



SMCCCD Distributes more than \$8 Million Directly to Students from Federal Pandemic Relief Funding



District Receives total of \$13.3 million in Federal Pandemic Relief Funding to support students and respond to COVID-19

The San Mateo County Community College District has received \$13.3 million in federal relief funding from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF II). Of that funding, approximately two-thirds will go directly to students as cash payments to offset hardships during the COVID-19 pandemic. The remaining third of the funds will be used to offset costs incurred by the District and its three colleges for COVID-related expenses such as technology, health and safety equipment, and training.

“Our community college students were already struggling to make ends meet, and COVID has made it tougher than ever,” said SMCCCD Chancellor Michael Claire. “The majority of the federal funds we’ve received are going directly to support students, and this will make a difference in students being able to stay in school.”

[Read full story](#)

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IMPORTANT DATES

Spring Recess

Sunday, March 28 - Saturday, April 3

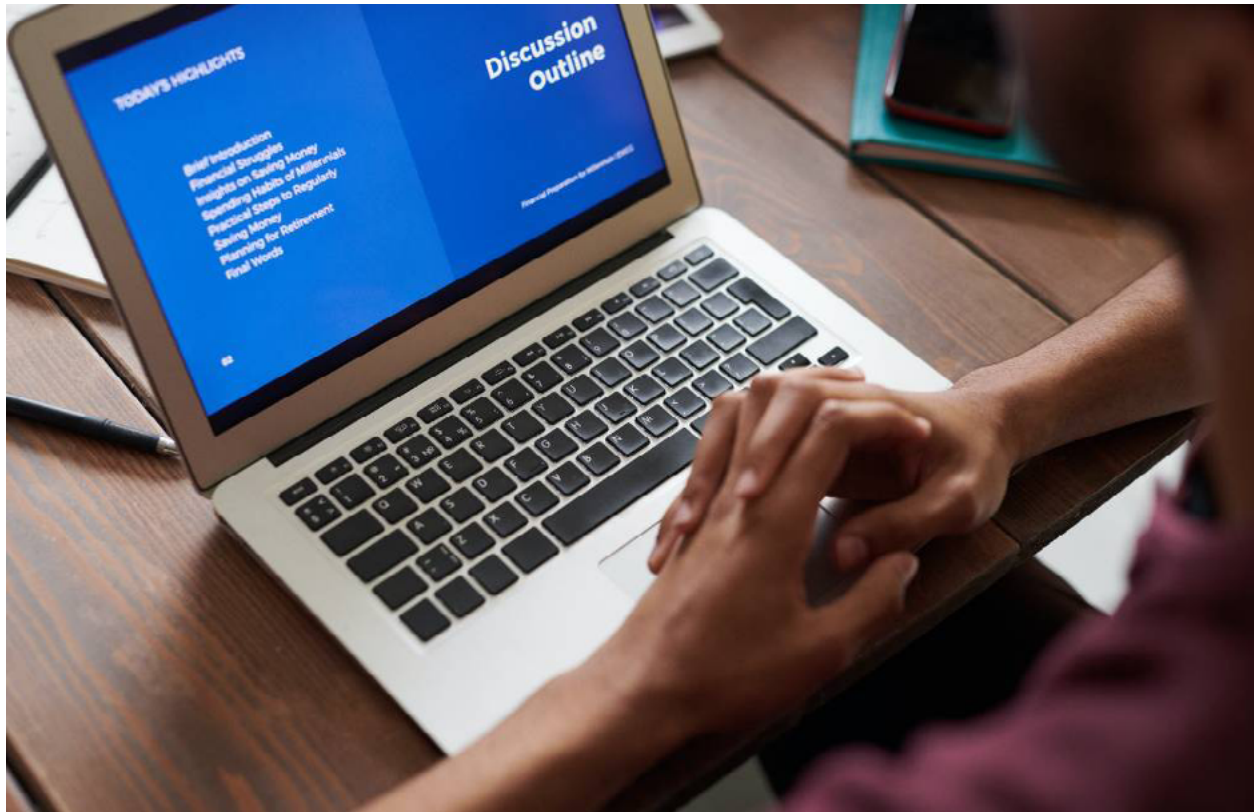
Cesar Chavez Day

Wednesday, March 31

Fall 2021 Classes Posted to WebSchedule

Monday, April 5

SMCCCD Will Remain Mostly Online for Summer and Fall 2021



Healthcare and Emergency Services Training Are Priority for In-Person Classes

The three colleges of the San Mateo County Community College District – Cañada College, College of San Mateo and Skyline College – will continue to hold courses in online and distance education modalities, as well as provide most student services remotely, through the end of the Fall 2021 semester. Most employees will also continue to work remotely through Fall 2021. The San Mateo County Community College District Board of Trustees formally ratified the decision in their meeting on Feb. 24.

“Nothing is more important than the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff,” said SMCCCD Chancellor Michael Claire. “Even though we all want to get back to our beautiful college campuses, we will do so in a thoughtful and deliberate way. We are optimistic that as vaccines become more widely distributed in the summer and fall we will be able to restore more in-person classes and services to students next year.”

