

Sent: Thursday, November 13, 2025 2:11 PM



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!

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OFFICE OF THE *President*

Special Board of Trustees Campus Meeting

Date: Thursday, November 13, 2025

Location: MC 211 A/B

Campus Meeting: 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting: 5:00 p.m.

The theme of our campus meeting is **“Rooted in Purpose, Grounded in Equity, Growing Together.”** The meeting will cover several key topics, including Accreditation, Adult Learners, Study Abroad, Impactship, and a Student Highlight. We invite you to join us to learn about Mesa College’s recent accomplishments, celebrate the outstanding achievements of our students, and gain insight into the initiatives currently in progress.



On Monday, Mesa College was honored to welcome Congresswoman Sara Jacobs and her team to the Veterans Success Center for the second annual Vietnam Veterans Commemorative Pinning Ceremony.

The South African greeting Sawubona—"we see you"—held special meaning as we recognized the courage, sacrifice, and enduring legacy of our veterans and their families. As a Military Friendly Campus, Mesa proudly supports more than 4,700 active-duty service members, veterans, spouses, and dependents—our commitment runs deep, from service to success.

We see you. We honor you. We are forever grateful.



"TAKING A STAND AGAINST HUNGER"

UPDATE: Federal Shutdown Impact on CalFresh

As of Friday November 7th California has begun issuing full November benefits for CalFresh/SNAP. Benefits normally issued from the 1st to 7th have now been loaded on to EBT cards. Remaining benefits will be issued as regularly scheduled through November 10.

Please note that there is still some uncertainty on continued benefits as we wait court cases and for the government to reopen. Please continue to refer students to The Stand.

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.



SAN DIEGO
Community College District

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

STEPS TO TAKE IF YOU SEE ICE ON CAMPUS

1. NOTIFY the following SDCCD offices:
Chancellor: (619) 388-6957, or
General Counsel: (619) 388-6589
SDCCD Police: (619) 388-6405

2. ENCOURAGE students to remain in their classroom or a private office of a trusted individual.

(continued on back)

3. WITNESS
Stand by as a witness, if you feel comfortable doing so. You are legally entitled to record enforcement activities as long as you do not directly interfere.

4. RESPOND IF ASKED
"I am not authorized to speak with you, answer your questions, or provide access to any people or facilities per SDCCD policy. Only the District Chancellor and General Counsel have authority to assist you. You may contact the Chancellor or General Counsel at: 3375 Camino del Rio South, Suite 300 or 330 San Diego, CA 92108, (619) 388-6957 or (619) 388-6589."

- Do not give consent for them to enter facilities.
- Do not physically interfere with an officer.

Please take a few minutes to look over the safety cards shared at Convocation that outline what to do if an ICE-related incident occurs on campus. These materials provide clear guidance for employees on how to respond and report appropriately.

The deadline to complete the Campus Climate Survey is Friday, November 14.

We encourage everyone to participate, as your feedback is vital in helping SDCCD identify areas of strength and opportunities for improvement. The survey includes questions about day-to-day experiences, inclusiveness, equity, and interpersonal interactions. Your input will contribute to strengthening our shared values and fostering a more inclusive and supportive environment. The survey has been distributed by the Research and Planning Group ([RP Group](#)).

[Click here](#) to read Chancellor Smith's message.

Mesa College has released the first three classes of the new Instructional Design Certificate of Achievement for Spring 2026.

EDUC 120: Intro to Human-Centered Instructional Design in the Age of AI

EDUC 122: Needs Assessment

EDUC 126: Measuring Impact

This program is designed for students interested in building an instructional design portfolio to start a new career, for current instructional designers looking to upskill, and for educators who want to apply instructional design principles in the courses they teach. Courses are 4 weeks each, fully online, and ZTC (Zero Textbook Cost).

[Click here](#) to view the promo video for the new Instructional Design Certificate of Achievement.



[Click here](#) to view the October 30, 2025 Board Report.

