



Participation Policy



The purpose of this policy is to outline and provide direction to students regarding their participation in MEP/MSP. Participation in the MEP/MSP Program and its components is a privilege. Only a limited number of students are accepted into the program each year. There are no fees; only a commitment of participation on your part. All services and events are created especially for you to excel. The more you participate, the greater the benefits you'll reap. The benefits you receive will be based on your participation in the program.

Participation in MEP/MSP is classified into 3 categories (see attached listing):

1. Minimum Participation
2. Standard Participation
3. Active Participation

Those students doing more than the minimum participation in MEP/MSP will benefit from:

- Letters of Recommendation
- References
- Opportunities to interact with industry
- MEP/MSP Industry Scholarships
- MESA*Advantage* Stipend
- MESA*Advantage* Summer Team Internships

MEP/MSP students who 1) fail to follow through on minimum participation as described or 2) are a no show or cancels for events last minute; will jeopardize participation in future events and program membership.

Thanks to a \$1.9M grant awarded by the National Science Foundation to form the “STEP Partnership of San Diego” (a collaboration of the San Diego MESA Alliance college programs); MEP/MSP students will have the opportunity to experience the [MESA*Advantage*](#). Students reaching Standard or Active Participation will qualify to be eligible for monetary benefits listed below:

- \$500 MESA*Advantage* Stipend
- \$1250 MESA*Advantage* Summer Team Internship Stipend (In some cases the company will pay additional earnings on top of stipend)

Participation will be reviewed every year (activities completed from the Spring semester through Fall semester will count) For completion towards MESA*Advantage*.



Participation Categories



Minimum Participation

Benefit: Remain in MEP/MSP

- Current Academic Advising Session
- Resume
- Two MEP/MSP Events

Standard Participation

Potential Benefit: \$500 Stipend

- Minimum Participation
- ~and~
- Academic Excellence Workshops or E96 Course
- Shadow Day
- Olympics & Robotics Competition
- Student Organization Member
- Apply for any Scholarship
- Strengths Quest
- Non Educational Community Service

Active Participation

Potential Benefit : \$1250 Summer Team Internship

- Standard Participation
- ~and~
- Workshop Leader/Tutor/Mentor
- Joint Professional Development Conf.
- Training Academy
- Industry Mentor
- Educational Community Service

Substitution of any item must be approved by MEP/MSP Staff. See MESA*advantage* formerly “AEP” for list of additional activities.

Participation Policy

“Frequently Asked Questions”



DO I HAVE TO COMPLETE ALL CATEGORIES WITHIN ONE YEAR TO QUALIFY FOR STIPEND, SCHOLARSHIP, OR INTERNSHIP?

It is up to you as the student. Some students are so active that they may accomplish Active Participation within one year. For other students it may take two semesters, 3 semesters or 4 semesters to qualify for Standard or Active Membership. However, the stipend, scholarship and internships is only offered to students with Standard or Active participation.

WHAT IF I'M NOT A NEW MEP/MSP STUDENT, DO I NEED TO START OVER TOWARDS STANDARD OR ACTIVE PARTICIPATION TO QUALIFY FOR THE STIPEND, SCHOLARSHIP OR INTERNSHIP?

No, activities attended prior to receiving the grant will count towards participation for this first year stipend, scholarship and internship qualification. Except for Academic Advising sessions; those must be current. However, activities will need to be repeated each year to qualify for benefits in subsequent years.

IF I DON'T COMPLETE THE MINIMUM PARTICIPATION WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO MY MEMBERSHIP?

Those students not completing the minimum membership at the end of two semesters will be dropped from the program at the end of the second semester; to make room for students who will take advantage of opportunities offered by the program.

I'M A FRESHMAN STUDENT, CAN I QUALIFY FOR THE STIPEND, INTERNSHIP, OR SCHOLARSHIP?

Qualification is based on your participation. In general, a freshman student wouldn't have reached Active Participation status to qualify for an internship but could possibly qualify for a stipend if they've earned Standard Participation.