

SAN DIEGO  
MESA COLLEGE



# Program Review

Summary and Reflections with Unit Goals, Action Plans,  
and Updates

Student Services - EOPS

## Executive Summary

**Describe the successes and challenges your unit has faced since the last comprehensive review.**

EOPS –

- a. Overall changes in leadership and personnel caused our numbers to go down. We are currently working to fill those vacancies and be fully staffed by fall 2023.
- b. The EOPS Summer Readiness Program (SRP) / Personal Growth 120 was a great success serving 60 students. The course bolstered our enrollment and students were able to meet members of our campus community, complete an abbreviated education plan, and learn about career services, transfer services, financial aid, and the Stand. The two PERG 120 courses were taught by NextUp and FAST Counselors.

Dreamer Resource Center (DRC) & Borderless Scholars -

- a. We increased legal services appointments for undocumented students.
- b. We are a part of the Region X UndocuLiaison
- c. We have seen some changes due to personnel changes, and this has affected coverage in the DRC. Our Counselors extended coverage to the DRC, so it would always be staffed.
- d. A major change this year is that SDCCD did not host the Undocumented Student Conference for Spring 2023
- e. We successfully partnered with JFS to obtain a student fellow who is responsible for outreach to increase student appointments.
- f. To better advocate for undocumented students, the DRC created a task force with Admissions, Financial Aid, and Outreach.
- g. The DRC is the lead and representative for the Region X group that has 9 community colleges.
- h. Revision of UndocuAlly Trainings and offered every fall and spring semester
- i. Implementation of various educational workshops. Link to Spring workshop series-  
[https://www.instagram.com/p/ConXG3qyfN\\_/?next=%2F](https://www.instagram.com/p/ConXG3qyfN_/?next=%2F)
- j. Incentive Grant was offered to students
- k. Partnered with Work based learning to offer the first Mesa Impactship Program (MIP) to an undocumented student at Mesa College
- l. Provided Borderless Scholars stoles for graduating students
- m. DRC collaborates with Admissions and Financial Aid who are essential departments to train faculty and staff to better support undocumented students.
- n. DRC develops multiple workshops for the entire semester. Students can now plan ahead of time to attend workshops.
- o. DRC developed new events such as, Embracing the Undocumented Identity (18 students attended), UndocuFamily night (49 students attended), Breaking Barriers: the UndocuHustle (13 students attended), and UndocuSuccess Panel: Educational and Career Journey (34 students attended). Due to funding, DRC provided Visa, Amazon, Uber, and Doordash cards to address student needs.
- p. DRC utilized the Incentive Grant to obtain a non-DACA recipient to work at the center.
- q. In collaboration with JFS, DRC obtained a Legal Services fellow to work at the center.
- r. In collaboration with Work-Based Learning, a non-DACA recipient was able to intern at the center.
- s. DRC provided stoles to recognize undocumented students' big achievement of graduating and/ or transferring.

Rising Scholars –

- a. We hired two Project Assistants to support program efforts. This allowed us to offer more engagement opportunities and helped with retention efforts.

CARE–

- a. We partnered with programs across the campus such as the STAND, Cal-Works and Student Health services to create more workshops for parents.

## Summary and Reflection

**If applicable, describe any major curricular or service changes your unit has engaged in and the impact of those changes since the last comprehensive review.**

N/A

**If applicable, describe the impact of any new resources (human, fiscal, etc) on the unit and/or action plan implementation.**

EOPS –

- a. The department received funding from HEERF, and this allowed the department to be able to fund Counselors and Project Assistants. This support enabled us to better support all of our students in the EOPS program, by offering more Counseling appointments, and wrap around support. This is extremely helpful since our program requires students to attend an orientation, and have three contacts with a Counselor, as well as an exit session.
- b. We recently hired an Adjunct Counselor. Their support will allow us to expand our direct support to students. We are in the process of hiring a new Student Services Technician (SST). The support of the new SST will support tracking and reporting efforts.

NextUP & FAST –

- a. This past year, we saw a number of personnel changes, which had a significant impact in delivery of services. We are currently in the process of filling our SST vacancy. Once the SST is hired, our NextUp program will be fully staffed and we will have the support that is needed to bolster services to students.
- b. We recently hired a NextUp Counselor/Coordinator, which has been a great support to our growing program. The support of the new Counselor/Coordinator has enabled us to begin meeting more frequently and to outreach to more prospective students. In unison, our new hires will bolster our growing program and allow us to serve more student
- c. We've seen significant changes in legislation that are in full support of our NextUp program. Effective January 1, 2022, Senate Bill 512 made changes to the Cooperating Agencies Foster Youth Educational Support (CAFYES) program, also known as NextUp, to address barriers posed by current program rules. SB 512 modified eligibility so that students who were in foster care at any point after age 13 may participate in NextUp. The bill made the following two additional changes:
  - Specified that funds can be used to provide support to enrolled students as they are matriculating.
  - Requires programs to create streamlined systems for application and entry
  - The bill also modified the criteria for priority registration for foster youth across all three public post-secondary systems to align with that of NextUp. Students in foster care at any point after the age of 13 are now eligible for priority registration at community colleges and CSUs, and UCs are requested to provide this as well.

