

Los Medanos College Brentwood Center
Frequently Asked Questions
(updated April 29, 2021)

What is a center and how is it different than a college?

The Los Medanos College Brentwood Center is a State Chancellor's Office approved Off-Site Educational Center, which serves as an extension of Los Medanos College. Off-Site Educational Centers create opportunities for California Community Colleges to increase access to quality higher education programs without the additional costs associated with creating a new comprehensive college/institution. There are 116 California Community Colleges and over 60 approved Off-Site Educational Centers.

Off-Site Educational Centers most often offer a broad sampling of curriculum that lead to the completion of an Associate Degree and/or Certificate of Achievement. The Los Medanos College Center will focus largely on curriculum that offers the ability to complete an Associate Degree and promotes transfer to four-year institutions. A smaller offering of Career Technical Education certificates will be available at the center.

Off-Site Educational Centers are comprised of instructional, student support, and administration facilities. They do not include facilities such as gymnasiums, tennis courts, stadiums, performing art centers, dormitories, etc.

How was Phase I of the new Brentwood Center being funded?

Due to funding limitations, Los Medanos College has divided the development of the new Brentwood Center into two phases. Phase I of the new Brentwood Center was funded by the local Bond Measure E, which was passed by Contra Costa County voters in 2014. Phase I consists of approximately 55,000 square feet and is a one-story building on the North parcel of the property located at 1351 Vineyards Parkway.

The property has the potential for a future Phase II of the Brentwood Center but has not yet been funded, or designed, and will be located on the South parcel closest to Vineyards Parkway. Phase II will likely be a smaller building comprised of approximately 25,000 to 35,000 square feet with appropriate additional parking. We thank you for your continued support of Los Medanos College and the Contra Costa Community College District.

Will the new center have solar panels installed?

We currently do not have plans to install either roof top or parking lot solar panel arrays at the new Brentwood Center. California Building Code requires that the building be built "solar ready." This enables the center to explore the option of solar panels in the future, if deemed necessary. The Contra Costa Community College District approaches solar panels as a district initiative. There are more viable locations for new and additional solar panels at each of our three college main campus locations.

What curriculum is offered at the Brentwood Center?

Courses in the following disciplines are currently offered at the Brentwood Center: Administration of Justice, Anthropology, Art, Astronomy, Biology, Business, Child Development, Computer Science, Counseling, Drama, Economic, English, Fire Sciences, History, Humanities, Journalism, Math, Music, Nutrition, Philosophy, Physics, Physical Science, Political Science, Psychology, Sign Language, Sociology, Spanish, and Speech Communications.

The new center facilities will enable the college to offer a broader array of courses in the subjects listed above, as well as new subjects not currently offered, such as Chemistry.

How will students access the campus? Will they take Fairview or Marsh Creek Road from HWY 4?

The majority of students will find the most convenient access from exiting onto Marsh Creek Road from HWY 4.

Will the center be gated when classes are not in session?

Barriers at both the entrance and exit have been installed. These barriers give us the ability to close off access to the parking lot when the center is closed.

Will there be food services offered at the Center?

There will be food and coffee available in our bookstore at the new center.