

Measure M Fact Sheet

Los Rios Community College District

American River, Cosumnes River, Folsom Lake, and Sacramento City Colleges
Davis, El Dorado, Elk Grove, Natomas, Rancho Cordova, and West Sacramento Education Centers

What is Measure M?

Measure M is a \$475 million general obligation bond that will be on the November General Election Ballot. It will provide funding for classroom and facility improvements and construction for American River, Cosumnes River, Folsom Lake and Sacramento City colleges and their centers in Davis, Elk Grove, Natomas, Placerville, Rancho Cordova and West Sacramento.

What is a general obligation bond?

Local general obligation bonds fund the repair, renovation, and new construction of educational facilities. They require a 55% majority vote for approval.

Why does the Los Rios District need a bond measure?

The colleges of the Los Rios District are expected to grow from 88,000 students today to 120,000 students in eight years. The colleges are already at capacity and will not be able to handle this enrollment growth.

The District's colleges must also provide advanced learning environments that prepare students for the high-tech workplace. Many of the classrooms and labs are in dire need of renovation and upgrading.

What about state funds or lottery money?

In recent years, state bond measures have only covered about 10% of the statewide need for school facility funding. Lottery money is about 2% of the District's annual operating budget and by law lottery money cannot be used for facility construction. State requirements make it difficult to build without local matching dollars.

What will Measure M Cost?

All property owners – residential, commercial and industrial – will pay an annual average of \$9.10 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation.

How would the money be used?

The money would be used to:

- Repair and renovate classrooms that are more than 30 years old and build new classrooms at every college in the District
- Upgrade high-tech and health career training facilities for academic and vocational courses such as computer science, clean technology, nursing and electronics
- Expand and upgrade library facilities
- Upgrade fire, safety and security systems
- Provide additional training space for programs in police, fire and public safety areas

How can I be sure that Measure M money will be spent to improve our colleges?

By law, the payment of salaries or operating expenses is strictly prohibited. Money from the bond can only be used to improve our colleges. In addition, bond expenditures will be audited annually by an independent accounting firm and reviewed by a citizen's oversight committee.

How do Los Rios colleges benefit the community?

The colleges fill an important need in providing affordable, top quality education and job training opportunities for Sacramento area residents. Los Rios graduates work in our community as doctors, lawyers, nurses, teachers, engineers, dental hygienists, police officers, fire fighters, licensed child care providers, computer programmers, electrical engineers and hundreds of other skilled and professional jobs. For many, Los Rios colleges offer the only affordable option for learning new skills that will help them achieve success.

Has Los Rios used facility dollars wisely in the past?

The independent Citizens Bond Oversight Committee has recognized the Los Rios District for prudent and effective use of past bond dollars.