DRC -

- a. New opportunities in funding and legislation to support undocumented students such as the Incentive Grant, Legal Services Fellow, and Mesa Impactship Program (MIP).
- b. All of the internships provided a stipend or grant for undocumented students. DRC focused on providing these opportunities to non-DACA recipients. Currently, working on adding another non-DACA recipient student to the team through the Incentive Grant.

Rising Scholars-

- a. Statewide Rising Scholars Network grant received for three years; project assistant hired to support, covers a portion of counselor coordinator payroll and provides direct aid to students.
- b. Host monthly luncheons with Rising Scholars students at Mesa Culinary Arts restaurant 7250.
- c. Provide several workshops tailored to Rising Scholars student needs that revolve around wellness, legislation that can affect their status, and community organizations to support their journey post incarceration/transition into society, and while pursuing higher education.

CARE-

- a. New adjunct counselor to assist with recruitment and meeting with students. Created Instagram page to

## Summary and Reflection

connect with students.

**If you assess OUTCOMES, please confirm that the outcomes have been reviewed for accuracy. If you do not assess Outcomes, skip this question.**

Reviewed & Accurate

### Related Documents for Charts and Graphs

#### Executive Summary Complete

Yes

## Data Reflection

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### Trends observed in program/service area's data.

EOPS –

a. In regards to enrollment we have made great strides in supporting our disproportionately impacted students (headcount in the program):

? African American - 15% of our current cohort

? Latino - 53% of our current cohort

? Asian - 20% of our current cohort

? White - 31% of our current cohort

? Native Hawaiian/Other Pac Island - 1% of our current cohort

? American Indian/Alaska Native - 3% of our current cohort

a. EOPS continues to support students via different modalities, such as google voice, and online orientations. Our online orientations have enabled students to complete this vital program step from the comfort of their home, it's accessible and equitable.

NextUP & FAST –

a. This past year, we saw a number of trends in our program area. The following are some of the trends:

? We saw an increase in basic needs for students.

? We also saw a rise in on campus department conflicts with students.

? We also saw a decrease in foster youth enrollment in our programs. Our goal is that our new hires will help to bolster our outreach efforts.

DRC –

a. The following are some of the types of services offered and used by our program:

? Legal services, educational workshops, loan laptops, book and food vouchers, bookstore credit, door dash and, Starbucks, and amazon cards, stoles, assistance with CADAA and AB540, and academic and personal counseling.

? Besides the UndocuLiaison funding, the SDCCD DRC's will also receive \$1.2 million from the \$3.4 million from federal funding and will be provided to each college in September 2023.

Rising Scholars-

a. The following are some of the types of services offered and used by our program:

? transportation assistance (gas and Uber cards, book purchase assistance, laptop loans, meal cards, assistance with ordering transcripts, Amazon cards, expungement clinic, specialized workshops, advocacy

CARE –

a. The program received additional CARE funds from the state. Support services include:

? education grants, meal cards, gas cards, Amazon cards, laptop and calculator loans in addition to all services provided to EOPS students. Workshops in partnership with CalWORKs, Parent Café, parenting resources, scholarship assistance

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**Describe any equity gaps in the data. Are there differences and/or patterns observed by demographics (e.g. race/ethnicity, gender, age, etc.)**

EOPS -

- a. Our Call to Action informed us about equity gaps in enrollment specifically with our African American/Black Latino, and Asian/Pacific Islander students. To better support our students, we did intentional outreach via phone banking efforts, to reach out to our African American/Black Latino, and Asian/Pacific Islander students, connecting them to student services, such as Counseling, DSPS, Student Health Services, The Stand, CRUISE, MT2C, Financial Aid, and the Promise program.
- b. We need to bolster our recruitment efforts to our high schools, college of continuing education, and community organizations.
- c. The EOPS program also needs to increase its in-reach efforts.
- d. Due to the changes in leadership and classified professionals, EOPS did not offer as many specialized workshops as previous semesters. EOPS looks forward to offering a thorough workshops series in fall 2023.