OFFICE OF *Instruction*

Intersession and Spring 2026

We are 8 days into priority registration for Intersession and Spring 2026. We are off to a steady start, with 1,760 individual students enrolled in Intersession and 6,323 individual students already enrolled in one or more courses for Spring. Intersession has a slight increase in FTES at 231 compared to 204 on the same day last year in the enrollment cycle. Spring FTES is currently 2,209 and at the same point in time in last year's cycle, Spring FTES was 1,669. Open registration for Spring 2026 will start December 4. Our focus will be on monitoring how continuing enrollment grows over the next two weeks to ensure our current students, who are not set to graduate this Fall 2025, are enrolling with us.



Minority Serving Institution Grants (AANAPISI & HSI) Present at the Fall SDCCD Town Hall (November 5, 2025)

Last week at SDCCD's *Town Hall: Culture of Belonging*, Mesa proudly represented our Minority Serving Institution (MSI) Grants — including the Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AANAPISI) and Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) programs. AANAPISI Director Leland Simpliciano and HSI Director Toni Trejo Parsons shared best practices and highlighted how these grants are advancing student success and cultivating a stronger sense of belonging across our campus community.

OFFICE OF *Student Services*

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

Thanksgiving Feast

Hosted by the Associated Students

Please join us in kicking off the holiday season!

This event celebrates the spirit of gratitude and togetherness by providing **free food, games, entertainment, and opportunity drawings** for all students.

Join Us

November 20
3:00 - 6:00pm
Mesa Commons
MC-211

The Thanksgiving Feast is a joyful way to kick off the holiday season and bring students, staff, and faculty together as one Mesa family.

For more information please contact:
Courtney Lee
clee@sdccd.edu or call 619-388-2699

Request for disability related accommodations should be made no later than 5 (five) working days prior to the event at 619-388-2699




SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

HUNGER & HOMELESSNESS Awareness Week

NOVEMBER 17-20, 2025



DONATE

Ways to help

The Stand: Donate non-perishable food, professional clothing, and toiletries
Emergency Funds: Residency fund, Student Veterans, Foster Youth, Borderless Scholars

MON 11/17	TUE 11/18	WED 11/19	THUR 11/20
Backpacks & Smiles Mon-Thur 10AM - 5PM Pick up a free backpack - available on a first-come, first-served basis! 4th Floor Student Services Info Desk			
Roadmap to Housing 11am Learn practical steps and resources to help you find and keep stable housing. The Stand K105/106	HeART Circle 12-2pm Express yourself through printmaking and support Mental health. The Stand K105/106	CalWORKS Parent Cafe 10am-11:30am Connect with Student Parents, enjoy brunch, and build community in a child-friendly space on Mesa's campus.	Free Farmer's Market 11:00am-1pm Eat healthy, save money. Free fresh produce & more. Mesa Quad
Mesa Scholarships Preview 2:30pm-3:30pm Applications open soon - get a sneak peek at the scholarship process. ASC 14-409	Family Resource Center (FRC) Room 115 -Or- Zoom: 893 5955 5322	CalFRESH Enrollment Event 1pm-4pm Enroll in CalFRESH BT-218	Thanksgiving Feast 3pm-6pm Join your Mesa family for free food and fun. MC 211
Nutrition Made Easy 1pm A talk about optimal eating and how our diet impacts all aspects of our lives. The Stand K105/106	Knit Together Donation Event 5-7pm Drop off clothing donations or create knitted items to spread warmth to those in need! The Stand K105/106	Student Health Services Location 14-209 M-Th 8am-5pm & F 8am-12pm Student Health Services supports your physical and mental well-being with free or low-cost care, health education, and confidential support for enrolled students. Call 619-388-2774 for an appointment.	Seasonal Flu Shots Location 14-209 M-F 8am-12pm M-Th 1pm-3pm Free flu shots for students at Student Health Services (14-209). Call 619-388-2774 for an appointment.

The Stand
SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE
The Dr. Pamela T. Luster Resource Center

The Stand supports students facing basic needs insecurity by providing **free food, clothing, and other essential resources**.

Students can also meet with a Basic Needs Counselor for direct support.

Apply Today!

M-Th | 8am-5pm
F | 8am-12pm

If you are in need of socks or undergarments, visit The Stand, K106. While supplies last.

