

Frequently Asked Questions

Aspect Santa Barbara City College

Background of the school

› **When was the school building established/built?**

The school was established in 1909.

› **Briefly describe the style of the building (modern, Victorian etc..)**

Modern California style.

› **Where is it situated in the city? Is it set in its own grounds?**

Coastal, right on the beach, in a residential area of Santa Barbara called The Mesa. The school is located about 5 minutes to the downtown area of the city.

› **Bus links to town – what numbers?**

Several buses travel downtown. There are three buses located around the school. Bus no. 5 and 17 operate for the Mesa area, while bus no. 16 is a shuttle for SBCC students which operates directly from the school to the main transit center downtown Santa Barbara.

› **How far (miles) to downtown Santa Barbara?**

Less than one mile.

› **Traveling time by bus?**

5 – 10 minutes

› **How often?**

Every 15 – 20 minutes

› **Time on foot (if applicable)?**

15 – 20 minutes

› **Price of bus pass?**

The bus fare is \$1.00 per ride. However, SBCC students as well as Aspect students that purchase a Life Fitness Membership from the school travel for free.

› **How far from the rail station?**

Less than one mile and five minutes walking distance to the school.

› **How far are the premises from the bank/money exchange bureau?**

Local banks are located downtown, which is less than one mile from the school.

› **How far are the premises from the nearest post office?**

The main post office is in downtown Santa Barbara.

› **What kind of shops are situated near to the school and how far away are they?**

Downtown Santa Barbara, which includes all kinds of shops and establishments, is located less than a mile from the school. Also, The Mesa offers a small shopping center with restaurants, grocery markets, hair salons, cafes and gas stations located about 2 miles from the school and 2 minutes by bus.

› **Please confirm the postal address where students can receive their mail:**

Aspect at Santa Barbara City College
721 Cliff Dr. ECC 20
Santa Barbara, CA 93105
USA

Background to the city

› **Population**

93,000 in Santa Barbara, 400,000 in Santa Barbara County, which includes the surrounding areas.

› **General / historic / touristic / seaside etc?**

Santa Barbara stayed a tiny frontier station - until the 1880s, when wealthy Americans from the East Coast began to holiday on the sunny Santa Barbara beaches. Rapidly the town began to turn into what it is today: a resort city favored by business people and celebrities. Filmmakers operated out of Santa Barbara even before they settled in Hollywood; from 1910 to 1920 - the American Film Company. Santa Barbara is best known for its beautiful beaches, picturesque mountains and friendly locals.

School Facilities

› **How many Aspect classrooms in total?**

9 classrooms



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› **Size of the classrooms? (Large, spacious, airy, light, compact)**

Medium classrooms which seat up to 15 students.

› **Computer room available?**

Yes, we have a multimedia lab for students to use for computer-based curriculum at designed times.

Aspect student that purchase the Life Fitness Membership have access to SBCC's computer lab.

› **Library available?**

SBCC has a large library available for students with the Life Fitness Membership card.

› **Are there any vending machines?**

Yes, there are a few vending machines at the SBCC cafeteria as well as a small snack shop open until 8pm.

› **Is there a smoking area?**

Yes, outside at the back of the school.

› **What other facilities are available to us? (Eg. Theatre, drama studio, pottery room)**

Please check with your Aspect representative.

› **Is there a church/mosque nearby?**

There are many churches and places of worship in Santa Barbara. There is no mosque. However, there is an Islamic Society and about 300 Islamic families in the area.

› **How many telephones are there and where?**

Students may use the pay telephones located throughout campus.

› **Is there a fax machine we can use?**

Yes, at the school.

› **Will we have exclusive use of this?**

Students may use the school's fax machine. The cost is \$4.00 per page for an international fax and \$2.00 per page for domestic faxes.

› **What is the fax number?**

1-(805) 966-1626

› **What is the photocopying procedure?**

Students may ask and use the photocopier when needed.

› **Can students send boxes in advance to be stored before the move-in date?**

No. There is no storage available.

› **What is the name and job title of the contact person at the school who will deal with us?**

Laura Cook, School Director

Sport Facilities

› **What outdoor sports facilities are there? (Football pitch, tennis courts, volleyball)**

Recreational facilities include tennis/basketball courts, athletic fields, indoor swimming pool and an all-weather track.

› **Is there a gym?**

Yes, for SBCC and Aspect students that have purchased the Life Fitness Membership Card.

Excursions

› **Where are the excursion pick-up/drop-off points?**

Depends. Most excursions depart from the school. Students are usually dropped off at their host family upon their return.

Host Family

› **Will my host family provide linens and towels?**

Yes, your host family will provide bed linens, towels and a place in the home where you can study. Please bring your own toiletries such as shampoo, soap and personal items.

› **Will I have my own bathroom?**

Most host families have shared bathrooms, which means that you will share the bathroom with a member of the family and/or another student.

› **Will I have any duties in my host family home?**

You will be treated as a family member, which means that you will clean up after yourself and depending on your particular family, help with small household duties.

› **Will my host family provide laundry service?**

Not all host families have a washer and a dryer. Please ask your hosts upon arriving if they have a washing machine and dryer you can use. Your host family will explain how to operate the machines and when to do your wash. You should buy your own



laundry soap. If your host family does not have a place for you to do your wash, ask them to direct you to the nearest Laundromat.

› **How far are the host families from the school?**

The host families live between 10 – 50 minutes from the school. Most host families live in the suburban areas of Santa Barbara, called Goleta and Carpinteria. Your hosts will help you learn how to get to the Aspect school by bus, walk or drive.

Miscellaneous

› **What is the fire procedure?**

Fire evacuation procedures are posted around the school.

› **Do we have to do a practice a fire drill?**

Yes, upon request.

› **What access/facilities for disabled student are there?**

A wheelchair ramp is located at the back of the school. Elevators are also available for the classrooms and facilities at SBCC.



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