

Admission

AP 5010

**Reference: Title 5 Sections: 52201(b), 54000-54072, 54200, 54300;
Education Code: 76000**

The Superintendent/President, or designee, shall establish rules and regulations governing the matriculation of students. Admission to the college is under the administration of the Director of Admissions and Records. The Superintendent/President, or designee, makes final admission determinations.

All students must complete and sign an official Cuesta College Admission Application (online with electronic signature or in print) to be admitted to the college.

- All information provided by the applicant on the admission application must be true and accurate as required by law.
- A student's identity is established with Cuesta College through the admission application.
- A student may have only one identity with Cuesta College.
- A student, who knowingly falsifies any information required on the Cuesta College Admission Application, or other college documents, is subject to dismissal from the college. Appeal of dismissal may be made to the college Superintendent/President, or designee, whose decision shall be final.
- Students who are returning to Cuesta College after an absence of two or more semesters must reapply to Cuesta.
- Students who applied to Cuesta, but either never enrolled or withdrew during the first four weeks of the semester must reapply to Cuesta College.
- Students under the age of 18 without a high school diploma, or equivalent, who are not currently enrolled in a secondary institution, are not eligible for admission to Cuesta College. A denied applicant may make an appeal to the Superintendent/President, or designee.
- Students 18 years of age or older with a high school diploma, or equivalent, are eligible for admission to Cuesta College.
- Students 18 years of age or older without a high school diploma, or equivalent, are eligible for provisional admission to Cuesta College.
- Applicants under the age of 18 who are currently enrolled in grades 9-12 and meet the criteria of E.C. Section 48000, are eligible to apply for admission to attend Cuesta College as "special part-time students", and are in possession of an approved Permit to Enroll, may enroll in specified advanced scholastic or vocational coursework at Cuesta College. Special part-time students may be referred to as "Enrichment" students.

- Certified “highly gifted” students, whose application for admission has been denied, may appeal the decision. See AP 5011.

Admission of each student includes the determination of California State residency based on the following criteria:

- A resident student is one who has been a legal resident in California for more than one year and a day immediately preceding the beginning of the term in which the student plans to enroll, and who demonstrates the intent to remain a permanent California resident.
- Students determined to be California residents are charged the California State Enrollment fee as set by the California Community College Chancellor’s office. All other fees apply.
- A non-resident student is one who has not had a legal residence in California for more than one year and a day immediately preceding the beginning of the term in which the student plans to enroll.
- Students determined to be non-residents are charged the non-resident tuition in addition to the resident enrollment fee.
- Non-residents are notified of their status within 14 working days of the receipt and processing of their admission application.
- A student who believes that their residency status is incorrect may challenge the non-resident status by completing the Residency Reclassification form and submitting it to the Admissions Office for review. Documentation may be required and final determination is made by the Vice President of Student Services, or designee.
- A non-resident student may be eligible for an approved non-resident tuition exemption when the appropriate documentation is presented to the Admissions staff. The non-resident tuition exemptions are provided in the college catalog, schedule of classes, and the Cuesta college website and may be pursued through the Admissions Office.

Current admission procedures are published in the most recent version of the college catalog, schedule of classes, and Cuesta college website.

Admission to impacted specialized programs (e.g. Registered Nursing) may require the completion of a program admission application and Chancellor’s recommended and Board-approved admission requirements.

- Current program admission requirements are published by the respective program and made available on the Cuesta website.
- The Admission criteria, process and application for specialized programs are valid for the current application cycle only.

Cuesta College is authorized to offer educational opportunity to international students who have met the International Admission Requirements and have been issued an F-1 or M-1 visa.

- International students must complete the International Admission Application and the Cuesta College online admission application to receive a form I-20.
- The international student admission requirements must be met before the I-20 can be issued by the Admissions staff. The International Admission Application and supporting forms may be found on the Cuesta College website under International Student Admission.
- Effective Fall 2010, the International Student Admission Application fee will be \$100.00.
- The International Student Admission Application must be completed and submitted by the admission deadline to allow for processing and forwarding of the student's I-20. The student may then apply to his or her embassy to obtain the F-1 visa to study at Cuesta College.
- F-1 students currently attending another accredited post secondary institution in the United States may apply to transfer their I-20 to Cuesta College. Transferring F-1 international students will be required to confirm their academic standing and eligibility to transfer prior to acceptance. Cuesta College reserves the right to deny admission to an international student who is not in good academic standing at their current institution.
- International students, who have been issued an I-20 and have received an F-1 Visa to study at Cuesta College, must attend the international student orientation prior to enrolling in courses.
- Students, who received an I-20 to attend Cuesta College, but never enroll in the term, will be reported to US Immigration and Customs, within 30 days of the start of the term. This reporting invalidates their I-20 and F-1 visa. Students who are "no-shows" must reapply to Cuesta College.

A Transfer Student to Cuesta College, from another post secondary institution, whose stated goal includes: obtaining a degree, certificate, or transfer, and who was on academic probation or dismissal from their previous institution shall, if admitted, be immediately placed on academic probation.

Approved: June 2, 2010

Effective Date: June 2, 2010