  
**LGBTQIA+ History Month**  
**National Disability Employment Awareness Month**

Each observance offers an opportunity to learn, reflect, and celebrate the many cultures, identities, and contributions that strengthen our Mesa community. To read the October Edition, [click here](#).

# SDCCD TOWN HALL

with Chancellor Gregory Smith

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2025**

North City Campus, 101-102 | 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Credit College Flex #30923

## THE EVENT WILL FEATURE:

- Panels moderated by Chancellor Smith:
  - **Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI)** with Claudia Diaz Carrasco (City) Dr. Toni Trejo Parsons (Mesa), Dr. Ivan Valdovinos Guterrez (Miramar), and Dr. Nessa Julian (Miramar)
  - **Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions (AANAPISI)** with Kirin Macapugay (City), Joshua Lindo (City), and Leland Simpliciano (Mesa), and Dr. Nessa Julian (Miramar)
  - **Immigrant Student Success Program** with Fatima Mota (Continuing Education)
- Important District and College updates from Chancellor Smith

Questions for Chancellor Smith or the panelists can be submitted in advance before 4 p.m. on November 4 at [bit.ly/2025-town-hall-questions](https://bit.ly/2025-town-hall-questions). Live questions will also be taken during the event for those attending in person and on Zoom.



## OTHER WAYS TO PARTICIPATE

If you are unable to attend the live event, the Town Hall can be viewed at: [bit.ly/2025-town-hall](https://bit.ly/2025-town-hall).



**San Diego Community College District**

City College · Mesa College · Miramar College · College of Continuing Education

Accommodation requests: [chancellor@sdccd.edu](mailto:chancellor@sdccd.edu) (at least 5 working days prior to event)



## Employee Housing Survey

The District is moving forward with plans to open its first affordable student housing at City College in fall 2028 and is exploring similar options at Mesa, Miramar, and the College of Continuing Education. In addition, the District is researching partnerships with local developers to expand affordable housing opportunities for employees. These partnerships would not involve District-owned or -operated housing and would not be tied to employment. To ensure these efforts reflect the diverse housing needs of our employees, please take 5–10 minutes to complete a confidential survey conducted by Beacon Rose Partners. Your input will help guide future housing options.

[Click here](#) to complete the survey no later than Thursday, October 30, 2025.

OFFICE OF *Instruction*

## Fall 2025 Update

As we move into the second half of the semester, our second eight-week session enrollment has stabilized to account for instructor and student drops. These drops occurred for multiple reasons, to include addressing any fraudulent actors in the system. This explains the slight dip in headcount which is now at 21,374 versus 21,574 from the same time last week. We are still over our enrollment targets for this semester by 2.8% with an FTES of 6,135. We anticipate very minimal changes at this point to our fall 2025 enrollment numbers. We will begin to examine 2026 Intersession and Spring enrollment activity as priority groups start next week.





**Professor Connie Renda has been honored with the 2025 Triumph Award from the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA).**

This prestigious award recognizes individuals who have made a significant and lasting impact on the health information management profession. Her dedication, leadership, and excellence continue to inspire both colleagues and students across the Mesa community.

For more information on AHIMA and the Triumph Award, [click here](#).

Join us for the **Districtwide Work-Based Learning Summit** on **Friday, October 31, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Miramar College (L105)**. This summit offers an opportunity to celebrate, advocate for, and strengthen work-based learning (WBL) across the district. Following a keynote address by Chancellor Smith, attendees will hear directly from students and employers on the impact of WBL, with faculty presentations highlighting promising classroom practices throughout the day. The event will spotlight how educators are elevating student learning and success through WBL. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

**Flex IDs:** 30442 (City, Mesa, Miramar) | 38109 (CE).  
[REGISTER HERE](#)



**Please welcome our two newest employees here at Mesa College:**

**Grace Lomax** – RADT Clinical Coordinator (Left Photo)

**Ying Shi** – Instructional Lab Technician in Microbiology (Right Photo)

Congratulations and welcome to the Mesa Community! We're thrilled to have you join our team and contribute your expertise, energy, and passion to supporting our students and advancing Mesa's mission of equity and excellence.



