News from Saddleback College

For Immediate Release

Contact: Jennie McCue
        jmccue@saddleback.edu
        (949) 582-4320

Amy Wheeler
        awheeler@saddleback.edu
        (949) 582-4897

Saddleback College Receives $225,000 Grant to Provide Paid Teaching Assistant Positions to Students

Mission Viejo, CA – Saddleback College students interested in teaching can apply for the college’s Teacher Preparation Pipeline (TPP) program, which has received a grant in the amount of $225,000 from the California Community College Chancellor’s Office to provide students the opportunity to serve as paid teaching assistants in the areas of math, science, or career technical education (CTE) at the secondary school level. Saddleback College is one of only two community colleges in Orange County to receive continued funding through the first four years of the five-year grant. Students who are interested in the TPP program must submit an application between November 15, 2010 and January 31, 2011. Applications can be found at http://www.saddleback.edu/transfer/tpp/.

Dr. Tod A. Burnett, President of Saddleback College, stated, “The Teacher Preparation Pipeline program provides hands-on experience for students who are interested in teaching at the secondary school level, enabling them to decide early in their college education if teaching is the career for them. The program is also an example of how we can successfully combine the career technical education offered at Saddleback College with transfer opportunities as students who are interested in career technical studies have the opportunity to explore the possibility of teaching those skills to others.”

Miki Mikolajczak, Transfer Center Coordinator, stated, “The grant is allowing Saddleback College to reach students from extremely varied backgrounds. TPP benefits those who are in their first year of college, those who have worked in science or math fields and are now interested in teaching, and those who have experience in a career technical field and would like to share their knowledge with the workers of the future.”

Students who are accepted into the TPP program will complete 40 hours of fieldwork during the semester and will be compensated at $10 per hour. The students are placed at one of the program’s partner locations: Capistrano Unified School District, Saddleback Valley Unified School District, Coastline ROP, and Capistrano-Laguna Beach ROP. The fieldwork experience they complete fulfills a prerequisite for the California State University Fullerton’s teaching credential program.

Students who are interested in the Teacher Preparation Program must enroll in Education 115, Secondary School Teaching, and must complete a background check and a TB test before they can work in a classroom.
For additional information on the Teacher Preparation Program please visit http://www.saddleback.edu/transfer/tpp/ or call (949) 582-4469.

Located in Mission Viejo, Saddleback College provides quality higher education and training to the greater south Orange County community. Having served more than 500,000 students since 1968, Saddleback College offers more than 300 degree and certificate programs to help students reach their personal, career, and educational goals. For more information, please visit www.saddleback.edu.

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