

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SHOWCASE

Sacramento State College Corps

Rachelle Davis, Project and Community Partnerships, Director

Various within K-12 Education, Climate Action, and Food Insecurity



SACRAMENTO STATE

Career Center

College Corps



Program Description



The **#CaliforniansForAll College Corps**, an initiative from the Office of the Governor, is designed to create debt-free pathways to college while engaging students statewide in addressing critical community issues. In partnership with California's colleges and universities, this innovative program will deploy over 10,000 Fellows across the state over the next four years. Notably, AB540 CA Dream Act students are included in this state service program. College Corps Fellows can earn up to **\$10,000** per academic year, placed in various Community Host Sites in three focus areas: **K-12 education, Climate Action, and Food Insecurity.**

Program Highlight(s)



5 graduating seniors were offered jobs at host site placements

27 returning Fellows for Cohort

DEI Centered Program

| | Cohort 1 Past Numbers | Cohort 2 Past Numbers | Cohort 3 Current Numbers |
|----------------------------|--|---|--|
| Student Fellows | 81 AmeriCorps 27 Non-AmeriCorps | 67 AmeriCorps 30 Non-AmeriCorps | 128 AmeriCorps 28 Non-AmeriCorps |
| Staff & Faculty | 1 Director 2 Advisors 1 Admin 1 Data Analyst 1 Faculty | 1 Director 1 Lead Advisor 2 Advisors 1 Admin 1 Data Analyst 1 Faculty 2 SAs | 1 Director/Instructor 1 Supervising Advisor 3 Advisors 1 Resource Analyst 1 Partnership Coord. 2 Graduate SAs |

Cultivating Authentic Partnerships

College Corps at Sacramento State is currently in its third year of operation. In the initial two years, the program functioned under a consortium model. However, with the recent advancement into cohorts 3 and 4, Sacramento State has successfully secured **\$5.9 million in direct funding**. This significant investment allows us to expand our annual enrollment, increasing the number of fellows from 100 to 180. In alignment with the **#CaliforniansForAll** initiative, we are deeply committed to enhancing student engagement, expanding enrollment, fostering leadership development, and strengthening community partnerships. Our overarching goal is to create a lasting, meaningful impact on both our students and the communities that stand to benefit the most from these efforts.

We carefully evaluate potential community partner host sites to foster strong, effective partnerships. By placing college students at these sites, we enable them to provide direct services, lead projects, and contribute as community research assistants. This approach benefits both the community and students, offering valuable learning experiences. Host sites formalize their commitment through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which outlines key agreements on communication, conflict resolution, and leveraging community assets for positive change.



Our focus on Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) is significant. By identifying and mobilizing existing assets within our student population, we can match fellows with host site partners who exemplify a proactive and sustainable approach to community development. This approach empowers individuals, associations, and institutions within the community, promotes collaboration, and enhances the capacity for long-term resilience and success. Our efforts are positively impacting the well-being of our students and communities.

| Focus Area | Examples of Service Activities | Community Outputs | Community Outcomes |
|------------------------|---|--|---|
| K-12 Education | Tutoring Mentoring Coaching (may include Social / Emotional learning/support) | # students tutored or mentored # hours of sessions provided | # of K-12 students with improved academic performance or academic engagement |
| Climate Action | Urban greening Wildfire & Flood Mitigation Food rescue and Waste diversion Environmental Education and Resources | # of housing units weatherized # of individuals receiving education, training # of miles/ acres of defensible space Trees planted | # of individuals with increased knowledge of environmental practices. Reduced energy consumption/ costs. Reduced wildfire risk Acres of public land improved |
| Food Insecurity | Meal delivery & preparation Nutrition/Food Support Volunteer engagement Education/ Training | # of individuals served. # of meals delivered # volunteers mobilized | Increased ability of food banks to meet community need # of food banks with increased capacity to recruit |

Community Impact

"Our organization greatly appreciates the opportunity to place these enthusiastic college students in our classrooms. Their participation not only provides invaluable life and technical experience but also helps address the critical need for assistance with early reading success. In the classroom, our College Corps volunteers serve as positive role models for our youngest learners and those little ones work extra hard on the lesson being taught to gain the praise from their superstar college helper. The College Corps volunteer gets to see, firsthand, how children learn at different rates, how learning evolves, and because they witness daily the successes of their students, they get to feel the benefit of service in its deepest sense.

We consider our participation as a host site a true trifecta - win for the College Corps students, win for the students and teachers in the classrooms we serve, and a win for Sight Word Busters"

-Linda LoBue, Executive Director, Sight Word Busters

"Marisol is a gem, she is efficient, the kids love her, and from day one she has been a huge success! Everything about the program is amazing...so glad to have this intervention this year!!! We have definitely seen an impact across 1st grade."

-Erin Tucker, 1st Grade Teacher, Ridgepoint Elementary School

"College Corps has allowed me some ease in my financial stability while granting me access to field experience in my area of higher learning. At my host site, I am able to provide one-on-one learning to 64 first graders to help them master their sight words. Seeing the children's curiosity and willingness to learn is inspiring and makes me feel like I'm making a difference, one student at a time. I am proud to be a part of a program that has the power to make a difference in children's literacy."

-Marisol Flores, Sac State College Corps Fellow

"The Busters are nice and help me learn big words like 'which, school and something.'"

-1st Grade student at Ridgepoint Elementary School

Campus Community Impact

The College Corps program necessitates intercampus collaboration to fulfill compliance requirements. We collaborate closely with multiple departments: ORIED for pre-award budget assistance, Financial Aid for student award verification, SPA for grant billing, and UEI Accounts Payable for fellow living stipend processing. Our partnership with Financial Aid is particularly crucial for FASFA and CA Dream Act verification.

"College Corps and Financial Aid collaborate to verify eligibility and award placement. Financial Aid reviews fellows' lists for Cal Grant eligibility. Upon confirmation, Financial Aid places the award on fellows' accounts alongside other financial awards. College Corps Advisors facilitate a positive relationship between the two entities, with Financial Aid acting as a liaison for clear communication and collaboration, offering guidance and support for understanding unique requirements and benefits."

-Jennifer White, Associate Director, Scholarships Office

