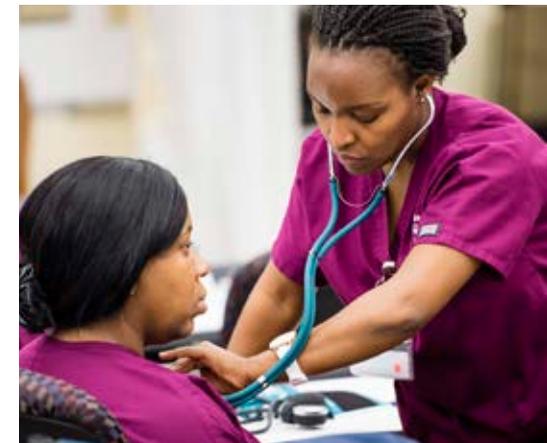


# SAN JACINTO COLLEGE<sup>SM</sup> CareerFocus

Fall 2020 Volume 1 • Issue 40



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### About San Jacinto College

Surrounded by monuments of history, industries and maritime enterprises of today, and the space age of tomorrow, San Jacinto College has served the citizens of East Harris County, Texas, since 1961. The College is fiscally sound, holding bond ratings of AA and Aa2 by Standard & Poor's and Moody's. San Jacinto College is among the top 10 community colleges in the nation as designated by the Aspen Institute for Community College Excellence and was named an Achieving the Dream Leader College of Distinction in 2020. The College serves approximately 45,000 credit and non-credit students annually and offers eight areas of study that put students on a path to transfer to four-year institutions or enter the workforce. San Jacinto College's impact on the region totals \$1.3 billion in added income, which supports 13,044 jobs.

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# NEWS AND NOTES

FROM AROUND THE COLLEGE



## Welcome Week 2020 GOES VIRTUAL

Welcome Week for the fall 2020 semester looked a little different for San Jacinto College students. Instead of hosting on-campus events, the Central, North, South, and Generation Park Campuses combined efforts to offer virtual events to students thanks to the student engagement and activities (SEA) offices.



This year, students could register for free events that included a trivia game show, campus coffee hour, an online game day, and custom airbrush T-shirt art by interactive airbrush artist The T-Shirt Guy.

In addition to Welcome Week events, SEA also hosted an engaging slate of virtual events throughout the fall semester, including: Hispanic Heritage Month kickoff: Virtual Loteria; National Arts in Education Week: Paint Jam, an interactive art demonstration and discussion; LGBTQ Day of Remembrance; and a Spooky Story Slam for Halloween.



## REGISTER for spring 2021 classes

The holidays are approaching and that means it is time to start thinking about your plans for the New Year! Register now for San Jacinto College's spring 2021 classes, which begin Jan. 19.

Students have multiple options for the upcoming semester with "San Jac My Way," which offers five different ways to learn, both in person and online: Online Anytime, Online on a Schedule, Flex Campus, Hands-On Hybrid, and Face-to-Face.

- **ONLINE Anytime** allows students to take classes online, at any time. This is the most flexible of the four options, allowing students to work on coursework whenever their schedule allows, without having to come to campus.
- **The ONLINE on a Schedule** option also delivers coursework online, but the lectures and virtual instruction will occur at specific times on certain days, just as a typical face-to-face course would occur.
- **Hands-On HYBRID** is for the technical and applied skill courses. Most class instruction will be delivered online. Students will come to campus in small groups to complete hands-on learning and practical testing.
- The **FLEX Campus** option allows students to spend some time in the classroom with an instructor, in addition to online learning. Small groups of students in each class will have the option to attend in person, following all CDC and College health and safety protocols, while the remaining students will access the same coursework online. The small groups will rotate so all students in a class have multiple chances to attend in person, although it's never a requirement to attend in person.



- **FACE-to-FACE** classes will take place in person on campus, with reduced class sizes and social distancing measures.

Student services will remain available to all students enrolled this spring, regardless of which course modality a student selects. Services include online tutoring and advising, on-campus document drop-off, and virtual appointments for things such as admissions, career services, dual credit, financial aid, testing, veterans services, and more.

► Visit [sanjac.edu/sjc-my-way](http://sanjac.edu/sjc-my-way) to learn more and to register.

## DON'T MISS GIVING TUESDAY DEC. 1, supporting San Jac students!



There's no better day to help your local community than the global day of giving, Giving Tuesday, which lands on Tuesday, Dec. 1 this year, following Black Friday and Cyber Monday.

San Jacinto College is providing an opportunity for you to help support students in need with the foundation's

#GivingTuesday fundraising campaign. Funds raised will support the College's participation in the Harris County Promise program, which provides last-dollar funding and scholarships for local high school students, allowing them to attend the College free of charge.

The San Jacinto College Foundation's mission is to help remove financial barriers that often impede a student from completing their associate degree or technical certificate, and you can help! Giving the gift of education is perhaps one of the most life-changing things a student can receive.

► For more information about the Foundation's Giving Tuesday efforts, visit [sanjac.edu/givingtuesday](http://sanjac.edu/givingtuesday). ■

# San Jacinto College wins national award for **outstanding STEM education**

By Andrea Vasquez

The Aspen Institute College Excellence Program and the Siemens Foundation have awarded San Jacinto College with the Excellence and Equity in Community College STEM Award for the College's associate degree nursing and process technology programs.

Eight winning programs from seven community colleges across the country are receiving this award for providing outstanding preparation for high-demand jobs in advanced manufacturing, energy, health care, and information technology. Additionally, these community college programs are also being nationally recognized for their intentional outreach and support of diverse populations that typically are underrepresented in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) careers. San Jacinto College is the only institution to receive the award for two programs.

Each winning program will receive \$50,000, with half of the funds allocated for program development and the other half allocated as scholarships for outstanding students, known as Siemens Technical Scholars.

“San Jacinto College uses a holistic approach for equity in access and success to ensure that all students have an opportunity to earn a higher education credential,” said Chancellor Dr. Brenda Hellyer. “We are incredibly thankful and grateful to the Aspen Institute and the Siemens Foundation for this award and for recognizing San Jacinto College faculty and staff for the important work they do every day to ensure our students succeed.”

## RN-to-BSN Pathway

For more than 50 years, the college's associate degree nursing program has been vital to the Gulf Coast health care workforce.

The college's nursing program has provided a successful pathway for students, beginning with the Certified Nurse Aid (CNA), licensed vocational nursing (LVN), licensed vocational nursing to registered nurse (LVN to RN), and the associate degree nursing (ADN) program. Entry-level wages for registered nurses in the Gulf Coast region in 2018 was \$63,107, whereas experienced registered nurses averaged \$88,313.

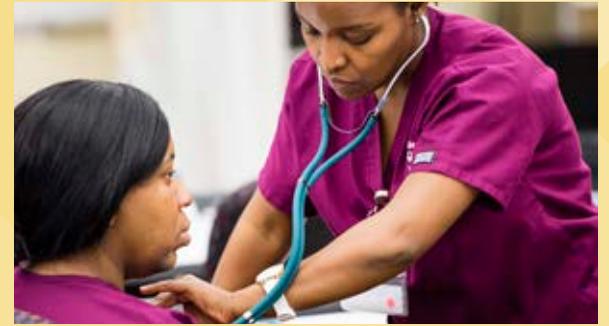
Recently, the college added a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program, whose inaugural cohort began in fall 2020. Tailored to the working RN, the BSN program includes small class sizes, safely conducted face-to-face and online learning opportunities, and the same flat tuition costs as general education courses. BSN students also have the same financial aid and educational resources as traditional students.

## Process technology program

Located in the heart of the Texas Gulf Coast petrochemical manufacturing region with 123 refineries and petrochemical plants within a 13-mile radius, San Jacinto College is the industry's primary workforce education partner.

