

Welcome to CalWORKs



Welcome to Merritt College's CalWORKs Program. We are here to help you have a successful journey toward reaching your educational goals to prepare you for employment that will allow you to support your family. Check below to see

if you are eligible and follow the steps to enroll. Be sure to come to the office or call if you have any questions. We look forward to meeting you!

Carmen Johnson, Coordinator



What is CalWORKs?

CalWORKs (California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids) provides temporary financial assistance and employment-focused services to families with minor children who have income and assets below state limits for their family size.

The program is intended to help students meet their Welfare-to-Work requirements and prepare for permanent jobs in their chosen profession. We provide a variety of support services to help students successfully complete a Certificate, Associate of Arts Degree, or Associate of Science Degree, while also meeting their county CalWORKs requirements.

Am I eligible?

To determine if you are eligible, you must meet the following requirements:

- Must be a CalWORKs participant with the County Welfare Department
- Must be enrolled or in the process of enrolling in classes at a community college
- Must have completed a Welfare-to-Work Referral for Educational Training

What services are provided?

CalWORKs offers many useful services, including:

- Academic and career counseling
- Submission of county documents
- Workshops
- Childcare, transportation, books, and supplies provided by county

Can I work while I'm in school?

Yes! We have a work study program that provides students with employment opportunities on and off campus, as follows:

- A maximum of 20 hours can be counted as "core" hours for single parent households and 30 hours for two-parent households
- Students keep 100% of their employment earnings, and it does not affect their cash aid eligibility
- Receive resume, interview, and job readiness preparation



Earn a Certificate or AA/AS Degree

Merritt offers nearly 100 degree and certificate programs. Below are some of the main subjects, but find all the details at www.merritt.edu.

Administration of Justice
African American Studies
Anthropology
Art
Biology
Biosciences
Business
Child Development
Communication
Community Social Services
Computer Information Systems
Economics
Emergency Medical Technician
Environmental Management & Technology
Health Sciences
Kinesiology
Landscape Horticulture
Liberal Arts
Mathematics
Medical Assisting
Natural Sciences
Nursing (Associate Degree)
Nutrition and Dietetics
Paralegal Studies
Psychology
Radiologic Science
Real Estate
Social and Behavioral Sciences
Sociology

How Do I Enroll in the Program?

In order to be part of CalWORKs, you must first apply to Merritt College and then to the CalWORKs Program directly. Here are the steps:

Step 1: Apply to Merritt College

- Apply to Merritt at www.merritt.edu/wp/steps
- Submit transcripts and/or placement tests from previous colleges/universities to the Admissions & Records Office
- Schedule an appointment to take the English and math placement tests at: www.merritt.edu/wp/orientationandassessment/schedule
- Schedule an appointment for orientation or complete an online orientation at: www.studentpathway.com/peralta/merritt



Step 2: Apply to CalWORKs Program

- Provide welfare/cash aid verification to the Merritt CalWORKs Office to confirm your active cash aid status.
- Complete the CalWORKs application (New Students/Continuing Students update form).
- Make an appointment with the CalWORKs counselor
- Complete the Merritt College CalWORKs Program Student Agreement.
- Submit a Welfare-to-Work plan from eligibility/employment worker.

What Students Are Saying About Merritt's CalWORKs Program

"Merritt College's CalWORKs Program is changing the future for mothers, fathers, and their children through positive support and encouragement. It shows all of us that we are not standing alone."

—Angelica Mata

"Merritt College has the BEST CalWORKs team ever! They are truly here to help students succeed."

—Terry Berri

"My CalWORKs experience is teaching me patience and insight to navigate daily living. Learning various avenues of action available to me has really opened up the world in real time."

—Carlos Keele



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www.merritt.edu/wp/calworks

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