



Achieving Excellence



2021-2022

Annual Report to the Community



**SAN DIEGO
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DISTRICT**

City College • Mesa College • Miramar College
College of Continuing Education



2021-2022



DURING THE 2021-22 ACADEMIC YEAR, THE SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT WELCOMED STUDENTS, FACULTY, CLASSIFIED PROFESSIONALS, AND ADMINISTRATORS BACK TO ITS CAMPUSES. IN MY FIRST YEAR AS CHANCELLOR, I AM BEYOND PROUD OF THE RESILIENCY SHOWN THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND A RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION IN ORDER TO UPHOLD OUR MISSION OF IMPROVING THE LIVES OF OUR STUDENTS.

Leadership and Innovation

At San Diego Mesa College, Professor Emeritus Starla Lewis has taught thousands of students in her nearly half-century career in education, and she still finds new ways to make her classes fun and innovative. And, alongside long-tenured careers such as hers, a new era of leadership was ushered into the District, including the installation of two new presidents, Ashanti Hands, Ed.D., at San Diego Mesa College, and Tina M. King, Ed.D., at San Diego College of Continuing Education. At the District Office, Joel L.A. Peterson, Ph.D., a higher education leader and former business executive, was named vice chancellor of



Community Engagement

Thanks to continued success from donors like philanthropist Roger Frey, the San Diego Promise exceeded \$2 million in cumulative monies raised since the program's inception in 2016. Frey is just one of the many community partners who support the District in

its various endeavors to bolster student success. Community participation was also a key driver in a six-month-long project to develop a new districtwide strategic plan to shape the District's future mission, vision, and direction.

Workforce Development

District career education programs specifically have a whopping \$1.6 billion annual impact on the regional economy and support more than 19,000 jobs – just one aspect of the SDCCD's greater \$4.3 billion overall impact on the region. One such example of a successful career education program is College of Continuing Education's free Apprenticeship Readiness Program, which is placing students into trade union apprenticeships at a 97% success rate. Additionally, led by Executive Director and Professor Tanya Hertz – who was nominated last year for a San Diego Startup Champion of the Year award – San Diego Miramar College's Regional Entrepreneurship Center (REC) Innovation Lab helps student entrepreneurs launch diverse startup companies.

As chancellor of the SDCCD, I am proud to present the 2021-22 Annual Report to the community.

CARLOS O. CORTEZ, PH.D.
CHANCELLOR

Facilities Management of one of the largest community college districts in California.

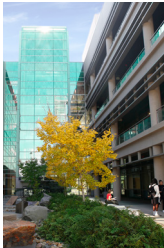
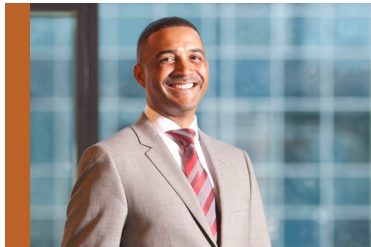
Student Success

The nation and Mexico were abuzz when San Diego City College alumna Katya Echazarreta became the first Mexican-born woman and the youngest American woman in space when she took to the sky aboard Blue Origin's New Shepard rocket over the summer. Echazarreta, an electrical engineer, attributes much of her success to the college's innovative MESA (Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement) Program.

SDCCD – Our Colleges

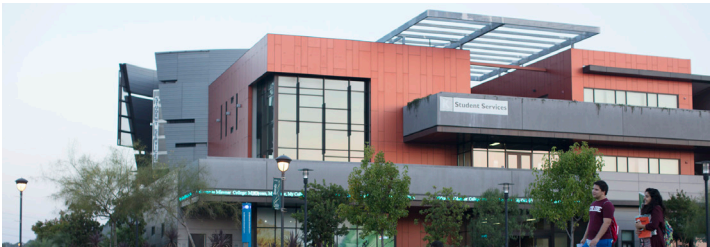
San Diego City College

RICKY SHABAZZ, ED.D.
PRESIDENT



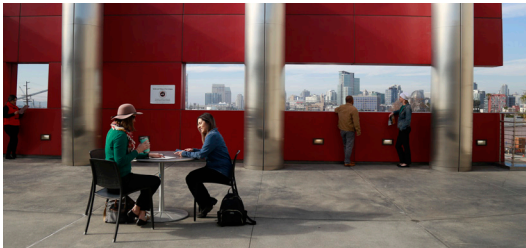
San Diego Mesa College

ASHANTI HANDS, ED.D.
PRESIDENT



San Diego Miramar College

P. WESLEY LUNDBURG, PH.D.
PRESIDENT



San Diego College of Continuing Education

TINA M. KING, ED.D.
PRESIDENT



SDCCD Board of Trustees

IT WAS A YEAR OF TRANSITIONS AND SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS FOR THE SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT'S FIVE-MEMBER GOVERNING BOARD.

Elections

Elections were scheduled in trustee districts A, C, and E this year for three incumbents, Trustees Maria Nieto Senour, Ph.D., Craig Milgrim, and Geysil Arroyo. After none of the three races drew challengers, the election was cancelled, saving the District approximately \$320,000. Each incumbent will serve an additional four-year term with their colleagues Bernie Rhinerson (District B) and Mary Graham (District D), who will be up for re-election in 2024.

Earlier in the year, the Board voted to make the 2022 election cycle the first to be done using “by-trustee area” elections. Previously, trustee candidates would first run in trustee area-only primary elections with the top two vote-getters in each district then running in a citywide general election. Going forward, only voters in each trustee area will participate in both the primary and general elections. Also this year, the Board completed a redistricting process that includes revisions to the trustee area boundaries and an adjusted trustee area map.

Naming New Leadership

Continuing the theme of transitions and progress, in July 2021 the Board welcomed Carlos O. Cortez, Ph.D., as he began his new role as chancellor. In spring 2022, the Board selected Tina M. King, Ed.D., as president of College of Continuing Education and Ashanti Hands, Ed.D., as president of Mesa College, both of whom began their new

roles on July 1, 2022.

Strategic Plan

With a new chancellor in place, the Board participated in a districtwide strategic planning process to guide the future of the colleges and the District through 2030. The process included dozens of meetings, online presentations, and input from roughly 10,000 employees, students, and community members.

Reopening Amid COVID-19

During 2021-22, the Board set policy that helped the District in fully reopening each of its 10 campuses across San Diego after they were closed because of the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of these efforts, the Board approved more than \$33 million in funding and other support for students. A highlight of the year for Board members was participating in the colleges' commencement ceremonies, the first to be held in person since 2019.

In spite of challenges caused by the pandemic, the Board continued to be active in the community and advocate with policymakers in both Sacramento and Washington, D.C. These efforts helped the District to have a record year for new contracts and grants, which exceeded \$57 million during 2021-22. In addition, advocacy efforts played a key role in the passage of Assembly Bill 927, which made permanent California's baccalaureate pilot program and opened the door to as many as 30 new bachelor's degree programs each year at California's 116 community colleges.