With the addition of the LyondellBasell Center for Petrochemical, Energy, & Technology (CPET) at its Central Campus, the Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in process technology program prepares students to become plant operators by teaching them how to read piping and instrumentation diagrams, identify and troubleshoot equipment, operate simulators, and run the glycol distillation unit. Graduates find employment in chemical plants, refineries, wastewater treatment plants, pharmaceutical plants, canneries, and more, with entry-level operators averaging \$60,000 annually.

The program has also increased outreach efforts to high school and college-age Hispanic and African American students through partnerships with the Economic Alliance-Houston Port Region and the East Harris



County Manufacturing Association (EHCMA). EHCMA has also funded more than \$500,000 in scholarships. The process technology program also continues to expand its female student enrollment and offers two annual outreach events; Women in Industry and Date with Destiny student conferences, which focus on women in petrochemical and industrial construction. ■

► For more information on San Jacinto College's nursing and process technology programs, visit [sanjac.edu/nursing](http://sanjac.edu/nursing) and [sanjac.edu/cpet](http://sanjac.edu/cpet).

# Graham selected for ABCA Hall of Fame induction

By Melissa Trevizo  
Photo courtesy of San Jacinto College

Wayne Graham, former San Jacinto College baseball coach, has been named as one of the eight inductees into the American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) Hall of Fame.

“It is such an honor,” Graham said. “I am proud to be part of this class of honorees. These men have done a lot for the game, and I congratulate them on their selection. I am also thankful for the recognition from the association and the work they do for the baseball coaches across the country.”

Graham began coaching at San Jacinto College in 1981, where he turned the team into a powerhouse. Following a pair of conference titles in 1982 and 1983, Graham’s team made seven straight National Junior College Athletics Association (NJCAA) World Series appearances from 1984-1990. After a runner-up finish in 1984, his teams captured three consecutive national titles from 1985-1987. The Gators once again came back from a runner-up finish in 1988 to claim another pair of national titles in 1989 and 1990.

Named the Junior College Coach of the Century by Collegiate Baseball, Graham completed his 11-year tenure at San Jac with a 675-113 (.857) record and five National Coach of the Year awards. His uniform number, 37, was retired by the College, and he was inducted into the NJCAA Hall of Fame in 1995.

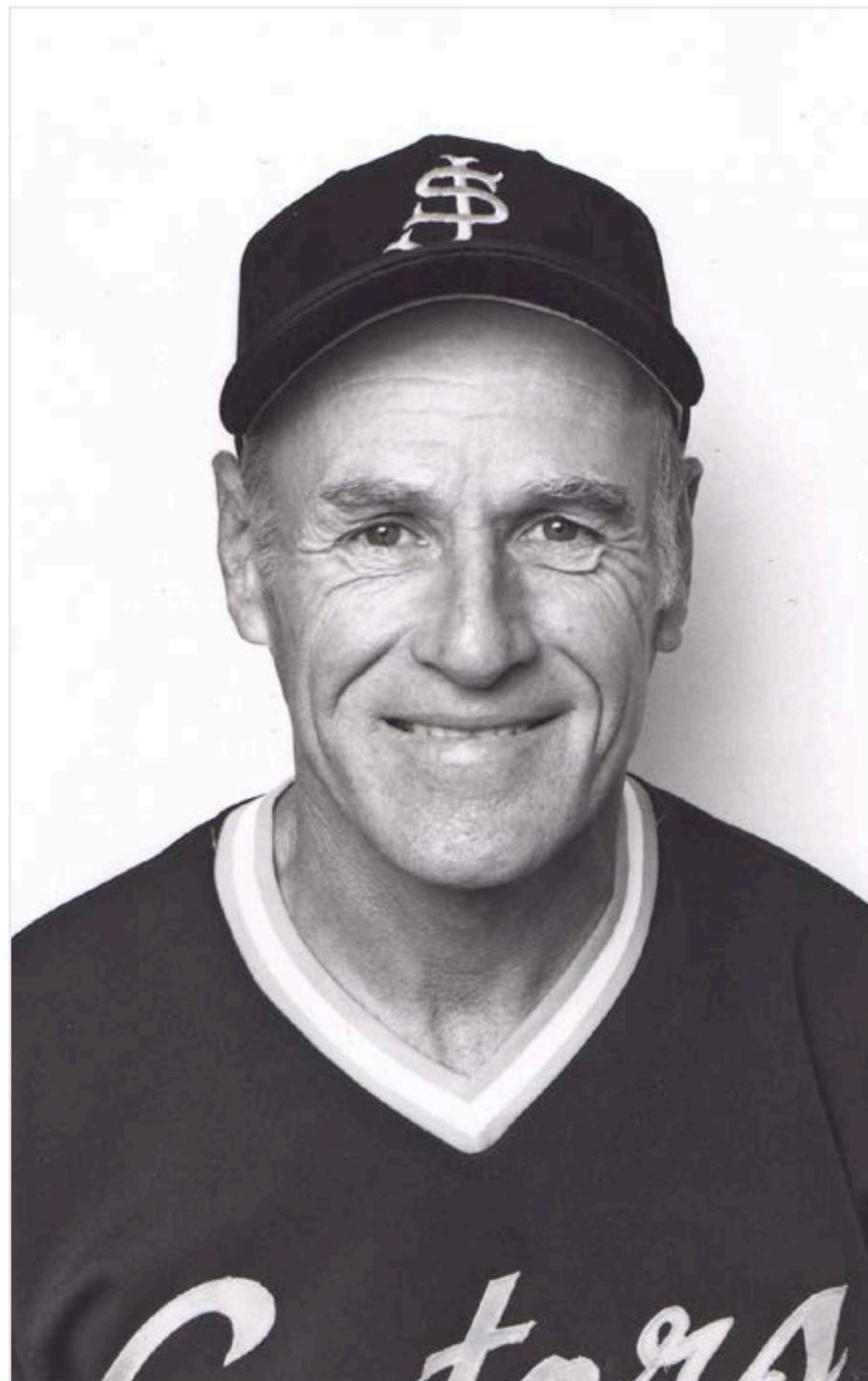
As the head coach for Rice University, Graham amassed a 1,173-528-2 (.689) record to go along with seven College World Series appearances and the 2003 National Championship, the school’s first team national championship in any sport.

Beginning with the 1995 season, Rice appeared in 23 consecutive NCAA Regionals and advanced to the Super Regionals 10 times following the adoption of the format in 1999. The Owls also captured 21 conference championships as part of three different conferences, including 20 straight from 1996-2015.

Graham’s coaching career was preceded by an 11-year professional career that included stints as a third baseman and outfielder with the Philadelphia Phillies and New York Mets organizations.

Graham’s success led to his induction into the Texas Baseball Hall of Fame in 2003, and he was named one of Houston’s 38 Sports Legends in 2004. In addition, he was inducted into the Texas Sports Hall of Fame in 2005 and the College Baseball Hall of Fame in 2012.

The 2021 hall of fame induction ceremony will be held during the 77th annual ABCA Convention in January at the Gaylord National in Washington, D.C. ■



# Diagnosis not final word for HIM student

By Courtney Morris  
Photo courtesy of Mika Ayers

Sitting in her doctor's office in December 2018, Mika Ayers felt her world explode. Her back pain and fatigue were not signs of stress. Her cancer had returned — and advanced to Stage 4.

Ayers had just faced a life crossroads, becoming a single mom and enrolling in the San Jacinto College Health Information Management (HIM) Program to launch her career. But the doctor's news shook her.

"I considered not going back to San Jac," she said. "Do I continue on, or do I just spend time with my family?"

