

PL EDGE Program

pLEDGE is a College Completion Program that provides high school graduates (or equivalent) from the Coachella Valley with two years of free tuition, fees, and support at College of the Desert!

How to be considered for the COD pLEDGE program:

1. Complete steps 1-6 on the "Getting Started" link on the College of the Desert home page.
2. Submit **both** an EDGE/pLEDGE application online at www.collegeofthedesert.edu/EDGE. EDGE and pLEDGE applications will open March 1, 2019.
 - >Please note EDGE is a requirement of the pLEDGE program.
3. Submit a FAFSA application at www.fafsa.ed.gov or a California Dream Act Application at www.CalDreamAct.org. If submitting a Dream Act Application, students must also:
 - >Download, sign, and submit an AB 540 form, to the COD Admissions & Records Office.
 - >The form is submitted online through the student portal at the "MyCOD" link on the COD home page by clicking on "A&R Forms" then "AB-540" form.
 - > Official high school transcripts must be on file.
4. Graduate with a high school diploma (or equivalent) in 2019.
5. Complete the summer 2019 EDGE Program and enroll in courses identified on your Abbreviated Student Educational Plan (SEP).
6. Enroll as a full-time student at COD for fall and spring semesters (12+ units per term).
 - >Students with disabilities may be eligible to take fewer than 12 units with DSPS counselor approval.
 - >Any students who are currently employed full-time may be exempt from being enrolled in 12 units.
 - >Students who are pursuing a certificate may be exempt from being enrolled in 12 units based on program of study.
7. Maintain a college grade-point average (GPA) of at least 2.0.
8. Serve 10 hours of community service per academic year at COD.
 - >Students who are currently employed full-time may be exempt.
9. Complete one career pathway workshop at the COD Career and Workforce Solutions Center per academic year at COD.

*Students must be classified as a resident for tuition purposes to qualify for pLEDGE. Each student at the time of admission or readmission is classified according to his/her legal residence. Residency determination will be made as of the first day of the semester of application. The student must be physically present in the State of California for one (1) year prior to the start of the term for which he/she is applying or enrolling for. The one-year period begins when the student is not only present in California but also has demonstrated clear intent to become a permanent resident of California.

Steps for Applying to pLEDGE:

- >Apply Online for Admission to College of the Desert
- >Complete the College of the Desert Orientation
- >Apply for Financial Aid
- >Apply for pLEDGE



For more information on this exciting program, please contact:
EDGE Program at 760.636.7970 or edge@collegeofthedesert.edu

College of the Desert New Student Checklist

To help you reach your educational goals, please check the items below as they are completed. If you need assistance, please visit the COD Counseling Center on the 2nd floor of the Cravens Student Services Center (CSSC) or call 760-773-2521.

1. **Application/Admissions** — Admissions & Records 760-773-2516
I have completed the COD application online at www.collegeofthedesert.edu — click on “Getting Started” and go to Step 1; the application takes 24-48 hours to process.
2. **Financial Aid** — Financial Aid Office 760-773-2532
I have completed the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.
Click on “Getting Started” and go to Step 2.
- Student ID #** — I have received my COD student ID # via email. (If you are a new student, you should receive your student ID # within 48 hours of applying. If you don’t receive it, please call 760-773-2521 for assistance.)
3. **Log Into MyCOD** — I have logged into MyCOD as a “First Time User.”
Click on “Getting Started” and go to Step 3.
4. **Orientation**
I have completed the Online New Student Orientation — sign in to MyCOD, click on “WebAdvisor,” “Students” and “Orientation Link.” Click on “Getting Started” and go to Step 4.
5. **Assessment Test** — Assessment Center – CSSC 269
I have completed the English, Math and Reading placement test.
(Study at www.testprepreview.com/accuplacer_practice.htm/ — select the Accuplacer Practice Test).
To schedule your test, log on to www.collegeofthedesert.edu — click on “Getting Started” and go to Step 5 “Assessment.” Be sure to have your student ID #.
6. **Attend the “My First Schedule” workshop** — Check your COD email for a schedule of workshops.
Click on “Getting Started” and go to Step 6 for workshop availability.
- Registration**
I used my WebAdvisor account and registered for classes based on my registration priority.
- Pay Fees**
pledge students do not need to do this step! If you are a pledge student, you may see a balance on your account, but you do not need to pay this balance.
- Buy Your Books** — COD Bookstore 760-773-2564
I have purchased or rented my textbooks.
- Attend Classes**
I will go to class the first day it meets and be on time. I should go to my “waitlist” classes (to be considered) if I would like to add them.
- Counseling/Follow-Up Appointment** — Counseling Center 760-773-2521
I will meet with a counselor every semester to discuss my progress and continue to develop my Student Education Plan (SEP) to map out my future academic goals.

If you require accommodations, please call Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSPS) at (760) 773-2534.