



2020 / 2021
FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION
 San Diego Mesa College Financial Aid Office
 7250 Mesa College Drive, I4-107
 San Diego, CA 92111-4908
 (619) 388-2817 (619) 388-2824 [fax]
<http://www.sdmesa.net/financial-aid/>
 School code # 001275



DEADLINE GENERAL GUIDELINES: Complete the FAFSA (beginning in October 2019) or at least a minimum of 2 months prior to the start of the 2020/2021 semester(s) you will be attending. Apply on-line at www.fafsa.ed.gov.
Please note: It generally takes 2-3 weeks for the FAFSA to arrive at San Diego Mesa College and will take time to review & process, once the Financial Aid office begins downloading and processing the 2020/2021 FAFSAs. This usually occurs mid-late April. Allow a minimum of 4-8 weeks processing time after the FAFSA has been received by San Diego Mesa College. The Financial Aid Office should be ready to begin downloading & reviewing 2020/2021 FAFSAs starting in April 2020 & the first award notifications should begin being posting in the my.sdccd.edu portal by mid July 2020.

March 2, 2020: FAFSA and GPA Verification deadline (submitted electronically or postmarked) to apply for state Cal Grant A, B, C or T. Cal Grant GPAs will be automatically sent electronically to the California Student Aid Commission for all students who have a FAFSA on file with San Diego Mesa College AND have completed at least 16 degree applicable units.

April 15, 2020: Deadline for priority consideration for the 2020/2021 Federal SEOG and Federal Work-Study awards. The processor must receive your application by this date.

May 2020: Target timeline for the Financial Aid Office to begin notifying applicants of required documentation via letter and/or e-mail and the student portal.

September 2, 2020: Deadline for California Community College Student's Competitive Cal Grants A & B. Cal Grant GPA's will be automatically sent electronically.

September 6, 2020: Deadline to accept a Work Study Award (if eligible & offered).

June 30, 2021: Federal cut-off date for the federal processor to accept a 2020/2021 FAFSA. NOTE: Your FAFSA must be received by the school no later than your last day of attendance for the 2020/2021 academic year, or June 30, 2020, whichever comes first.

AID PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

<u>STATE (California residents only)</u>	<u>FEDERAL</u>
◆ College Promise Grant [formerly BOGW] (CCPG waives enrollment fee)	◆ Federal Pell Grant [lifetime eligibility; the equivalent of 6 full-time scheduled awards-paid]
◆ Cal Grant B & C	◆ Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)
◆ Student Success Completion Grant (SSCG)	◆ Federal Work Study (FWS)
◆ Extended Opportunity Programs & Services (E.O.P.S.)	◆ William D. Ford Federal Direct Student Loan
◆ Chafee Grant (Certified former foster youth grant)	

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Students must be U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens [except Chafee].
- Male students who are not members of the active armed forces, are at least 18 years of age, and were born after December 31, 1959 must be registered with the selective service system.
- Students must have a high school diploma, GED or California Proficiency Exam Certificate, or have the "Ability to Benefit" as stated by the federal guidelines. If you have/or will have your High School diploma or equivalent complete before you begin college in 2020/2021, *be sure to answer question #26 on the FAFSA as High School Diploma & enter your High School name to verify on question #27.*
- Students must demonstrate "financial need" for the cost of education and must use financial aid funds solely for educational purposes.
- Students must work towards an approved degree, certificate, or transfer program and must make satisfactory academic progress according to the District's published standards for aid recipients.
- Students must not be in default on any federal student loan or owe a repayment on any federal grant.
- Students must never have been convicted of any illegal drug offense while receiving financial Aid. A drug related conviction might not necessarily make you ineligible for aid. Call 1-800-433-3243 for more information.

TIPS FOR FILLING IN YOUR FAFSA

Never pay a fee to apply for financial aid.

- Use only the free government site at fafsa.ed.gov. Other sites may charge a fee
- Make sure to keep copies of your tax returns and W2(s) each year. The Financial Aid Office may be required to collect Tax Return Transcripts and W2 copies to keep in your file, and you need the information to apply.
- Be as accurate as possible when filling out the FAFSA by having all necessary tax forms and W2(s) with you when you apply or correct information. Every subsequent correction can take up to two weeks to process and may delay your potential aid.
- Pay careful attention to the income and tax questions. Often students list their income more than once and it could be counted more than once. Also be cautious of listing income in the “taxes paid” section. The amount in taxes paid will NEVER equal the amount of earnings/AGI. Please be sure to use the IRS Data Transfer Tool on the FAFSA to insure your correct info is supplied.
- Review your answers for accuracy before signing and submitting.