## Maybe Medical

Although addicted to TV shows like "The Operation" and medical documentaries as early as middle school, Ayers still hadn't settled on a career after high school. She took several college classes, but school eventually took a backseat to life.

Fast forward almost 20 years. Ayers had overcome Stage 3 breast cancer and was caring for her four kids even as her marriage and stay-at-home mom life dissolved. Now was the time to choose a career.

After chatting with a medical coding friend and researching, she landed on San Jacinto College's HIM program webpage. Ayers then talked with program director Carla Ruffins. That conversation solidified her choice.

Although squeamish about hands-on medical care, Ayers could still help patients by organizing, coding, and evaluating health information to ensure accurate records. She would also have work-from-home options.

"Although it was a scary step after a 20-year break, I felt excited after talking to [faculty] . . . scared and excited to start," she said.

## Daunting Diagnosis

When Ayers started classes in summer 2018, opportunities began rolling her way. She joined the Student Association of Health Information Management (SAHIM). Her grasp of medical terminology landed her first place in a San Jac SkillsUSA competition, then second place at state.



"Once I started taking classes, I knew I had found the right field for me," she said.

But then came the scary words: Stage 4. What now? Having undergone treatment before, Ayers knew the challenges ahead, but she also knew her kids were watching. What would they think if she quit now?

In spring 2019, she dropped to one online class and started IV chemotherapy. That summer she picked up a full-time schedule again.

"I decided to keep making goals and pursuing them," she said. "Otherwise, I could lay in bed and cry, and what is that going to do?"

## No Shortcuts

Rebecca McDonald, Ayers' first HIM instructor at San Jac, remembers this self-described "serious student" asking what she needed to do to succeed. Ayers wasn't looking for shortcuts.

McDonald encouraged her to participate in the Houston Area Health Information Management Association (HAHIMA) and Texas Health Information Management

Association (TxHIMA). She also urged her to run for SAHIM president.

"Mika was nervous about speaking in front of people, so I told her to just look at me until she felt comfortable," McDonald said. She still laughs: "The meeting began, and it took about two minutes for her to become a confident leader."

Ruffins echoes Ayers' leadership qualities.

"Mika may be my student, but I have learned so much from her — how to be courageous, optimistic, and steadfast when life throws you a curveball," she said.

## Crunch Time and COVID

Despite ongoing chemo, Ayers volunteered at the 2019 TxHIMA Annual Convention and attended HAHIMA meetings.

This spring she won the 2020 TxHIMA Volunteer Award and a \$500 HAHIMA scholarship. Through networking, she also earned a seat as student liaison for the HAHIMA Board of Directors.

"Having goals — something to pursue — has kept me going," she said.

Since her San Jac classes were mostly online, COVID-19 didn't change her coursework much. But it affected her in two other ways: she had concerns being immunocompromised, and her daughter and three sons — ranging from ages 7 to 15 — suddenly joined her at home for school. Five people were doing online classes under one roof.

"I had to make a schedule and set aside time to work on my assignments at night when everyone was asleep," Ayers said.

When her in-person clinical experience got canceled, she joined San Jac classmates in the Texas-Wide Intercollegiate Collaborative Virtual Practicum. Their project focused on how COVID-19 impacted telehealth and HIPAA regulations.

Through virtual coding roundtables and grand round meetings with other colleges and universities, Ayers got

Continued on page 13

# A Legacy of Leadership /

By Andrea Vasquez  
Photos by Andrea Vasquez, San Jacinto College

It's not easy saying goodbye to people and places you have dedicated most of your personal and professional life to. San Jacinto College provosts Dr. William Raffetto (North Campus) and Dr. Brenda Jones (South Campus) are experiencing this after recently retiring.

Raffetto and Jones have contributed more than 55 years of leadership, counsel, and expertise to the College. Serving on the strategic leadership team, they helped pass the College's 2015 \$425 million bond referendum, which funded renovations, technology, and new facilities. Under their leadership, the College also received the 2017 Aspen Institute Rising Star Award and its third consecutive nomination as a top 10 finalist for the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence.

Raffetto began his San Jac career in 1984 as the South Campus dean of student services. Renowned for his storytelling, he has also built high-functioning teams through his knack for coaching others on their strengths.

"I hope people will remember me as the administrator who had the courage to tell people what they needed to know rather than what they wanted to hear," he said.

In his 36 years here, Raffetto also served as vice president of both student services and enrollment services. He published articles in academic publications and represented the College in state and local professional organizations: Texas Association of Community College Deans of Students, Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation, Junior College Personnel Association of Texas, South Belt Rotary Club, and North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce.

In 2015, Raffetto created the Read Across North Campus program to inspire love of reading and provide access to interesting books. Coinciding with Read Across America/ Dr. Seuss Day, the annual book drive provides all kinds of free books to students. To date, North Campus faculty and staff have donated more than 7,000 books for the program.

Raffetto says his professional service comes down to the people.

"I am very grateful to have worked with very smart people who are dedicated to student success and to improving the lives of others," he said. "Hiring good people, having



DR. WILLIAM RAFFETTO

confidence in them to do their job, and assisting them with their professional development has been one of the most rewarding things in my administrative career."

His retirement plans include attending his two grandsons' soccer games and reading, which has always consumed his free time.

Raffetto holds a doctorate and master's from Texas A&M University-Commerce and a bachelor's from Duquesne University.

Jones has also left her mark on the College. In 2001, she began working at the College as an adjunct professor in the Central Campus business management department, then served as the program coordinator for corporate education in the Continuing and Professional Development Division. She served as dean of business and technology and the interim vice president of learning before being named the South Campus provost after a national search in 2012.

"Being a part of the remarkable leadership of this phenomenal organization has been one of the greatest

**"I hope people will remember me as the administrator who had the courage to tell people what they needed to know rather than what they wanted to hear."**

achievements of my career," said Jones. "We have the very best forward-thinking board of trustees and strategic leadership team leading the College. These innovative leaders — along with our faculty, staff, and administrators — truly understand the importance of putting our students and their success at the heart of everything we do."

During her 19 years here, Jones focused on industry, community, and educational partnerships. She helped establish Pearland ISD's Robert Turner College and Career High School and Pasadena ISD's Dr. Kirk Lewis Career and Technical High School and new early college high school facility on the South Campus. She also helped create the College's biomedical clinical equipment technician program and secured the College's transfer partnership with Baylor University. She participates in the Clear Lake City and Pearland chambers of commerce and serves on the Pearland Economic Leadership Council and Capella University Community College Advisory Council.

Jones calls the students and employees she has mentored over the years her greatest achievement. Mentorship is at the core of Jones' leadership DNA.

"One of the most rewarding aspects of my job has been personally serving as a mentor to some of the brightest students and employees at San Jacinto College," she said.

Many of these have attended top universities nationwide or advanced to top leadership positions at the College.

"It's been a great joy to have been a part of their success, and I consider all of them legacies, not only for me but for our College, which will benefit from their knowledge and leadership for years to come," she said.



Jones has received many awards for her visionary leadership: Association of Educational Office Personnel Boss of the Year Award, Chair Academy Idahlynn Karre International Exemplary Leader Award for global leadership in higher education, San Jacinto College Excellence Award for administration, Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society Shirley B. Gordon Award for administrative institutional support, PTK Alumni of Distinction, Phi Beta Lambda Businessperson of the Year, and Outstanding Women in Texas Government - Outstanding Leadership Award

Jones and her husband look forward to the adventures ahead in this retirement chapter. While they have postponed globetrotting because of COVID, they are taking a few domestic trips.

Jones holds a doctorate from Texas A&M University and a master's and bachelor's from the University of Houston-Clear Lake.