It is with heartfelt sorrow that we share the passing of **Professor Shirley A. Orsinelli**, a beloved member and pioneer of the Computer Business Technology Department at Mesa College. Since joining the District in 1982, Shirley dedicated her career to empowering students with the skills and confidence needed to succeed in an evolving technological world. She was the visionary behind the Open Entry/Open Exit Program and the early Online GradeLog System, both transformative innovations that enhanced student learning and departmental efficiency. Known for her warmth, mentorship, and unwavering support, Shirley fostered a true sense of community among her colleagues and students. Her legacy of innovation, compassion, and excellence will continue to inspire the Mesa community for years to come.

---

OFFICE OF *Student Services*



**“TAKING A STAND AGAINST HUNGER”**

#### **Federal Shutdown Impact on CalFresh**

The federal shutdown that began October 1 has delayed CalFresh benefits, leaving over **400,000 San Diegans** temporarily without food assistance. This pause represents **\$73 million** in delayed aid and **\$130.6 million** in lost local economic activity.

#### **What to Know**

- Only **November benefits** are delayed at this time — eligibility and enrollment continue.
- **Students should still apply** for CalFresh.
- **The Stand's Fresh Success Program** remains unaffected for now.
- Benefits will be **issued retroactively** once the government reopens.

- **CalWORKs and Medi-Cal** are not currently impacted.

#### How Mesa is Supporting Students

- **Food Pantry (K106):** Mon–Thurs 8am–5:30pm, Fri 8am–1pm — extra take-home food available.
- **Markets:** Nov. 3 (1–2pm) & Nov. 20 (11am–1pm) with expanded distributions.
- **Basic Needs Counseling:** Apply online for emergency financial help.
- **HHS County Worker:** Wednesdays, 10am–4pm at The Stand.
- **Events:**
  - Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week: Nov. 17–21
  - Student Thanksgiving Meal: Nov. 20
  - CalFresh Application Event: Nov. 18, 1–4pm, BT 218/206
- **Community Food Resources:** San Diego Food Bank, Feeding San Diego, 211 San Diego

#### How You Can Help

- **Donate to The Stand:**
  - In person (non-perishables within date)
  - Online or via Amazon Wishlist — select *The Stand's Gift Registry Address* at checkout.



#### Restorative Practices Training Conference

A group of Mesa College team members from a variety of disciplines recently attended the *Foundational Restorative Justice (RJ) Training Conference* hosted by the University of San Diego's Center for Restorative Justice. This immersive, hands-on experience deepened our understanding of restorative principles and provided valuable tools to strengthen campus and community connections. Through community-building circles, restorative conferences, and reintegration practices, participants explored effective ways to prevent and address harm, foster inclusion, and build institutional capacity for a restorative culture. We are so excited to continue strengthening our community through Restorative Practices and cannot wait to share!

**A special thank you to the Career and Technical Education (CTE) team for funding this valuable professional development opportunity!**





**EOPS/CARE, CalWORKs, NextUp, and Borderless Scholars** partnered this Fall 2025 semester and provided 33 students with an opportunity to attend an **San Diego State University campus tour** this past Friday, October 24, 2025. Students learned about various SDSU student support services, resource centers, student organizations, study abroad opportunities, and more while connecting with their peers.



Congratulations to our **Mesa Speech and Debate Team!** The team earned **2nd place in the Community College Sweepstakes Award**, along with several individual honors, including the **Junior NPDA, Novice NPDA, Senior/Open Speaker, and Novice Speaker** awards. We are so proud of their hard work and outstanding achievements!

The San Diego Community College District Honors Program is excited to announce the **Spring 2026 Honors course offerings** at Mesa, City, and Miramar Colleges!

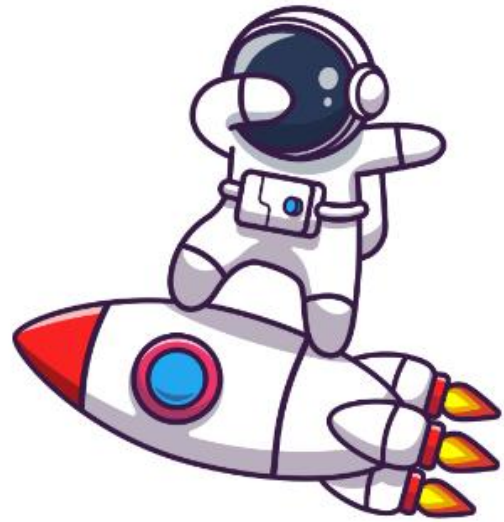
Honors courses provide an opportunity for students to engage in enriched, discussion-based learning, work closely with faculty, and enhance their transfer applications through distinguished academic achievement. To view the full list, a comprehensive list of Spring 2026 Honors courses is included in the attached document. If you're a student interested in joining an Honors class, register early—sections fill quickly!