Board of Trustees (left to right)

- MARIA NIETO SENOUR, PH.D., President, District A
- BERNIE RHINERSON, District B
- CRAIG MILGRIM, District C
- MARY GRAHAM, District D
- GEYSIL ARROYO, District E



Leadership and Innovation

San Diego Mesa College Professor Emeritus Starla Lewis never set out to become a teacher. Her epiphany arrived after graduating from high school and enrolling in a Black Studies class at Pasadena City College in 1968.

“I said to myself, ‘I’ve been in school for 12 years and I had never heard any of this before. Why had I never learned this?’ I realized that this was the information that I had needed to know myself, love myself, and see myself in others. That’s when I decided to pursue a career in education.”

Lewis not only became a teacher, but she also became a transformational figure whose leadership and innovation, combined with her commitment and love for her students, has impacted thousands of lives for nearly three generations.

As her résumé notes, Lewis is a woman on a mission. A professor emerita at Mesa College, whose full career in education spans a half-century, she is also a transformational speaker and life coach who has developed lectures and facilitated seminars in the areas of diversity, life mastery, and women’s empowerment, both nationally and internationally. She is the founder and chief executive officer of C.E.L.L. (Celebration of Everlasting Life & Love) consulting. Her more than four decades of breaking new ground in African American studies, oral communication, and women’s studies underscore her unique ability to engage diverse communities.

In 2021, the seven-time recipient of the Mesa College Teacher of the Year award was honored with the “Graduate of the Year Visionary” award from LEAD San Diego, the leadership development arm of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Lewis’s secret? “Learning should be fun,” she said. “And in many ways, we’ve taken the fun out of it. I try to make my classes interesting, innovative, and fun. I want to connect my lessons with a person’s passion. If you like baseball, a project in a Black Studies course could include a report on the Negro Leagues, or how Puerto Rican baseball academies develop players of African descent. I encourage students to use their gifts and talents by becoming independent learners and analytical thinkers. My students say, I teach them how to see themselves, love themselves, and use love to address life issues.”

Leadership and innovation permeate the San Diego Community

College District, and the 2021-2022 academic year ushered in a new era of leadership in the District. Some examples:

- On July 1, 2021, following a national search, Carlos O. Cortez, Ph.D., took over as chancellor at the SDCCD. Cortez succeeded former Chancellor Constance M. Carroll, Ph.D., who served in the position for 17 years. Just nine months later, as he set his vision in motion for the District’s future success, the American Council on Education recognized Cortez with the 2022 Reginald Wilson Diversity Leadership Award. He also oversaw the reopening of SDCCD campuses and is working to restore enrollment lost during the pandemic.
- Ashanti Hands, Ed.D., was named president of Mesa College to take the largest college in the SDCCD to the next level of community engagement and success. Mesa College, a Hispanic Serving Institution and Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution, offers nearly 200 associate degree and certificate programs and was among the first community colleges in California to offer a baccalaureate degree.
- Equity-focused educational leader Tina M. King, Ed.D., was hired as president of San Diego College of Continuing Education to provide her brand of energetic and strategic leadership to help the college as it continues to redefine noncredit education and expand opportunities to even more San Diegans. College of Continuing Education serves approximately 30,000 students with free workforce training certificate programs, English as a Second Language (ESL), Citizenship, and High School Diploma/Equivalency classes.
- Higher education leader and former business executive Joel L.A. Peterson, Ph.D., was named SDCCD’s vice chancellor of Facilities Management, a post responsible for overseeing facilities, construction, and policing at one of the largest community college districts in California.
- A \$975,000 federal grant was awarded to the SDCCD to expand and innovate a program that provides free online textbooks and resources to students, saving them the cost of buying expensive books for their classes. The Community Project Funding grant came through the support of U.S. Rep. Scott Peters, who sought the funds.



Rep. Scott Peters (center) presents a check to the SDCCD to help fund a zero-cost textbook program. With Rep. Peters are, from left, Trustee Bernie Rhinerson, students Allen Kuo, Emily Smith, and Edward Borek, Chancellor Carlos O. Cortez, Trustee Maria Nieto Senour, Dean of Online & Distributed Learning Educational Services Brian Weston, and Vice Chancellor of Educational Services Susan Topham.

“ Learning should be fun, and in many ways, we’ve taken the fun out of it. I try to make my classes interesting, innovative, and fun. I want to connect my lessons with a person’s passion.”

STARLA LEWIS
MESA COLLEGE
PROFESSOR
EMERITUS



City College – A Year in Review

AS A LEADER IN SOCIAL JUSTICE, EQUITY, AND ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE, SAN DIEGO CITY COLLEGE HAS BEEN INTENTIONAL IN ITS EFFORTS TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO MORE THAN 200 DEGREE AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS ACCESS TO STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES AND BASIC NEEDS.



Since December 2020, the college's Hunger Action Days food distributions have provided free, fresh, and nutritious food to nearly 3,000 households and feeding more than 11,000 people.

- A look at highlights from the past year include:
- The campus celebrated the 50th anniversary of Chicana/o Studies and held its inaugural Chicano Latina Graduation on the A Building Patio.
 - Four mural projects have been completed, adding to the richness, diversity, and culture of the campus: Chicana/o mural in City Commons; Kumeyaay mural and Avian mural in the Arts and Humanities (AH) parking structure; and the Social Justice mural between the AH Building and Saville Theatre.
 - The campus hosted several events to build connections and engagement with students, employees, and the community: Welcome Back Week, Open House and Student Research Symposium, City Lights the Way inaugural alumni mixer, and Coffee Hour sessions in the Science Building.
 - Basic needs and mental health services continue to be a priority. Since December 2020, the college's Hunger Action Days food distributions have provided free, fresh, and nutritious food to nearly 3,000 households, feeding more than 11,000 people. The Knights Table, located in the T Building, is City College's new food pantry. The campus installed water bottle filling stations and solar charging stations around campus. The Student Health Center provided mental health workshops and support for students and employees throughout the year.
 - A land acknowledgment that the college was built on the

- unceded territory of the Kumeyaay Nation was established with intentional efforts to take it even further by hiring a Native American Studies professor and forgiving the education-related debt of Native American students.
- The college received \$344,000 to support planning efforts on the feasibility to construct and offer affordable student housing on campus.
 - The college held the first Lavender Graduation for LGBTQIA+ students and opened the Pride Hub.
 - The Presidential Scholarship for continuing students was launched, with a total of \$50,000 awarded — \$2,500 and a MacBook laptop to 10 students.
 - More than \$7.32 million in grants was awarded in 2021-22.
 - City College had four semifinalists for the prestigious Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship, with one being named a winner, Jeanette Mayo Gallegos.
 - East Village Middle College High School and concurrent enrollment student Lucia Cavallini-Martinez earned her high school diploma and three associate degrees.
 - The Adopt-a-School program for elementary and middle schools in the Mount Hope area was launched to provide career education, mentorship, and career exploration from a specialized perspective.

Administrators with students who were recipients of the Presidential Scholarship at the Jim and Jan Sinegal Scholarship Luncheon.



