

STUDENT SUPPORT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Basic Skills Program

The Basic Skills program targets students who, based on their assessment test scores, are placed into pre-collegiate, non-transferable levels of English and/or Math courses and provides them with support and services to ensure they have every opportunity to be successful with their academic goals. Studies show that many of these students have little knowledge or experience of how to navigate the academic system or ask for assistance and they often become discouraged and have a higher likelihood of dropping out of college before they have completed the basic level courses.

Students who require these pre-collegiate course(s) are identified and assisted with obtaining appropriate services and resources, on and off campus, that may enable them to become academically successful and on track to achieving their goals. Students are referred to categorical programs on campus such as DRC, EOPS, MESA, Puente and TRIO and those who do not qualify are offered one-on-one counseling services with a designated counselor.

Partnering with English, ESL and Math instructors, in-class workshops on topics such as study skills, time management, math “fear no more” and goal setting provide students with practical tools and strategies to be successful, and individualized counseling and an “early alert” system help to identify and resolve student issues early.

The Basic Skills program strives to empower students and fosters student success and academic goal achievement within a nurturing, non-judgmental, confidence building environment.

CalWORKs

CalWORKs helps students who receive public assistance to become self-sufficient through the provision of education, employment and supportive services. The occupational programs for CalWORKs students are linked to the demands of the local labor market and can assist students with a career track that will lead to a family-supporting income. The support services that CalWORKs provides include academic, personal and career counseling, textbooks, employment assistance and job placement and liaison with county departments of social services. CalWORKs 75/25, a subsidized employment program is available to assist students with job related skills.

CARE

The Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education assists single parents who attend or would like to attend Gavilan College. CARE is a joint effort between the Department of Social Services, EOPS and Gavilan College. To be eligible for CARE, a student must be at least 18 years of age, single parent head of household, receiving cash aid from the Department of Social Services and have at least one child under 14 years of age.

Services provided include transfer and vocational education and counseling, priority registration, academic tutoring, financial assistance with childcare, transportation, textbooks, supplies and other support services.

Students interested in participating in the CARE Program should contact the Gavilan College EOPS Office and meet with a staff member. Spanish-speaking staff are available.

Career Services

The Career/Transfer Resource Center offers numerous resources to help in making career decisions, plan for college, obtain specialized training or enter an academic or vocational program at Gavilan College. Career-related services are available to currently enrolled students, prospective students, faculty, staff, and community members.

The computerized career guidance program, EUREKA, aids in researching occupations, identifying which colleges offer specific majors, and investigating financial aid and scholarships. EUREKA (California Career Information System) contains information on hundreds of occupations, programs of study, financial aid, short-term training, colleges and universities, and scholarships.

Career/Vocational Planning

A number of assessment inventories are available through enrollment in GUID 1/PSYC 5 (Self-Assessment/Career Development) course.

Child Development Center/Preschool

The Child Development Center provides care for preschool for children ages two to five for families whose monthly income meets eligibility criteria.

Counseling Services

Gavilan College provides a staff of full-time professional counselors to assist students in meeting educational, career and life goals by offering guidance courses and workshops in career planning, study skills, general transfer requirements and other topics. Counselors also help students with Transfer Admissions Agreements (TAA's), and ensuring that students meet their transfer goals in a timely manner. Career counseling is available to enable students

to understand their values, interests, and skills and to research a variety of career options. The career planning process also assists students in learning to manage job/life transitions.

Counseling is available to students who are uncertain about their plans for the future, who are experiencing difficulty in making appropriate decisions, or who have any other personal or social problem which is interfering with their adjustment to college. Personal counseling is available on a short-term basis. Counseling is also available in the DRC, TRIO, MESA, Puente, Athletics, Basic Skills and EOPS/CalWORKs Departments and from the college health nurse when concerns are health-related. In addition, the counselors make appropriate referrals to various community agencies.

Students may seek assistance of any counselor by scheduling an appointment or by dropping in during the day (walk-in services). Students can schedule their own appointment by using the computer system outside the counseling secretary's office (SC 113) or online at www.gavilan.edu/counseling.

Many of the counselors are bilingual (Spanish/English).