Both Raffetto and Jones share these tips for aspiring, new, and veteran leaders.

“Be willing to compromise on processes, but never compromise your principles. Never lose sight of the mission of your organization,” said Raffetto.

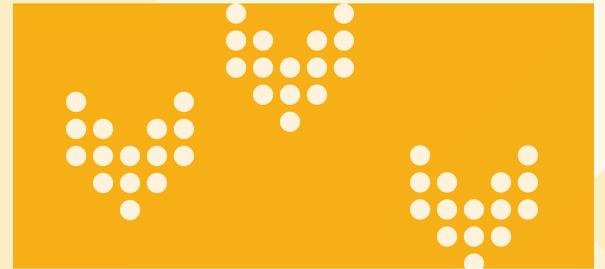
“Know when to lead and when to follow,” said Jones. “Acknowledge when you are wrong, and know that you don’t always have to be right. Never get so big that you forget to be humble. Show others you appreciate them and the work they do.”

According to Chancellor Dr. Brenda Hellyer, Raffetto and Jones’ impact will continue to move the college forward.

“Bill and Brenda have been profoundly instrumental in establishing San Jacinto College as a leader in higher education,” said Hellyer. “Throughout their tenures, they have built new, innovative College programs, committed to steadfast student success, and created a culture of transformational and servant leadership. We wish them both a wonderful, happy retirement.” ■



DR. BRENDA JONES



Now settling into their new roles, North Campus Provost Dr. Alexander Okwonna and South Campus Provost Dr. Aaron Knight are continuing the great leadership the College is known for.

*“Dr. Jones and Dr. Raffetto have had many admirable achievements and have left a lasting legacy on the College. I look forward to continuing that legacy and building on their accomplishments.*



*As a proud community college graduate, my educational journey mirrors that of many of our students. I understand many of their challenges both inside and outside of the classroom. As I interact with them, I see a piece of my personal story in each one of them, and this drives my commitment and passion for eliminating barriers to student success.”*

**- Dr. Alexander Okwonna**



*“Both Dr. Jones and Dr. Raffetto leave behind legacies of strong, positive leadership. We will all work together to build on the foundation they helped to build and wish them all the best in retirement. San*

*Jacinto College is a leader in the region and the nation when it comes to helping students work toward program completion. That means a lot to me. When you help students obtain their educational goals, you strengthen our region’s economy, and more importantly, you improve their quality of life. I’m glad to be a part of that and to help in any way I can.”*

**- Dr. Aaron Knight**

# EDGE Center offers students out- of-this-world aerospace training /

By Melissa Trevizo



The San Jacinto College EDGE Center, located at the Houston Spaceport at Ellington Airport, offers training and a pathway to careers in the aerospace industry under instructors who work at the top of their fields.



“We are partnering with companies like Intuitive Machines to offer our students the very best, up-to-date knowledge about the aerospace industry,” said Dr. Janis Fowler, director of the College’s aerospace education and workforce department. “Students have the opportunity to work on projects side by side with professionals who are working on NASA-level projects.”

The certificate-based programs are open to anyone who is interested, whether they are recent high school graduates or have spent decades in the workforce, said Dr. Fowler.

San Jacinto College is the official education training partner for the Houston Spaceport at Ellington Airport. Courses are open for enrollment now and are offered through the San Jac My Way hands-on hybrid instructional option.

“So many of our courses are lab-based,” Dr. Fowler said. “A hybrid format was the best decision for us to make during altered operations. It has been a big help to our students to be able to attend their labs in small groups in person.”

The EDGE Center offers programs in composites manufacturing technician, aerospace electrical assembly technician, aerospace mechanical structures technician, aerospace quality technician, mechatronics and industrial automation technician, and manufacturing technician.

In addition to the technical tracks, the EDGE Center offers small unmanned aircraft system (sUAS), or drone pilot training. This two-day course prepares students for the Federal Aviation Administration’s (FAA) Part 107 commercial drone pilot test. ■

► To learn more about the EDGE Center, visit [www.sanjac.edu/edge-center](http://www.sanjac.edu/edge-center).



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# Art meets yum in pastry grad's cookie business

By Courtney Morris  
Photo courtesy of Gavin Calais Photography



Sydni Calais loves baking. Look no further than her 430 multicolored cookie cutters hanging on wall hooks or the two KitchenAid stand mixers crowding her countertop.

But what looks like an obsession is an occupation for the 25-year-old San Jacinto College pastry chef graduate. In April 2018, Calais turned her side hustle, Sweets by Syd, into a full-time gig. Now she's living the sweet life.

## "This Is It"

Calais seemed destined for a culinary career. As an aproned, flour-dusted three-year-old on tiptoe, she mixed brownie batter with her grandma and squealed to lick the bowl clean. Her other grandma ran a Lebanese restaurant and stocked local grocery shelves with her seasonings.

"My family always loved food, being in the kitchen, and creating memories around food," Calais said.

When cake pops were trending, the high school senior made some and divvied them out to classmates. Her math teacher, JuleeAnna Lee, tried one too.

"I'm not lying — it was the best thing I had ever put in my mouth," Lee said.

Soon the teacher was ordering cake pops for a wedding shower, ballgames, and other special occasions. She suggested business cards and the name Sweets by Syd.

With her spark ignited, Calais created an Instagram and advertised for the holidays. Having debated between a cosmetology or art career, she now chewed on another idea.

"When I started making cake pops, it was something pretty you could also eat," she said. "I realized: 'This is it.' I'm going to go to school for this."

## Penchant for Pastry

At San Jacinto College's North Campus, Calais pursued an associate degree in culinary arts with a pastry chef specialty. Although visions of a cute mom-and-pop danced in her head, she mastered five-layer desserts, cream puffs, and mass production in her classes. She expanded her skill set while crafting a business plan.

"It was interesting to learn a different side of baking," she said.

Culinary arts program director Andrea Huerta remembers Calais' precision, which helped her excel in school while expanding her business.

"Sydni was a stand-out student because of her passion to get things





just right,” Huerta said. “She was very detail oriented and really had a good eye for making things aesthetically appealing.”

While completing her degree, Calais also got hands-on restaurant and bakery experience. She served briefly at a sushi bar and baked four years at Rise Cupcakes, where she discovered her true passion: cookies.

But in spring 2018, the 60- to 70-hour workweeks between the Rise job and side hustle pushed her to the limit. The happy ending? Sweets by Syd went solo.

**“When I started making cake pops, it was something pretty you could also eat. I realized: ‘This is it.’ I’m going to go to school for this.”**

### Chance of a Lifetime

In her home near Minute Maid Park, Calais performs her magic at an 8-foot stainless steel worktable. Bakery racks, pastry bags and brushes, icing buckets, cookie projector, and edible printer stand at the ready. The main event: vanilla shortbread glazed with donut icing and detailed with royal icing. Sweet with a sturdy but soft bite.

Custom designs include almost anything you can imagine, from Dr. Pepper cans and Ball mason jars to celebrities like Ariana Grande and Beyoncé.

Calais has racked up 7,000-plus followers — including wholesale clients — through word of mouth, Instagram, and Facebook. Also boosting her brand are her classes, giveaways, and how-to cookie decorating videos.

“You have to keep making sure your name is showing up on other people’s feeds,” she said.

Sometimes her cookies speak for themselves. A Houston blogger related to Chance the Rapper’s fiancée saw her cookies at a Kendra Scott event and asked whether she could ship portrait cookies for Chance’s California wedding.

First, Calais had to pick her jaw off the floor: “I asked, ‘Are you serious? Are you joking? He’s my favorite rapper.’”

