

Community College Information Sheet

► **Get a jump start on college credits.** Many students opt to take a course or two at a community college such as MJC (while they're still in high school) during their sophomore, junior and/or senior year in high school. So if you're a current high school student and want to take a MJC course, click on "MJC Application Instructions" link and follow the simple directions.

<http://downey.monet.k12.ca.us/documents/HOW%20TO%20APPLY%20TO%20MJC%20revised%2015-16.pdf>

► **Tuition is waived for high school students.** However only those students who are on track to graduate from high school and have demonstrated that they can handle the additional coursework, will do well with dual/concurrent enrollment. Most courses in 100 level are transferable to CSU's, UC's and many private universities. If you're interested in taking MJC courses, make sure you apply on MJC website at www.mjc.edu, then print out & complete the following high school petition form at www.mjc.edu/student-services/specialparttime0116.pdf. Once the form is filled out, give it to the Counselor or Principal for signature/approval, then submit the form to MJC Enrollment Office for processing. Remember classes taken at a community college are free while you're in high school!!! **Suggested courses to take: Guidance 110, Health 110, Music Appreciation 101, History 101 or 102, College Skills 100, Public Speaking 100 and various elective classes. Consult the MJC course schedule (click on the "magnifying glass" in upper right hand corner of MJC homepage) to see what is being offered each term.**

► **Taking the SAT and/or ACT** is **NOT** required if you plan to attend MJC or any other California Community /Junior College. SAT/ACT is not required, but it can be used as one option to help meet English & Math placement at MJC or any community college. (See below for NEW MULTIPLE MEASURES NOW IN PLACE AT MJC)!

► **NEW Multiple Measures for Assessment at MJC!** MJC is now accepting new assessment options which may exempt students from having to take the Math and English placement tests. Your EAP, SAT, ACT, GPA or AP test scores may also show you're ready for college level Math and English classes at MJC. Visit the following website for more detailed information:

<http://www.mjc.edu/student-services/enrollment/testing/multiplemeasures.php>

► **Scholarship listings** are ongoing throughout the school year and are posted on the MCS Scholarship webpage monthly at www.mcs4kids.com/district/counseling-and-guidance/college-counseling/financial-aid. Also browse through the reliable scholarship search engines provided at the top of the webpage and look through the National Scholarship Search tool provided in Naviance. **TIP:** Once you decided where you are going to attend, be sure to research the scholarships that are offered by your college/university!

► **Financial Aid:** The FAFSA application is a form you and your family can begin filling out together starting October 1st at www.fafsa.ed.gov . Completing the FAFSA can help you qualify for federal grants and Cal Grants (free money that does not have to be repaid) to use toward your college education. Financial aid is given for different reasons and can be used at different types of colleges such as 4-year universities, community colleges and career technical schools. All students should apply for financial aid regardless of their GPA or family income level.

► **The FAFSA application** is available to fill out online from Oct 1st – March 2nd. First both student and one parent will **EACH** need to register for a Federal Student Aid identification number (FSA ID#) before beginning the FAFSA application. But you and your parent don't have to wait until October 1st to register for your FSA ID#. Register **NOW** at <https://fsaid.ed.gov/npas/index.htm> For step by step video help in filling out the FAFSA go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RRXJYBRawfs>. **TIP:** Plan to attend the many FREE Cash for College workshop events offered in Modesto and nearby communities. Don't miss this opportunity to get help from those who are experienced in answering your questions about the FAFSA application and Financial Aid in general. These community events are very popular, so plan to get there early. **To find out where one is taking place near your area visit:**

www.cash4college.csac.ca.gov

NOTE: Before submitting your FAFSA, be sure to check that the personal information (primarily your name and birth date) on your PowerSchool account or on your transcript **exactly matches** what's listed on your Social Security card and your FAFSA application. **This will allow MCS District office to electronically submit your Cal Grant GPA verification without complications.** If you discover an error before submission, please notify the counseling office ASAP, otherwise the state may reject your FAFSA submission and you risk NOT qualifying for Financial Aid/Cal Grants.