Mesa College – A Year in Review

AT SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE, EQUITY LEADS TO EXCELLENCE. TO LEAD THAT CHARGE AND BUILD ON A FOUNDATION BUILT BY PRESIDENT PAMELA T. LUSTER, Ed.D., THE COLLEGE WELCOMED A NEW PRESIDENT, ASHANTI HANDS, Ed.D., OVER THE SUMMER. THROUGHOUT THE 2021-22 ACADEMIC YEAR, THE COLLEGE WELCOMED BACK TO ITS VIBRANT CAMPUS THE INCREDIBLE FACULTY, CLASSIFIED PROFESSIONALS, AND ADMINISTRATORS WHO SUPPORTED STUDENTS THROUGHOUT THE PANDEMIC AND BEYOND.

- The following are highlights from the year:
- Mesa College was named a 2021 Equity Champion of Higher Education by the Campaign for College Opportunity for awarding Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADT) to Black and Latinx students, as a result of the college's intentional actions to ensure that Black and Latinx students who have a transfer goal earn an ADT.
 - Mesa College has been included in the second cohort of higher education institutions participating in the Generation Hope FamilyU technical assistance program. Through FamilyU, Generation Hope partners such as Mesa College will be able to support parenting college students so they can complete their programs and graduate.
 - Mesa College is among the 33 California Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) that have received a \$5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education entitled E3: Equity, Excellence, and Éxito to increase equity among Hispanic and Latinx students pursuing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) degrees.
 - In fall 2021, Mesa College was awarded an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander

- Serving-Institution (AANAPISI) Title III, Part F Grant titled “Equity, Empathy, & Excellence: Uplifting and Transforming Campus Culture through a Kapwa Lens” by the U.S. Department of Education. This five-year, \$1.5 million grant will ensure services and resources are available to Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) students to promote academic success and strengthen institutional capacity. Mesa College was the first community college in the region to be awarded the grant.
- The Bellwether College Consortium selected Mesa College as a 2022 finalist for the highly coveted Bellwether Awards. Mesa College's submission titled, “The Journey to Completion” was judged a Top 10 Bellwether Finalist in the category of Instructional Programs & Services. Additionally, Mesa2030 — Mesa's Strategic and Educational Plan — was judged as a finalist in the Planning, Governance, and Finance category as a program that improves efficiency and effectiveness in the community college.

Mesa College was awarded an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AANAPISI) Title III, Part F Grant.



Miramar College – A Year in Review



Mother and son Brandi Mitchell (right) and Maverick Mitchell both enrolled at Miramar College while also participating in the athletics program.

AS THE NATION WORKED ITS WAY OUT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, SAN DIEGO MIRAMAR COLLEGE WAS EXCITED TO RAMP UP IN-PERSON CLASSES AND SERVICES FOR THE 2021-2022 ACADEMIC YEAR. MIRAMAR COLLEGE STARTED WELCOMING STUDENTS, IN NON-WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT RELATED AREAS, BACK TO CLASS WITH THE START OF THE FALL 2021 SEMESTER.

Here is a quick list of the college’s accomplishments:

- Miramar College established its first Equity Office. After careful consideration, the Equity Office was named LEAD — Leading Equity, Anti-Racism, and Diversity. LEAD encompasses the college’s current call to drive

- the college by the Campaign for College Opportunity.
- Brandi Mitchell, 44, and her 18-year-old son Maverick made national headlines last fall, including an appearance on ABC World News Tonight with David Muir, after the duo enrolled in Miramar College to play college athletics. Brandi was captain of the Jets women’s soccer team while Maverick was the starting goalie for the Jets men’s water polo team.

- On November 10, 2021, the San Diego Sheriff’s Department hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Emergency Vehicle Operations Center driving course in Otay Mesa. Miramar College provided \$5 million of funding toward the

- \$32.4 million project. The first facility of its kind in the region, EVOC will provide immersive education and continued professional training for future and current deputies, police officers, and firefighters, as

- well as ambulance and public works drivers.
- Miramar College held its first annual Equity Summit featuring “The Constance M. Carroll Lecture Series” — named for the District’s longest tenured chancellor — October 28-29, 2021. The Summit also featured the 2021 Associated Student Government Art for Equity Scholarship and Art Contest.

- Diesel technology student Kasin Martin received the gold medal for SkillsUSA California in Diesel Equipment Technology. He qualified for the national SkillsUSA championships and competed in Atlanta over the summer.

The San Diego County Sheriff’s Department held a ribbon-cutting ceremony in November 2021 to mark the opening of the joint-use EVOC training center in Otay Mesa.



College of Continuing Education – A Year in Review

SAN DIEGO COLLEGE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION PROUDLY TAKES A LOOK BACK AT A TRANSFORMATIVE 2021-22 ACADEMIC YEAR. SDCCE IS MOVING AMERICAN CIVIL RIGHTS HISTORY FORWARD, EMBODYING A NEW ERA OF LEADERSHIP, AND EXPANDING EQUITABLE RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS.

The following are among the college’s accomplishments and highlights:

- SDCCE appointed new executive leadership, including Tina M. King, Ed.D., who was selected as SDCCE president in March. Dr. King is SDCCE’s first female, Afro-Latina president. Additionally, Shakerra Carter, Ed.D., was selected in January to serve as the vice president of Student Services.



Tina M. King, Ed.D.

- SDCCE was able to appoint a student to serve on the SDCCD Board of Trustees, which historically has not had student representation from the noncredit college. Julia Kogan was elected in the spring to serve as the SDCCE student trustee representative for the 2022-23 academic year in a special election where all ASB presidents from the seven SDCCE campuses competed for the position. She now represents the 30,000 students enrolled at SDCCE.

- During National Brain Injury Month held in March, students and faculty from SDCCE’s Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Programs walked together to raise funds and awareness for San Diego Brain Injury Foundation’s 15th annual surviveHEADSTRONG — Walk for Recovery. SDCCE’s ABI programs have been a top fundraiser for the foundation’s charity walkathon for the past 14 years, raising more than \$280,000 since 2008.

- SDCCE welcomed the community for Exploration Days, an inaugural open house series for prospective students and families. Attendees experienced SDCCE through tours at the college’s seven campuses of learning labs and makerspaces, interactive demonstrations, and a meet-and-greet with faculty and staff.

- The Clothing and Textiles department at SDCCE hosted the college’s first ever Cut and Sew Industry Summit. The two-day event in June was designed for industry professionals and prospective students interested in clothing and textiles. Project Runway Designer Korto Momolu was the guest lecturer, and student designers displayed their creative works in an exhibit hall at West City Campus in Point Loma.

- A special breakfast to thank industry partners was held at North City Campus in May. SDCCE, one of the state’s largest providers of free workforce training, honored local organizations for their continued advocacy and support of students, who are among the most vulnerable populations. Representatives from the San Diego Housing Commission, National Veterans Transition Services, San Diego County Regional Airport Authority, Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation, and corporations like the San Diego Padres — including members who

serve on SDCCE’s career technical advisory committees, which inform curriculum based on industry trends — were in attendance.

