

# 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:

FTES = Total Standardized Hours X 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:

## Calculate Lecture Hours

Multiply the number of lecture units by 18 hours per unit.

1

## Calculate Lab Hours

Multiply the number of lab units by 54 hours per unit.

2

## Sum Total Hours

Add the standardized total hours for lecture and lab.

3

## Calculate FTES

Divide the total standardized hours by 525, then multiply by the number of students enrolled at census.

4

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

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

# 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.

		Lec	30	x	2.6	x	16.2	=	2.407	
<b>WEEKLY</b>					525					6.665
		Lab	30	x	4.6	x	16.2	=	4.258	
					525					
<b>DAILY</b>		Lec	30	x	1.6	x	23	=	2.103	6.44
					525					
		Lab	30	x	3.3	x	23	=	4.337	
					525					
<b>ALTERNATIVE</b>		Lec + Lab	30	x	(2 + 4.6)	x	17.5	=	6.6	6.6
					525					
<b>STANDARDIZED</b>		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.