ACADEMIC COUNSELING

The Counseling Department provides academic counseling services. The counseling faculty help students develop an educational plan early in their college years so that transfer to a four-year university, the completion of a career certificate or degree, or the identification of an educational goal, if a student is undecided, can be accomplished in a timely manner. With an educational plan, students are able to register and progress through their program with more independence. Periodic updates of the educational plan with a counselor will keep a student on track for graduation. Four-year universities and Gavilan College A.A./A.S. degrees have many different requirements. Knowing which general education pattern to follow and selecting the correct courses can be accomplished through academic counseling. Appointments and drop-in services are available.

Disability Resource Center (DRC)

The Disability Resource Center (DRC) provides a variety of services to equalize educational opportunities for students with temporary or permanent disabilities. Services include academic advising, career and vocational counseling, college campus orientation, specialized instruction, four-year college transfer assistance, job training and placement, learning skills evaluation, liaison with the State Department of Rehabilitation, mobility assistance, notetakers, referral services, registration assistance, sign language interpreters, real-time captioning, support classes, test taking facilitation, assistive computer technology and training and alternate media services. Bilingual (English/Spanish) staff members are available.

ACCESSIBILITY

Gavilan College is an accessible campus. The classroom buildings, the Library/Tutoring Center, the administrative buildings and the Student Center are all accessible to individuals with physical disabilities. Ramps provide access to upper and lower levels. Mobility assistance can be provided. Designated parking is provided for vehicles displaying a state issued disability placard/parking permit. Call 408-848-4767 or 408-848-4865 for tram service.

CLASSES AND PROGRAMS

Adapted Physical Education - A wide range of classes are specifically designed for students with physical disabilities in order to increase flexibility and strength, improve range of motion and joint movement, and help improve cardiovascular conditioning and related health matters. These classes are provided by qualified instructors through a number of water and gym activities.

High Tech Center - The High Tech Center provides assistive computer technology and training to students with verified disabilities. The state-of-the-art equipment, software and trained staff empower students to meet their educational goals.

CareerPrep - This program is offered on campus for the high school special-education graduate or equivalent who may require additional special education and vocational training for appropriate entry-level employment in the community. Practical employment skills as well as interpersonal skills are emphasized in a series of classes designed for individual progress.

Computer Access Evaluation - CSIS 570 provides the student with an in-depth computer access evaluation in order to determine an appropriate access environment for a student with a disability or multiple disabilities.

Learning Skills Evaluation - Guidance 557 provides an individual evaluation of a student's strengths and weaknesses in reading, mathematics, written language reasoning, oral language, perception, and memory. The results are used to determine eligibility for services of the Learning Skills Lab and other DRC accommodations.

Learning Skills Lab - The Learning Skills Lab provides support services and instruction to students with verified disabilities. It is a space for Individualized and small group instruction, specialized tutoring and support for students who are taking college courses.

Vocational Skill Development for Adults with Intellectual Disabilities - The program promotes self reliance in activities for maximum independence and employment. Classes are offered at the HOPE Rehabilitation facilities in Gilroy and in Hollister in conjunction with a work activity program.

WorkAbility III Program - This program provides job readiness, instruction, and job placement services for students eligible for the Department of Rehabilitation. WA III responds to the needs of local employers by matching a student's interests, skills and abilities to specific jobs.

Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS)

Extended Opportunity Programs and Services provides support to students experiencing economic, social and educational challenges. EOPS helps students to achieve their educational goals by increasing access, retention and transfer. To be eligible for EOPS, students must demonstrate a financial and educational need, and be enrolled in at least 12 units. AB 540 students are encouraged to apply.

Counselors provide academic advising and class scheduling, career and vocational counseling, personal problem-solving and crisis intervention. EOPS program services include orientation to college resources, book vouchers, a book lending library, priority registration, field trips to major four-year universities and student success workshops. Spanish-speaking staff are available.

Financial Aid

Gavilan College participates in several types of financial aid programs which are funded through federal, state and local agencies. The Financial Aid Office at Gavilan College administers the following financial aid programs, which include:

Grants: These awards are based on financial need and do not require repayment.

Tuition Waivers: Such awards provide eligible students with a waiver for tuition and certain fees. The Board of Governors Tuition Waiver is available to California residents, AB 540 students, and AB 1899 students who meet financial criteria, and demonstrate financial need.

Employment: This type of award is based on financial need and provides the student with an opportunity to earn money for school through employment. Awards through the Federal Work Study Program are limited so apply early.

Scholarships: Various community groups and organizations offer these awards based on academic achievement and/or financial need. Current scholarships are posted online at: www.gavilan.edu/finaid.