She Googled photos of the bride and groom and traced the projected images with royal icing onto the glazed cookies. All four dozen cookies arrived in perfect shape.

As much as she likes big-name clients, Calais still enjoys her regular customers, which include her original.

“I order from Sweets by Syd every chance I get,” Lee said. “Sometimes I just make an excuse. She is my go-to girl.”

### Growing Pains

Despite the cookie craft’s fun side, it’s not easy being a one-person show.

“I’m also the photographer, content creator, website editor, videographer, order taker, data entry person, and tax person while keeping up with trends, inventory, buying/recruiting, and planning,” Calais said.

When events slowed because of COVID-19, business also dropped off. She adapted by creating decorating kits for homebound kids and quarantine-themed cookies featuring Purell bottles, toilet paper, and medical scrubs.

As orders build again, Calais is outgrowing her space. She pumps out 20 dozen cookies in an average week, up to 50 dozen around holidays. She is updating her San Jac business plan, toying with a brick-and-mortar where guests can savor sweets and socialize.

“Overhead is very expensive,” she said. “I would love to eventually have a storefront, but I’m wanting to see if that would be a smart move.”

### Sweet Dreams

Whether she expands or stays home-based, Calais has enjoyed the entire journey. Her advice to would-be entrepreneurs? First, work under others in your field: “You might have to build someone else’s dreams for a while.”

“[Then] I would say absolutely go for it,” she said. “It’s so rewarding, so wonderful.”

From its humble beginnings as a high school cake pop affair to today, Sweets by Syd boasts the ultimate sweet success.

“I get to be a small part of the biggest moments in people’s lives,” Calais said.

► Sweets by Syd offers custom pick-up orders. Learn more at [www.sweetsbysyd.com](http://www.sweetsbysyd.com). ■



## Sweet Cheat Sheet

In an average week, Sydni Calais blows through...



25 pounds of flour



10 pounds of sugar



20 pounds of icing



14 cups of coffee

# San Jac Cares sustains students, employees during COVID

By Courtney Morris  
Photo by Courtney Morris, San Jacinto College

Brianna Seratt was playing a waiting game, and time was running out.

With San Jacinto College's fall semester weeks away, Seratt still hadn't registered for classes. Although she had submitted her FAFSA, she was waiting for funds to come through. Because of COVID-19, she wasn't sure she could talk to anyone on campus.

That's when a College employee emailed, asking whether she needed help.

"I would still love to attend school this fall," Seratt replied, "but without the aid, I don't think I will be able to continue classes this semester."

That afternoon, the San Jac Cares employee volunteer called to share the news: the San Jacinto College Foundation had awarded her a \$500 scholarship.

"There were a lot of emotions," Seratt said about getting that call. "I'm glad [San Jac Cares] existed. I couldn't go to school this semester without the help."

## Virtual Void

Launched in April 2020, the San Jac Cares outreach program connected students to employees and resources so they could navigate COVID-19 and altered operations. When the College moved to online classes after spring break, Dr. Allatia Harris huddled a steering committee to create the program.



AMINTA RODRIGUEZ, CPD REGISTRATION AND SERVICES COORDINATOR

"We knew there were students who would be struggling with an online shift," said Dr. Harris, vice chancellor of strategic initiatives, workforce development, community relations, and diversity. "Some had never taken an online class before and didn't want one, and they had other needs."

Students faced unique challenges because of COVID, but many employees had also lost their connection to students because of remote work.

"We wanted to create something that would fill the void that happened with the virtual environment," Dr. Harris said.

Representing different College departments, committee members weighed in on which students to reach first and what information to give callers.

"Some students just needed someone to listen and to show they cared," said Yessenia Jimenez, strategic initiative projects manager, who led the committee. "Others needed

to be pointed to the right person so they didn't have to ask around. It feels great ... to make things a little easier on students' end, especially right now."

## Goodbye, Cold Calls

After an employee email blast, volunteers poured in. Jimenez offered a Zoom training and emailed scripts and a student services resource toolkit. These empowered volunteers so outreach would feel more like conversations, less like cold calls.

Volunteers received weekly spreadsheets with at least 25 students to call or email. Beginning just after altered operations and continuing into the fall, San Jac Cares has included five phases so far:

**PHASE 1:** 12,300 first-time-in-college (FTIC) students and students without distance learning experience

**Launched in April 2020, the San Jac Cares outreach program connected students to employees and resources so they could navigate COVID-19 and altered operations.**

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## About 350 employees have volunteered for San Jac Cares, coming from areas like continuing and professional development (CPD), libraries, human resources, faculty, the strategic leadership team, and more.

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**PHASE 2:** 12,900 randomly-chosen students enrolled in spring classes

**PHASE 3:** 14,700 students not registered for summer or fall

**PHASE 4:** 6,100 students not registered for fall

**PHASE 5:** 5,000 FTIC students enrolled in fall classes

**The primary goal:** Checking on students. Are you doing OK? How is school going?

**The secondary goal:** Ensuring students had resources and information. Do you have a computer and internet? Do you know about the fall 2020 course delivery options? Did you know we have a food market?

“It’s a little cliché — the expression ‘It takes a village,’” Dr. Harris said. “But all the employees support the students here in a host of ways. It’s part of the experience when you come on a college campus.... When you move to a virtual environment, you lose that.”

Whether students needed to review their academic plan or get counseling to cope with the pandemic, callers cut through the confusion, directing them to the person or resource they needed. Like Seratt, many wanted help but didn’t know whom to call, so the College called them.

### Two-Way Street

About 350 employees have volunteered for San Jac Cares, coming from areas like continuing and professional development (CPD), libraries, human resources, faculty,

the strategic leadership team, and more. Some have served a few weeks, and others throughout the program.

Diesel mechanics instructor Charles Siegel volunteered from day one. Struggling with the online transition too, he got to coach students while motivating himself.

“It really helped me to help others during that difficult time,” Siegel said. “I was able to place myself in the students’ shoes — terrible fear of the unknown, need and desire for social interaction — while knowing I needed to be a guide to self-help, self-motivation, and self-reflection to help students [adjust to online classes].”

Aminta Rodriguez, CPD registration and services coordinator, also signed up.

Rodriguez recalls one student who had faced a landslide of challenges. He and his wife had lost their jobs, were sharing one laptop with their two kids, and were waiting on unemployment to pay the electric bill. She connected him to the College’s laptop lending program, food market, and other resources.

“Sometimes benefits are there — resources are there — but people don’t know they’re available for them,” she said.

San Jac Cares also had an unexpected benefit for employees: decreasing stress.

“Our College is a community,” Dr. Harris said. “We connect with each other. The students are the reward of working at a college. Connecting with them has created that sense of community for employees as well.”

### “We Change Lives”

No one could have expected COVID-19 to show up with no expiration date, upending education and everything else. During a trying time, San Jac Cares broke through barriers, connecting students with compassionate voices and solutions.

Will the program extend beyond COVID-19? Dr. Harris acknowledges some uncertainty about the next steps: “For the foreseeable future, we’ll do things that connect students to the College, that show we care and are here for them — connect them to resources.”

But as a San Jac Cares caller herself, she realizes the power College employees have to change lives as they help students navigate crises or achieve their dreams.

“San Jac Cares reminds me how important the work we do is, whether it’s face to face or from a distance,” Dr. Harris said. “Many have unbelievable obstacles, hurdles to continue their education and complete their program. They keep at it because they believe their lives will be better. We change lives.” ■

## Diagnosis not final word for HIM student

Continued from page 5

experience in coding and earned her required clinical hours.

“It’s been great having that option,” she said. “I don’t have to take a risk being around a large group of people.”

