

Santa Barbara Cal-SOAP

California Student Opportunity and Access Program

A vital bridge to college opportunity for California students

November 2019

Cal-SOAP, the California Student Opportunity and Access Program, is an essential component in California's effort to build an educated workforce for the 21st century. We provide vital academic support and college, career, financial aid information and assistance to students historically underrepresented in California universities and from low-income families.

Cal-SOAP Statewide

Established in 1978, Cal-SOAP is a collaborative effort that sustains and enhances the work of K-12, college and university, and community partners through efficient and cost-effective service delivery. Local partnerships are represented on each consortia's Governing Board and increase the value and reach of other important federal and state college preparation programs. Partners span all education segments:

- 64** Public school districts
- 9** University of California campuses
- 15** California State University campuses
- 30** California community colleges
- 14** Community-based organizations

Cal-SOAP is:

- Invested in over **300** elementary, middle, and high schools across the state.
- Based in **15** regions serving **23** counties.
- Successful**: Over **80%** of participants attend college each year vs. 47% statewide.
- Impactful**: In 2018-19 Cal-SOAP hosted more than **300** regional and **231** partner school financial aid workshops for students and their families to complete FAFSA and CADAA. In 2013, College Access Foundation of California reasearch on Cal-SOAP students revealed the following:

- 94%** received a Pell Grant
- 76%** received a Cal Grant
- 97%** received a BOG Waiver



Cal-SOAP Program Services

Cal-SOAP and its partners work together to deliver services in their communities and make the most of limited resources.

Cal-SOAP projects provide academic tutoring, peer mentoring, college and career advising, college access and admissions counseling, SAT/ACT test preparation, college tours, financial aid workshops and grants for college.

In 2017-18 Cal-SOAP served:

- 316** intensively served schools.
- 51,514** intensively served, direct service students.
 - 41,823** or **76%** were low-income or first generation.
 - 9,021** were high school seniors.
- 88,353** general service students.

Santa Barbara Cal-SOAP

Santa Barbara Cal-SOAP was formed in 1984 to encourage increased college going rates for historically underrepresented students at California post-secondary institutions. Underrepresented groups include: low-income, first-generation college-bound—and more recently—students within a district that has a lower than average college going rate.

Partnerships

Santa Barbara Cal-SOAP partners with Santa Barbara Unified School District (SBUSD), Carpinteria Unified School District (CUSD), and Bishop Diego High School.

The program serves students from 7-12 grade.



2018-19 Highlights

During the 2018-19 school year, Santa Barbara Cal-SOAP served more than **4,000** students with tutoring, financial aid resources, college awareness, campus visits, career opportunities, SAT preparation, and assistance with college and financial aid applications.

Tutoring

Tutors are local college students from low-income and underrepresented populations. They are trained and supported by a highly qualified and motivated Cal-SOAP staff team. In 2018-19, Santa Barbara Cal-SOAP:

- Employed **46** tutors throughout the school year.
- Provided tutoring to **2,509** junior high and high school students in a range of subjects.

Campus Visits

Campus visits give students the opportunity to physically see themselves on college campuses and learn more about different post-secondary institutions. In 2018-19, Santa Barbara Cal-SOAP:

- Conducted **16** campus visit field trips. Each site hosted two visits during the year.
- Took an average of **33** students per visit for a total of **533** students over the course of the year.

Due to community interest, field trip opportunities were extended to Franklin Neighborhood Center and Police Activities League program participants.

Financial Aid/"Cash for College" Workshops

Financial aid workshops give students and their families the opportunity to receive more information on financial aid and to receive assistance to complete financial aid applications. In 2018-19, Santa Barbara Cal-SOAP:

- Provided **6** financial aid presentations to **1,093** high school seniors.
- Distributed **1,467** financial aid folders to seniors at each high school.
- Facilitated **7** additional Cash for College workshops at **5** different sites, which served **127** seniors and their families.

Outreach

Outreach is the heart and soul of Cal-SOAP's success. Thanks to our partnerships and efforts within the community, we have reached many South Santa Barbara

County families. We were honored to be a part of such events as United Way Fun in the Sun Lunch Bunch and Read a Book, AVID Parent Night, Parent University, Tools for Schools, Back to School Nights, Senior Nights, Junior Nights, ELAC, Family Literacy Project, and Partners in Education resume building workshops and mock interview trials. These opportunities not only got word out to the community about all the work we do, but also gave us the chance to give back to the community.

Advisement

Cal-SOAP employed **4** peer advisors who served a total of **6** local high schools: Santa Barbara, San Marcos, Dos Pueblos, Bishop Diego, Carpinteria High Schools, and La Cuesta Continuation School. Peer advisors worked an average of 10 hours per week.

478 students received advisement services including financial aid, UC and CSU application, and resume assistance; transcript evaluation; parent meetings; presentations; and tabling. Advisement coordinators worked closely with career technicians to set up all appointments and focused on Cal-SOAP's mission to serve underrepresented youth. 12th grade students were assisted on college access and 11th grade students were assisted in UC acceptance entrance questions on a one-on-one basis.

Presentations

In 2018-19, coordinators worked with CUSD to provide presentations to **39** students in Carpinteria High School CTE classrooms, and strengthened our partnership with the CTE Liaison. Presentations included information on associate degree opportunities and the Promise Program at Santa Barbara City College, career opportunities, and financial aid awareness. Cal-SOAP additionally provided presentations to San Marcos and Santa Barbara High School students on our programs and services.

SAT Preparation with Study Smart Tutors, Inc.

11th and 12th grade students from SBUSD and CUSD attended one of two SAT Prep courses facilitated by Study Smart Tutors, Inc.

42 students were enrolled in intensive courses comprised of 3 4-hour long diagnostic exams along with 18 hours of instructional and practice time. Students were also given online resources, physical materials, and weekly homework assignments. Both courses were successful; students averaged an increase of **102** points on their SAT and diagnostic exams.