

Faculty:

Heather Ponce, MS, CCC-SLP
Valentina Gaete, MS, CCC-SLP
Christopher Walker, PhD, CCC-SLP

Staff:

Matthew Dawood, MS
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Faculty Emeritus:

Jill Wilkerson, MS, CCC-SP
Christine Tunstall, MS, CCC-SP



ABI PROGRAM



Location:

Mt. San Antonio College
1100 N. Grand Ave.
Walnut, CA 91789
Building 9E Room 1100



Acquired Brain Injury Program



The Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Program at Mt. SAC addresses students with brain injuries who benefit from computerized cognitive retraining to reach academic and/or vocational goals.



What is a brain injury?

The definition used by the California Community Colleges is “a verified deficit in brain functioning which results in total or partial loss of cognitive, communicative, motor, psycho-social, and/or sensory-perceptual abilities.” (Title 5)

What is the Mt. SAC Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Program?

A program where students who have an acquired brain injury undergo computerized cognitive rehabilitation instruction administered by licensed Speech and Language Pathologists with the goal of completing a degree/vocational program or pursuing employment.

How much does it cost?

There is no charge for the ABI Program. Parking is by paid permit, meter, or valid disabled placard.

We Care.

Acquiring a brain injury is a life changing experience and **we are here to help you** achieve your educational and/or vocational goals.

Candidate Requirements

- ◆ Brain injury occurred after age 12.
- ◆ Be age 18 or over (or have completed high school).
- ◆ Be willing and able to fully participate in the program.
- ◆ Demonstrate ability to function independently within the college setting.
- ◆ Have sufficient receptive and expressive language skills and memory to follow instructions.
- ◆ If candidate has seizures – must have seizures under reasonable control.
- ◆ Be free of blatant psychoses and/or behavioral problems.
- ◆ Be free of dependency on non-prescription drugs.
- ◆ Complete ACCESS application for services.



Verification Requirements

- ◆ Primary verification of brain injury needs to be medical-based physician, psychologist, speech-language pathologist, or occupational therapy. Medical records are sufficient.
- ◆ Release form for medical records.
- ◆ ACCESS Verification of Disability.
- ◆ Additional support documentation may be requested at intake appointment.

How do I start the process?

Schedule a 1-hour appointment with Heather Ponce or Valentina Gaete, Speech Pathologists.

Appointments can be scheduled by emailing ABIProgram@mtsac.edu or calling 909-274-6332.

Be sure to ask for an ABI Program New Student Intake appointment.

***Bring your medical verification to your appointment.**

Program Hours

Monday-Thursday:
9:00 AM-3:00 PM

Students in the Acquired Brain Injury Program are scheduled for a maximum of 2 hour sessions twice a week (total of 4 hours per week).

The student may begin after an intake appointment and does not have to wait until beginning of the semester.

