

Noncredit Vocational Education Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is the difference between credit and noncredit?

- A. In general, credit courses are designed for students who are interested in earning college units towards a degree or certificate. Students who take credit courses receive a letter grade (A, B, C, D or F) at the end of the semester.

Noncredit courses are classes offered through the Continuing Education Division. They are intended for students who want to gain general knowledge, learn a new skill, upgrade existing skills, or enrich their understanding about a wide range of topics. Upon completion of a course, students will receive a grade of pass or no pass. Noncredit classes are NOT applicable toward a degree. Upon completion of a series of required classes, students can earn a noncredit vocational certificate.

Q. Who may attend a Continuing Education noncredit course?

- A. Anyone 18 years of age or older.

Q. Do I need to apply for admission to the college?

- A. For noncredit courses, admission to the college as a credit student is not required. There is a short form for noncredit admission.

Q. When do I sign up for a class?

- A. Register early. Classes are filled on a first-come, first-serve basis: You may register by mail or in person. You can register up until the day before the first class begins, although this increases your chances of your desired class being closed.

Q. Can I get Financial Aid?

- A. No. Federal Financial Aid is not available for noncredit classes. Noncredit classes are tuition free. Students are responsible for the purchase of books and supplies. Financial aid is not available for these materials.

Q. How much does a noncredit certificate cost?

- A. There is no tuition for noncredit courses. However, a few courses include a fee for materials provided to students. Students are also responsible for the purchase of books and supplies.

Q. Which specific classes do I need to earn a vocational certificate?

- A. More than 55 different career certificate programs are available. Each certificate program is different and requires a specific sequence of classes. See the Continuing Education Student Handbook for details.

Q. Do I need a parking permit?

- A. Yes, students who park on Mt. San Antonio College campus must have a valid, current parking permit at all times. You can order your parking permit conveniently online 24/7! After registering for classes in your portal, go to **#31** on your Student Tab and follow instructions to complete your order. You can print a temporary permit to display while you are waiting for your permit in the mail. For students who don't have credit cards, you can still buy your permit at the Bursar's Office during business hours while supplies last. Be sure to bring all of your vehicle registration information.

Q. How many courses can I take?

- A. As many as you like.

Q. Can I repeat a course?

- A. Most classes can be repeated if necessary.

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Q. Are there any prerequisites for these courses?

A. No.

Q. Do I need to take a placement or assessment test before starting class?

A. For most vocational courses, there is no assessment required prior to registration. However, our health occupations programs have mandatory orientations that explain required paperwork and clearances.

Q. Do I need a Certificate of Residence to register for a noncredit course?

A. No. However, you will need photo identification other than a passport.

Q. Can these classes be transferred to another college?

A. No.

Q. Are noncredit vocational certificates recognized in the industry?

A. Yes.

Q. How long will it take for me finish a noncredit vocational certificate?

A. It depends on your availability and the availability of the classes being offered. Not all classes are offered each term.

Q. Do I have to purchase books?

A. Yes, most courses require textbooks.

Q. Do I get units for noncredit classes?

A. No.

Q. Do I get grades for noncredit classes?

A. Yes. Upon completion of a course, students will receive a grade of pass or no pass.

Q. Can I enroll in a noncredit class and later transfer that course towards a credit certificate?

A. No.

Q. I still have a question. Who can I contact?

A. Call the Continuing Education Office at 909-594-5611 ext. 4220.