- The return of in-person ceremonies was a huge win for SDCCE adult students, who are among the most vulnerable populations. SDCCE recognized the accomplishments of more than 150 career- and college-bound students at its 14th annual “Stars on the Rise” Scholarship and Awards Ceremony at the Educational Cultural Complex Theatre. Scholarships and awards totaling \$63,800 were given to adult learners who plan to transition to a career or to a credit college. SDCCE awarded 7,299 diplomas and vocational certificates during a joint Commencement Ceremony with the San Diego Unified School District on June 15 at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion in Balboa Park.



The Clothing and Textiles department at SDCCE hosted the college’s first ever Cut and Sew Industry Summit in June at the West City Campus.

“The MESA Program helps you figure out what your gaps are, gets you to address them, and then works with you to help others employ the same improved learning techniques.”

KATYA ECHAZARRETA
CITY COLLEGE ALUMNA



Photo courtesy of Blue Origin

Student Success

While Katya Echazarreta was acing her classes at Eastlake High School in Chula Vista, she had her sights set on the likes of UCLA, UC Berkeley, and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo to pursue her goal of studying electrical engineering. Then life happened — her parents split up, and the money to fund her education was no longer available. That’s when she learned about San Diego City College and made what she calls “the best decision of my life.”

“Everything I’ve accomplished is a direct result of City College and the San Diego Community College District,” said the native of Guadalajara, who moved with her family to Chula Vista when she was 7. “I would not be here today if it were not for the education and support I received at that campus.”

Her accomplishments are the stuff of dreams. Recipient of the prestigious Jack Kent Cooke Foundation’s Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship. Research opportunities at Rutgers University in New Jersey. Master’s degree program in electrical engineering at Johns Hopkins University. Electrical engineer at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena. And, most recently, the first Mexican-born woman and the youngest American woman in space when she was selected for a June 4 jaunt aboard Blue Origin’s New Shepard rocket — her journey funded by Space for Humanity, a nonprofit with a program called the Citizen Astronaut Program.

Her long-term goals include establishing a foundation in Mexico to create opportunities in space for residents of her homeland.

Echazarreta is hardly an outlier. “So many of my classmates from City came from a range of backgrounds and they’re all succeeding in whatever field they pursued,” she said. “Some

are working at NASA. Several earned scholarships to Georgia Tech, UCLA, Berkeley, you name it. They really care about you and they provide you with the resources that, if you put in the work, will take you where you want to go.”

For Echazarreta, those resources included First Year Services, a year-long program focused on encouraging first-year students toward academic achievement, social integration, and personal success via a strong support network of peers, professional staff, and caring faculty; a crop of dedicated counselors; Peer Mentor Services; and, above them all, the San Diego City College MESA Program, an acronym for Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement.

“The MESA Program helps you figure out what your gaps are, gets you to address them, and then works with you to help others employ the same improved learning techniques,” Echazarreta said. “Most important, the MESA Program made me realize I couldn’t just mail it in. You have to apply yourself.”

Expanding Success

- San Diego City and San Diego Mesa colleges were among 33 California Hispanic-Serving Institutions that received a \$5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to boost the number Hispanic students pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering, and math. The grants focus on wraparound STEM support, improved STEM orientation, and professional development aimed at improving the quality of instruction through an equity lens. San Diego Miramar College followed suit and received a \$2.7 million U.S. Department

of Education HSI grant this fall.

- San Diego Mesa and San Diego Miramar colleges were named a 2021 Equity Champions of Higher Education by The Campaign for College Opportunity based on the number of Associate Degrees for Transfer awarded to Black and Latinx students. The achievement is indicative of the equity work in which the colleges engage daily.
- The SDCCD’s success with its San Diego Promise program, which provides full-time students a tuition-free education, is leading to even greater contributions from donors eager to support student success. More than 4,000 students enrolled in the San Diego Promise in fall 2021 and more than \$2 million in philanthropic gifts have been received since the San Diego Promise was established in 2016.
- San Diego Gas & Electric donated \$10,000 for the San Diego City Scholars program, which provides academic, social, and emotional support to facilitate formerly incarcerated students’ successful transition to college.
- The Immigrant-based Support Program (ISP) at San Diego College of Continuing Education, paired with free English as a second language citizenship and high school diploma/equivalency courses, is helping immigrants and refugees increase their earnings and apply for college. In fall 2021, with the support of the San Diego Promise, 24 immigrant students, including Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Dreamers, made the transition from SDCCE to the District’s credit colleges.

A Roadmap for a Bright Future



While experiencing weightlessness during her flight aboard the New Shepard rocket, City College alumna Katya Echazarreta shows off a sticker from Space for Humanity, which selected her as the organization’s first-ever citizen astronaut ambassador.

Student Success by Degrees

STUDENT SUCCESS AND DEGREE COMPLETION CONTINUE TO BE AT THE TOP OF THE SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT’S LIST OF PRIORITIES — NEVER MORE SO THAN THROUGH THE CONTINUED COVID-19 PANDEMIC. MORE THAN 10,500 CAREER TECHNICAL CERTIFICATES WERE AWARDED, HELPING BETTER THE LOCAL WORKFORCE WITH MORE SKILLED EMPLOYEES.

Among the Highlights this Past Year

- The SDCCD awarded 18,278 degrees and certificates to students attending San Diego City, Mesa, and Miramar colleges and San Diego College of Continuing Education. Twenty percent of the awards conferred were associate and bachelor degrees and 80% were certificates or College of Continuing Education high school diplomas.
- The credit colleges of SDCCD (City, Mesa, and Miramar colleges) awarded 3,595 associate degrees.
- SDCCE awarded 9,403 career technical certificates, while the credit colleges awarded 1,160 career technical certificates, a 13% increase from last year, and a 19% increase from two years ago.
- In 2021-22, 491 Promise students (from all cohorts) earned a total of 660 associate degrees. In addition, 152 Promise students earned a total of 319 certificates within the District.
- There were 34 students awarded bachelor’s degrees from the Health Information Management program at Mesa College.
- 1,010 students took part in the District’s Honors program. Latinx students — at 40% — comprised the largest segment of the Honors population.
- SDCCD served 4,292 high school students enrolled in college coursework through 2021-22 — 3,594 of whom participated in a College and Career Pathways (CCAP) course. Enrollment in the CCAP program — taught tuition-free at high school campuses as part of the regular school day — continues to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, as 2021-22 was the second year that saw a decrease in students served by the program (CCAP 2019-20 to 2020-21, down 13%, CCAP 2020-21 to 2021-22, down 8%).

