

## MESA FAQs \*Find us on [facebook.com/VenturaMESA/](https://facebook.com/VenturaMESA/)

### **WHEN IS THE MESA CENTER OPEN?**

The MESA Center is open **Monday-Thursdays from 9:00 am until 7:00 pm** and is closed on Fridays and school holidays.

### **WHO IS IN CHARGE IN THE MESA CENTER?**

The MESA Director is **Yessica Ortiz Noriega** (full-time) and the Student Services Assistant is **Courtney Swink** (P/T).

### **WHO IS ALLOWED IN THE MESA CENTER?**

Because the MESA Center has limited space (only 30 chairs) we must limit it to students who are MESA or ASEM. If you have a friend who you think would benefit, encourage them to submit an application. If you would like to have a study session with students who are not MESA members, please let us know ahead of time, to set some room aside.

### **WHAT IS IN THE MESA CENTER?**

Of course you are welcome to come in and study any time. But there are also other benefits:

**TEXTBOOKS** – to borrow and use **only** while you are in the MESA Center. Students are required to check books in and out using the green folder in the director's office.

**COMPUTER/PRINTER/OFFICE SUPPLIES** – Please ask before you print and understand that printing is limited to five pages per day. Be aware that others may be waiting to use the computer.

**LOCKERS** – These are available for check-out at the beginning of each semester.

**FRIDGE** - There is a small fridge that you can store something for the day. We do ask that you mark your items.

**FRIENDS** – The other MESA students are a fantastic resource for you. Either they have either been in the class you are in, or have taken it before, so they can be a great support to you.

**STEM Counselor**- Available for educational plans, appeals and more on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

### **ARE THERE ANY RULES IN THE MESA CENTER THAT I SHOULD BE AWARE OF?**

Besides the ones listed above, just remember that it is a privilege to be part of the MESA program and act accordingly. Although the MESA Center doesn't need to be as quiet as a library, it does need to be a safe place to study. At the end of the year when we survey students, the biggest complaint that we get is that it is often too noisy. So please be respectful of others when you talk: not only how loud, but in the language and topics you choose.

### **HOW CAN MESA HELP ME THE MOST?**

Being an **active** participant in MESA can help you in so many ways, but here's a brief list...

**TUTORING** – MESA has tutors available to help in you in your math and science classes, and other classes as well!

**WORKSHOPS** –MESA hosts special workshops to help you with your personal statement, resume and financial aid.

**INTERNSHIPS** – MESA works closely with each student to help you find and apply to summer research opportunities.

**SCHOLARSHIPS** – MESA searches and sends you scholarship opportunities that you qualify for.

**TOURS** – Several times a year, MESA students are invited to tour universities, labs and businesses.

**CONFERENCES**- Many of our students attend both local and national conferences each year.

**RECOMMENDATIONS** – If you are an active MESA participant, you can often use the MESA Director as a Recommender for some of those important scholarship or internship applications.

### **SO WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?**

COMMUNICATE with us! That means: check your email daily and hit "reply" if you are asked a question! ☺ Other ways to keep in touch is to come in the MESA Center and talk to us, or read the announcements, or follow MESA on **Facebook**. But email is the very best way to make sure you are keeping up with timely information. Also, if you change your email, phone or mailing address, you need to let us know so we can change it in your file.

Speaking of email, if you don't already have a professional email address that has your name in it, now might be the time to create one and plan on checking it daily. This is how colleges, jobs, internships and scholarships will communicate with you, so make sure you make it easy to identify who you are when they are emailing you.

### **ANYTHING ELSE I NEED TO DO AS A MESA STUDENT?**

Just a reminder that on the contract that you signed you also said that you would:

MAINTAIN A MINIMUM 2.5

APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID

SUBMIT A RESUME

PARTICIPATE IN AEWs

APPLY FOR INTERNSHIPS & SCHOLARSHIPS WHEN QUALIFIED

JOIN A COLLEGE CLUB CONNECTED TO MAJOR (i.e. SHPE, Pre-Health, Robotics)

And just remember that MESA is here to support you in every way we can as you plan on transferring!