



College Promise Initiative: *The Mt. SAC Way*

*Mt. SAC Board of Trustees Study Session
March 9, 2019*

AB 19 – Promise Grant/Promise Program

- Legislation (2017) established the “California College Promise”
- Change in name only from Board of Governors Fee Waiver (BOGW) to the California College Promise Grant (CCPG)

The qualifications are the same:

- Qualify as a recipient of public assistance
 - Qualify based on # of family members and prior year's income
 - File the FAFSA and qualify based on having at least \$1 of unmet need
- Undocumented students should file the CA Dream Act application which waives enrollment fees

AB 19/2018 Budget Trailer Bill

- Provision of new funding to enable colleges to:
 - Increase the number and percentage of **high school students who are prepared for and attend college directly from high school**
 - Increase the percentage of high school graduates who are placed directly into **transfer-level mathematics and English courses** at a community college
 - Increase the percentage of students who earn **associate degrees** or career technical education **certificates**
 - Increase the percentage of students who successfully **transfer** from a community college to a **California State University or the University of California**

- Reduce and eliminate regional achievement gaps and achievement gaps for students from groups that are underrepresented at California Community Colleges, including, but not limited to
 - Underrepresented students
 - Low-income students
 - Students who are current or former foster youth
 - Students with disabilities
 - Formerly incarcerated students
 - Undocumented and AB 540 students
 - Students who are Veterans

The Confusion

- Some community colleges are offering “deals” that entice students to enroll billed as “first year free”
 - Proposed legislation AB2 would provide “second year free”
- Mt. SAC’s research confirmed close to 80% of students qualify for a fee waiver and the remaining 20% of students can afford the \$46/unit fees
- Nearly all incoming freshmen from high schools already qualify for the fee waiver or the California Dream Act

Mt. SAC's "Promise + Plus Program"

- Mt. SAC will continue to focus on having all students apply through FAFSA or the Dream Act to receive the fee waiver
- This enables students to qualify for "free college"
- Students, who apply through FAFSA or the Dream Act but don't qualify for the fee waiver, will still receive the Plus benefits
- Mt. SAC's plan is to offer additional supports for students through book vouchers, other financial assistance, laptop loaner program, etc.
- Pilot 2019-20

Promise + Plus Steps *Pilot 2019-20*

Spring 2019

Complete a Mt.
SAC Summer
Term Application

Complete AQ

Apply for FAFSA
or Dream Act

Complete Online
Orientation

Summer 2019

Enroll in and
complete
Summer Bridge
or **STEP Into**
College

Complete
educational plan

Fall 2019

Enroll in English
and/or math

Enroll in minimum
of 6 units

What do you get? [What is “promised”?]

- FREE loaner laptop for the semester
- FREE \$250 book grant (\$125 for part-time students)
- FREE bus pass 24/7 on Foothill Transit lines
- FREE \$100 on-campus food card (\$50 for part-time students)
- FREE health services and activities (fees covered)
- FREE Mt. SAC Promise+Plus shirt
- FREE Mt. SAC school bag with school supplies
- FREE Student Success Seminars, Counseling and Advising, Peer Coaching, Tutoring, Study Groups, Special Activities, Academic Planner, and Priority Registration

- ***Same benefits for Spring 2020 IF STUDENT COMPLETES ALL COURSES WITH A SEMESTER GPA OF 2.00 OR HIGHER***
- Students are currently being recruited through High School Outreach
- Marketing/Communication assisting with development of marketing campaign
- Sufficient funding is available to cover all projected costs for 1,000 students