### One Step at a Time

On Aug. 7, Ayers watched via laptop as a slide with her name, photo, and associate degree appeared in the College’s virtual commencement ceremony. Her phone buzzed with congratulations texts from family and friends.

“You have that anticipation where you know your name is coming, and then you hear it,” she said. “Now I have my degree.”

Meanwhile, she celebrates another victory. Although she will always be on cancer treatment, she is stable, with no progression.

Her next step: After sitting for the registered health information technician certification exam, she will pursue an online HIM bachelor’s degree program. Then she wants to support others fighting illnesses.

“As someone who has a chronic illness that requires constant medical care, I know the importance of those who work behind the scenes,” she said. “Going through a medical situation can be scary and overwhelming.”

Showing her kids it’s never too late to return to school or achieve dreams has kept her fighting her diagnosis and pushing through obstacles. Although proud of her accomplishments, Ayers hesitates to call herself a supermom.

“I think all of us have our own challenges and struggles,” she said. “I appreciate that people look at my own story and are impressed. Life is tough, but I’ve taken a bad situation and found something good out of it — the change I needed.” ■

# Harris Co. Promise program enables greater access to higher education for Pasadena ISD students

By Andrea Vasquez

As the cost of higher education continues to rise, the odds of completing any degree or certification drop lower each year. To boost those odds, not only in graduating college students but by creating a college-going culture among underrepresented high school students, San Jacinto College has partnered with Pasadena ISD and Good Reason Houston as participants in the Harris County Promise program.

Seniors from Pasadena ISD's Dobie High School, Sam Rayburn High School, and South Houston High School now have an opportunity to have their tuition and fees at San Jacinto College paid in full by becoming Harris County Promise Scholars. The Harris County Promise program is available to Texas resident high school seniors, regardless of GPA or family income. Eligible seniors who become Promise Scholars receive up to three years of guaranteed tuition and fees, assistance with books, and additional support to help them complete their degrees. Other participating Houston-area school districts include Aldine ISD (Aldine Senior High School, Eisenhower High School, Nimitz High School) and Alief ISD (Taylor

High School), with partnerships with Lone Star College and Houston Community College, respectively.

"San Jacinto College's partnership with Good Reason Houston for the Harris County Promise program is transformative for our community and the students we serve," said Jose Dejesus Gil, San Jacinto College director of outreach and recruiting. "We have an incredible opportunity to support the college-going culture for underrepresented students and impact the education attainment levels in our area."

Student Azhia Alvarez says she doubts enrolling in college courses would have been possible without the Promise program.

"The Promise program has benefited me in such a good way by my parents not worrying about having to pay out of pocket for tuition," she said. "Being a first-generation college student, Promise is allowing me to be the first person in my family to attend college. I would definitely tell seniors in high school to complete the Promise Pledge and apply, whether they are still deciding to attend college or not. It's a great opportunity, and it's especially helpful for low-income students. I love that the Promise program was available during my first semester, because if not, I honestly do not think I would be attending college, so I'm completely grateful."

Promise is a last-dollar scholarship program covering the cost of tuition and fees at San Jacinto College. "Last-dollar" means the scholarship kicks in after all other grant and scholarship funding has been applied. To be eligible, students



must qualify for in-district tuition (reside in the College's taxing district) and complete all steps by their associated deadline.

Promise Scholars also receive extra perks when they enroll in a partner college, including their own success coach to help navigate college life. The Promise pledge is the first step in the process. It is not binding, and students are not required to attend a Promise college.

Student Jessica Saavedra adds that in addition to the financial benefit the program is an investment in future success and opportunities.

"The Promise program has benefited me not only financially, but it has also made me stress-free since I'm not worrying about tuition and books," said Saavedra. "It has also helped me push myself to become better. It's not just a promise to the 'county' but a promise to yourself as well. Being able to be a part of the Promise program has also opened doors for me, such as being able to expand my education to get a better paying, skilled job that will lead to a happy and stable future." ■

► To learn more and to donate to the Harris County Promise program at San Jacinto College, visit [sanjac.edu/harris-county-promise-program](http://sanjac.edu/harris-county-promise-program) or [sanjac.edu/year-end-giving](http://sanjac.edu/year-end-giving).



JESSICA SAAVEDRA



AZHIA ALVAREZ



# WANT TO CONTINUE YOUR EDUCATION JOURNEY BEYOND SAN JAC?

## WE MAKE IT EASY!

San Jacinto College has partnerships with universities to make the transfer path smoother for you.

Make an appointment with our University Center during your first semester at San Jac to plan your transfer path. Contact [university.center@sjcd.edu](mailto:university.center@sjcd.edu) or 281-998-3659 for more information.

Visit [sanjac.edu/transfers](https://sanjac.edu/transfers) to learn more.

281-998-6150 | [sanjac.edu](https://sanjac.edu)

 **SAN JACINTO<sup>SM</sup>**  
**COLLEGE**  
*Your Goals. Your College.*

The San Jacinto College District is committed to equal opportunity for all students, employees, and applicants without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, citizenship status, age, disability, pregnancy, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, genetic information, marital status, or veteran status in accordance with applicable federal and state laws. The following College official has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the College's non-discrimination policies: Vice Chancellor of Human Resources, 4624 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, TX 77504; 281-991-2659; [Sandra.Ramirez@sjcd.edu](mailto:Sandra.Ramirez@sjcd.edu).

## TOP 10 TRANSFER UNIVERSITIES

1. UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON - CLEAR LAKE
2. UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
3. UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON - DOWNTOWN
4. TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
5. SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY
6. TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY
7. UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS ARLINGTON
8. LAMAR UNIVERSITY
9. UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
10. STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY

# Seeking self-driven career?

## Try truck driving

By Courtney Morris  
Photos by Courtney Morris, San Jacinto College



Adam Stringer was that kid with his face squished against the backseat car window, magnetized as 18-wheelers cruised past on the highway. As a teen and 20-something, he spied the San Jacinto College Truck Driving Program commercial trucks parked at the Central Campus.

When Stringer considered switching careers after 16 years in I-HOP management, he felt the magnetic pull once again: “I decided, ‘Why not try truck driving school?’”

That decision, he said, ended up being “very good” to him.

With a nationwide truck driver deficit for more than two decades, the College’s truck driving program puts drivers trained in safety first on the road for a stable, self-driven career.

### Give me liberty

Stringer numbers among many who have enrolled in the program wanting to change industries mid-career. John Stephens, co-instructor alongside Monica Cortes, said this is often a second or third career.

“The reasoning behind wanting to drive a truck is very different,” Stephens said. “Some have always been interested and never did do it. Others retired or wanted to change jobs and decided [they wanted] to travel.”

It’s also a growing field for women. In 2019, FreightWaves estimated more than 10 percent of over-the-road truck drivers are women — a 30 percent increase from 2018.

Brionne Boston, who completed San Jac’s program this spring, came from the chemical plant industry. Now in her 30s, she wanted to achieve financial independence, advance quickly, and see the country. She also craved flexibility.

“Home time was not really an option in my last career — it was many, many hours at the job site,” Boston said. “I’ve heard this is the best program, and in signing up, I’ve found out it really is.... The teachers, the equipment, everything — they go to the ends [of the earth] for you.”

Just as there are endless reasons to enroll, students have endless truck driving job options to explore.

“All walks of life come through here,” Stephens said. “They have their choice of schedule depending on the job they choose.”

Unlike some careers, truck drivers can easily switch jobs, choosing the right cargo, vehicle, and location for them. Houston area only? Check. Tri-state region? Check. Forty-eight contiguous states? Check.

And no matter what the economic climate, truck driving jobs abound. When customers need toilet paper, who else but a truck driver to transport it from warehouse to out-of-stock grocery store?