Student Health Services
Location | 14-209
M-Th | 8am-5pm & F | 8am-12pm
Student Health Services supports your physical and mental well-being with free or low-cost care, health education, and confidential support for enrolled students.
Call 619-388-2774 for an appointment.

Sponsored by The Stand, Basic Needs Resource Center, Associated Students, Student Health, CalWORKS, Career Center, and Student Affairs
Contact: Joanna Duong at jduong@sdccd.edu

Native American Heritage Month

NOVEMBER 1-30

Stories of Native American Women's History
A display highlighting the stories of five Native American women and their roles in shaping Native American history.

Native American Student Club Meeting: Film Screening
The Mesa College Native American Student Club will be screening a film about Native American history on Tuesday, November 19th, 2:15pm-3:45pm.

Indigenous Languages of Latin America
Come and learn about the array of indigenous languages spoken in Latin America. We will focus on the linguistic diversity and the cultural richness of these languages. The event will be held on Wednesday, November 12th, 1:00pm-2:00pm.

Where We Reside
Informational Presentation about the tribes of San Diego County, their history and current status. We will also discuss the importance of land and the role of the federal government in the lives of Native Americans. The event will be held on Thursday, November 20th, 11:00am-12:30pm.

Transfer 101
It's never too early to think about the transfer pathway from Community College to a 4-year university. The Transfer Center will provide and overview of the transfer process and resources available to students.

What's the Deal with Thanksgiving?
Presentation on the origins and history of Thanksgiving, with an emphasis on the contributions of Native Americans to the holiday in the past and the present.

Kumeyaay Flag Raising
To demonstrate our collective commitment to social justice, we take the historic action of raising the Kumeyaay flag, a symbol of the native peoples of the region. Raising and displaying the flag symbolizes our commitment to our Indigenous communities and the Kumeyaay people.

Native American Heritage Month Resource Fair
Join us this event is celebrating Native American Heritage Month. There will be resources and information on education, career, and community engagement. There will be Indigenous guest speakers and performances.

sdmesa.edu/native-american-heritage-month
For more information or accommodations, contact: ldlaz@sdccd.edu

Veterans Celebration Week

NOV. 7th - 20th, 2025

Friday, Nov. 7th
Scholarship FOR Veterans Golf Tournament
12pm
Cotton Wood Golf Course
We have some slots available for any student veterans that may be interested in participating. Please contact mta@sdccd.edu for more details.

Monday, Nov. 10th
Celebrating Mesa's Vets
11:00 am - 1:00 pm
K-103
Join us for lunch in the VSC as we celebrate our faculty, staff, and students who have served our nation.

Wednesday, Nov. 12th
Career Day
11:15 am - 12:15 pm
K-103
Career Panel of local veteran professionals who have created career pathways in diverse industry sectors. Lunch will be provided.

Thursday, Nov. 13th
Veteran Resource Day
11:00 am - 1:00 pm
K-103
Interact with representatives from some of the local programs and services that are available to help you in a wide variety of areas. Lunch will be provided.

Monday, Nov. 17th - 20th
Mindful Moments: The Joy of Painting
Office Hours
K-103
Take a break from classes and join us at the VSC throughout the week in a self-directed activity where you will have access to painting supplies and a 10 x 10 canvas to paint on.

For more information, please contact Veteran Services Team at SDMesaVets@sdccd.edu Veterans Center, K-103



The Student Veterans Emergency Fund: bit.ly/veteransemergencyfund

PEER NAVIGATORS Scholarship Workshop

AVANZA WORKSHOP ROOM (14-202)
ZOOM ID: 874 3685 1441

Join Us in learning about opportunities to earn **free money!**

Monday, November 10 4:30p - 5:30p
Thursday, November 13 1:30p - 2:30p

Snacks will be provided!

Disability-related accommodations should be made five working days prior to the event via email at mesacruise@sdccd.edu

For more information, contact (619) 388-2757

GET TO KNOW SDSU PROJECT REBOUND

Join us in learning about resources available at SDSU, including Project Rebound – a program dedicated to bridging the gap between incarceration and higher education.

