

Transitioning to the Standardized Attendance Accounting Method (SAAM) at Mt. San Antonio College

Impacts, Implications, and DEIA-Aligned Strategies

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Background and Purpose

SAAM Implementation

Title 5 amendments phasing out weekly/daily census by 2026-27

Understand Differences

FTES calculation changes affect funding

Estimate Impact

Financial implications for Mt. SAC

DEIA Strategies

Identify inclusive approaches to maximize funding

FTES Calculation Differences

Weekly Census (Current)

Includes additional hours beyond COR-defined unit load

SAAM (New)

$FTES = (\text{Standardized Hours} \times \text{Census}) \div 525$

17.5 hours per lecture unit, 54 per lab unit

Result: SAAM reduces FTES if time exceeds unit thresholds



Financial Impact Analysis

+\$168K

Summer 2024

FTES increase of +37.33

-\$713K

Fall 2024

FTES decrease of -158.71

-\$545K

Net Impact

Overall funding reduction

Greatest losses in lab-intensive Positive 04 and LL codes

Prior Attendance Accounting Methods

Prior to SAAM, attendance was accounted for using various methods, including:

- **Weekly Student Contact Hour Procedure:** This method was used for credit courses only and involved one census point, as outlined in Title 5, Section 58003.1 (b).
- **Daily Student Contact Hour Procedure:** Similar to the weekly procedure, this method was also used for credit courses only with one census point, outlined in Title 5, Section 58003.1 (c).
- **Actual Hours of Attendance Procedure:** This method was used for non-credit courses and involved recording actual hours of attendance.

New Standardized Attendance Accounting Method

Under the newly approved regulations, all credit courses will use the Standardized Attendance Accounting Method to compute FTES, except for certain credit courses that use the actual hours. The calculation for the new Standardized Attendance Accounting Method is:

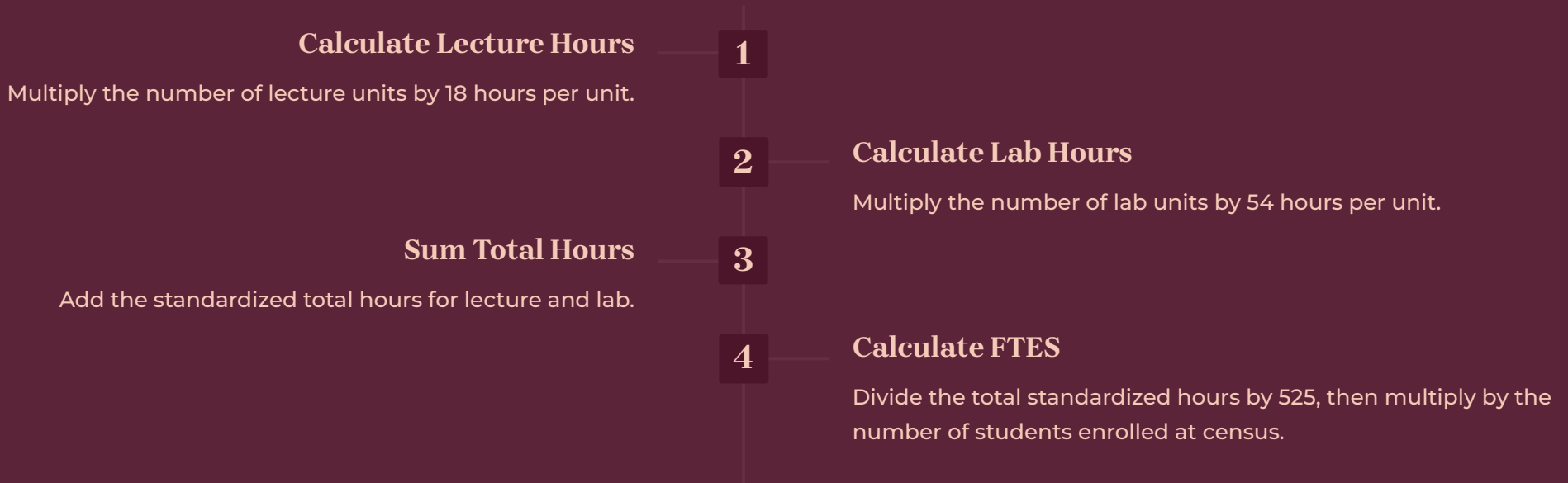
$$\text{FTES} = \text{Total Standardized Hours} \times \text{number of Students Enrolled at Census} / 525$$

The total standardized hours are based on the number and type of units identified in the Course Outline of Record and are calculated by multiplying the number of units of lecture and lab as stated in the COR. Standard hours are defined in the regulation as:

- Standard hours per unit of lecture = 18 hours for semester colleges
- Standard hours per unit of lab = 54 hours for semester colleges

FTES Calculation for Courses with Lecture and Lab Components

Here's a breakdown of how FTES is calculated for courses with both a lecture and lab component under the new Standardized Attendance Accounting Method:



For example, a 2-unit lecture course with 1 unit of lab would be calculated as follows:

- Lecture: 2 units * 18 hours = 36 standard total hours
- Lab: 1 unit * 54 hours = 54 standardized total hours
- Total: 36 + 54 = 90 standardized total hours
- FTES: 90 standardized total hours * 30 students = 2700 / 525 = 5.14 FTES

FTES Calculation for Courses with Lecture and Lab Components



New standardized accounting method allows apportionment for 54 hrs, not 71.



The COR is approved at 71 hrs even though additional units are not granted to the student.



Students complete 17 additional hours of lab.



Previous attendance methods funded the additional hours even when students didn't earn more units.

WEEKLY	Lec	30	x	2.6	x	16.2	=	2.407	6.665
				525					
	Lab	30	x	4.6	x	16.2	=	4.258	
				525					
DAILY	Lec	30	x	1.6	x	23	=	2.103	6.44
				525					
	Lab	30	x	3.3	x	23	=	4.337	
				525					
ALTERNATIVE	Lec + Lab	30	x	(2 + 4.6)	x	17.5	=	6.6	6.6
				525					
STANDARDIZED	Lec + Lab	30	x		(36 + 54)		=	5.143	5.143
				525					



Summer Strategy: Expand Offerings



8-Week Courses

Maximize short-term FTES gains



Evening Classes

Access for working students



Online Formats

Flexible access for diverse students



Financial Aid

Support for summer enrollment

Fall Strategy: Reconfigure Schedule



Align COR with SAAM

Reduce over-instruction beyond funded units



Flexible Modalities

8-week and hybrid options



Expanded Access

Evening and weekend options for non-traditional students



UDL Implementation

Academic support for students with disabilities





Online and Hybrid Expansion

SAAM-Neutral Options

Increase fully online and hybrid courses

Leverage Canvas for consistent delivery

Inclusive Design

Culturally responsive content creation

Digital accessibility compliance

Virtual Support

Expanded mental health services

Multilingual navigation options

Action Steps



Expand Summer 2025

8-week courses with targeted marketing



Adjust Lab Structures

Review courses with heavy lab components



Flexible Scheduling

Pathways for underserved students



Enhance Online Support

Universal accessibility in platforms



Conclusion & Next Steps

Recalibration Opportunity

See SAAM as strategic pivot, not just reduction

Mitigate Losses

Expand summer and online options

Redesign Lab Courses

Adjust lab-heavy offerings to align with SAAM

Prioritize DEIA

Embed inclusive principles across all scheduling



Thank You!

We appreciate your time and participation.

Please feel free to ask any questions.