You can also locate Honors courses directly in the [online class schedule](#). For a step-by-step guide, select [Finding Honors Classes in the Online Class Schedule](#).

# New Issue Alert

[Click here for the latest Mesa Journeys Newsletter!](#)

The Mesa Journeys newsletter gives a more in-depth look at all the great things that are happening on our campus. We encourage all faculty and staff to pass this along to our students, and also to sign up to receive these newsletters straight to their inboxes! Click below to sign up and for more information about Mesa Journeys:  
<https://linktr.ee/mesajourneys>



*Click on the flyer to enlarge*

**TIME MANAGEMENT**

**IS SELF CARE**

Learn new skills and strategies for time management with our DRC staff and collaborators. Decrease stress by staying on top of your responsibilities and making time for the things you love!

**Location: The Stand K105**  
**Date/Time: Mon Nov 3, 2025 12-1pm**

**All Students Welcome!**

San Diego Mesa College  
Dreamer Resource Center  
SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE  
Rising Scholars  
SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE  
NextUP & FAST Scholars

**Stand**  
The Stand at Mesa College

Requests for disability related accommodations should be made no later than 5 (five) working days prior to the event at 619-388-2774

CACM PRESENTS:

**Holiday Pie Making CLASS**

Make & Take two pies of your choice \$55  
Choose from Dutch Apple & Pumpkin Pie

Learn how to make your own holiday pies while supporting our Culinary Student Darrin Phillips who has been accepted to an internship in Spain!

Also, learn how to make a 2-minute pie dough in a food processor that will change your life.  
Recipes included

**November 7, 2025 • 12-2PM**

EMAIL CHEF TONYA WHITFIELD TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT & PIE CHOICES  
✦ TWHITFIE@SDCCD.EDU ✦

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

**SPORTS ORGANIZATIONS CAREER FAIR**

NOVEMBER 05 | 10AM - 1PM  
LOCATION: MESA QUAD

MEET SPORTS INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS!

San Diego Padres  
San Diego Sockers  
San Diego Seals  
San Diego Clippers  
San Diego Mojo  
San Diego Gulls  
San Diego Strike Force  
San Diego Wave

**REGISTER NOW**  
Scan the QR to sign up on Handshake!  
[tinyurl.com/2jnr2bc](https://tinyurl.com/2jnr2bc)

(619)-388-2777 | [mesacareer@sdccd.edu](mailto:mesacareer@sdccd.edu) | 14-306 | [www.sdmesa.edu/career](http://www.sdmesa.edu/career)



**SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE**

# LGBTQIA+ HISTORY MONTH

<b>Thursday 1st Oct.</b>	<b>CHIP HIV Testing</b> 11:00am - 3:00pm • <b>LRC Quad</b> Join us for our annual HIV testing. We will have free HIV tests, and we will also have free HIV counseling. Everyone is welcome.
<b>Thursday 9th Oct.</b>	<b>Forbidden: Undocumented and Queer in Rural America</b> 11:00am - 12:30pm • <b>B-101</b> Join us for our annual Forbidden: Undocumented and Queer in Rural America. We will have free HIV tests, and we will also have free HIV counseling. Everyone is welcome.
<b>Monday 15th Oct.</b>	<b>Positivi-tea: Karaoke</b> 11:00am - 12:30pm • <b>B-102</b> Join us for our annual Positivi-tea: Karaoke. We will have free HIV tests, and we will also have free HIV counseling. Everyone is welcome.
<b>Monday 20th Oct.</b>	<b>Documentary Screening: San Diego Gay Bar History</b> 11:00am - 12:30pm • <b>B-102</b> Join us for our annual Documentary Screening: San Diego Gay Bar History. We will have free HIV tests, and we will also have free HIV counseling. Everyone is welcome.
<b>Thursday 23rd Oct.</b>	<b>Queer Geographies</b> 11:00am - 12:30pm • <b>B-102</b> Join us for our annual Queer Geographies. We will have free HIV tests, and we will also have free HIV counseling. Everyone is welcome.
<b>Thursday 27th Oct.</b>	<b>Safe Zone Training: LGBTQIA+ Allyship</b> 11:00am - 12:30pm • <b>B-102</b> Join us for our annual Safe Zone Training: LGBTQIA+ Allyship. We will have free HIV tests, and we will also have free HIV counseling. Everyone is welcome.
<b>Thursday 30th Oct.</b>	<b>Movie Marathon</b> 11:00am - 12:30pm • <b>B-102</b> Join us for our annual Movie Marathon. We will have free HIV tests, and we will also have free HIV counseling. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, please contact [sdmesapridecenter@sdccd.edu](mailto:sdmesapridecenter@sdccd.edu) or (619) 388-5096

**SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE | Transfer Center**

# Transfer Application Support

UC Application | CSU Application | Common Application

## OCTOBER - NOVEMBER:

**VIA ZOOM:**

- Mondays, 3 - 5 PM
- Fridays, 10 - 12 PM

Register for a Zoom Session: [bit.ly/TransferAppZoom2025](https://bit.ly/TransferAppZoom2025)

**IN-PERSON Room BT-207**

- Tuesdays, 12 - 2 PM
- Thursdays, 1 - 3 PM

Register for an In-Person Session: [bit.ly/TransferOpenLab25](https://bit.ly/TransferOpenLab25)

**\*Please Note:** When registering for an In-Person Session you must select the date you plan to attend. There will be no labs the following dates: 10/9, 11/11, 11/27, 11/28

**CSU USEFUL LINKS:**  
APPLICATION: [www.calstate.edu/apply](https://www.calstate.edu/apply)  
CSU APPLICATION GUIDE: <https://tinyurl.com/csuguide25>

**UC USEFUL LINKS:**  
APPLICATION: [apply.universityofcalifornia.edu](https://apply.universityofcalifornia.edu)  
UC APPLICATION GUIDE: <https://tinyurl.com/ucguide25>

[mesatransfer@sdccd.edu](mailto:mesatransfer@sdccd.edu) (619) 388-2473 14-306 (3rd Floor Student Services Bldg.)

**SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE**

# PHI THETA KAPPA HONOR SOCIETY

## \$5,000 SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

### Scholarship Overview

The All-USA Academic Team recognizes high-achieving students who excel in academics, leadership, and service beyond the classroom. Open to both transfer and workforce students, this \$5,000 scholarship is awarded by college nomination only.

To learn more: <https://www.ptk.org/>

**Eligibility**

- 3.50 minimum cumulative GPA
- Must be on track to a certificate or associate or bachelor's degree
- OPEN TO MESA STUDENTS (not just PTK) (See website for other requirements)

**Apply Online**

Mesa will nominate up to 4 students applicants (2 transfer, 2 workforce) to compete for national and All-State scholarships.

**Help & Support**

MT2C tutoring center offers writing assistance and advising [www.sdmesa.edu/mt2c](https://www.sdmesa.edu/mt2c)

**Deadline: Nov 17, 2025 @ 11:59pm**

**APPLY NOW!** <https://bit.ly/ptklogin>

Email Brittany Branson at [bbranson@sdccd.edu](mailto:bbranson@sdccd.edu)

**SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE | Transfer Center**

# 20 IMPORTANT DATES FALL

TRANSFER STUDENTS - MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>UC APPLICATION</b> Opens 8/1
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>UC TAG</b> Opens 9/1 Submit by 9/30 UC TAG applicants must submit a UC application!
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>CSU APP</b> Opens 10/1 <b>TRANSFER EVENTS</b> Transfer Application Workshops begin 10/1 <b>UC APP</b> Open for submission 10/1 <b>TRANSFER DAY FAIR</b> 10/9 10AM-1PM @ Mesa Quad
<b>NOV   DEC</b>	<b>UC APP</b> Submission Period Closes Nov. 30th <b>CSU APP</b> Submit by Dec. 1st

Scan for more Transfer Resources and Events [linktr.ee/mesatransfer](https://linktr.ee/mesatransfer)

[mesatransfer@sdccd.edu](mailto:mesatransfer@sdccd.edu) (619) 388-2473 14-306 (3rd Floor Student Services Bldg.)

**SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE | Transfer Center**

# TRANSFER COUNSELING

Every Wednesday from 11AM to 12PM in the VSC (K-103)

No Appointment Necessary - Just Stop By!