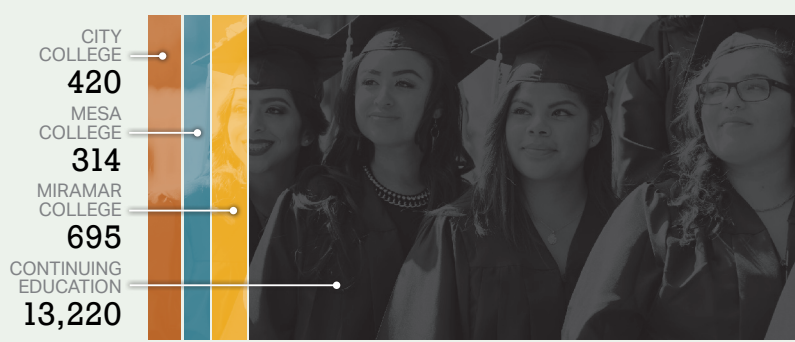
AA/AS/BS Degrees Awarded 2021-2022

TOTAL DEGREES 3,629

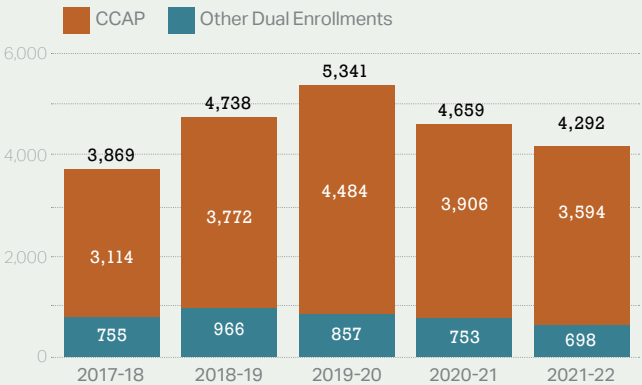


Certificates Awarded 2021-2022

TOTAL CERTIFICATES 14,649



Dual Enrollment Growth by Headcount



Note: SDCCD offers two dual enrollment options for high school students. College and Career Access Pathways (CCAP) is offered to students at SDUSD high schools with classes closed to the public, and requires approval of both the high school and community college districts. Other dual enrollments include high school students enrolled directly in courses offered by San Diego City, Mesa, or Miramar colleges outside of the high school day.

Importance of Student Transfers

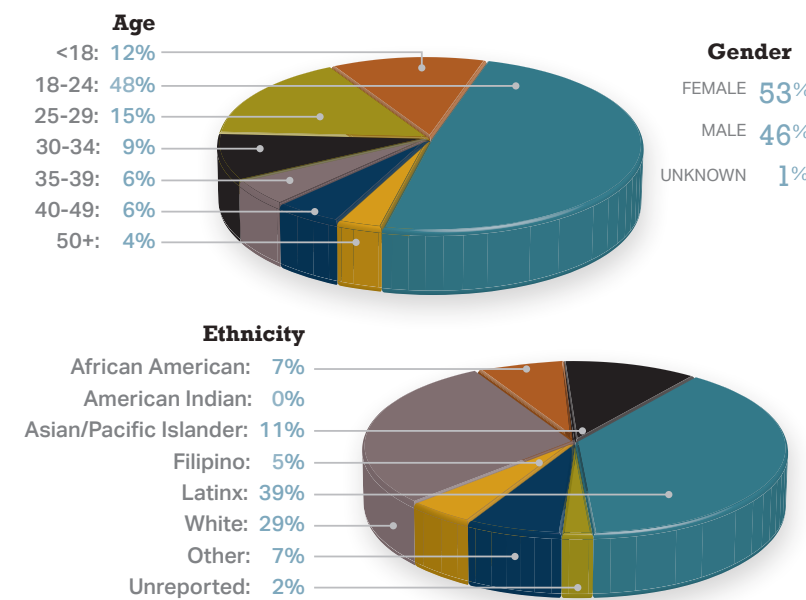
During 2020-21 (the last year data was available), Latinx students surpassed white students in total transfers from the San Diego Community College District to four-year institutions — the first time a minority group led overall student transfers. Of those students who transferred in 2020-21, the top five transfer universities were San Diego State University (just over half of all transfers and 65% of Latinx transfers), University of California San Diego, National University, California State University San Marcos, and Arizona State University. The number of students transferring to CSUSM increased nearly 50% over the previous year and nearly 140% when compared to 2016-17 transfer data. Fewer students in 2020-21 chose to go out of state with transfers to Arizona State dipping 44%. Overall student transfers across the SDCCD saw a slight dip, down 4%, from the previous year. Bucking the trend was Miramar College, which saw 1,511 students transfer — a 2% increase compared to 2019-20. Student transfers to four-year universities from Miramar College have been a steadily increasing trend for the past five years.

Student Transfers

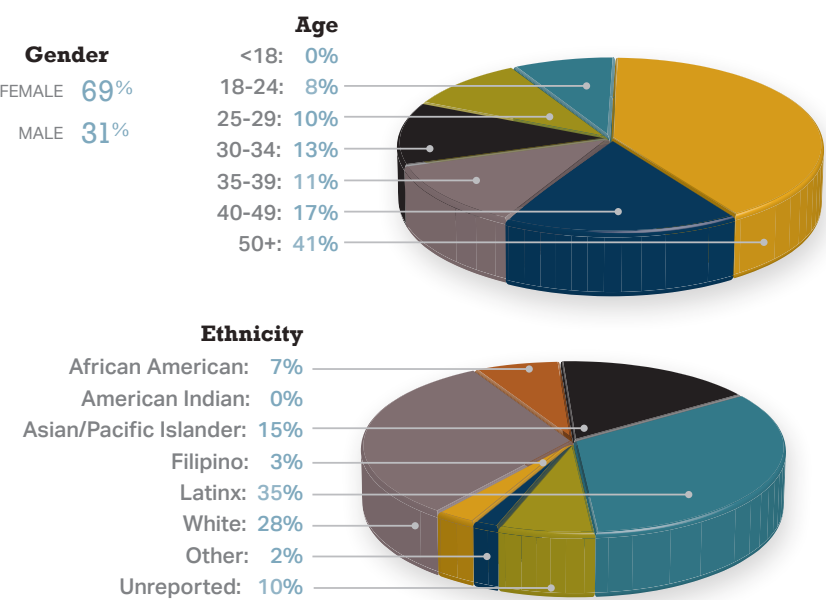


Student Demographics

CREDIT COLLEGE PROFILES



COLLEGE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION PROFILES





Working with Others for the Benefit of All



The annual Shop with a Cop event, in which members of the SDCCD Police Department participated, included breakfast and a private dolphin show at SeaWorld.

Community Engagement

From neighborhood organizations to local business leaders, the San Diego Community College District has grown its success by building relationships with the community it serves. San Diego philanthropist Roger Frey is Exhibit A.

“More than half the college students in our region attend a community college, yet these students receive only a fraction of the private financial aid that students in public universities are granted,” Frey said. “As a consequence, I decided to devote my charitable giving to help fund the San Diego Promise program, which provides scholarships and critical wraparound support to help students navigate their educational journey.”

A former vice president of JP Morgan Chase and head of the Energy Lending Group at Fuji Bank of Japan, the Hillcrest resident has contributed more than \$400,000 to the San Diego Promise since its launch in 2016.

Frey, who grew up in Greater Detroit, earned his bachelor’s degree from Dartmouth College in New Hampshire and his MBA from the University of Chicago. He moved to San Diego after retiring in 2000 and has since volunteered at several nonprofits. For 15 years, he delivered meals to homebound residents suffering from life-threatening diseases. He also helped package meals at Mama’s Kitchen for a decade, and he currently volunteers at the Uptown Community Service Center that provides services to San Diego’s unhoused.

