



# Irvine Unified School District

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Irvine Adult School continues despite cuts associated with state budget crisis** *IUSD's adult education program is now fee-based; registration begins Sept. 14*

IRVINE, Calif. – The state's budget crisis may have stripped its funding, but the Irvine Adult School has found a way to continue to serve local residents as a restructured, fee-based program.

This past spring, the Irvine Unified School District's adult education program appeared to become one more casualty of California's massive budget shortfall. While the state was siphoning billions of dollars from schools, legislators also enacted a change in the law that gave districts unrestricted use of their adult education dollars, allowing them to fund critical K-12 needs that were being shortchanged.

IUSD, forced to make three phases of budget reductions totaling \$18.3 million, was one of many districts to take advantage of this newfound flexibility to prevent further cuts. But rather than dissolve its popular adult education program, the Irvine Adult School staff immediately began exploring ways to continue serving students.

"These courses have been a valued part of our community for 35 years, offering men and women an incredible opportunity to continue their education and to take the next steps on the paths to self-fulfillment and successful careers," said Paul Mills, IUSD's Director of Alternative and Adult Education. "Faced with cutbacks, we as a staff came to the conclusion that we could continue to provide high quality courses taught by credentialed IUSD educators for a modest fee."

Online registration begins Sept. 14 for the first of three 10-week sessions, which will kick off Monday, Oct. 5. Offerings include English as a Second Language, Computer Applications, GED preparation, Keyboarding, Parent Education and other personal and professional enrichment classes such as calligraphy, knitting, jewelry-making, Spanish basics, energy audits for the home and business, digital photography, CPR and guitar. Most fees range from \$80 to \$128.

As a cost-saving measure, fall schedules will no longer be mailed to Irvine residents. However, a list of classes and program information can be found on the Irvine Adult School website at [www.irvineadultschool.com](http://www.irvineadultschool.com).

For more information, contact Administrator Karen Bautista at (949) 936-7455.

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