### Choose your adventure

Stringer graduated from the College’s program in 2015. Although he maintains a safe driving record and does a physical every two years to keep his commercial driver’s license (CDL), he appreciates the industry stability.

“Having a CDL is like being a doctor. You can have a job anywhere around the world,” he said. “Once you have a CDL, no one can take it from you.”

Stringer has transferred goods statewide and nationwide. His experiences sound like Instagrammable moments —

from crossing the Hoover Dam to delivering produce to an Orthodox Jewish grocer in the Bronx.

“The experience you get and the people you meet are awesome,” Stringer said. He laughs: “But the people from Texas are the nicest.”

Although he now manages 20 produce trucks as an at-home logistics specialist, in his most successful driving seasons he drew a \$150,000 paycheck three years straight.

“If you make the right choices after school, you can do well financially,” he said. “I’m not selling a pipe dream.”

### Do a pre-trip

Before their routes, drivers perform a pre-trip inspection, checking the truck, trailer, and load to address any issues.

Similarly, Stephens recommends doing your homework before enrolling in San Jacinto College’s program.

“Start getting your information about different types of jobs,” he said. “Start checking out companies, seeing what is available, what will fit your lifestyle.”

Want to shift gears in your career? Might be time to hit the road. ■



## TAKE THE WHEEL

Want to earn your CDL? San Jacinto College Continuing and Professional Development offers Professional Truck Driver I and II (CVOP 1013 and CVOP 1040):

### Six-week program

- 240 hours of classroom instruction, demonstration, and hands-on tractor-trailer operations
- \$4,200 for program, drug test, physical, and commercial learner’s permit and driver’s license
- Veteran and other grants available for those who qualify

► Learn More: [www.sanjac.edu/CDL](http://www.sanjac.edu/CDL)

# Fire protection heats things up with new fire field /

By Melissa Trevizo  
Photos by Melissa Trevizo, San Jacinto College



The fire protection technology training program at San Jacinto College just gained a powerful new asset. The College now boasts a new fire training field at the Maritime Training Center.

“We previously partnered with local municipalities to use their fire fields for the live fire portion of training,” said John Stauffer, associate vice chancellor and superintendent of maritime. “With a field of our own, we are saving money on equipment rentals, and we are able to use our own instructors.”

The new fire field offers a natural gas fed fire trainer, allowing fire protection technology students to confront kitchen, residential, and motor/generator fires. Additionally, the fire field allows students to extinguish various types of fires using portable extinguishers.

“We basically have been able to burn every couple of days,” Stauffer said. “By owning our own equipment and running our own live fire trainings, we can burn as often as needed without the added cost.”

The fire technology training program consists of seven firefighting courses spread over two college semesters. Students who successfully complete the program requirements and the Texas Commission on Fire Protection Basic Suppression certification exam will be able to work as a firefighter in the state of Texas.

Through international accreditation agreements, certified firefighters may also work as firefighters in many other states. ■

► To learn more about the program, visit [www.sanjac.edu/program/fire-protection-technology](http://www.sanjac.edu/program/fire-protection-technology).



# Choose **your path**

At San Jacinto College, our mission is to ensure you succeed and to empower you to achieve your goals, redefine expectations, and explore new opportunities.

With eight career pathways, you may not only equip yourself with the training and tools to succeed in a career but also find your place in the world and pursue the life you've always wanted. If you plan to earn an associate degree and transfer to a four-year university, we can help you along your path. If career training for a certificate or associate degree is more your focus, we can help you find the program that is right for you. Before you register for classes, you should discuss your career goals with a San Jacinto College educational planner. We'll make sure you're selecting courses that meet the curriculum requirements of the certificate or associate degree you want to earn or four-year university you plan to attend. Learn more at [sanjac.edu](http://sanjac.edu), or call 281-998-6150 to speak with an educational counselor. ■



## Art, Humanities, Communication, and Design

- Art & Design
- Audio Engineering
- Communications
- Dance
- English
- Interior Design
- Modern Languages
- Music
- Speech
- Theatre and Film

### Career opportunities

*(some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)\**

Broadcast Technician.....	\$36,117
Choreographer .....	\$61,813
Editor.....	\$66,528
Film and Video Editor.....	\$46,449
Graphic Designer.....	\$45,612
Interior Designer.....	\$54,114
Multimedia Artist and Animator.....	\$57,651
Musicians and Singers.....	\$22.60** per hour
Public Relations Specialist.....	\$58,222
Sound Engineering Technician.....	\$64,669



## Business

- Accounting
- Business Administration
- Business Management
- Business Office Systems and Support
- Economics
- Entrepreneur
- Long Term Care Administration
- Paralegal
- Real Estate

### Career opportunities

*(some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)\**

Accountant and Auditor.....	\$76,309
Budget Analyst.....	\$80,417
Credit Analyst.....	\$69,068
Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants.....	\$60,755
Financial Analyst.....	\$87,552
Paralegal and Legal Assistant.....	\$54,768
Real Estate Sales Agent.....	\$67,455



## Construction, Industry Manufacturing, and Transportation

- Air Conditioning Technology (HVAC)
- Automotive Collision Repair
- Automotive Technology
- Biomedical Clinical Equipment Technician
- Construction Management Technology
- Diesel Technology
- Electrical Technology
- Electronics Technology
- Environmental Health and Safety Technology Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management Instrumentation
- Maritime Transportation
- Non-destructive Testing
- Pipefitting
- Process Technology
- Welding Technology

### Career opportunities

*(some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)\**

API Inspector.....	\$145,622^^
Automotive Body and Related Repairer.....	\$38,540
Automotive Service Technician and Mechanic.....	\$39,550
Captains, Mates, and Pilots.....	\$118,709
Chemical Plant and Systems Operators.....	\$71,453
Electrician.....	\$55,448
Environmental Science and Protection Technician, including Health.....	\$40,913
Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanic and Installer.....	\$48,779
Helper - Electrician.....	\$30,609
Helper - Plumber, Pipefitter, and Steamfitter.....	\$35,642
Medical Equipment Repairer.....	\$42,161
NDT Technician Level I.....	\$71,884^^
NDT Technician Level II.....	\$101,397^^
NDT Technician Level III.....	\$125,699^^
Occupational Health and Safety Technician.....	\$53,314
Plant and Systems Operators (all others).....	\$41,236
Plumber, Pipefitter, and Steamfitter.....	\$53,243
Sailors and Marine Oilers.....	\$36,201
Welder, Cutter, Solderer, and Brazer.....	\$47,979



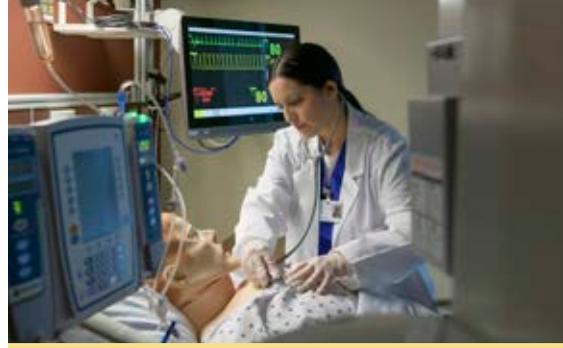
## Education

Child Development /  
Early Childhood Studies Teaching

### Career opportunities

*(some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)\**

Elementary School Teacher (except Special Ed) .....	\$58,009
Secondary School Teacher (except Special Ed) .....	\$59,525
Education Administrator, Preschool, and Child Care Center.....	\$42,961
Preschool Teacher .....	\$26,840
Child Care Workers .....	\$21,396



