



Providing Affordable Quality Education & Supporting Our Local Students

Q: What is the vision for our colleges?

A: San Jose City and Evergreen Valley Colleges strive to meet the diverse educational and workforce needs by maintaining high quality affordable education by continuing to expand opportunities for local students to earn college credits, certifications, and job skills or transfer to four-year universities at a reasonable price.

Q: What are the challenges?

A: As you probably know, the cost of living in the Bay Area is out of control. Many students face homelessness and hunger. Across the District, approximately 50% face food insecurity, more than 60% are facing housing insecurity and almost 20% report experiencing homelessness. Students need access to basic needs like housing, food and childcare in order to continue to pursue their education and receive the skills they need to stay in school and work in our community. At the same time, the cost to attend California's public universities has risen to at least three times that of attending a community college.

Q: How does this effect our local workforce and economy?

A: San Jose City and Evergreen Valley Colleges provide essential job training for students, veterans, and local residents – successfully preparing them to becoming part or continue to contribute to our local workforce. By upgrading classrooms, facilities, and technology for the 21st century and expanding access to training programs, our local colleges help students learn new skills and find better paying jobs in business, biotechnology, nursing, engineering, and other high-demand careers.

Q: Do San Jose City and Evergreen Valley Colleges serve veterans?

A: Absolutely! Our local community colleges have served thousands of military veterans, many facing significant challenges, including post-traumatic stress disorder and permanent disability. Our goal is to upgrade access for disabled students and provide improved campus resources and educational opportunities so retuning service members can receive the support they need for college and careers.

Q: What are the community's educational needs and priorities?

A: In a recent Community Survey, residents identified the following priorities:

- ✓ Supporting students facing food insecurity and hunger
- ✓ Supporting students facing homelessness
- ✓ Providing assistance to students to keep college affordable
- ✓ Partnering with local employers and tech companies to expand scholarships and financial aid
- ✓ Providing transitional housing for students experiencing homelessness

Q: What can I do?

A: Share your higher education vision, priorities and feedback and *Join the Conversation* today! Fill out our community survey online at: www.sjeccd.edu/JointheConversation.