

## **Adult Education Students as Special Admits**

### **OBJECTIVE**

Adopt a local board policy to allow students currently enrolled in an adult school to enroll as "special admits" in order to expand concurrent/dual enrollment courses at the adult school sites and increase the number of students who are able to successfully transition to FHDA from adult school.

### **OVERVIEW**

The California Adult Education Program (CAEP) focuses on developing relationships between adult schools and community colleges to improve services and academic success of our region's adult learners. The collaboration between CAEP and community colleges aims to create a seamless and successful student transition into community colleges.

As part of a local consortium, the Foothill-De Anza Community College District has committed to working with local adult schools to find solutions to the challenges their students face when transitioning to our campus. These barriers include financial needs, not seeing themselves as college students, and not qualifying for certain types of financial aid without a high school diploma or high school equivalency. Therefore, the North Santa Clara County Consortium's three-year plan includes a specific goal to increase support for adult school students with financial barriers by having a dual enrollment fee waiver for co-enrolled adult school students. The Leadership Board members and the Director of the Consortium plan to achieve this goal by working with the District to change the Board Policy to allow adult school students to qualify for the same dual enrollment fee waiver as K-12 students. Adopting a local board policy that defines Adult School students as "special admit" shows our dedication to provide nontraditional students with a smooth pathway for them to succeed at FHDA. Furthermore, it creates opportunities for the college to develop new and effective career pathways to prepare adult students for technical employment opportunities and/or transition into higher education while also addressing their financial hardship. Without the special admit status, concurrently enrolled adult school students are not eligible for College Promise. This proposal seeks to correct that inequity by ensuring that when adult school students transfer in as full-time they are eligible for College Promise. Additionally, waiving the enrollment fees as "special admit" is an attractive incentive for the college to increase the enrollment of adult school students overall while at the same time strengthening the college relationship with local adult school partners.

### **REGULATORY REFERENCE**

California Education Code of Regulations Sections 48800 and 76001 provide guidance regarding the role of the governing board of a community college district to adopt a local board policy to allow students enrolled in an adult school to be "special admits." The governing board of a school district may determine who would benefit from advanced scholastic and vocational work

as a special part-time or full-time student. In addition, SB 554 was recently signed that includes language about High School Equivalency students and concurrent enrollment.

**SB 554:**

[http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201920200SB554](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200SB554)

Pertinent Language: SB 554 authorize the governing board of a school district overseeing an adult education program or the governing board of a community college district overseeing a noncredit program to authorize a student pursuing a high school diploma or a high school equivalency certificate to enroll as a special part-time student at a community college, as provided. The bill would credit or reimburse the community college through the apportionment process for the student's attendance at the college, as specified.

**Education Code 76001:**

[http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes\\_displaySection.xhtml?sectionNum=76001.&lawCode=EDC](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?sectionNum=76001.&lawCode=EDC)

Pertinent Language: The governing board of a community college district may admit to any community college under its jurisdiction as a special part-time or full-time student in any session or term any student who is eligible to attend community college pursuant to Section 48800 or 48800.5

**Education Code 48800:**

[http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes\\_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=EDC&sectionNum=48800](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=EDC&sectionNum=48800)

Pertinent Language: The governing board of a school district may determine which pupils would benefit from advanced scholastic or vocational work. The intent of this section is to provide educational enrichment opportunities for a limited number of eligible pupils, rather than to reduce current course requirements of elementary and secondary schools, and also to help ensure a smoother transition from high school to college for pupils by providing them with greater exposure to the collegiate atmosphere .

More information about our local consortium can be found on our website.

<https://nscadulthood.com/>