



# SBCC Promise

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### General Questions

#### What educational expenses does the SBCC Promise cover?

The SBCC Promise covers the cost of enrollment fees (“tuition”), other required fees, required books, and required supplies for up to two years. “Required supplies” includes all course-required materials, such as equipment for nursing, culinary arts, and other programs. All books and supplies must be purchased at the SBCC campus bookstore. Some programs offer free rentals provided by the SBCC Promise, such as equipment for marine diving, photography, and other courses.

The SBCC Promise does **not** cover living expenses, child care assistance, travel, or tour expenses.

#### Are there any exceptions for the minimum enrollment of 12 units each Fall and Spring semester?

We make an exception to the 12-unit minimum for students who are enrolled in less than 12 units during a Fall or Spring semester with an active Reduced Unit Load (RUL) approved by the SBCC Disability Services and Programs for Students (DSPS). Exceptions may be made for additional programs.

#### Are there any academic or Grade Point Average (GPA) requirements?

There is no GPA requirement set for initial eligibility for the SBCC Promise; however, all current students must remain in good academic standing as defined by Santa Barbara City College during their time as an SBCC Promise student. You will be removed from the SBCC Promise if you are academically disqualified by the college.

#### Definitions:

**Academic Probation:** A student who has attempted a total of at least 12 graded units, as shown by the official college transcript, shall be placed on academic probation if the student has earned an accumulated grade point average (GPA) below 2.00 in all graded units at Santa Barbara City College.

**Academic Disqualification:** A student who is on academic probation shall be subject to disqualification if the student has earned a cumulative grade point average of less than 2.00 in all units attempted in each of two (2) consecutive semesters.

Please review **SBCC Academic Status Policies** for more information.

### **Do SBCC Promise students get priority registration?**

Continuing Promise eligible students who are not on academic or progress probation for two consecutive terms or have not earned 100 or more degree-applicable units have priority registration. SBCC Admissions and Records notifies students of their registration dates by posting the date and time in the student's Pipeline account two weeks prior to the start of Priority Registration.

### **Can I stay in the SBCC Promise beyond two years?**

The SBCC Promise is intended to support students who attend SBCC as full-time students uninterrupted for two years. Although we recognize the need for more than two years of support for many students, there are no immediate plans to expand the SBCC promise beyond two years.

### **Do I need to complete my educational goal in two years?**

Students are not required to complete their educational goal within two years; however, the SBCC Promise will not cover your expenses beyond two years. We recommend that you apply for state and/or federal financial aid as well as scholarships to help cover your educational expenses after you complete the two years in the SBCC Promise.

### **Are summer sessions covered by the SBCC Promise?**

Summer sessions are optional terms, but they are covered by the SBCC Promise for students who choose to enroll in summer sessions immediately following their Spring Semesters as SBCC Promise students. The summer sessions immediately after high school graduation, however, are not covered by the SBCC Promise.

### **Are study abroad fees covered by the SBCC Promise?**

The program cost for study abroad is not covered by the SBCC Promise. However, the SBCC Promise covers the cost of enrollment and required fees, required books, and required supplies that can be utilized on the study abroad programs and which are not included in the study abroad program cost.

## **Eligibility Questions**

### **Am I eligible for the SBCC Promise if I was home schooled or graduated from an online high school in the SBCC District?**

Yes, you are eligible for the SBCC Promise as long as you complete high school within the SBCC district and enroll at SBCC in the Fall or Spring semester immediately following your high school graduation. Your application to SBCC and your official transcript should note your high school graduation date. You will need to submit an SBCC Promise eligibility appeal to verify your eligibility.

### **Am I eligible for the SBCC Promise if I recently graduated from adult high school, completed a GED program, or passed the CHSPE (California High School Proficiency Exam) in the SBCC district?**

Yes, you are eligible for the SBCC Promise as long as you complete high school or the equivalent within the SBCC district and enroll at SBCC in the Fall or Spring semester immediately following your high school graduation or passage of the CHSPE. Your application to SBCC and your official transcript should note the date of your high school completion or the equivalent. You will need to submit an SBCC Promise eligibility appeal to confirm your eligibility.

## **Am I eligible for the SBCC Promise if I am not a U.S. Citizen?**

### **Undocumented and AB540 students**

Undocumented students (whether AB540-eligible or not) are eligible for the SBCC Promise as long as SBCC Promise minimum eligibility requirements are met.

### **International Students**

International students may have various visa types; **this list is provided as a guide**. It is the same guide used by the Admissions Office to determine residency.

International students with a visa type F or J are not eligible for residency, and therefore are **not eligible** for the SBCC Promise.

For SBCC Promise purposes, if a student has a visa type that allows them to establish U.S. residency after one year, then they are **eligible** for the SBCC Promise.

## **Am I eligible for the SBCC Promise if I plan to enroll at SBCC more than one year from my high school graduation or the equivalent?**

You may be eligible based on your extenuating circumstances. You will need to have graduated from a local high school or the equivalent within the SBCC District Area, and you will need to submit an SBCC Promise eligibility appeal to review your eligibility.

## **Am I eligible for the SBCC Promise if I was recently released from the California criminal justice system?**

You will need to submit an SBCC Promise eligibility appeal to review your special circumstance and determine your eligibility.

## **Am I eligible for the SBCC Promise if I attended high school in the SBCC district but then transferred out of the area due to a foster care placement?**

You will need to submit an SBCC Promise eligibility appeal to review your special circumstance and determine your eligibility.

## **Am I eligible for the SBCC Promise if I choose to enter into military service immediately after high school?**

You may be eligible if you plan to enroll at SBCC within twelve (12) months of completion of your military service. You will need to have graduated from a local high school or the equivalent within the SBCC District Area, and you will need to submit an SBCC Promise eligibility appeal to verify your eligibility. In addition, you will need to submit documentation verifying your military service terms.

## **Am I still eligible for the SBCC Promise if I experience a leave of absence due to illness or other circumstances?**

You may be eligible to continue in the SBCC Promise upon your return to Santa Barbara City College. You will need to submit an SBCC Promise eligibility appeal to determine your eligibility.

## **Do you have questions?**

For more information, please [visit sbccpromise.org](http://sbccpromise.org). If you have further questions please contact Sergio Lagunas at [promise@sbccfoundation.org](mailto:promise@sbccfoundation.org) or (805) 730-4416.