



NEWS

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**Contact: John Nunes
619-388-6557**

New Grants Benefit Military Vets, Middle & High School Students, Construction Industry

Two timely grants totaling nearly \$600,000 have been awarded to the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD), officials announced today. This includes a:

- \$499,605 state grant to improve and expand career technical education pathways that begin at area middle and high schools, move on to the community colleges within the SDCCD and then the local construction industry. The grant, awarded by the Governor's Career Technical Education Initiative, will also provide workforce development strategies to enhance and sustain growth within the local construction industry.
- \$100,000 Wal-Mart Foundation grant to provide educational assistance to military veterans. The SDCCD was one of only 10 higher education institutions nationwide to receive this grant. Wal-Mart awarded \$100,000 each to institutions that currently have successful veteran educational assistance programs. The grant will support the development of new and existing programs and provide resources to assist veterans with access to education, adjustment to civilian life and success in completing their degrees.

The Governor's Career Technical Education Initiative grant monies are designated specifically for instructional programs designed to provide the region's construction industry with a well trained, highly skilled workforce.

The community college district's Career Technical Education (CTE) project is led by one of its three colleges, [San Diego City College](#), in collaboration with its CTE partners: the San Diego Unified School District, the San Diego County Office of Education, the San Diego Workforce Partnership and industry-specific partners.

The collaboration combines rigorous core academics with relevant career technical and professional occupational courses as well as work-based learning. CTE is an innovative path for students to follow -- starting in seventh grade and continuing through the freshman and sophomore years at San Diego City, Mesa and Miramar colleges.

More on Military Education Assistance

SDCCD's long-running, well-established military education program currently provides instruction to more than 50,000 U.S. Army and Navy personnel at 30 military installations throughout the United States.

Lisa Curtin, SDCCD executive director of military and government education and training, said that "serving veterans and their families is one of the most important things that the SDCCD can do for our community. This grant will enable us to expand our learning resources capabilities for not only veterans but also active duty military.

"By awarding us this grant, Wal-Mart has recognized the SDCCD as one of the largest providers of successful educational assistance programs serving the Armed Forces."