## Health Sciences

Cancer Data Management  
Diagnostic Medical Sonography  
Emergency Medical Services  
Eye Care Technology  
Health Information Management  
Medical Assisting  
Medical Billing  
Medical Coding  
Medical Laboratory Technology  
Medical Radiography  
Mental Health Services  
Nursing  
Occupational Therapy Assistant  
Personal Trainer  
Pharmacy Technician  
Physical Therapist Assistant  
Respiratory Care  
Surgical Technician

### Career opportunities

*(some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)\**

Athletic Trainer .....	\$59,824
Certified Ophthalmic Assistant.....	\$51,032 <sup>^^^</sup>
Certified Ophthalmic Technician.....	\$41,268 <sup>^^^</sup>
Certified Tumor Registrar .....	\$53,296 <sup>^^^</sup>
Diagnostic Medical Sonographer.....	\$72,455
Emergency Medical Technician.....	\$34,456
Environmental Science and Protection Technician, Including Health .....	\$40,913
Medical Assistant.....	\$32,445
Medical Records and Health Information Technician.....	\$42,515
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Worker.....	\$43,896
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) .....	\$47,758
Fitness Trainers.....	\$35,732
Pharmacy Technician .....	\$34,776
Physical Therapist Assistant.....	\$72,842
Radiologic Technologist.....	\$64,492
Registered Nurse.....	\$79,507
Respiratory Therapist.....	\$59,927
Surgical Technologist.....	\$53,692



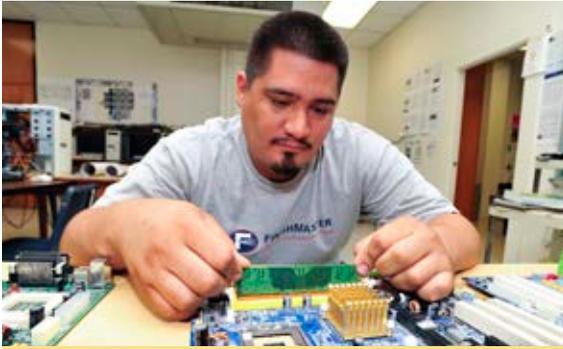
## Public Safety and Human/Consumer Services

Chef Training  
Cosmetology  
Criminal Justice  
Fire Protection Technology  
Massage Therapy  
Pastry Chef  
Personal Trainer  
Restaurant Management

### Career opportunities

*(some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)\**

Chefs and Head Cooks (including Pastry Chefs) .....	\$40,953
Correctional Officers and Jailers.....	\$42,621
Food Service Manager .....	\$60,036
Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists.....	\$20,981
Massage Therapist.....	\$35,302
Firefighter.....	\$51,734
Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers.....	\$62,648
Private Detectives and Investigators .....	\$52,509
Probation Officers and Correctional Treatment Specialists .....	\$44,526
Skin Care Specialists (Esthetician).....	\$19,540



## Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)

Applications / Programming  
 Biology  
 Chemistry  
 Computer Science  
 Computer Simulation & Game Design  
 Desktop Support and Network Administration Engineering  
 Engineering Design Graphics (Drafting)  
 Environmental Science  
 Geology  
 Information Technology Security  
 Mathematics  
 Microsoft and CISCO  
 Physics  
 Web Design

### Career opportunities (some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)\*

Accountant and Auditor .....	\$76,309
Agricultural and Food Science Technicians .....	\$47,505
Chemical Engineer .....	\$137,233
Chemists .....	\$90,215
Civil Engineer .....	\$106,006
Computer Network Support Specialist .....	\$76,184
Computer Programmer .....	\$89,024
Database Administrators .....	\$95,250
Desktop Publisher .....	\$39,929
Drafter .....	\$45,805
Environmental Engineer .....	\$106,637
Environmental Science and Protection Technicians, including Health .....	\$40,913
Environmental Scientists and Specialists, including Health .....	\$83,739
Geological and Petroleum Technicians .....	\$60,275
Information Security Analyst .....	\$101,382
Mechanical Drafter .....	\$66,592
Mechanical Engineer .....	\$98,761
Network and Computer Systems Administrator .....	\$93,294
Physicists .....	\$99,556
Software Developers (Applications) .....	\$108,408
Software Developers (Systems Software) .....	\$102,435
Web Developer .....	\$74,533



## Social and Behavioral Science

Anthropology  
 Government  
 History  
 Philosophy  
 Psychology  
 Sociology

### Career opportunities (some may require a bachelor's or master's degree)\*

Psychologists .....	\$109,609
Philosophy and Religion Teachers, Postsecondary .....	\$80,091
Anthropologists and Archeologists .....	\$85,882
Political Scientists .....	\$93,683
Sociology Teachers, Postsecondary .....	\$79,570
Clinical, Counseling, and School Psychologists .....	\$68,865
Counselors .....	\$61,949
Mental Health Counselors .....	\$54,018
Museum Technicians and Conservators .....	\$37,016
Social Science Research Assistants .....	\$42,538

\* Salary source: texaswages.com, Gulf Coast Region, 2018 Annual WDA Wages \*\* Salary source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

## Noncredit Classes for Professional and Life Long Learners

Whether you're preparing for a career or picking up a new hobby, the San Jacinto College Continuing and Professional Development (CPD) division offers a variety of noncredit courses for workforce training and lifelong learning. The division's workforce area offers courses that keep workers up to date on the latest technologies in industries in the Gulf Coast region. These courses are available through contract training, open enrollment, and grant funding. Not only does the division provide vital training for workers, but many participants find enjoyment by picking up new skills they've been eager to learn. CPD offers lifelong learning courses to promote leisure learning and to help people extend their horizons. To learn more, visit [sanjac.edu/cpd](http://sanjac.edu/cpd).

### Workforce Development and Job Training

Applied Technology and Trades Business and Professions  
 Computers, IT, CNC, PLC, and Robotics Health Occupations  
 Maritime

### Corporate Training and Consulting

Task/Job/Organizational Performance Analysis  
 Training Needs/Gap Analysis  
 Measuring Training Effectiveness and ROI  
 Implementing Effective On-the-Job Training  
 Apprenticeships  
 Transitioning Training from a Functional Unit to a Business Unit  
 Train-the-Trainer for Regulatory Compliance  
 Strategies for Selecting, Training, and Qualifying Shift/Relief Supervisors  
 Approaches to Team Training and Diagnostics  
 Organizational and Human Performance Needs Assessments

### Community Programs

Aerospace Education and Workforce  
 Education  
 Life Long Learning  
 Youth Programs

### Grants

Adult Education and Literacy  
 Health Career Pathways Partnership Grant  
 TPEG  
 TWC Business Funding Opportunities

^^ Salary source: PQNDT 2018 Salary Survey  
 ^^^ Salary source: Payscale, Houston Region



# San Jacinto Personal Training

Get the hands-on training you need to help others reach their fitness goals. The San Jacinto College Personal Trainer Program provides the right combination of education in scientific principles and business practices from those working in the industry.

**Earn your certificate today!**

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Pasadena, Texas 77505

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Houston, Texas 77049

## South Campus

13735 Beamer Road  
Houston, Texas 77089

## Maritime Campus

3700 Old Highway 146  
La Porte, Texas 77571

## Generation Park Campus

13455 Lockwood Road  
Houston, Texas 77044

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The San Jacinto College District is committed to equal opportunity for all students, employees, and applicants without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, citizenship status, age, disability, pregnancy, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, genetic information, marital status, or veteran status in accordance with applicable federal and state laws. The following College official has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the College's non-discrimination policies: Vice Chancellor of Human Resources, 4624 Fairmont Pkwy., Pasadena, TX 77504; 281-991-2659; [Sandra.Ramirez@sjcd.edu](mailto:Sandra.Ramirez@sjcd.edu).