The purpose of the California Connects program is to increase digital literacy in underserved communities, particularly for those who have limited access to computers and limited or no access to the Internet. As part of the larger California Connects program, participating Cosumnes River College (CRC) MESA students engage in community service and participate in professional development programs beneficial to math, science and engineering students.

**MESA Student Requirements To Participate:**
Students who meet all MESA Program eligibility requirements and who are completely up to date with all their records and MESA program obligations will be prioritized for invitation by the MESA director to participate in the California Connects program. MESA students invited to participate must complete and sign all program initiating documentation, including the *California Connects Program MESA Student Participation Contract*.

**Program Commitments Include:**

**Community Service**
Complete 12 hours of community service of digital literacy training with a minimum of **TWO (2)** family members and **FIVE (5)** community members at the campus library, community library or other computing center venue. It is solely your responsibility to identify these individuals and training opportunities.

Participate in outreach and marketing activities to support California Connects such as volunteering at campus/community events, writing articles of support, etc. – time variable

**Professional Development**
Complete an online, self-paced Microsoft training course and certificate exam in one Office 2010 application (Access, Excel, PowerPoint, or Word) – approximately 2-3 hours for one course and a 50 minute certification exam.

(You have the option to complete the training and exam for 2, 3, or all 4 of these applications.)

Complete a self-directed, self-paced online training program to develop communication and facilitation skills in subjects such as community relationships, professional etiquette, customer service, cultural sensitivity, and conflict resolution – approximately 3 hours.

Complete an online training to prepare you to share with others how to access online information on health, banking, job search, etc. – approximately 2-3 hours.

Earn a Digital Literacy Community Trainer Certificate for completion of program elements.

**Administrative**
Complete all feedback & reporting requirements of the program - approximately 1 hour.

**Equipment Distribution**
As access to a portable computer is necessary for completion of the program elements, MESA students who make a commitment to complete all the program requirements in a timely manner will receive a fully loaded laptop with up to six months wireless connectivity. Each student will assume full ownership and responsibility; there will be no ownership or responsibility retained by the Los Rios Community College District or the CRC MESA program.

**Students who commit to participate agree to provide regular updates on progress in meeting program commitments.**