



## **Mt. San Jacinto College**

### **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) for Special Admit Students High School Concurrent Enrollment**

#### **Preface**

The college maintains its commitment to provide opportunities for qualified and eligible high school students to attend MSJC as special admit students as defined by the Education Code. The Education Code and legislation emphasizes that students attending as special admits (also referred to as concurrent enrollment) should be those that “would benefit from advanced scholastic or vocational work...” Further, the intent of the law and its latest revision is to “...provide educational enrichment opportunities for a limited number of eligible pupils...” The latest MSJC admission criteria for concurrent enrollment are intended to meet the intent of the recently revised state Education Code.

#### **Guidelines for special admit high school students:**

To meet the intent of recent legislation, the college has established guidelines for special admit high school student's which now includes the following criteria. These are general criteria and **not** an absolute guarantee for admission, as each student and case is evaluated individually and all criteria are reviewed.

- ✓ Is currently in grade 11 or 12 \*
- ✓ Students must follow the matriculation guidelines/processes; completion of MSJC online application for admission, completion of online orientation and assessment at MSJC, with appropriate scores that indicate an ability to benefit from college level work
- ✓ A cumulative 3.0 high school GPA is generally required for academic courses such as math, English, history, etc. The college will need to review official transcripts to verify GPA
- ✓ A cumulative 2.0 high school GPA is generally required for vocational courses such as automotive, computer science, multi-media, etc. The college will need to review official transcripts to verify GPA
- ✓ Completion of MSJC School/Parent Agreement form
- ✓ Recommendation by the high school principal (this may not be delegated to a designee)
- ✓ Endorsement of Parent

**\*Note:** 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> grade students showing exceptional ability will be considered on a case-by-case basis. The same guidelines required of 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students also apply to the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students. In addition, a letter of recommendation (using school letterhead) from a teacher in the same discipline for requested enrollment must be included.

## **NEW STUDENTS MUST MEET ALL CRITERIA**

### **What about those students who may not meet the new criteria, yet have been attending the college successfully?**

Those students who have been attending the college successfully and in the past will be grandfathered in and not be subject to the special admit criteria.

### **Who may sign off on the recommendation form for the school district?**

Only the high school principal may sign the recommendation for the student to attend MSJC. This authority may not be delegated.

### **What other signatures or materials are required?**

The student will need to provide a completed *School/Parent Agreement* form to MSJC with both the high school principal's and the parent's signature of consent. High school transcripts and any other required letters of support should also be attached. The college will only accept complete application packets.

### **Are there any deadlines? What is the suggested timeline?**

The only deadline is that all of the requirements and documentation must be presented prior to the start of the class. Students should plan accordingly to ensure they can complete the assessment and orientation process, as well as assemble all of the required documents and signatures prior to the above mentioned date.

### **What type of course load and courses may a student take?**

Special admit high school students may take a maximum of two courses up to a total of 8 units in any one semester. The only courses that are not allowed for special admit students are:

- Courses numbered below the 070 level
- "Lab only" physical education courses. Any physical education course must have a lecture component to qualify for special admit students.

Special admit students must meet stated course prerequisites.

### **Does a special admit student need to apply each semester?**

A continuing student will need to complete and submit the *School/Parent Agreement* form with all of the appropriate signatures and transcripts each semester. They will not need to fill out the college application or go through the assessment and orientation process again.

### **What if a high school student is denied or does not meet the criteria and would like to challenge this decision?**

A student denied to attend the college as a special admit may appeal the decision. To do this, the student must complete and submit the *Request for Appeal of Denial* form, attach a brief statement as to why they are appealing the denial with rationale as to why they should be permitted to attend, and a copy of the *School/Parent Agreement* form. The appeal will be submitted to the Vice President of Instruction for a decision.