

CREATING PATHWAYS Transforming Lives



The Educational Partnership Center at UC Santa Cruz removes barriers to higher education and makes college dreams a reality.

Forging partnerships throughout the region and empowering students with knowledge, tools, and support systems, the EPC builds educational equity and creates opportunities for underrepresented students to access and succeed in college.

EPC programs are changing our communities, and our world, one student at a time.

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BUILDING COLLEGE-BOUND COMMUNITIES

Access to a college education, regardless of background, is a fundamental requirement of a fair, modern society. Higher education is key to social mobility and civic participation. Providing a clear path to college and creating a more educated workforce will enable California to capitalize on its diversity, accelerating adaptability and problem-solving.

The EPC is on the forefront of the effort to ensure everyone has a chance to go to college:

- raising students' and families' awareness of the benefits of college and the pathways to entrance and completion
- helping high school students envision themselves at college through on-campus experiences including interactions with undergraduates and university faculty
- providing academic preparation, information about paying for college, assistance with college and financial aid applications, and training in STEM skills

EPC's programs are proven and effective:

Alumni have a significantly better record entering and succeeding in community college and universities. The EPC's vision is that every student in the region will be prepared to enter and succeed in college.

Right now, not every student who could benefit has access to EPC's proven services. Additional funding would enable several Monterey Bay area and Silicon Valley districts and schools to offer EPC programs.

EPC programs

GEAR UP and EAOP: creates a college-going culture and helps high schoolers prepare academically and navigate their path to higher education

MESA and Girls in Engineering: intensive, hands-on introduction to pursuing education and careers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM)

COSMOS: on-campus residential STEM summer program taught by UCSC researchers and faculty

CalSOAP and ETS: promotes higher education and college affordability while preparing students for academic success and access to college





Making it real

Your support means the EPC can offer its programs to every school that could benefit, and every student will have opportunities to achieve.

Your gift gives a student preparation for rigorous college classes. It supports counselors who can help students navigate the complexities of preparing for college, financial aid, college applications, and life away from home. Your gift will give future scientists and engineers a taste of the work they can accomplish in a STEM career. Your gift means a students will not fear applying to college, they will be prepared to do so.

The region's best resource for developing college-bound students

- over two decades developing and refining effective approaches to college preparation, enrollment, and success
- more than 14,000 students served each year
- 83% of underrepresented high school graduates served by an EPC program enroll in a postsecondary institution*
- 66% of students are first in their family to attend college
- 92% of students served by the EPC are from historically underrepresented racial-ethnic groups
- programs targeting academics and college-bound culture
- majority of the EPC staff come from underrepresented backgrounds and share personal connections with the communities they serve

**Compared to 64% of California high school graduates (CA Department of Education)*

GEAR UP was like another home to us. It allowed us to form a group of like-minded students who could offer peer-to-peer advice. I'm very thankful for the opportunities I received as a part of the GEAR UP family.

Sandy Garcia, former GEAR UP student, currently studying at UCLA



“EPC builds a college-going culture among students, families and communities. It’s not just the kids who benefit from the programs, it’s the whole family, all of us.”

Lupita Barragan, former GEAR UP student, current EPC staff member

“All my friends who were in MESA went into science fields.”

Beatriz Collazzo, former MESA and Girls in Engineering student, current professional medical device engineer

“GEAR UP is the reason I went to college. I want all students to know they can go, too.”

Fabiola Moreno Ruelas, former GEAR UP student, currently studying at San Diego State University

Help share these programs with all K–12 students

Each year, due to scarce resources, hundreds of students who might have benefitted miss out on these transformative programs.

In your own path to college, what were the opportunities you took advantage of? Maybe you went to an excellent school. Perhaps your parents drew on their own college experiences to guide you. For many EPC alumni, our programs top the list of factors that made a difference in their lives.

Please consider the difference your gift will make.

For more information please contact:

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Support from the Educational Partnership Center

Students who receive support from the Educational Partnership Center receive mentoring, counseling, academic assistance, and most importantly – the belief that they can achieve and succeed in college.

Join our prestigious roster of donors by supporting the Educational Partnership Center and making an investment in education for the Monterey Bay, Pajaro Valley, and Silicon Valley/east San Jose regions. When you make a donation to the Educational Partnership Center, you are creating pathways and transforming lives. The EPC is committed to building a bright future for all students.

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