Loans: Such awards must be repaid after the student leaves school or drops below half-time enrollment. Information on interest rates may be found at our website: www.gavilan.edu/finaid.

APPLICATION PROCESS & DEADLINES

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA): The FAFSA may be filed online at www.fafsa.gov. Include Gavilan College school code of 001202 to ensure we receive copy of your processed application. California residents who file FAFSA are also considered for Board of Governors Tuition Waiver, and if eligible, are awarded.

California Dream Application: Effective 1/1/13, AB 540 students are eligible to apply for the BOG Tuition Waiver for Spring 2013 term and for Cal Grants for 2013/14 school year. The California Dream Application is available for AB 540 students who do not meet citizenship requirements of FAFSA. The California Dream Application may also be filed online at <https://dream.csac.ca.gov/>. Include Gavilan College school code of 001202 to ensure we receive copy of your processed application.

For assistance with the application process, visit the Gavilan College Financial Aid Office in Student Center 125. You may also call 408-848-4727 or 408-852-2812. Additional assistance for online applicants is offered at the Welcome Center in Student Center 107A.

Students should apply beginning in January for the following Fall semester. Priority for aid will be given to students who apply early. A complete application and all corresponding documentation must be received by Financial Aid Office. If you apply late or complete submit documents after semester document deadlines, you will be considered for late disbursement. To view Financial Aid deadlines, check the Financial Aid website for "Dates and Deadlines" at www.gavilan.edu/finaid.

CONSUMER INFORMATION

The Financial Aid website includes comprehensive information regarding disbursement schedules, Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy and Ability to Benefit.

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Policy: Students who file FAFSA and Dream Application are required to demonstrate academic progress. The complete SAP Policy is available online at www.gavilan.edu/finaid.

Ability to Benefit: Federal regulations require financial aid students to have a high school diploma, general educational development certificate (GED), or California High School Proficiency (CHSPE) in order to qualify for Pell Grant, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Federal Work Study, Federal Student Loans, and Cal Grants.

Students who do not have a high school diploma, GED or CHSPE AND are enrolling in a program of study after July 1, 2012, will not be eligible for federal aid under the ATB, CELSA or 6 units of college coursework provisions.

Students who enrolled in a Title IV school prior to 7/1/2012 and who do not have a high school diploma, GED, or CHSPE will retain eligibility for Title IV programs with any of the following:

1. Receiving passing score on Ability to Benefit Assessment (ATB) or CELSA Assessment.
2. Earning 6 units of degree applicable coursework.

To confirm your eligibility, please contact the Financial Aid Office at (408) 848-4727.

VETERANS' AFFAIRS EDUCATION BENEFITS

Veterans enrolled at Gavilan College may be eligible for educational benefits under the Veterans Administration Educational Benefits Program. Depending on VA chapter, some benefits include a monthly housing allowance. Most, but not all, courses at Gavilan College are approved for payment of VA benefits. Interested veterans and/or eligible dependents are urged to contact the VA Certifying Official at 408-848-4734 or by visiting the Financial Aid Office in Student Center 125, in Administration building.

Pre-Priority Registration: This earliest form of course enrollment is offered each semester to any member or former member of U.S. armed forces who is within four years of leaving active duty. For more information, consult a counselor or the VA Certifying Official.

Gavilan College recognizes credit and grants credit to veterans and reservists for service and training completed in armed forces. Gavilan College reports as credit for prior training only those prior units which are applicable to current Gavilan educational goal.

Satisfactory Progress: Federal regulations require that students receiving VA educational benefits (veterans, reservists, dependents) maintain academic progress. Veterans who earn grade point averages below 2.0 for two consecutive semesters at Gavilan College are placed on unsatisfactory progress status and benefits are suspended. To reinstate benefits, students must complete one semester with a GPA of 2.0 or higher.

First Year Experience

Gavilan College offers a program for "first-time", new students who want to strengthen their reading, writing and study skills while at the same time becoming familiar with the campus and its resources. Teachers and counselors work together to help students develop connections between the courses and their college experience. The goal is to help students build a strong foundation and place them on the road for college success.

Health Services

Gavilan College provides a full-time College Health Nurse who provides health services, information and referrals in a quiet, confidential setting for adult students enrolled in credit classes.

