

CULTIVAMOS EXCELENCIA

Year 1 Grant Summary | UC Santa Cruz | Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) Grant | U.S. Department of Education

Grant Overview:

Grant Type: Title V, Part A*

Grant Active Dates: October 2022 - September 2027

Grant Year 1: October 2022 - September 2023

Grant Funding Amount: \$3,000,000

* Title V, Part A Funding: Assist HSIs in expanding educational opportunities for and improving the attainment of Latino students. Grants also enable HSIs to expand and enhance their academic offerings, program quality, and institutional stability.



The Cultivamos Excelencia project will build a **transfer receptive culture** for Latinx and low-income community college students to **thrive in their transfer pathways** to the University of California, Santa Cruz, and beyond, opening opportunities to graduate studies.

UCSC, a national leader as a Hispanic-Serving Research Institution, seeks to create systemic change that will improve and streamline transfer pathways and the lives of our local community college students to address issues of inequities of transfer, graduation, and advancing to graduate studies rates.

Institutional gaps addressed by the grant:

1. Transfer pipeline and enrollment of more Latinx transfers from the California Community College system.
2. Low retention and graduation rates of Latinx transfer students.
3. Lack of an intentional and integrated plan for Latinx transfer student success that bridges from community college to post-graduation.



Grant goals to increase:

1. Latinx students transfer rates by 10%
2. Latinx transfer students with intentions for graduate study by 3%
3. Latinx transfer students sense of belonging by 5%
4. Latinx transfer students graduation rates by 5%

Grant Components:

Community College Partnership Program

This initiative aims to build early relationships with students through mentorship and programming that will serve them prior to transfer, during their admission, and through their transition to UCSC.

Key components of this initiative:

- Cross-campus counseling and mentoring
- Pre-transfer workshop series
- Summer Transition Program
- Fall Orientation Program
- UCSC staff professional development

Transfer Coherence

This initiative will guide academic departments in taking action to streamline transfer pathways by welcoming students and connecting them to research opportunities.

Key components of this initiative:

- Integrating expertise and practices in academic divisions and student affairs
- Faculty and department transfer-focused workshops
- Transfer summits

Undergraduate Research and Graduate Pathways

Through this initiative we will expose transfer students to graduate pathways via research internships, mentoring, and assistance in navigating the graduate school application process.

Key components of this initiative:

- Mentoring by graduate students
- Graduate school preparation workshops
- Faculty professional development workshops for transfer students' inclusion in research/labs
- Research Symposium



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The contents of this summary were developed under a grant from the Department of Education. However, they do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.