

Student Services

# Call to Action

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

JULY 2020



1973-2020

The Student Services Leadership Team made a Call to Action to all Student Services departments.

The call was a direct response to the spark felt around the world by the murder of **George Floyd**, the resulting light being shined on structural racism and our responsibility to ensure that our students have access to equitable outcomes and opportunities to succeed and thrive.

With our Scholarship Equity Analysis and Black Faculty Counseling Collaborative as demonstrations of how "we get what we inspect, not what we expect", each of our areas were called to identify at least one action step they will take during the 2020/21 academic year to address racial inequities, with a focus on Black students.

[sdmesa.edu/blacklivesmatter](https://sdmesa.edu/blacklivesmatter)  
[sdmesa.edu/student-services](https://sdmesa.edu/student-services)

#BlackLivesMatter

# Student Services | Call to Action

Below are steps that Student Services will take to bring us closer to being the leading college of equity and excellence with a focus on Black students.

We share these goals to tell our story, invite others to engage our journey and to hold ourselves accountable for what we have committed to do.

**BLACK  
LIVES  
MATTER**

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

## Admissions

Admissions will learn from experts in anti-racism, implicit bias, and equity during department meetings and professional learning opportunities; use applications data and create a resource list to support Black students with individualized suggestions for services and resources.

## Assesmet & Testing

Assessment and Testing will improve connections to new Black students by creating infographics to make the assessment & testing process more clear and approachable.

## AVANZA: Peer Navigator & CRUISE Programs

As learners, listeners, and advocates, Peer Navigators will be intentional about engaging with Black student CRUISers to best support them throughout their Mesa journeys.

## CaWORKs

CaWorks will conduct outreach to eligible Black students to invite them into the program and ensure their basic needs are met; CaWorks will then be intentional about working with its Black students holistically.

## Career Center

The Career Center and Peer Ambassadors will encourage Black and Latinx students, identified, in part, through partnerships with programs and services, to explore careers at events and through presentations, counseling, and peer-to-peer educational opportunities.

## Counseling

Counseling is

- 1) hosting a virtual open house in Canvas to support instructional faculty, in particular, by informing them of available counseling resources that help Black students achieve equitable outcomes;
- 2) seeking to break down technology barriers students encounter when seeking counseling services;
- 3) working to create a positive and welcoming (non- "dmv" or transactional) experience for students coming to the Counseling office.

## DSPS

DSPS will provide opportunities for campus community members to educate themselves about 1) the intersection of racism and disabilities; and 2) the impacts of racism on individuals with disabilities at San Diego Mesa College.

## EOPS & Special Programs

The EOPS & Special Programs office will conduct outreach to program-eligible prospective, new, and continuing Black students

## Financial Aid

The Financial Aid Office seeks to increase the number of Black students that participate, complete and submit the FAFSA and or CA Dream Act application.

## Outreach

Outreach will collaborate with the Black Faculty Collaborative Counselor Liaison to best support our Black Promise students and increase Black student participation in the Promise led events

## Student Health Services Mental Health

Through intentional outreach, Student Health Services seeks to increase the participation of Black students in individual and group mental health services

## Transfer Center

The Transfer Center will partner with Umoja, Puente, EOPS/Special Programs, DSPS and Veterans to design and provide a transfer related workshop for each program during the Fall 2021 transfer season.

## Veterans, Records & VSC

The Veterans Office will increase the number of Black student veterans participating in the VA work-study program

## Evaluations

To increase the percentage of Black students obtaining a degree/certificate, Evaluations will 1) host a Graduation Application Party to explain the application process, the importance of earning a degree and/or certificate, and the importance of participating in the Commencement Ceremony and the Rite of Passage end-of-the-year celebration; and 2) help remove structural barriers created by some student petitions.

## Student Affairs

Student Affairs and Associated Students seek to increase Black student representation on the Associated Students board by at least 15%. Student Affairs will also conduct intentional outreach to increase the number of Black students who submit scholarship applications

## The Stand Basic Needs

Student Services professionals working with the The Stand/Basic Needs office will participate in professional learning related to anti-racism and equity, for example, to support Black students.

## Transfer, Career, Evaluations

The Transfer, Evaluations, and Career Office will create an Antiracism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Action Plan.