Health Services is a comprehensive "one-stop" center for a variety of health services and is located in Student Center 118. Services are free and available Monday through Friday. Students receive

confidential personal health counseling with a Master's prepared Registered Nurse for numerous health concerns, e.g., birth control, sexually transmitted diseases, wellness, lifestyle changes, etc. Health Services provides first aid treatment, blood pressure screening, tuberculin skin testing for work/study students, HIV testing referrals, condoms and over-the-counter medications such as aspirin.

Health education pamphlets are available on over 100 topics. Classes and workshops on nutrition, hepatitis, stress management, AIDS and other health topics are provided in small group settings. Referrals for health conditions including alcohol and drug intervention are also available. The website with a Virtual Health Center is available at www.gavilan.edu/health.

Health Services provides first aid kits on campus for student use and responds to campus emergencies. Information regarding low cost health insurance for the college students is also available at www.studentinsuranceagency.com. Referrals for counseling on and off campus are available. See www.gavilan.edu/studentwell-being.

The health fee paid as part of registration fees helps support these services in addition to supporting secondary accident insurance for students.

EXEMPTIONS FOR HEALTH FEE

Pursuant to Education Code Section 76355 (c) the following categories of students are exempted from the health fee required pursuant to subdivision (a):

1. Students who depend exclusively upon prayer for healing in accordance with the teachings of a bona fide religious sect, denomination, or organization.
2. Students who are attending a community college under an approved apprenticeship training program.

DRUG PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

Gavilan College, in cooperation with alcohol and drug service agencies within Santa Clara County and San Benito County, provides students with a drug education and prevention information.

Puente Project - Bridge to Success

The mission of the Puente Project is to increase the number of educationally underserved students who plan to transfer to four-year colleges and universities, earn degrees and return to the community as leaders and mentors to future generations. Research indicates that Puente students transfer at a high rate and succeed academically. The program is open to all students.

English Instruction: Puente students take two consecutive writing classes, English 250 (Practical Writing) and English 1A (Composition). These classes provide a supportive and stimulating environment to build confidence in writing skills through an exploration of the Mexican-American/Latino experience.

Counseling: Puente students work closely with their Puente counselor until they graduate, exploring career options, developing an academic educational plan and identifying lifetime goals. Students visit University of California and California State University campuses and attend an annual Puente student transfer conference. All Puente students are also required to enroll in Guidance 6 (Life Skills for Higher Education) and Guidance 1 (Self-Assessment and Career Development).

Mentors: Each Puente student is matched with a mentor from the business or professional community. Mentors share their personal, academic and career experiences and provide a window into "real-life" work environments. The network of trained Puente mentors provides many resources for the Puente students, their families, their colleges and their communities.

Student-to-Student Mediation

Mediation services will provide students with an opportunity to problem-solve together in a safe environment. Trained student mediators will work with two or more students who are in conflict to reach mutually agreeable solutions. Mediation services are free and confidential.

Students wishing to become mediators can register for Introduction to Conflict Resolution (Psychology 6).

To obtain mediation services, contact the Counseling Department at 408-848-4723.

Student Success Center

The Gavilan College Student Success Center promotes the success of first year college students by offering a welcoming community environment where students can access academic and personal resources and support that encourage and inspire the successful completion of educational goals. Some of the resources offered are: a student lounge, small group study rooms, computer lab, counseling, and workshops.

Transfer Services

The Career/Transfer Resource Center is designed to provide support services to students who are interested in transferring to a four-year college.

Services include specific transfer information, information on university majors and graduation requirements, assistance with filling out applications, scheduled meetings with university representatives and applications for the CSU and UC systems (a limited number of private school applications are also available.) The center also provides a resource library of college catalogs and books, referrals to transfer counselors to assist with planning and CSU application fee waivers.

An annual Transfer Day is held each fall with over 40 colleges and universities participating.

ASSIST: ASSIST is a computerized student-transfer information system that can be accessed over the internet. It displays reports of how course credits earned at one California college or university can be applied when transferred to another. ASSIST provides the most accurate and up-to-date information available about student transfer in California. www.assist.org.

Transfer Institute

The Transfer Institute (TI) is a selective program designed for students who want to transfer to a public or private university in two years. Recent high school graduates who are academically prepared for college level work with placement in college level English and Math 233 are eligible.

The Transfer Institute will guide the student through the transfer process in the most efficient and effective means possible.

As a part of the Transfer Institute students will save time and money by completing the freshman and sophomore years at Gavilan College. Students will also meet and get to know other students who share their goals and ambitions.

