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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Santa Fe Community College and College of Santa Fe  
Reach Groundbreaking Tuition Agreement**  
*Higher Education Becomes More Affordable and Accessible in Santa Fe*

**Santa Fe, NM, Tuesday, May 1, 2007** - Attending a low-cost community college for two years before transferring to a higher priced four-year college or university can save students thousands of dollars in tuition.

Now a groundbreaking agreement between Santa Fe Community College (SFCC) and the College of Santa Fe (CSF) will make this route to a bachelor's degree possible for more local students.

Under the agreement, SFCC graduates who receive associate degrees can transfer to CSF, the city's largest private institution of higher learning and receive an 80-percent tuition reduction in any of the private college's traditional programs or a 50-percent reduction in the college's evening and weekend programs.

"I was astounded by the tuition reduction. This agreement is going to open doors for so many community college students," said SFCC student Will McGowan, who is considering transferring to CSF after he receives his associate degree from SFCC. "There are so many other students that I know who are interested in attending College of Santa Fe because of the professors, small class sizes and setting, but never had the opportunity."

The agreement encourages community college students who have completed associate's degrees at SFCC to pursue bachelor's degrees at CSF. The agreement capitalizes on each institution's strengths and connects SFCC, a learning destination for thousands of people of all ages, with the award-winning faculty and academic rigor of the CSF.

"There is a real spirit of cooperation and dedication on both sides to making this agreement work for students in our community," said SFCC President Sheila Ortego. "We want to help Santa Feans stay in Santa Fe by providing more affordable and dynamic educational options. I hope anyone who may have thought a bachelor's degree was out of reach will consider this new alternative."

**(more)**

## **CSF-SFCC Agreement (Page 2)**

Not all SFCC students seek bachelor's degrees, but for those who aspire a higher education, this opportunity can break down financial barriers and help cash-strapped students avoid the skyrocketing costs of private and public universities.

"As a single mom trying to go to school and work, this has given me the opportunity to go to the College of Santa Fe, work less and be able to afford it," said Sophia (Kale) Garrett, a soon-to-be graduate of SFCC. "I think a lot of people are in the same situation. And especially with the high costs of living in Santa Fe, this will give a lot of people the opportunity to further their education."

The average tuition rate at community colleges nationwide is typically 40-percent of the average tuition rate at four-year public colleges and 10 percent of the average tuition rate at four-year private colleges. As a result, students from low-income backgrounds are often unable to enroll in private colleges and universities after they finish two years at a community college.

"Honoring the motivation, personal sacrifices, and resiliency of students who have already successfully pursued the first phase of their educational goals at the Santa Fe Community College, this agreement will financially reward those committed to broadening their learning path at the College of Santa Fe," said Dr. Mark Lombardi, president of College of Santa Fe. "By forging this agreement, it is our hope that the professional future of Santa Feans will be made easier and thrive in our community."

While the tuition agreement is not retroactive or available to SFCC students currently or previously enrolled at CSF, it is applicable to all those SFCC students graduating with an associate's degree during the spring 2007 commencement and applies to all subsequent commencement dates. All eligible applicants must meet normal CSF admissions requirements, and fees such as room and board will still apply.

### **About Santa Fe Community College**

Santa Fe Community College serves more than 14,500 students per year in its credit, noncredit and adult basic education programs. To learn more, visit [www.sfccnm.edu](http://www.sfccnm.edu) or call (505) 428-1000.

### **About College of Santa Fe**

Founded in 1874 by the Lasallian Brothers, today the College of Santa Fe functions as an independent institution. Academic departments include contemporary music, creative writing, documentary studies, moving image arts, theater, and visual arts. To learn more, visit [www.csf.edu](http://www.csf.edu) or call (505) 473-6011.

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# *Celebrate a New Opportunity*

**SMART FUTURES MADE EASIER FOR SANTA FEANS**

## **Transferring is now EASIER and more AFFORDABLE.**

**THESE PROGRAMS AT SFCC ARE ALSO OFFERED AT CSF.**

### **Associate Degrees (SFCC)**

Biological/Physical Sciences  
Business Administration  
Computer Science  
Early Childhood Education  
Fine Arts  
Media Arts  
Psychology  
Teacher Education

**At SFCC** other associate degree programs include accounting, architectural drafting, banking, criminal justice, culinary arts, exercise science, general studies, human services, interior design, nursing, paralegal studies, pre-engineering, sign language and Spanish

### **Bachelor Degrees (CSF)**

Conservation Biology  
Business Administration  
Computer Science  
Education  
Studio Arts  
Graphic and Digital Arts  
Psychology  
Teacher Licensure

**At CSF** other bachelor's degree programs include creative writing, contemporary music program, documentary studies, humanities, interdisciplinary studies, moving image arts, performing arts, politics, sciences and conservation



**COLLEGE OF SANTA FE**



**START AT SFCC. FINISH AT CSF.  
AFFORDABLE, ACCESSIBLE HIGHER EDUCATION**

# Celebrate a New Opportunity

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## Tuition Comparison Information

### College of Santa Fe

#### Regular Rates

Full time**	\$11,925/semester
Part time	\$795/credit hour

### College of Santa Fe

#### Reduced Rates\* for SFCC graduates

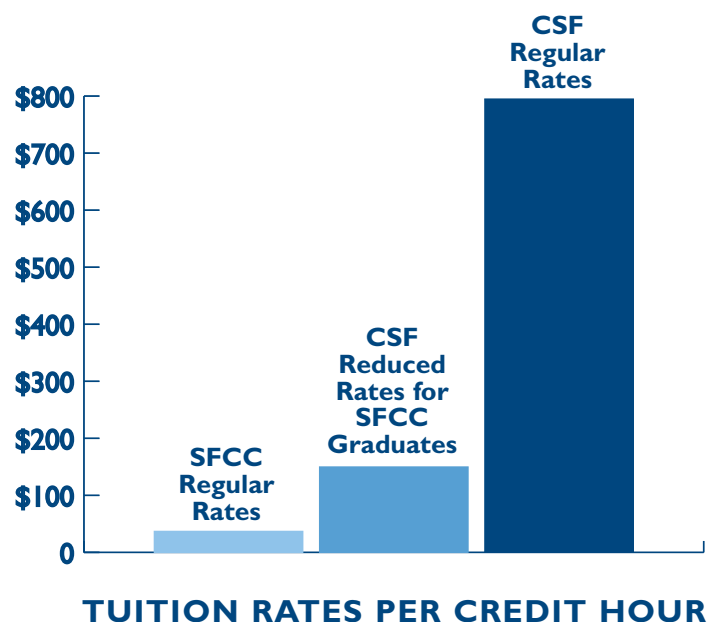
Full time**	\$2,250/semester*
Part time	\$150/credit hour

### Santa Fe Community College

#### Regular Rates

Full time**	\$556.50/semester
Part time	\$37.10/credit hour

\*Estimated \*\* Approx. 15 credit hours/semester



COLLEGE OF SANTA FE



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