

**California State University San Marcos Student Nurses Association's
Cord Point Program
(revised 10/05/2025)**

The Cord Point Program encourages our members to participate in SNA, university, and community events.

How do SNA members earn chord points?

Points are awarded for participation in events and are accumulated throughout each Fall and Spring semester. Members must earn a total of 10 cord points (5 points per semester) to qualify to wear the CNSA Graduation Cord at graduation. *Note: Students will cover the cost of their own cord.*

4 Points

- 8hr shift volunteering at student-run community clinic (must be in addition to any hours required for coursework)

3 Points

- Community Health events (walks, homeless outreach, volunteer work, etc.)
- CNSA/NSNA convention or conference attendance

2 Points

- Open SNA Board meetings
- In-person SNA committee meetings
- SNA sponsored social events
- Breakthrough to Nursing events
- Volunteering at a Blood Drive
- Professional nursing organization event, chapter meeting, or conference attendance

1 Point

- Participation as a Mentor in the Peer Mentoring Program
- Online SNA Committee Meeting
- Donating Blood at a Blood Drive
- CSUSM student organization event attendance
- Attending a volunteer event with mentor/mentee (meetings and social events excluded)

Do you know of any great volunteer opportunities? Please bring your ideas to our attention so we can get SNA involved. csusm.sna.membershipdirector@gmail.com

From the CSUSM SNA Bylaws (revised 10/05/2025)

Section 1. Cord Point Program

- A. A Cord Point Program will exist to encourage SNA member participation in SNA, university, and community events. Points are awarded for attendance per event and are accumulated throughout each Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters. Successful acquisition of the predetermined point amount per semester will qualify the student to wear the CNSA Graduation Cord at graduation.
- B. The program will be run by the Student Engagement Committee and managed by the Membership Director. Changes to the following program components will require Board approval by $\frac{2}{3}$ majority vote.
- C. Participation:
 - a. Students must have active NSNA membership status with chapter dues paid to participate in the Cord Point Program.
 - b. Points earned while not a member will not be counted unless membership is attained before the 10th week of the semester in which the points were earned.
- D. Earning cord points:
 - a. A total of 5 cord points per semester are required.
 - i. SNA members may earn more than 5 points per semester.
 - ii. Events must be approved by the Board. Events outside of SNA will not be eligible unless all students are informed about the event at least two weeks prior on all forms of social media announcements to be counted otherwise.
 - b. A minimum of two semesters of participation are required to be eligible for SNA graduation cords.
 - i. The 5 points requirement must be met for at least two semesters while an active SNA member. They do not need to be two consecutive semesters.
 - ii. Participants do not need to be an active member at graduation to receive a cord.
 - c. Any member to serve on the Board of Directors for the entirety of one full term shall be said to have completed all requirements for a cord
 - d. All students who sign up for an event will receive an email a couple days prior as a reminder that they signed up to attend.
 - i. It is the responsibility of the student to notify the designated point of contact for the event (typically highlighted in orange in the weekly update emails) if they will not be able to attend 24 hours prior to the event start time.
- E. Cord point values per event:
 - a. 1 points
 - i. Attending a volunteer event with mentor/mentee (meetings and social events excluded)
 - ii. Participation as a Mentor in the Peer Mentoring Program (1 point per new mentee)
 - iii. CSUSM student organization event attendance as a SNA representative
 - iv. Student Support Groups
 - b. 2 points
 - i. Open SNA Board meetings or Speaker meetings
 - ii. SNA committee meetings
 - iii. SNA-sponsored social events
 - iv. Breakthrough to Nursing events
 - v. Professional nursing organization event or chapter meeting
 - vi. Community Health events (walks, homeless outreach, volunteer work, etc.)
 - vii. Blood drive volunteering or donating (up to 4 points for both)

- c. 4 points
 - i. Volunteer work at student-run community clinics (4 points per 8-hour shift)
 - ii. Volunteer hours can not be combined with hours required counted towards coursework.
- d. 5 points
 - i. CNSA/NSNA convention or conference attendance
 - ii. Any student who contributes significantly towards an SNA project (e.g. website or event) with approval of the Board.
- e. Any additional events not listed above must be pre-approved by an SNA Board Member to receive designated points.
 - i. Events outside of SNA will not be eligible unless all students are informed about the event at least two weeks prior on all forms of social media announcements to be counted otherwise.
- F. Cord point tracking:
 - a. The Membership Director will be responsible for maintaining the master tracking log that serves as the official point count per SNA member. Cord points will be tallied by the end of each semester.
 - b. NSNA and CSUSM-SNA membership status are verified monthly.
 - c. The master log will be made available to students as deemed appropriate by the Membership Director via the SNA website.
- G. Cord attainment:
 - a. It is the responsibility of the cord recipient to pay for their own cord.
 - b. Cords must be purchased from CNSA by the Board of Directors and distributed to students who have satisfied their cord point requirements at the same cost that the cord was purchased from CNSA.
 - i. This chapter shall not earn a profit from cord distribution.
- H. End-of-semester sweepstakes:
 - a. Cord points will serve as entries into a sweepstakes held at the end of every semester for a prize of the Board's choice.
 - b. Every point earned by the SNA member during that semester will constitute one entry in the sweepstakes.
 - c. The winner is to be awarded by the end of each semester.