Transfer Institute students receive:

- a dedicated counselor to guide and monitor you through the transfer process
- pre-transfer events and activities with four-year universities
- access to activities designed to ensure your success at Gavilan College
- assistance with the identification of and preparation for a college major
- a two-year agreement guaranteeing transfer goals.

Contact the Counseling Department for additional information.

TRIO Program

The TRIO Student Support Services Program is a federally funded program designed to assist 160 first generation, low-income, and/or disabled Gavilan College students as they prepare to obtain a two-year degree and/or transfer to a four-year university. TRIO is committed to increasing graduation and transfer rates by creating a "sense of place" for those students who sometimes feel isolated or disconnected during their college experience.

TRIO provides a variety of services including academic, career and personal counseling, supplemental grant aid, laptop and calculator lending, Summer Bridge Program, informational workshops, cultural & social activities, TRIO Lounge and much more.

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

ESL Computer Lab

The ESL Program has its own dedicated computer lab with a variety of software programs for all levels and classes. Students, at their convenience, practice and enhance language learned in class.

High Tech Center and Learning Skills Lab

For information on the Disability Resource Center's (DRC) High Tech Center and Learning Skills Lab, refer to page 26.

Learning Communities

Students learn better when they learn together. In learning community courses, you work and study with others so you'll be more successful in the course. Also, by linking two or more courses together, you'll begin to see greater connections between the disciplines. Research shows that when you take a learning community course, you become a stronger student and do better in your other college courses.

Library and Information Technology

The Gavilan College Library delivers an array of print and electronic resources to the college community. Augmenting the 60,000 title printed book collection are 24,000+ e-books, and over 2,500 magazine titles, many available online in electronic databases. The Library staff prides itself on being a leader in information literacy projects and web-based instruction and has received several State grants supporting that effort. The Library faculty also teaches various courses on internet use, and works in tandem with other faculty in planning and revising courses with an information literacy component. The Library homepage at www.gavilan.edu/library/ provides an online catalog of the book collection, links to various class websites and key online resources.

Math Lab

The Math Lab provides a place for students to practice math skills and receive individualized help with math problems at every level, from Basic Mathematics to Calculus. Students can work with math instructors, the math lab assistant or other students. Computers in the lab provide tutorial software as well as math software for Geometry, Statistics and Calculus projects.

Mathematics, Engineering and Science Achievement Program (MESA)

The MESA Undergraduate Program is a partnership between the University of California (UC) and California Community College Chancellor's Office. The program provides academic support services to qualified students who are majoring in math-based fields and who plan to transfer to four-year universities. Open to all eligible students, MESA emphasizes participation by educationally underserved students. MESA provides a Study Center, Academic Excellence Workshops, trips to universities, Academic Advising, workshops and much more. MESA is the winner of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Math and Science, National Science Foundation (NSF) recipient, and the Innovations in American Government Award, a project of the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and the Ford Foundation.

Tutoring Services and Computer Place

Tutoring services are designed to assist students to increase their success in college courses and in the development of their learning skills. This is accomplished by providing students with an opportunity to work with trained tutors who engage students in the examination of concepts and processes; discussion of ideas and theories; hands on practice; and summarization of findings. It is in this collaborative learning environment that students develop their confidence and independence as a learner. Tutoring services are free to all Gavilan Students. Tutoring services are available in The Tutoring Center in LI116 and the Computer Place in LI168., as well as at the Morgan Hill and Hollister sites.

Writing Center

The Gavilan College Writing Center fosters, celebrates and encourages writers and the varied and multiple purposes and audiences that writing serves.

Specially trained student assistants help writers start and strengthen all kinds of class assignments as well as poetry, short stories, song lyrics, business letters and resumes. Enjoy a cup of coffee or tea in the center's welcoming atmosphere and meet other writers from across the college. The center also offers space for writing discussions, meetings, workshops and study groups. Special events include activities with acclaimed writers from our Visiting Writers and Scholars in Residence programs. We also provide self-directed mini-lessons and writing prompts. Work at your own pace and learn how to get your ideas on paper. Write more powerfully, be creative, enjoy writing, and practice using correct grammar, spelling and punctuation.

The center collaborates with faculty across the curriculum to increase students' academic success, providing links to assignments and effective research and writing strategies. We offer specially tailored assistant led in-class workshops upon request.