Frey’s work with the SDCCD began with the San Diego Promise. “I’m involved with the Promise program because I have seen the benefit higher education has brought to my life and I’m concerned about the amount of debt that so many

students today often need to incur.”

Frey is among the hundreds of supporters who make the SDCCD among the leading community college districts in the state, if not the nation.

“I am impressed how much the San Diego Community College District has partnered with local businesses to develop programs to teach students the skills they will need for a successful career,” he said. “The advisory and financial support from our business leaders is an important component for the success of the Promise program.

“It is surprising how few San Diegans realize how vital our community colleges are. This, despite the fact that they train most of the nurses and healthcare providers, the first responders, the skilled workers, and the teachers who form the backbone of San Diego’s human infrastructure.”

From Mountain View to Miramar, the SDCCD continues to succeed at expanding connections to the community. Examples include:

- Thanks to immense community support, the Educational Cultural Complex Theatre at the College of Continuing Education’s campus in Mountain View received a \$35 million grant to modernize an epicenter of arts and culture. The District also is working with the community to build a Civil Rights Museum honoring the historic role the college and the theatre has played in the Civil Rights movement.
- The SDCCD worked closely with the San Diego Food Bank and California Coast Credit Union to ensure that the

third annual regional Pack the Pantry event was a success. Approximately 50% of local community college students are grappling with food insecurity and Pack the Pantry helps colleges restock their supplies.

- The District successfully sought public opinion to help shape its future mission, vision, and direction as part of a six-month project to develop a new, districtwide strategic plan. Public forums and an online survey were part of the extensive outreach effort to develop the new plan.
- The SDCCD Police Department participates in numerous community events culminating in the year-end annual Shop with a Cop celebration that includes bringing students and their parents to SeaWorld for breakfast and a show, followed by a \$200-plus shopping spree at a local store.
- In mid-October, the District and its colleges participated in the fifth annual Undocumented Student Action Week, which supports the needs of more than 72,000 undocumented students enrolled in community colleges across California. The public and SDCCD community participated in a weeklong lineup of virtual workshops, panels, and film discussions, including an Undocumented Student Panel and a call to action of Assembly Bill 540, which marked the 20th anniversary of the passage of the landmark legislation that opened doors to higher education for thousands of undocumented students.

“It is surprising how few San Diegans realize how vital our community colleges are.”

ROGER FREY
PHILANTHROPIST &
SAN DIEGO PROMISE
DONOR



Keeping the Promise

The San Diego Promise program eclipsed \$2 million in cumulative funds raised during 2021-22. The milestone was achieved with the help of a fundraising campaign that culminated with a September 18, 2021, gala titled “A Tribute to Chancellor Emerita Constance M. Carroll, Ph.D., Benefiting the San Diego Promise.”

The event raised nearly \$700,000 to support the San Diego Promise, which allows students at San Diego City, Mesa, and Miramar colleges to attend tuition-free for two years. Major contributors included the San Diego Foundation, which

donated \$200,000, and long-time supporter Roger Frey, who donated \$100,000, in addition to other support for the program received throughout the year, including a \$50,000 gift from Price Philanthropies.

“All students deserve access to higher education, regardless of their financial situation,

and these generous donations will help even more students participate in the San Diego Promise, including veterans, former foster youth, and adult



learners returning to school,” said SDCCD Chancellor Carlos O. Cortez. “Fundraising momentum is growing and will continue to grow as more of our region’s residents learn about the benefits this program is having on our community.”

Student Success

Increased donor support bolsters student achievement throughout the program. In particular, the wraparound support services available through the San Diego Promise, which are made possible through donations, continue to be what students cite as being a big contributor to their success.

“The San Diego Promise, especially during the pandemic, has helped me be more aware of certain services like the Math Tutoring Center and the English Tutoring Center that have really helped,” said City College student Diego Bethea. “The

Promise program provides a coordinator who checks in with you every so often to make sure you do your FAFSA, makes sure that you check in with your professors to guide you along, among other things.”

Support services for Promise students go far beyond academic assistance. In a new survey created and shared with students in fall 2021, when 2,861 students were in enrolled in the program, housing and food insecurities were found to be a bigger issue than application data initially suggested. Of those students participating in the program in 2021-22, nearly 10% reported being housing insecure, with 3% reporting they were unsheltered. With direct feedback from students, the colleges, with the aid of donor funds, have better been able to support students by developing services that cater directly to their needs.

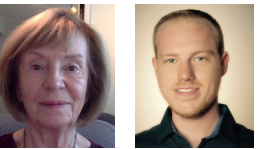
Promise Development Committee

The San Diego Promise Development Committee was formed in 2018 to support the San Diego Promise through fundraising efforts. This committee advises District leadership and staff regarding fundraising strategies, and aids in the fundraising process. Committee members serve as liaisons to philanthropists and potential donors, helping ensure the long-term success of fundraising efforts in support of the San Diego Promise.



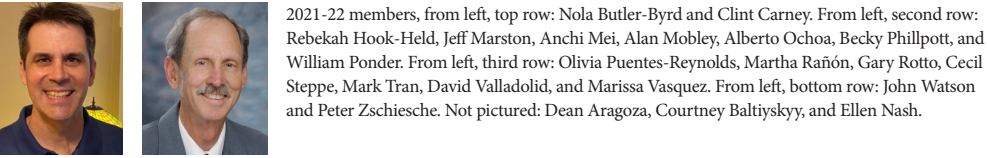
2021-22 members from left, first row: Julie Dubick, Sean Elo-Rivera, and Rockette Ewell. From left, second row: Roger Frey, Yehudi Gaffen, and Jeff Marston. From left, third row: Dan McAllister and René McKee. Honorary Co-Chairs (not pictured): Annette Bening, actor and Mesa College alumna, and Jerry Sanders, president and CEO of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce. SDCCD members (not pictured): Carlos O. Cortez, Ph.D., Jack Beresford, Lisa Cole-Jones, J.D., Laurie Coskey, Ed.D., Margaret Lamb, and Susan Topham, Ed.D.

Propositions S and N Citizens’ Oversight Committee



2021-22 members from left, top row: Elizabeth Armstrong and Edward Borek. From left, bottom row: Leslie Bruce, Mike Frattali, Shandon Harbour, Bob Kiesling, Ed Oremen, Jason Paguio, and Rosalie Schwartz.

Trustee Advisory Council



2021-22 members, from left, top row: Nola Butler-Byrd and Clint Carney. From left, second row: Rebekah Hook-Held, Jeff Marston, Anchi Mei, Alan Mobley, Alberto Ochoa, Becky Phillpott, and William Ponder. From left, third row: Olivia Puentes-Reynolds, Martha Rañón, Gary Rotto, Cecil Steppe, Mark Tran, David Valladolid, and Marissa Vasquez. From left, bottom row: John Watson and Peter Zschiesche. Not pictured: Dean Aragoza, Courtney Baltiyskyy, and Ellen Nash.

