

Financial Aid

2025 – 2026 Reporting Bachelors Degree

You have indicated on your 2025 - 2026 Free Application for Federal Student Aid [FAFSA] that you have or will have a bachelor's degree by or before July 1, 2025 or that you will be a Graduate/Professional student during the 2025 - 2026 academic year.

Before we can continue processing your application, the Financial Aid office will need clarification, as having a bachelors degree will disqualify a student from receiving most forms of financial aid based on the San Diego Community College District [Satisfactory Academic Progress policy](#).

If you have not earned a bachelors degree or higher prior to the 2025-26 academic year, complete the San Diego Community College District "Change of Degree Declaration" Form on the second page of this document and submit it to the San Diego Mesa College Financial Aid Office along with copies of all academic transcripts from your prior institutions. You may submit the form [online here](#), in-person, by mail, or by fax at (619) 388-2824 so that the Financial Aid Office can determine what corrections, if any, may be needed to your FAFSA.

If you have already earned a bachelors degree or higher, even if it is from a foreign country, you may still be eligible to receive aid. However, you must first submit a Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal, which can be found on the [Forms and Petitions](#) section of the Financial Aid website.

Please note, California residents are considered for the California College Promise Grant (CCPG) without needing to appeal. A successful appeal would allow students to be considered for Federal Direct Student Loans, so long as students have not already exceeded their [aggregate loan borrowing limits](#). Federal Work-Study may also be available; however, funding limits apply. Unfortunately, gift aid, including the Federal Pell Grant and Cal Grant are not available to students who have previously earned a bachelors degree.

Please contact the Financial Aid Office if you have any questions.

-San Diego Mesa College Financial Aid Office



San Diego Community College District
Change of Degree Declaration

☐ City ☐ Mesa ☐ Miramar ☐ ECC

Name: _____
(PRINT) Last First MI

Student ID Number: _____ Birthdate: _____

Corrected degree status: ☐ No Degree ☐ AA/AS Degree ☐ BA/BS Degree

Colleges Attended	Dates of Attendance		Colleges Attended	Dates of Attendance	
	From	To		From	To

Provide a detailed explanation of your request for a change of degree status. Attach supporting documentation if available.

Title IV Regulations prohibit an institution from awarding a PELL Grant to students with a baccalaureate degree or higher.

I CERTIFY UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT I AM ENROLLED IN AN UNDERGRADUATE COURSE* OF STUDY AND HAVE NOT EARNED A BACCALAUREATE DEGREE, THE EQUIVALENT, OR A FIRST-PROFESSIONAL DEGREE FROM ANY INSTITUTION WITHIN, OR OUTSIDE OF THE CONTINENTAL U.S.

WITNESS my hand and official seal

Signature: _____ Date: _____

*An undergraduate course of study under this definition is one that usually does not exceed four (4) academic years or is a program of four (4) to five (5) academic years designed to lead to a baccalaureate or first-professional degree. If the program is longer than five (5) years (for example, a 6-year pharmacy program), then students enrolled in that program are considered undergraduate students only for the first four (4) academic years of the program.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Comments:

Accepted by _____ Date _____