



*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*



San Diego Community College District

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

## SAVE THE DATE

FOR THE SAN DIEGO

## PRIDE PARADE



# JULY 18, 2026

Hillcrest, from the Hillcrest Pride Flag at University Avenue  
at Normal Street to Quince Drive in Balboa Park (1.5 miles)

**[sdccd.edu/pride](https://sdccd.edu/pride)**

**Be. Belong. Become.**



### Join SDCCD at the annual San Diego Pride Parade on July 18!

Students, faculty, administrators, and classified professionals from the San Diego Community College District will march under the district banner at the annual San Diego Pride Parade on Saturday, July 18, 2026, one of the largest in the country with up to 100,000 spectators expected. This year's parade theme is "Pride Shines On."

The SDCCD has had a presence in the annual parade since it began more than 40 years ago, but will be the eighth year the district marches together as a contingent. Members of the district's Board of Trustees will take part in the celebration, and representatives from every college – City, Mesa, and Miramar, and the College of Continuing Education – will be there, too.

The parade is set to start at 10 a.m. It follows a 1.5-mile-route beginning at the Hillcrest Pride Flag at University Avenue and Normal Street, continues west on University Avenue, turns south on Sixth Avenue and left onto Balboa Drive and ends at Quince Drive.

Free T-shirts will be provided to the first 300 SDCCD participants. Free shuttle service will run between

the Old Naval Hospital, on President's Way and Park Boulevard, to the start of the parade route.

[Sign up to walk with the SDCCD at the Pride Parade](#)

### Join Us for Mesa's Disability Pride Flag Raising Ceremony!

We would like to invite you to join us for Mesa's Disability Pride Flag Raising Ceremony. The purpose of the flag raising ceremony is to acknowledge the importance of disability awareness, advocacy, and accessibility. All are welcome!

#### Event Details

**Date:** Monday, July 20th

**Time:** 10:00am - 10:30am

**Location:** Mesa College Flag Pole (Between Parking Lots 8, 9, and 10)

The Disability Pride Flag Raising Ceremony will feature speakers, photo opportunities, and light refreshments!

For any questions and accommodations, please contact Erika Higginbotham at 619-388-2780 or [ehigginb@sdccd.edu](mailto:ehigginb@sdccd.edu)

We hope to see you there!



## LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER **CLOSED** FOR RENOVATIONS

During the summer, the LRC Building will be closed from June 8 - **August 21, 2026** for renovations. Library services and tutoring support will continue at the temporary locations listed below.

#### Circulation and Help Desk Services B-106

- Laptop checkout and returns
- Calculator checkout and returns
- Computer and printing stations
- Course reserves
- Book checkout and returns
- Study spaces with whiteboards
- Book scanner

#### Research and Study Space D-108

- Librarian research assistance
- Individual study spaces
- Study spaces with whiteboards
- New books available for checkout
- Library materials return

#### Tutoring Services K-108A

- Onsite tutoring | 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- Virtual tutoring | 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Library services are available **Monday - Thursday from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.** and closed Friday - Sunday. For questions or more information, please contact 619-388-2696 or [mesalibraryrequest@sdccd.edu](mailto:mesalibraryrequest@sdccd.edu).



Join us for the San Diego Mesa College Olympian Open on **July 24, 2026**, at 12 p.m. as we tee off to support our incredible student athletes. This signature golf fundraiser brings together community leaders, alumni, and champions of education for a day of fun, connection, and purpose. Your participation, whether through sponsorships, donations, or in kind gifts, directly fuels athletic equipment and academic support that help our Olympians succeed both on the field and in the classroom.

[!\[\]\(4729e517bc6a7cd81c8025b9646574fb\_img.jpg\) Register and Donate](#)



## 🚁 ✨ Olympian Open Helicopter Ball Drop is here! ✨ 🚁

Join the San Diego Mesa College Foundation for an exciting day of fun, prizes, and community impact at the Olympian Open Helicopter Ball Drop!

🚁 500 golf balls will be dropped from a helicopter

🎯 One ball will land closest to the target — and WIN BIG!

