SANTA BARBARA CITY COLLEGE
MISSION STATEMENT

SANTA BARBARA CITY COLLEGE IS FOUNDED ON THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:

--- There is in each individual an intrinsic dignity and worth.

--- A democratic society functions best when its members are educated and participating citizens.

--- Individuals have the capacity to learn to direct their destiny and the responsibility to participate effectively in the affairs of society.

--- The opportunity to learn should be accessible to all who can profit from it and who wish to avail themselves of it.

--- Each person should be encouraged and helped to realize his/her fullest mental and physical potential regardless of economic, educational, or physical disadvantages, and/or cultural differences.

--- The community and the individual are best served when people can find satisfying and productive vocations and can learn to make rewarding use of leisure time.

--- It is important that all people learn about cultural heritages and how to work together to create a better society.

--- As a community college, Santa Barbara City College must be responsive to the needs of the community it serves.

--- A commitment to the ideal and tradition of academic freedom is basic to an intellectual environment which encourages serious scholarship and critical, independent thinking.

--- Education is a lifelong process, not solely preparation for adult life.
The fundamental purposes of Santa Barbara City College, in priority order, are as follows:

**Essential**

To provide uncompromisingly excellent quality of instruction in all programs of the college, and to create and maintain an environment which emphasizes teaching and learning, and encourages free discussion of ideas, interests and issues.

**Important**

To maintain a comprehensive curriculum which supports a viable transfer program, a diverse occupational program, and general credit, non-credit, and community services, educational programs appropriate to the needs of the South Coast community.

To provide equal opportunity to postsecondary education at minimum cost to all who wish to avail themselves of it or who could benefit from it, through programs of outreach, counseling, placement, and developmental education, and through a policy of non-discrimination and affirmative action.

To be particularly responsive to the needs of the local community and the citizens who come to the college as students, and to be sensitive to changes in these needs.

To be responsive to the needs of the region, the state, and the nation for persons trained in particular skills.

In pursuit of these purposes, the college will provide programs and services in the most cost-effective manner possible, and at all times will practice fiscal responsibility.
Santa Barbara City College is a comprehensive community college which serves the South Coast portion of Santa Barbara County. The college is one of seventy locally governed California Community College Districts. As such, it is organized under the California Education code and is subject to decisions of the California Legislature, and, as defined by law, the California Community College Board of Governors. The college is responsible to its local constituency through an elected Board of Trustees which is the principal policy-making body for the college.

The college offers an extensive program of postsecondary education which is especially responsive to the needs of adults in the local community. Programs of the college include transfer programs, which provide the first two years of study toward the baccalaureate degree, associate degree and certificate programs in a broad range of occupational fields, and a variety of general educational opportunities, credit, non-credit, and community services, for persons wishing to develop new or expanded occupational skills, widen their cultural perspectives or artistic talents, or pursue personal enrichment.

The college also offers apprenticeship programs in selected construction trades and a program in Adult Basic Education enabling adults to develop fundamental skills needed for survival in a complex society and citizenship and English classes for newly arrived immigrants.

The programs of the college also respond to the need of the community for re-training for new vocations and lifelong educational opportunities for all adults. To serve the diverse needs of students, a broad range of student services is provided including the maintenance of academic progress records, academic and personal counseling, financial aids, career guidance, and special programs for educationally disadvantaged, physically handicapped, and re-entry students.

Students of the college are drawn, for the most part, from the local community. They range in age from under 18 to over 80 years and represent a wide range of ethnic groups. Santa Barbara City College has a particular commitment to make its educational programs accessible to cultural, ethnic, and age groups that have traditionally been under-served by postsecondary education. This is done through outreach, testing and diagnosis, counseling and placement, developmental education, and special retention programs such as peer counseling, tutoring, and financial aids.

It is recognized that the goals of today's students are as diverse as the students themselves. The institution attempts to provide programs compatible with this range of goals and to provide assistance in goals clarification when appropriate. Among principal commitments of the college is the broadening of the individual's view of educational possibilities that are available and to assist in formulating and carrying out a plan to achieve selected goals.