**HONORING OUR VETERANS**

**GET HELP WITH:**

- Transfer Requirements
- Application Support
- Major Prep & ADT Requirements
- Major Exploration

**Questions?**

E: [mesatransfer@sdccd.edu](mailto:mesatransfer@sdccd.edu)  
PH: 619-388-2473  
[www.sdmesa.edu/transfer](https://www.sdmesa.edu/transfer)

**SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE | Transfer Center**

# THE YEAR OF TRANSFER

Mesa Faculty & Staff - Help Us Promote Transfer Student Success All Year Long!

**Schedule for a Fall Transfer Center Visit!**

We would love to visit your classroom/department to provide Transfer Info Sessions and/or Application Workshop opportunities for your students!

**October is National Transfer Month!**

Wear any College/University gear every Tuesday in October! (10/7, 10/14, 10/21, 10/28)

**We LOVE Transfer Students!**

If you transferred from a community college to a 4-year we want to highlight your story on our web page! Submit your journey here

**Important Transfer News!**

- Application Workshops
- Transfer Day is Oct. 9th @ 10am-1pm
- New ADT Transfer Guarantee with SDSU
- Cal-GETC is the new UC & CSU GE pattern

Scan for more events!

[mesatransfer@sdccd.edu](mailto:mesatransfer@sdccd.edu) (619) 388-2473 @sdmesacollegetc

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE  
Mental Health Services

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE  
Student Success and Equity

## Healing & Empowering Minds



Empowering Minds Healing Circle is a supportive space for Black students to connect, share, and heal in community. Join us for guided reflection, open dialogue, and collective empowerment.

**Thursdays | October 9 & November 13 | 2025**

**12:00pm - 1:00pm**

**I4-402**

For more information, contact 619.388.2774.

**UNDOCUMENTED SUPPORT SERVICES**

*Know Your Rights & Emergency Preparedness Workshops for Undocumented Families*

**Virtual Workshops**

**KNOW YOUR RIGHTS! EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

*Learn about immigrant rights and family safety planning. Facilitated by SDCCD and Higher Education Legal Services. This workshop is open to all allies.*

Each workshop is from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Join Us on Zoom  
<https://sdccd-edu.zoom.us/j/85424752391>

San Diego City College

San Diego Mesa College

San Diego Miramar College

San Diego College of Continuing Education

For more information, or to request disability services (at least five business days in advance), contact Dean Lillian A. Garcia at lgarcia002@sdccd.edu.

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE  
San Diego Community College District

## WE ARE HERE TO HELP! MESA COLLEGE TECH HUB



**CONNECTING CAMPUS THROUGH TECH**

The Tech Hub is designed to provide convenient, walk-up technology services for our students, faculty, and classified professionals.

**OUR SERVICES**

- Wi-Fi & Access:** Help connecting to SDCCD Wi-Fi.
- Canvas & Tools:** Setup and troubleshooting for Canvas, Zoom, Pronto, and more.
- Accounts & Login Help:** Password resets, Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA), SSO issues.
- Email:** Microsoft Outlook.
- General IT Support:** SDCCD devices, software, and digital resources.

**NEED HELP?**  
STOP BY THE TECH HUB IN THE STUDENT SERVICES LOBBY, FIRST FLOOR (I-400)

MON-THURS: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM  
FRI: 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

**CONTACT US OR SCAN THE QR CODE**

619-388-7000  
<https://help.sdccd.edu>

**SCAN HERE**



## OFFICE OF *Institutional Effectiveness*

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness is excited to announce the launch of the redesigned **Awards Dashboard**, a new interactive tool that provides detailed insights into the awards earned by students at Mesa College.

This dashboard allows users to:

**Explore award trends** across programs and student groups.

**Evaluate efficiency metrics**, including time to completion and units earned.

**Analyze equity gaps** to determine whether awards are being earned proportionally across student populations.

These insights help track program effectiveness and inform strategies that guide students toward timely completion with fewer excess units.

You can access the **Awards Dashboard** [here](#).

To schedule a demo, ask questions, or provide feedback, please contact [acaetanofournier@sdccd.edu](mailto:acaetanofournier@sdccd.edu) and [ncortes@sdccd.edu](mailto:ncortes@sdccd.edu).

## OFFICE OF *Administrative Services*



JOIN CLASSIFIED SENATE IN SUPPORT OF LOCAL  
FAMILIES IN NEED - PLEASE DONATE!