🏆 Amazing prizes including:

- 5-night stay (Sedona, Palm Springs, or Lake Tahoe)
- 2027 Olympian Open Foursome
- Sycuan Casino stay & play package
- \$500 gift card
- San Diego Sockers family bundle for 8 people

💙 Every entry supports student success and scholarships at San Diego Mesa College!

📍 Don't miss your chance to be part of this unforgettable event.

📱 Scan the QR code or access to the link:

<https://givebutter.com/c/SDMCAthleticsOlympianOpen2026>

**OLYMPIAN OPEN**

# HELICOPTER BALL DROP

★ ONE BALL. BIG POSSIBILITIES. ★

500 golf balls dropped from a helicopter. One will land closest to the target and **WIN BIG!**

★ AMAZING PRIZES ★

- 5-NIGHT STAY**  
AT YOUR CHOICE OF  
SEDONA, PALM SPRINGS, OR LAKE TAHOE
- 2027 OLYMPIAN OPEN FOURSOME**
- SYCUAN CASINO**  
STAY AND PLAY PACKAGE
- \$500 GIFT CARD**
- SAN DIEGO SOCKERS**  
FAMILY BUNDLE FOR 8 PEOPLE

SCAN ME

OFFICE OF *Instruction*

# ENROLLMENT *update*

Summer 2026 FTES is 1,322.5 and our headcount is 8,053. The Fall 2026 FTES is 5,123.5 and our headcount is 17,065. For Summer 2026, we are 98.7% towards meeting our goals and anticipate being able to meet our targets even with changes in enrollment and fraudulent "bot" students being removed. As for Fall 2026, the numbers continue to increase, and we have 8.46% more students this week compared to last week.

## Mesa College Welcomes our New Dean of Humanities, Dr. Eliza Hoyos Vences!

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Eliza Hoyos Vences will serve as our Dean of Humanities. She brings extensive experience and a passion for removing barriers to create and strengthen pathways to success.

Dr. Eliza Hoyos Vences is an equity-driven higher education leader with over 15 years of experience dedicated to transforming student success across California community colleges. As a first-gen immigrant, she knows firsthand that navigating the college pipeline can feel like trying to solve a puzzle while wearing a blindfold which is why she has spent her career building support systems that bridge academic affairs and student services. Her work is defined by a deep commitment to closing achievement gaps, particularly for first-generation, historically underserved, and diverse student populations.

Eliza's career path was paved with roles as an Academic Specialist, program coordinator, counselor and adjunct professor, including significant tenures with the Upward Bound program, the Gates Millennium Scholars Program, and various Los Angeles-based community colleges. She holds a B.A. from University of California, San Diego, M.A in Counseling from Loyola Marymount University, and Ed.D. in Educational Leadership from California State University, Long Beach. She lives by the belief that with the right support, the possibilities for a bright future are truly surmountable.

When she is not working you can find Eliza walking her Doggo , exploring a new coffee and dessert spot -she lovveeeesss her coffee- and planning her next adventure abroad. Eliza loves to travel- exploring new sceneries, new foods, listening to new music and observing how people behave with one another are some of her favorite things to do.

She is eager to work and learn from the Mesa Team! So let's extend a warm welcome to Dr. Eliza Hoyos Vences.



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OFFICE OF *Student Services*

### News in Financial Aid

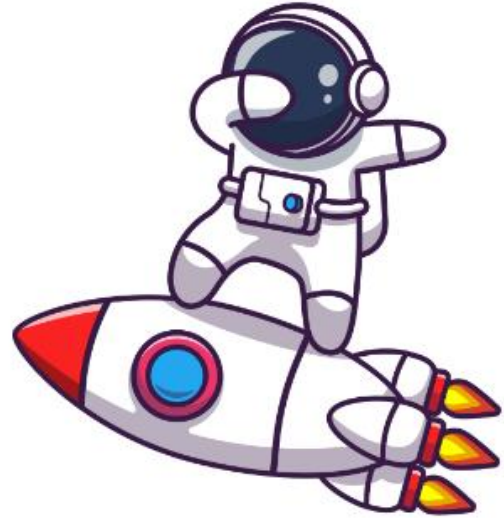
This Summer 2026, Financial aid has distributed \$1,412,117 in Pell Grant to 808 students. This is an Average of \$1,747 per student receiving Pell Grant.

