

ABSTRACT

The principal goal of the *Cultivamos Excelencia Project* is to motivate and retain Hispanic and other high-need students to complete a degree at a research university. By working together, San Jose City College and University of California-Santa Cruz will use a combination of tutoring, mentoring, research skills instruction, transfer advising and, perhaps most important, participation in undergraduate research experiences to encourage self-efficacy, skill development and motivation to complete their bachelor degrees on-time and with highly honed set of analytical and writing skills. By developing and delivering Research Methods courses for transfer credit, and summer undergraduate research experiences that will give them university credit for community college tuition, the project will give students, who might not think they can succeed at an research university, a head start at that university.

To achieve this goal, the Project has developed the following eight objectives:

- The percentage of two-year college Hispanic students transferring will increase from 33% to 43% by the end of the grant period.
- 90% of community college students in the program will maintain a 3.2 or higher GPA.
- 90% of program students who transfer to the university will maintain a 2.8 or higher GPA
- The percentage of program students who transfer and are retained from Fall semester to Fall semester will increase from 91% to 95%. (Starting year 3 through year 5)
- The time-to-graduation for students in the project from their first enrollment at SJCC to graduation at UCSC will decrease by one year.
- The number of Hispanic transfer students graduating within 6 years of their initial enrollment will increase from 77% to 80%.
- Eighteen Programs, or 75% of Cultivamos Excelencia Project programs, will continue working relationships in some form at the end of the grant period among faculty at the two institutions.
- Within five years, there will be a sustainability commitment by both institutions to continue the program.

The total amount requested is \$3,248,296. It includes the following breakdown between institutions:

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
SJCC	\$419,379	\$431,233	\$422,504	\$439,794	\$454,617	\$2,167,527
UCSC	\$230,120	\$218,164	\$227,386	\$210,066	\$195,033	\$1,080,769
TOTAL	\$649,499	\$649,397	\$649,890	\$649,860	\$649,650	\$3,248,296

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