## FOOD DRIVE FOR SAN DIEGO CHILDREN'S CENTER

OCTOBER 13 - NOVEMBER 7

### Most Needed Items:

**Food:** Peanut butter, boxed rice/pasta/potatoes, black and pinto beans, canned soup, canned vegetables, children's snacks, juice boxes

**Household:**

- hand soap
- dish soap
- reusable grocery bags

**Contact**

Thien-Y Trinh  
Classified Senate Member -At- Large  
ttrinh001@sdccd.edu



### DROP LOCATIONS

- Business & Technology Dean's office, BT-203
- Math & Science Dean's office, MS-301
- Allied Health Dean's office, S-300
- Veterans & Records, Student Services Bldg.
- the LOFT, LRC
- Institutional Effectiveness, A-109

The **Classified Senate** is proud to host a **Food Drive** for the **San Diego Children's Center** starting this week, **October 13th through November 7th!**

We invite you to join us in supporting local families in need by donating food and household essentials.

If you have any questions, please reach out to **Thien-Y Trinh**, Classified Senate Member-at-Large, at [ttrinh001@sdccd.edu](mailto:ttrinh001@sdccd.edu).



## FOUNDATION CORNER

A space to learn about our latest efforts to connect partners who share our passion for education with opportunities to give. See how fundraising can help you, our students, and Mesa's mission.

[Learn More](#)

BREAKING BARRIERS.  
EMPOWERING MINDS.  
TRANSFORMING FUTURES.





For those of you who generously offer scholarships to our students, we have kicked off the cycle of renewal. Please take a moment to let us know if you will be offering your scholarship this year. All renewals, including funding, are due by **November 10th**.



### **What is an Innovation Grant?**

Through a competitive process, the Foundation will award up to \$3,000 in grant funding to support projects, activities, and equipment that positively impact student success and drive innovation.

→ Access the official Request for Proposals here: [https://bit.ly/InnovationGrants26\\_RFP](https://bit.ly/InnovationGrants26_RFP)

### **How can I apply for an Innovation Grant?**

Submit a completed application form—~~found here~~—**no later than 11:59 pm on Friday, November 7, 2025**.

There are three steps to applying: 1) draft your content; 2) request letters of support from your Dean and VP; 3) submit your application for approval. For details...

→ Access a step-by-step guide and FAQs here: <https://bit.ly/InnovationGrants26-StepbyStep>

**Pro Tip:** Be sure to get an early start to allow time for gathering necessary approvals: the Dean and Vice President of your department must approve your application by the deadline. (Don't worry, this is explained in the application!)

### **How do I fill out my application?**

Use our step-by-step guide to applying for an Innovation Grant—~~found here~~. Reach out to [MesaGrantAdmin@sdccd.edu](mailto:MesaGrantAdmin@sdccd.edu) if you have any additional questions!

**Step 1:** Download and fill out the application practice template—~~found here~~. Consult with your Dean and Vice President during this process.

**Step 2:** Request letters of support from your Dean and VP. You may use the letter templates available here: [https://bit.ly/InnovationGrants26\\_Dean\\_Letter](https://bit.ly/InnovationGrants26_Dean_Letter) [https://bit.ly/InnovationGrants26\\_VP\\_Letter](https://bit.ly/InnovationGrants26_VP_Letter)

**Step 3:** Fill out and submit the online application [here](#). We ask that you do this in one sitting because you cannot save your work.

**Step 4:** Your application is completely submitted! Decisions will be announced in late December or early January.

### **Does my idea qualify?**

The Mesa College Foundation focuses on projects that 1) positively impact student success, 2) align with Mesa's strategic goals, and 3) deliver innovation. Stipends/salary for staff are not eligible expenses.

### **I'm ready to apply!**

Awesome! Because the online application does not allow you to save and edit your work, we've provided a "drafting playground" (Application Questions template) below.

**Access the official application here: <https://bit.ly/InnovationGrants26>**

We look forward to receiving your proposals and facilitating the process of granting out funds! We will be helping out by sending reminders as we move through each step of the process. Be on the lookout for emails coming from me or Dr. Mike Lettieri.

**Want to learn more about grant seeking?**

[View Recording](#)

**To learn more about our Associated Students, Academic Senate, and Classified Senate, please visit the links below:**

## Academic Senate

**For additional information on what is happening on campus and in our community - visit the links below:**

Mesa College Events Calendar

Mesa College | Student Support Services