STANDARD DOCUMENTATION

Terms of Agreement – REQUIRED of ALL San Diego Mesa College Financial Aid applicants, agreed to by signing the FAFSA. The *Terms of Agreement* is posted online at <http://www.sdmesa.edu/financial-aid/terms-of-agreement.shtml>. Any additional requested documents and forms must be submitted to the Financial Aid Office as soon as possible to allow processing time and to ensure receipt of eligible funds. It may be necessary to contact other agencies such as; the Federal Processor, DHS, IRS, the Social Security Administration, or other educational institutions, to provide appropriate documentation to the Financial Aid Office in order to complete your file. A file is considered INCOMPLETE if any required documents and/or forms are missing.

Reg-e - is Retiring! – As of summer 2018, Reg-e has been retired! Students can access their Financial Aid information using the new MySDCCD portal system. <http://my.sdccd.edu> and selecting “View Financial Aid Status”. **Create MySDCCD Account:** <http://cspss01.sdccd.stu/enroll/>

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION & REQUIREMENTS

The following are additional documents, which may be required as they apply to each student. The file will be considered INCOMPLETE until all requested standard and additional documentation is submitted.

ALL prior Colleges Official Academic Transcripts – Transcripts should be sent to the Records Department. After San Diego Mesa College receives all academic transcripts, YOU MUST REQUEST THAT THEY BE OFFICIALLY EVALUATED in the Counseling Office.

2017 Income documentation – For the 2019-2020 FAFSA, the Department of Education had decided that all applicants will submit 2017 income information from all sources. If your application is selected for verification, documentation of all 2017 income must be submitted to the Financial Aid Office. This includes, an *IRS Tax Return Transcript* of your (and your spouse or parent(s) if required) completed 2017 Federal Income Taxes if required to file (see IRS filing requirements). This can be obtained on www.irs.gov/transcripts

Eligible Non-Citizen Documentation - If, when received, the Student Aid Report [SAR] comments indicate that DHS (Department of Home Security, formerly known as INS) did NOT confirm your eligible non-citizen status, then you must submit your current non-citizen documentation. Additional confirmation may also be required from DHS.

Ability to Benefit – any student who is at least 18 must have completed a High School Diploma, GED, or California Proficiency Exam .

Selective Service Documentation – If, when received, the SAR comments state that Selective Service cannot confirm your registration status, proof must be submitted to the Financial Aid Office to verify your status or exemption from registration. You can register and check your registration status at the following web site www.sss.gov.

Social Security Number Data Non-Match – If, when received, the SAR comments state that the reported data (name, SS#, citizenship status or date of birth) does not match the Social Security Administration records, your SS# card, proof of name, birth certificate, or any other legal document may be required by the Financial Aid Office.

ENROLLMENT & FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID REGULATIONS

Apply for admission at San Diego Mesa College. Remember all of the colleges the San Diego Community College District are separate institutions and you must maintain a valid Academic Plan at the campus which you have selected for your Financial Aid record, even if you have listed all 3 schools on you FAFSA. You FAFSA will only be loaded and processed at the college matching your Academic Plan. Prior to registering for classes, contact the Financial Aid Office to verify that your residency status has been determined and if you are eligible for a California enrollment fee waiver (College Promise Grant fee waiver). **Non-Resident** students may not have Financial Aid available at the time of registration to cover your fees and you will be required to pay your tuition up front. View your status directly on the school's portal system (<http://my.sdccd.edu>). To meet the San Diego Community College Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress requirements, ALL SCHEDULE CHANGES must be made by the deadlines noted on the **Disbursement Dates Schedule** (see link below). For further details, refer to the brochure titled “HOW TO APPLY FOR AND KEEP YOUR FINANCIAL AID”.

NOTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL AID AWARDS

After your file is complete and evaluated, you will receive an award notification letter “OFFER OF FINANCIAL AID,” informing you of your aid package for the school year. Check disbursement and other pertinent information will be included with your award letter. The Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) and Federal Work-Study (FWS) programs have limited funding. If you are interested in receiving a Federal Work-Study award, you must state so on the FAFSA.

CHECK DISBURSEMENT

- ✓ Funds are estimated in equal parts per 2 semesters [Fall & Spring] and PELL Grant is disbursed in two disbursements during each semester
- ✓ Work Study funds are disbursed by payroll monthly. Scheduled disbursement dates will be made available on-line.