[Read full story](#)

Spring 2021 Degree/Certificate Application Deadline Extended to Thursday, April 1



Students who have completed the requirements for an associate degree or a certificate must file an application **by Thursday, April 1** to be eligible to participate in our upcoming virtual commencement ceremony. More details will be coming about the ceremony within the next few weeks.

Students applying for degrees are required to review the completion of all requirements with their counselor or adviser prior to submitting the application.

[Learn more](#)

You Can Still Apply for 2021–22 Financial Aid!

Need help filling out your [FAFSA](#) or [CA Dream Act Application](#)? Not sure what to do next? Or have questions about your financial aid file? Don't wait, attend our [Financial Aid Drop-In Hours](#) via Zoom.

Every Tuesday from 12–4 pm, from
March 16th – May 25th (except April 6th).

Tools to Help You Complete Your FAFSA or CA Dream Act Application:

- FAFSA Website: <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>
- CA Dream Act Application: <https://dream.csac.ca.gov/>
- Financial Aid Drop-In Hours: <https://smccd.zoom.us/j/81494980283>

(Zoom Meeting ID: 814 9498 0283)



Summer Session Planning Begins Today

- Summer classes went live on [WebSchedule](#): Yesterday, March 11
- Summer registration begins: Tuesday, April 13.
- Summer session begins: Monday, June 14



SUMMER SESSION IMPORTANT DATES



Classes Posted to WebSchedule: **March 11**

Registration Begins: **April 13**

Session Begins: **June 14**

Join Your CSM Student Government

At CSM, students have a strong voice on campus to make change through an active and involved student government. That student government, also known as the Associated Students of CSM (ASCSM), is the voice of the student body, providing student input and feedback into the college decision-making process by representing all CSM students. In our current environment, it is more important than ever that the student government has a broad diversity of voices to bring about that change.

Students can get started by joining one of four ASCSM Senate Boards:

- **Advocacy Board:** Meets every Wednesday at 5:00 pm (meets online)
- **Cultural Awareness Board:** Meets every Thursday at 2:00 pm (meets online)
- **Programming Board:** Meets every Wednesdays at 1:10 pm (meets online)
- **Public Relations Board:** Meets every Friday at 11:10 pm (meets online)

Descriptions of each Board, along with applications, can be found at:

<https://collegeofsanmateo.edu/ascsm/committees.asp>

Upcoming ASCSM Elections

Elections for the 2021-2022 ASCSM Student Senate, including president, vice president, finance director and senators, are fast approaching. Candidate packets will be available beginning **Monday, April 5** online at www.collegeofsanmateo.edu/ASCSM. Packets will be due on **Friday, April 16th**. No experience is needed!

Currently all meetings are being held online via Zoom until campus restrictions are lifted.

For more information about joining ASCSM or running in the elections, please contact Aaron Schaefer, Student Life and Leadership Manager, at schaefera@smccd.edu.

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS?

*If you have general questions
or aren't sure where to start,
check out one of the two
services below.*

Virtual Front Desk with a Student Ambassador

Need help adding or dropping classes? Want advice from a peer? Drop in through Zoom to speak with a student ambassador when it's convenient for you.

No appointment necessary Monday–Thursday from 8 am – 7 pm and Fridays from 8 am – 1 pm.

Connect with a
Student Ambassador

Welcome Center

The Welcome Center is available for assistance with navigating the College. For help or more information on how to access services, we can be reached via Zoom (daily drop-in hour), phone or text at (650) 542-0515 or (650) 793-0215,

Visit the Welcome
Center Website

Ask the Doctor: Will the Covid-19 Vaccinations Fully Protect Me?

This ongoing feature addresses common student health questions, answered by CSM College Physician Dr. Jennifer Yang.

Dear Doc: After I get both my Covid-19 vaccinations, will I be protected from getting Covid-19 and spreading it? I haven't traveled to see my family in over a year! —Eager Believer

Dear Eager Believer: I feel your pain. Getting both vaccines will offer very good protection against the Covid-19 virus, but it is not a 100% guarantee. There is still a chance that you can get Covid-19 after vaccination. And if you get Covid-19, there is a chance that you can spread it to others. As of this writing, scientists cannot say for sure how big that risk is. Additionally, there is the question of how effective the vaccines are against new variant strains of the Covid-19 virus. For these reasons, people who have been fully vaccinated should still wear masks, practice social-distancing, and avoid crowds. We have all made hard choices during this pandemic to protect ourselves and our loved ones. Deciding to travel is one of those choices. The current CDC recommendation is to avoid travel because Covid-19 cases are still quite high. To help you make the best decision for yourself, visit [Travel During COVID-19 | CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/travel/faq/#faq-fully-vaccinated).

We encourage students to schedule appointments with a CSM Nurse or the College Physician by emailing csmwelness@smccd.edu, calling 650-574-6396, or visiting our website, <https://collegeofsanmateo.edu/wellnesscenter/>. Telemedicine services are available Monday – Thursday from 9 am to 3 pm while classes are in session - there is no charge for health appointments.