Explore financial assistance programs, as well as transfer pathways to SDSU, and start building a network of staff and peers!

Thursday, November 20, 2025

12:30pm – 2:00pm

Rising Scholars Center,
Room 14-204

Food will be provided



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

@mesarisingscholars
(619) 388-5107
MesaRisingScholars@sdccd.edu

<https://bit.ly/SDSUProjectRebound>

THE LAST RIDE

YOU CONTROL MORE LIVES THAN YOU THINK

November 19th 10:30am-2pm
LRC Quad

Jaws of Life Demonstration
Educational Resources
Guest Speakers
Free Food

Impairment Simulators
DUI Driving Course
Flu Shots

A drug and alcohol prevention event presented by:
SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE
Student Health Services

Request for disability related accommodations should be made no later than five working days prior to the event.
Call (619) 388-2774
Contact Skhambat@sdccd.edu for more info

DEIA-LOGUE

Theme: Commitment to Our Land Acknowledgement

Thursday, November 13, 2025

2:30-3:30 P.M.

14-402 Conference Room



Join us for November's DEIA-logue in celebration of Native American Heritage Month and in honor of the Indigenous peoples whose land we gather on. This conversation will explore Mesa College's Land Acknowledgment, its meaning, purpose, and importance, while reflecting on diverse perspectives and how we can thoughtfully and respectfully use it as a campus community.

For questions or disability accommodations contact:
Dr. Edeema Orwuchekwa Jonah at ejonah@sdccd.edu or Dean Leticia Diaz at ldiaz@sdccd.edu

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

Deadline: Nov 17, 2025 @11:59pm
APPLY NOW!
<https://bit.ly/ptklogin>

Email Brittany Branson at bbranson@sdccd.edu

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

IN-PERSON

Room BT-207

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

Register for an In-Person Session
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.ca1state.edu/apply

CSU APPLICATION GUIDE:
<https://tinyurl.com/csguide25>

UC USEFUL LINKS:

APPLICATION:
apply.universityofcalifornia.edu

UC APPLICATION GUIDE:
<https://tinyurl.com/ucguide25>

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

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

Rising Scholars

"I AM"

Join us for a day of empowerment, connection, and self-discovery! This event is all about embracing your inner power, celebrating your strength, and recognizing the beauty within.

FACILITATED BY RISING SCHOLARS COUNSELOR AVA GILL

DATE: TUES. NOV. 18TH
TIME: 10:30AM - 12:00PM
LOCATION: AVANZA WORKSHOP ROOM, 14-202

EMAIL: MESARISINGSCHOLARS@SDCCD.EDU
PHONE: (619) 388-5107
VISIT: STUDENT SERVICES BUILDING, 2ND FLOOR, ROOM 204

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 *Administrative Services*

Although the deadline for hardware and software requests has passed, the **Print and Mail Services Department** is still accepting requests. However, **priority will be given to those submitted before the deadline.**

Print and Mail Services Department — Print Turnaround Times

- Black & White (Instructional):** Two working days
- Full Color:** Minimum four working days
- Large Format:** Minimum six working days

Notes:

- Pick up at **MC-217**.
- For **inter-office mail delivery**, allow **two additional working days**.
- During the **two weeks before and after the first day of instruction**, allow **three additional working days**.
- Jobs with due dates beyond the delivery timeframe (including mail delivery) will be held at **MC-217**.

For more information, please [click 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 and ncortes@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](#)



Want to learn more about grant seeking?

View the flex workshop hosted by Dr. Michael Lettieri, who is leading grant writing efforts, and Krista Stellmacher, CFRE and Director in service to the Office of Resource Development and Foundation.

[View Recording](#)

Participatory Governance

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

[Associated Students](#)

[Academic Senate](#)

[Classified Senate](#)

In The Know

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

[Mesa College Newsroom](#)

[Mesa College Events Calendar](#)

Ashanti Hands, Ed.D.

President | San Diego Mesa College

Creating conditions that matter for our students to succeed!

7250 Mesa College Drive, A-104, SD, CA 92111 | 619.388.2721

[Mesa College](#) | [Student Support Services](#)