# 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**

## OFFICE OF *Administrative Services*

### NON-EVENT PARKING PERMIT REQUEST FORM

**NEW!**

WELCOME TO THE EVENTS & RESERVATIONS PORTAL

This webpage you bring up when you click on the link.

Create Event Edit Event

**Non Event Parking Permits**

Click on the 'Non Event Parking Permits' link to enter an event request and fill out the parking section.

This form can be used for parking permit requests that are **NOT** related to an event and do not require additional resources or a space/room (i.e. community clinic, meetings in dept. conference rooms, guest speakers during a class, etc.)

- Must be entered two weeks in advance
- Requests require manager approval, similar to Event Requests
- Can be used for single or group permits

Parking related to events will need to be entered as part of an Event Request.

[WWW.SDMESA.EDU/EVENTS](http://WWW.SDMESA.EDU/EVENTS)

### Reminder regarding parking permits for events, guest speakers, and meetings.

#### Event Parking:

All parking for events should be included as part of your Event Request in the [Events & Reservation Portal](#). Please keep in mind that all event requests must be submitted at least three weeks before the date of your event (longer for large events). More information can be found in the [Event & Reservation Portal FAQs](#).

#### Non-Event Individual/Group Permits:

Requests for non-event parking can be submitted via the [Non Event Parking Permit Request Form](#) now available on our [webpage](#), within the [Events & Reservations Portal](#). These would include requests that are not part of an "event," such as guest speakers, departmental meeting attendees, etc. that do not require any other support.

**Notice: Effective Monday, April 6, the Business Services Office will close at 12:00 PM daily for walk-up service to accommodate year-end processing. We appreciate your patience and understanding during this busy time.**

[Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Year-End Deadlines](#) | [Consolidated Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Year-End Deadlines](#)



## New Resource: Data Element Dictionary & Acronym Glossary

The Institutional Effectiveness (IE) Office has published a new [Data Element Dictionary & Acronym Glossary](#) on our website to support a shared understanding of the terminology used across Mesa College. Whether you're reviewing reports, navigating dashboards, or interpreting campus communications, this resource is designed to clarify common data definitions and acronyms in one central place. You can find it on the [IE website](#) under the **Data Dictionary & Acronym Glossary** section. We invite you to explore it and reach out to the IE Office with suggestions for new additions, updates, or corrections as we continue to build and refine this tool together. For feedback, please contact **Adriana Caetano** at [acaetanofournier@sdccd.edu](mailto:acaetanofournier@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.**



### 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](#)

## Non-Participation in Immigration Enforcement Activities

Please remember that our district has an official immigration policy, [AP 3415](#). This policy directs all inquiries regarding immigration enforcement to the District Chancellor and District General Counsel. If you receive a confirmed report of immigration enforcement on campus, please contact:

- SDCCD Chancellor's Office (Greg Smith): 619-388-6957 | [chancellor@sdccd.edu](mailto:chancellor@sdccd.edu)
- SDCCD General Counsel (Ljubisa Kostic): 619-388-6589 | [lkostic@sdccd.edu](mailto:lkostic@sdccd.edu)

You are not expected to engage with immigration enforcement or place yourself or others at risk. If approached by immigration officials, you may respond: "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." To stay informed and prepared:

- Update your emergency contact information in the [MySDCCD portal](#)
- Download the [SDCCDsafe App](#)
- Refer to the [District's Immigration Resources page](#)
- Continue to read campus emails and official updates

**San Diego Mesa College has a clear, coordinated Immigration Enforcement Response Plan** centered on our Emergency Management Response Team, led by the President and including College Communications, Vice Presidents, Facilities and Operations, OEHS, and the Campus Community Emergency Response Team, in coordination with SDCCD Police. Recognizing that every incident is unique, this structure ensures we are prepared to act quickly and compassionately with clear communication, coordinated safety measures, and robust support for students and employees should an incident occur.

## 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](#)

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**Ashanti Hands, Ed.D.**

**President | San Diego Mesa College**

*Creating conditions that matter for our students to succeed!*

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

