Welcome to the spring 2016 semester!

At this time of year we have often already forgotten our new year’s resolutions for 2016, but at the beginning of the semester it is the perfect time to write down those resolutions and start the semester anew! What is your goal this semester? How can we help you to reach it? Do you need some support in your study skills, developing your goals or with time management? We are here to help.

BOG Fee Waiver Changes

There are big changes coming to the Community College Board of Governor’s Fee Waiver program starting fall of 2016. If you do not meet a 2.0 grade point average or completion of 50% of your units (after completing 12 units) after two regular semesters you will not be eligible for the BOG. This could bring your fees from $15 per term to $552 for a full semester load. An appeal process will be put in place and more details will be available as they are determined. Be sure to check your canyon’s email for updates from the financial aid office.

Financial Aid Update

January 1 is the first day to update your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA). It is important to do this during the priority filing dates of January 1-March 2, 2016 in order to qualify for the most aid that is available. Certain grants have limited funds available so the first students who apply are first in line, and when the funds are exhausted they are gone! This application period is for the 2016-2017 academic school year so be sure to include any school that you maybe transferring to.

Important dates for full semester classes.

February 21
Add / Drop without a “W”

March 11
Pass/no pass grade deadline

May 8
Final withdraw deadline

Scholarships

Every spring COC offers a scholarship drive for COC students only. What does this mean? You can complete one simple application and be eligible for multiple scholarships! Keep your eyes open for upcoming information around campus about requirements and deadlines.
More Important News

Family Support

Are you having difficulties meeting your welfare-to-work plan (wtw) due to housing issues, health problems, substance abuse, domestic violence, emotional issues, child-related concerns or court matters? If you are within your 24 month clock you may be eligible for additional, specialized support services through GAIN’s Family Stabilization program. As a participant your wtw clock will be stopped up to 6 months. Contact your GAIN worker for more information.

More Scholarship Information

Looking for scholarships to help you along the way? The Financial Aid Office keeps a listing of current opportunities on their website. Just go to their page on the Canyon’s site and click on scholarships. Good luck!

$ Money Wise $

Every Sunday, rain or shine, College of the Canyons houses a Farmer’s Market. They have recently received a grant to participate in the California Market Match Program. This healthy food incentive allows shoppers to double their produce at no extra cost. For every $10 spent through their EBT tokens, you will be given an additional $10 in market tokens to spend on additional fruits and vegetables. EBT redemption can be done at the information booth. Take advantage of this opportunity now! Hours: 8:30am to 12:00pm. Location: Parking Lot 5

Work Study Update

Work study is a great opportunity to build your skills, resume and confidence while working on campus. To be added to our prospect list you must have completed 12 units at COC, have a minimum 2.0 GPA and be enrolled in 6 units for the fall and/or spring semesters. The income you earn does not count against your aid! Let us know if you are interested.

Does your car need repair?

As a participant you may be eligible for up to $1500 towards repair of your car. Ask your GAIN worker about the VDRP program. You must get their approval and follow their steps before getting the work done on your vehicle.

Community Services

Neighborhood Legal Services

NLS of Los Angeles provides free legal help to families in the area. They have several hotlines and self-help centers available for you. They can help with family, health, evictions, employment, welfare, debt and other legal issues. Please check with our office for the appropriate contact number for your situation.

Santa Clarita Family Day Care Association

www.childcarescv.com

A non-profit organization of family day care providers and parents. Parents can call (661)250-4238 for referrals to local home based licensed child care.

For additional referrals please check with a CalWORKs staff member.