Community Engagement

Corporate Council

The Corporate Council continues to emerge as an integral adviser to the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) regarding workforce education and training. Composed of business representatives from industry clusters that drive San Diego’s economy, the Corporate Council provides a means to ensure good relations between SDCCD and its business partners throughout the region. The District looks to the Corporate Council to identify strategies for meeting business and employer needs. Throughout the year, the Council was kept well-informed on District matters, including workforce partnerships and their role in advocacy regarding legislative issues.



“I’m really confident now and looking forward to a career in the automotive industry.”

SAMANTHA MARASIGAN
COLLEGE OF CONTINUING
EDUCATION ALUMNA
AND MIRAMAR COLLEGE
STUDENT



Workforce Development

Career education programs at the San Diego Community College District are, according to a recent analysis, impacting the regional economy to the tune of \$1.6 billion annually and support more than 19,000 jobs. Samantha Marasigan embodies why. Marasigan, a 39-year-old resident of Chula Vista, has earned four automotive certificates and three welding certificates cost-free from San Diego College of Continuing Education and is now planning to transfer to San Diego Miramar College for an associate degree from its Automotive Technology program before embarking on her new career in vehicle repair and maintenance.

“I came in not knowing anything about cars, but the instructors were awesome and really care about you,” Marasigan said. “I was able to play around with tools and learn the correct way to use them. I was never treated like a second-class citizen because I’m female. Instructors went out of their way to help; they responded to emails right away if you had a question. It was just first class all the way.”

Marasigan found College of Continuing Education through happenstance. After working in the medical field for more than a decade, including stints as a certified nursing assistant and as a chiropractor’s aide, Marasigan began looking for something more fulfilling.

“I was going from one job to another job, not sure of what I wanted to do,” she said. “I was just tired of doing what I

was doing and wanted to see what else was out there. I went online and started Googling ‘free schools’ and found out about the Continuing Education program in San Diego. I didn’t even know it was there, but it looked intriguing.”

The rest, as they say, is history. Marasigan, who was having car troubles at the time, decided to first check out the Quick Service Technician program. That was followed by certificates in the Automotive Technician, Service Advisor, and Auto Body & Paint Technician programs. After an instructor suggested she check out the welding programs, Marasigan veered off in that direction — “it’s closely related to automotive technology,” she said.

“It was a great decision because it turns out I really like getting my hands dirty and fixing things,” she said. “I’m really confident now and looking forward to a career in the automotive industry.”

An abundance of options

Tens of thousands of students like Marasigan come to the SDCCD to boost their workforce skills. And for good reason:

- An Apprenticeship Readiness Program at San Diego College of Continuing Education is placing students into trade union apprenticeships at a whopping 97% success rate. The free program runs for 12 weeks, and prepares students to apply to a registered apprenticeship program

in construction trade unions. Each class takes up to 30 students, and several graduates went on to work building San Diego State University’s new Snapdragon Stadium in Mission Valley, among other large-scale projects around the area.

- The Regional Entrepreneurship Center (REC) Innovation Lab at Miramar College is helping entrepreneurs launch dozens of diverse early startups by providing them the tools to navigate their journey successfully. Executive Director and Professor Tanya Hertz, who was nominated for a San Diego Startup Champion of the Year award, leads a team that helps students with access to high-end resources given through professional mentorship, product development, investor pitch competitions, and more.
- The new SDCCD Emergency Vehicle Operations Center — a \$32.4 million, 40-acre facility in Otay Mesa partially funded by Proposition N — provides intensive driver training for current and future first responders. The center comprises areas to practice quickly and safely responding to emergency calls, simulating driving and parking in a city block environment, and for practicing quick lane changes, controlled braking, evasive maneuvering, and driving in reverse.

Finding Opportunities to Better Serve Students

Driving the Economy

The San Diego Community College District, the region’s largest institution of higher education, had a \$4.3 billion impact on the local economy, according to the most recent study conducted by the Idaho-based Lightcast. That translates to a value approximately equal to 1.6% of the county’s total gross regional product or 45,365 jobs supported.

The SDCCD employs 4,645 full- and part-time faculty and classified professionals who spend much of their combined earnings of \$326 million in the region.

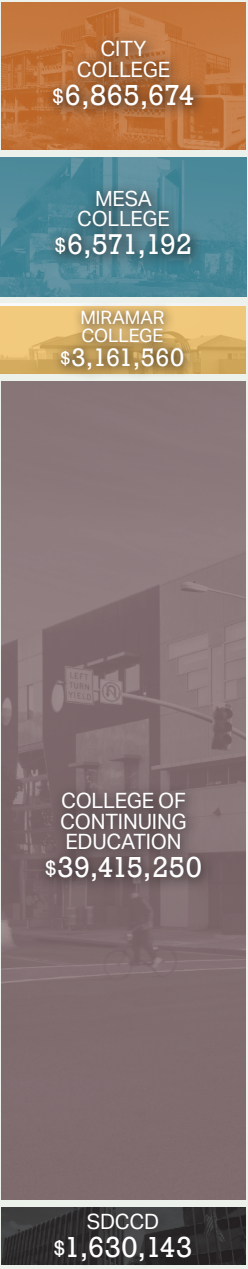
All of the District’s colleges — San Diego City, Mesa, Miramar, and Continuing Education — continue to strengthen their Strong Workforce programs with strategic partnerships and grants. The District works closely with its Corporate Council, which includes longstanding relationships with such local companies as BAE Systems, Manpower, Northrop Grumman, and SDG&E.

“We know that our career education programs benefit our students,” said Carlos O. Cortez, chancellor of the SDCCD. “This study demonstrates that they also provide an economic benefit to the region.”

Alumni play a key role in contributions to the local economy. Hundreds of thousands of former students currently are employed in the county workforce have a net impact of \$3.6 billion in added income in 2021-22. Moreover, for those students who chose to invest in their education at the SDCCD, they can expect an average annual rate of return of 16.3%. In a

volatile investment market, that is a far greater return than that of the U.S. stock market’s current 30-year average rate of return of 9.8%.

Alumni also benefit taxpayers by generating savings via lower healthcare costs, a lesser strain on the justice system, and a reduced need for social services. Altogether, the report found that the present value of the benefits associated with an SDCCD education will generate \$114.2 million in savings to state and local taxpayers.



