1. What is the Connections Degree Completion Pathway?
The Connections Degree Completion Program is a multicultural program designed to prepare Hispanic and low-income SRJC students for transfer and/or completion of an Associate degree program in 3 years or less. The program provides help for students every step of the way, including getting ready for college, creating an education plan, developing college-level writing skills, and taking the right courses to graduate. MI CASA (“my house”), a multicultural center, provides students with a place to study, relax, and find answers to your questions.

2. Who is eligible for the Connections Degree Completion Pathway?
The program is designed to serve the needs of Latino/Latina and low-income students who are coming to college for the first time or who are already enrolled at SRJC and need a pathway to successful degree completion.

3. How do I apply for the program?
A simple application is required. After taking the SRJC assessment test, students who are placed at ENGLISH 307 or ENGLISH 100 are eligible for the program. Print an application from our HSI website (Connections Program - http://hsi.santarosa.edu/connections-program-0), fill it out and submit it to Shaila Arbona (in the SRJC Counseling Department). Once we receive your application, we will call you to schedule an appointment.

4. When does the program start?
The Connections Summer Bridge Program provides students with an orientation to college which begins June 8 and ends on June 11, 2015. The English class portion starts on June 15, 2015 and last for 8 weeks.

5. Why should I choose Connections?
- Helps you become a successful college student who graduates in 3 years or less.
- Offers you a convenient 4-day a week schedule, and you can choose morning or afternoon.
- Provides you with a Counselor who will work closely with you every step of the way.
- Provides tutoring and support in the MI CASA multicultural center.
- Provides career exploration so that you can decide on a major or a viable career.

6. Can I get help with the cost of college?

Although the program itself does not give/provide students with a direct grant,

- The college costs $46 per unit of attendance, or $552 for each semester (12 units). Textbooks could cost $50 to $100 per class. Used books are available.
- Students who are low income may qualify for free tuition through the BOG fee waiver program.
- Based on financial needs, students may also be eligible for federal grants, such as the Pell grant that can provide up to $5730 per year. A grant is free money; you don’t have to pay it back if you complete your college courses. Many students also receive the Cal Grant that can provide up to $1473 per year.
- The College offers many scholarships, including the Doyle Scholarship of $1000 for every high school graduate with a 2.75 (C+) grade point average.

Note: Some types of financial aid are dependent on citizenship or status as a DACA Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) or DREAM students. Our Financial Aid office can assist with those questions.

Who should I contact for more information or to apply?
Phone: (707) 521-6066
Email: hsi@santarosa.edu

Program Counselor
Shaila Arbona
Phone: 527-4451 (Counseling Department)
Email: sarbona@santarosa.edu

MI CASA Coordinator
Malena Hernandez
Phone: 521-6906
Email: mhernandezlegorreta@santarosa.edu

Project Director, Juan Arias
Phone: 521-7802
Email: jarias@santarosa.edu