24/7 On-Demand Emotional Support Available for Students

CSM has recently launched CSMTalkNow, a free 24/7 on demand emotional support for students. Students can use CSMTalkNow to gain immediate access to a mental health professional to discuss stress, anxiety, depression, grief and loss and much more.

CSMTalkNow is supported by TimelyMD, an independent company, and does not offer access to CSM personal counseling staff. The service is ideal for students who need immediate support or those that need help during nights, weekends, or campus closures. For ongoing free therapy, students should contact CSM [Personal Counseling Services](#).

Learn more and register by visiting www.csmtalknow.com.



CSMTalkNow
24/7 On-Demand Emotional Support for Students

Deadline for Creative Student Submissions Extended

Great news! Labyrinth has extended the deadline for submissions to **Friday, March 19th**.

Submit your art or written pieces to *Labyrinth*, and you could be published in the Spring 2021 issue!

Labyrinth is now seeking poems, short stories, creative nonfiction, essays, research papers, artwork, photography, comic strips, and more. Submissions are open to all SMCCD students.

Visual art should be submitted in the highest resolution possible. Written work should be submitted in .doc or .docx format.

Please send your submissions or inquiries to labyrinth.submittable.com.

Affiliated with the Honors Project, *Labyrinth* is an award-winning literary, academic, and art journal that publishes student work from the San Mateo Community College District.



Monday, March 15: Digital Media Alumni Showcase

You are invited to join this virtual event hosted by the International Student Program on Monday, March 15 at 6 pm. It is free and open to all CSM students.

Register Now

Presenters:

- [Nicolas Fernandez](#), Class of 2020
- [Dorota Sitnik](#), Class of 2019
- [Marine Kazaryan](#), Class of 2018



Wednesday, March 17: Navigating Mathematical Spaces Through Collaboration and Community

You are invited to join this virtual event hosted by STEM@CSM on Wednesday, March 17 at 5 pm. It is free and open to all CSM students. [Zoom link](#) to the event.

View the entire spring [series of events](#).

CSM VIRTUAL SPRING '21 SCIENCE-IN-ACTION SPEAKER SERIES

Wed . Mar 17th • 5 - 6 pm



**"Navigating
Mathematical Spaces
Through Collaboration
and Community"**

**Andrés R. Vindas
Meléndez**

Math PhD Candidate
NSF Graduate Research
Fellow, University of Kentucky

Andrés is a Costa Rican-American mathematician, raised in Lynwood, South East Los Angeles. He is a first-generation college graduate and is currently a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow and PhD Candidate in the department of Mathematics at the University of Kentucky. His research interests are in algebraic, enumerative, and geometric combinatorics. In particular, he is interested in lattice-point enumeration for polyhedra. He is also an affiliated graduate student in the Latin American Studies program and earned a graduate certificate in Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino/a Studies. He earned a M.S. in Mathematics at SF State and completed his B.S in Mathematics at the UC Berkeley where he also minored in Philosophy and Chicana/o & of their knowledge and mathematical abilities.

Zoom Link at:
Collegeofsanmateo.edu/metast/speakerseries.asp



College of San Mateo



Wednesday, March 17: Movies for Mental Health Screening

Art with Impact is hosting Movies for Mental Health at CSM next Wednesday, March 17, from 1–3 pm. Movies for Mental Health (Online) is a 2-hour virtual workshop that uses the power of film to unite folks in community, connection, and conversation.

This interactive, online experience will feature an anonymous, chat-based discussion on mental health, the stigma that frequently surrounds mental illness, and media portrayals of mental health issues.

Following this will be a live screening of three award-winning short films, therapeutic activities to consciously connect minds and bodies, and a collective exploration around what the work means for us as individuals.

The event will culminate in a panel of lived-experience speakers and mental health resources, empowering us to share our own stories and access support available to us in these uncertain times.

[Register Now](#)



Friday, March 26: Celebrating the Black Woman and the Black Family Webinar



In honor of Women's History Month, The Village Demands SCBAA invites you to join us in celebrating the majesty of Black women and their contributions to our global society. Dr. Stacy L. Thompson, Vice President of Instruction at Chabot College, and Vice President of Programs for The Village Demands will

be our master of ceremonies.

The live webinar will include libations by Dr. Vera Nobles and an extraordinary drum performance by Brother Maury. Dr. Siri Brown, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and Student Success at the Peralta Community College District, will provide the keynote address. South African Artist Khaya Ndlovu will perform a special dance piece titled 'Inwele' or hair. A live webinar link will be provided to all registered attendees.

Registration is free for students by signing up with a student email address.

[Register Now](#)

March 29 – April 3: CSM Transfer Club Presents Virtual Tour Week

Planning on transferring? If so, plan on joining this valuable opportunity to learn about admissions at USC, UC Davis, UC Irvine, UC Santa Barbara, SDSU, and more. Meet with college/university representatives to learn more about specific institutions and participate in:

- Virtual tours
- Workshops
- A CSM alumni panel

Note: Some schools require that you register ahead of time. Space may be limited.

[Register Now](#)