Grant Highlights

FY 2021-22 Grant Awards

TOTAL FUNDING
\$57,643,819

City College

TITLE *Hispanic Serving Institution Title III*
FUNDER *U.S. Department of Education*
AMOUNT **\$999,938**

TITLE *Student Retention and Enrollment Outreach*
FUNDER *California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office*
AMOUNT **\$655,940**

Mesa College

TITLE *Hispanic Serving Institution STEM-Articulation Title III*
FUNDER *U.S. Department of Education*
AMOUNT **\$999,999**

TITLE *Student Retention and Enrollment Outreach*
FUNDER *California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office*
AMOUNT **\$1,023,492**

Miramar College

TITLE *Student Retention and Enrollment Outreach*
FUNDER *California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office*
AMOUNT **\$653,678**

TITLE *Mental Health Services Support*
FUNDER *California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office*
AMOUNT **\$252,563**

College of Continuing Education

TITLE *Apprenticeship Readiness Program*
FUNDER *San Diego Workforce Partnership*
AMOUNT **\$708,966**

TITLE *ECC Historic Theatre Remodel and Renovation*
FUNDER *California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office*
AMOUNT **\$35.1 MILLION**

SDCCD

TITLE *College 2 Career*
FUNDER *State Department of Rehabilitation*
AMOUNT **\$290,000**

TITLE *Cooperative Workability III*
FUNDER *State Department of Rehabilitation*
AMOUNT **\$447,936**

The San Diego Community College District continues to live up to its well-earned and outstanding reputation for exceptional educational programs and for being a well-managed and fiscally responsible community college district. Student success, with a focus on diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, in an effort to reduce barriers to access for all students, continues to be front and center regarding all operational and educational aspects of the District. Through integrated multi-year strategic planning and sound fiscal management, the District was able to serve and support all students, particularly those experiencing basic needs challenges, in pursuit of their educational goals while also providing enrollment access.

The Board of Trustees adopted an \$872.4 million budget for 2021-22, \$552.1 million in General Fund and \$320.3 million in other funds, representing a \$92.4 million increase in all funds as compared to 2020-21. The 2021-22 budget enabled the District to serve approximately 95,000 students at San Diego City, Mesa, and Miramar colleges, as well as the non-credit San Diego College of Continuing Education, during the COVID-19 pandemic. The public health emergency that began in spring 2020 continued to result



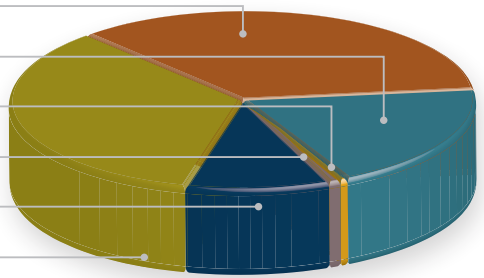
in severe hardships for students and their ability to continue their education. When the pandemic began, the colleges quickly moved to virtual instruction, student support services, and operational functions to allow SDCCD to continue to respond to community demand and student needs.

The following are some additional highlights for the 2021-22 fiscal year:

- The District met all of its internal and external short- and long-term fiscal obligations.
- The annual audit as of June 30, prepared by an independent external public accounting auditing firm, was once

2021-2022 REVENUE: \$872,449,308

General Fund Unrestricted: **\$309,420,922 – 35.47%**
General Fund Restricted: **\$170,024,885 – 19.49%**
Proposition S: **\$18,937 – 0.02%**
Proposition N: **\$67,676 – 0.01%**
Reserves & Contingencies: **\$87,560,617 – 10.04%**
Other Sources: **\$305,356,271 – 35.00%**



Managing Our Resources

again “Unmodified.”

- The District continued to maintain its triple “AAA” bond rating, which is the highest bond rating to be awarded by Standard & Poor’s and Moody’s, with both rating agencies attributing their rating decision based upon the District’s strong management and its consistent and responsible annual financial operational profile, while also addressing future long-term liabilities, such as employer pension costs.

- The adopted budget included the District’s focus on growing and maintaining an ending fund balance as protection against potential national and state economic downturns.

The District continued to make progress in 2021-22 completing all of the construction projects identified in the District’s Facilities Strategic Plan and authorized under

Proposition S, General Obligation Bonds (2002 election) and Proposition N, General Obligation Bonds (2006 election).

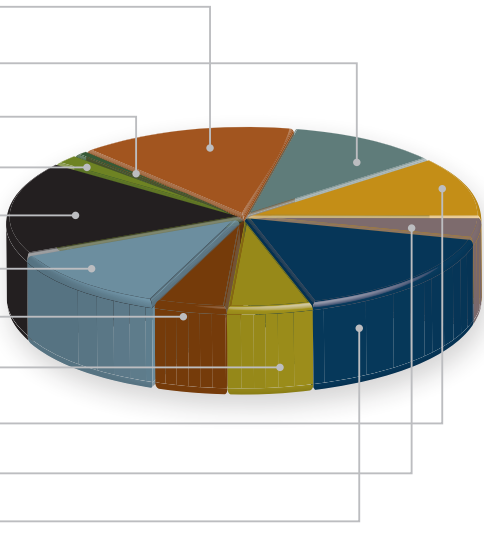
Highlights from the bond program projects includes:

- LEED-certification for sustainable buildings and practices.
- State-of-the-art equipment in buildings that allows the District to serve student demand and support student success.
- Grand opening of the Mesa College quadrangle, a central outdoor gathering place with terraced seating and benched tables among native and drought-tolerant plants.

The SDCCD pledges to continue in its efforts to serve the community in a fiscally responsible manner for years to come and appreciates the ongoing support of San Diego taxpayers.

2021-2022 EXPENDITURES: \$872,449,308

Academic Salaries: **\$135,425,210 – 15.52%**
Classified Salaries: **\$94,636,623 – 10.85%**
Proposition S: **\$3,069,357 – 0.35%**
Proposition N: **\$11,849,840 – 1.36%**
Other Outgoing: **\$148,150,574 – 16.98%**
Reserves & Contingencies: **\$108,081,751 – 12.39%**
Financial Aid: **\$48,275,160 – 5.53%**
Capital Outlay: **\$54,540,550 – 6.25%**
Employee Benefits: **\$97,127,158 – 11.13%**
Supplies & Materials: **\$31,428,107 – 3.60%**
Operating Expenses: **\$139,864,978 – 16.03%**





SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Administrative Offices

3375 Camino del Rio South
San Diego, CA 92108-3883

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The San Diego Community College District includes San Diego City College, San Diego Mesa College, San Diego Miramar College, and San Diego College of Continuing Education. The SDCCD is governed by its Board of Trustees. No oral or written agreement is binding on the San Diego Community College District without the express approval of the Board of Trustees.

sdccd.edu

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Our Campuses

San Diego City College

1313 Park Boulevard
San Diego, CA 92101-4787
(619) 388-3400, sdcity.edu

San Diego Mesa College

7250 Mesa College Drive
San Diego, CA 92111-4998
(619) 388-2600, sdmesa.edu

San Diego Miramar College

10440 Black Mountain Road
San Diego, CA 92126-2999
(619) 388-7800, sdmiramar.edu

San Diego College of Continuing Education & Educational Cultural Complex

4343 Ocean View Boulevard
San Diego, CA 92113-1915
(619) 388-4956, sdce.edu

CE AT MESA COLLEGE

7350 Armstrong Place
San Diego, CA 92111-4998
(619) 388-1950

CE AT MIRAMAR COLLEGE

10440 Black Mountain Road
San Diego, CA 92126-2999
(619) 388-7800

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San Diego, CA 92113-2116
(619) 388-1910

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3792 Fairmount Avenue
San Diego, CA 92105-2204
(619) 388-4500

NORTH CITY CAMPUS

8355 Aero Drive
San Diego, CA 92123-1720
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3249 Fordham Street
San Diego, CA 92110-5332
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