PALOMAR COLLEGE® Learning for Success

PALOMAR COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Preparing Future Generations

As the cost of attending the University of California and State University systems has become so expensive, more students are starting their education at community colleges. Palomar College ensures that lower, middle-income students who can't afford the high price of a university still have the opportunity to succeed. Nearly one-quarter of all local high school graduates rely on Palomar College for higher education and to prepare for future careers. Many of our students are the first in their families to attend college.

Aging Local Community College Facilities Need Repairs and Upgrades

Many of our college classroom buildings were built in the 1960s and have not been updated in more than 60 years. Due to aging buildings, the College regularly expends financial resources to repair roof leaks and associated water damage, old pipes, and structural issues. Funds are needed to alleviate this financial strain and update facilities for student safety. Many buildings have roof leaks, broken pipes, dry rot, water damage, and structural issues.

In addition, some science and career training labs haven't been upgraded in 20 years and lack the technology and modernized equipment that meet current industry standards. In order to best prepare students for high demand careers, funding is required to conduct the upgrades in our classrooms and labs.

Local Funding for Better, Safer Community College Classrooms

The Palomar Governing Board is considering placing a local bond measure on the November 2024 ballot, which would raise \$638 million through a levy of 1 cent per \$100 in assessed (not market) property value, if approved by local voters. The measure could:

- Keep computer systems and instructional technology up to date.
- Remove hazardous materials like asbestos, lead pipes, termites, and mold where encountered.
- Provide modern science labs, career training facilities, and equipment so students are prepared for in-demand careers in fields like nursing, health sciences, engineering, chemistry, technology, and skilled trades.
- Repair or replace deteriorating roofs, plumbing, heating, ventilation, gas lines, sewer lines, and electrical systems where needed.
- Provide classrooms and facilities with the necessary improvements to support high-quality instruction in science, math, engineering, and technology.

Mandatory Accountability and Local Control

By law, a Palomar College bond measure would require strict accountability, including:

- All funds would be controlled locally for Palomar College improvements only and could not be taken away by the State.
- ✓ Independent citizens' oversight, mandatory audits, and public disclosure of spending.
- ✓ A detailed project list outlining the specific use of funds.
- ✓ Qualify our local community college for as much as \$200 million in State-matching funds.





Rusting electrical switchboard from 1965



Ceiling damage due to aging building

We Want to Hear from You!

As Palomar College considers a potential bond measure, we value your input. For more information or to ask a question, please reach out to publicaffairs@palomar.edu or visit <u>this website</u>.

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Palomar College is committed to providing a working and learning environment that is free from discrimination and harassment.