Guaranteed Admission to a California State University Campus? It’s True!

For the first time in California history, community college students will be able to take advantage of a new program that will guarantee admission to the California State University system with no wasted units.

The Associate Degree for Transfer (AA-T or AS-T) is a special degree that’s part of a new program from the California Community Colleges and the California State University that makes it easier for students to transfer from one system to the other.

Furthermore, students with an AA-T or AS-T enter the California State University system with junior standing. Students who are admitted to a program that has been deemed similar will need only 60 more semester units (or 90 quarter units) to complete a bachelor’s degree.

A website has also been developed to help current and prospective students better understand the many benefits of the program: ADegreeWithAGuarantee.com. It’s the ultimate resource for students and parents to learn about the Associate Degree for Transfer. The website is designed to explain the guarantee, and help students identify an AA-T or AS-T that might be right for them. Key features include:

- Details on how the new transfer program works;
- Up-to-date information about the transfer majors available at California community college campuses that are matched to similar bachelor’s degrees at California State University campuses;
- Interactive maps that help students find a campus;
- Application information;
- A degree progress checklist; and
- Testimonials from students who have earned an Associate Degree for Transfer and successfully moved on to a California State University campus under the new program.

To pursue this special AA-T or AS-T rather than a traditional Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree, students should meet with a counselor to develop an education plan. Go to ADegreeWithAGuarantee.com to learn more and check back frequently as more degrees become available every month.

California State University Campuses Begin Accepting Fall 2013 Applications

California community college students planning to transfer to one of the 23 California State University campuses for fall 2013 should apply now by submitting their application online at csumentor.edu.

All California State University campuses will accept applications, but they will be held until the end of the initial filing period (Nov. 30). After students apply, they should stay informed. There are campus requirements and deadlines. Students are encouraged to bookmark the CSU Mentor website on their computers as it is the best system-wide resource for updated application and program information.

After the application has been submitted, the next step is to complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Nearly half of all California State University undergraduates receive enough financial aid to cover the full cost of their tuition. Don’t let money be a barrier to pursuing your higher education goals. Apply for financial aid today.
“I Can Afford College” is on Facebook and Twitter!

Did you know the California Community Colleges “I Can Afford College” campaign is on Facebook and Twitter? By “liking” and following the campaign, you can stay on top of community college and financial aid news, important deadlines and information as well as hear about upcoming contests and promotions. Find us on Facebook at: facebook.com/icanaffordcollege and on Twitter: @ICANAFRDCOLLEGE. We hope you’ll connect with us soon and join the conversation.

Financial Aid Available to AB 540 Students Through The California Dream Act

Thanks to the California Dream Act, AB 540 students at community college are now eligible to apply for:

- Privately-funded scholarships
- Board of Governors Fee Waivers (apply now for terms starting after January 1, 2013)
- Assistance from Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS), Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education (CARE) or CalWORKS (beginning after January 1, 2013)
- State financial aid like Cal Grants (for the 2013-14 academic year) and Chafee Grants

If you are an AB 540 student, check with your local college financial aid, scholarship, EOPS/CARE and CalWORKs offices to see what is available.

To qualify as an AB 540 student, you must meet the following criteria:

- Attended a California high school for at least three years;
- Graduated from a California high school, got a GED or passed the California High School Proficiency Exam;
- Are registered or enrolled at a California community college; and
- If required, complete an affidavit saying you have filed (or will file when you are eligible to do so) for legal immigration status.

To learn more about the California Dream Act and the types of financial aid for AB 540 students, please visit icanaffordcollege.com/DreamAct. Make your college dreams come true – get started today.

Faces of Our Community: Who Will be Next?

Did you know that many people who have made great contributions to our state’s economy, innovation, culture, arts and entertainment began their higher education goals at a California community college? From actors, directors and writers to cutting-edge scientists, healthcare professionals to public administrators, professional athletes to small and large business owners – our alumni fuel California’s workforce.

Consider this partial list:

- **Tani Cantil-Sakauye**  
  Chief Justice of California  
  Sacramento City College

- **George Lucas**  
  Actor and director  
  Modesto Junior College

- **Alfredo Quiñones-Hinojosa**  
  Neurosurgeon leading research to cure brain cancer  
  San Joaquin Delta College

- **Jim Sinegal**  
  Co-founder of Costco Wholesale Corporation  
  San Diego City College

- **Amy Tan**  
  Best-selling novelist/author  
  San Jose City College

- **Gabriel Union**  
  Actress  
  Cuesta College

- **Barry Zito**  
  San Francisco Giants 2012 World Series starting pitcher  
  Los Angeles Pierce College

You can check out many more notable California community college alumni and read their stories at: californiacommunitycolleges.cccco.edu/Newsroom/NotableAlumni.aspx. New profiles are added quarterly – so bookmark the site and check back often.

We’re proud of all of our alumni and their enormous contributions to California. Our former students fuel the state’s economy and power its workforce. If you know someone who attended a California community college and has a great story to tell – one that we can all be proud of, please contact the California Community Colleges Director of Communications Paige Marlatt Dorr at PDorr@cccco.edu to share your idea.

contact us:

www.icanaffordcollege.com  
ican@cccco.edu  
1-800-987-ICAN (4226)

About the California Community Colleges

The California Community Colleges is the largest system of higher education in the nation, composed of 72 districts and 112 colleges serving 2.4 million students per year. Community colleges supply workforce training, basic skills education and prepare students for transfer to four-year institutions. The Chancellor’s Office provides leadership, advocacy and support under the direction of the California Community Colleges Board of Governors. For more information about the California Community Colleges system, please visit: californiacommunitycolleges.cccco.edu.