NextUP & FAST -

- a. The NextUp and FAST programs need to seek out more funding resources to better support our students who have experienced foster care.
- b. We need to improve our support for students who do not qualify for our programs.
- c. We need to find ways to bolster faculty engagement with FLEX trainings for foster youth.

DRC -

- a. The DRC needs to better improve the student pipeline from high schools to SD Mesa College. Most undocumented students in high schools do not pursue higher education due to the lack of information, guidance, and support.

Rising Scholars -

- a. Our Rising Scholars program needs to improve its outreach to detention centers and community agencies.

CARE -

- a. Our CARE program needs to strengthen our partnership with community agencies. We also need to continue partnering with our on-campus programs such as The Stand, Cal-Works, and Student Health Services.

## Related Documents for Charts and Graphs

**Describe the discussion(s) that took place about the unit's learning outcomes assessment data.**

We met with the leads of the programs and had a number of robust discussions. We reviewed our successes, challenges and our goals for the year. Overall, it allowed everyone to contribute to this year's program review submission.

**Data Reflection Complete**

Yes

## Practice Reflection

**Describe current practices your program/service area has engaged in that you believe impact the above data trends and equity gaps.**

EOPS - During the 2022-2023 academic year San Diego Mesa College served 678 students. This was an increase of 33 students compared to the 2021-2022 academic year. A main factor to the increase of students served was due to our in person and remote services. We have continued to provide services remotely while in person such as hosting counseling appointments and workshops via zoom.

Since our return to offering services from the campus, we have had a surge of students apply to EOPS and current students seeking assistance to meet basic needs. Our department and services are visible to students that seek services in person and departments have also referred students to our office. The EOPS Application was available online via Google form and we updated our website regularly. EOPS counselor and staff conducted wellness check-ins where they either called or text students using Google Voice in an effort of ensuring that students have access to the necessary resources and to let them know that the EOPS Team was available remotely via phone,

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email, and zoom. We also increased our social media presence on Instagram @SDMesaEOPS to provide another platform to share information about EOPS, the EOPS page has over 1,000 followers.

We offered priority registration, open labs and study breaks. We continued to partner with various college programs and departments to outreach to prospective students, we partnered with programs such as the Outreach and CRUISE.

Services to EOPS students included, but are not limited to educational grants, book service, health fee, student government fee, parking permit, school supplies, and academic, personal and career counseling. Our program also offered grants every semester, grants were processed promptly in order for students to access funds that would support them throughout the semester. In an effort to cultivate student success our program continued to offer one-hour appointments for the first contact with new students. This additional appointment time provides counselors the opportunity to connect with students and discuss their academic, professional and personal goals. Continuing student appointments continued to be 30 minutes, continuing students have the opportunity to schedule follow-up appointments as needed or can also request to extend appointment from 30 minutes to 1 hour.

The implementation of the EOPS timeline continue to be strengthened. We consistently reached out to students via email, phone, student portal, and during appointments to remind them of their EOPS appointments and services. This framework has supported our goal of retaining more students. The EOPS Exit Survey captures that the book services, grants and supplies are among the most needed financial benefits that EOPS offers. Moreover, the EOPS Advisory Committee met to review and discuss program progress and goals. There was an ongoing discussion about implementing best practices and collaborating with on-campus and off-campus organizations to offer additional support to students.

Our EOPS Chair is now a part of the enrollment management committee and Pathways. She supported the planning for the first College of Continuing Education conference at Mesa College. During this conference she presented on EOPS eligibility and services. She has also been instrumental in promoting our services to our campus community. Her role as Chair has enabled her to meet with Faculty and lend her expertise to campus efforts, such as the Mesa College Success Coaches.

We partnered with Region X EOPS to host workshops for employees in which attendees had the opportunity to learn about best practices, share resources, and network. We also partnered with various student services departments to inform students of the plethora of resources available on-campus that may address needs having to do with food and/or housing insecurity. Our counselors continue to be involved in the financial aid appeals process as committee members. This has helped our office better assist students with financial aid appeal applications and provide input when our students are being reviewed by the committee. The Director is an active member of various college committees and meetings, some of which include but are not limited to, the Campus Administrator's Meeting, President's Cabinet Meetings, Student Services Council, Student Equity Plan, Guided Pathways, and the Mesa 2030: Education and Facility Master Plan. Participation in these meetings allows for the Director to be abreast of campus happenings and share EOPS information with the campus community.

In order to better understand our students, the EOPS Office has been administering surveys using Google Form to assess student needs, and program strengthens and areas of opportunities. Survey responses from students included, "Eops helped me succeed as not only does it have a ton of informative workshops but also has counselors that are easy to reach when I have any troubles which is extremely helpful", "It helped me pay for my books and if it wasn't for them I would've not been able to pay for it.", "Counseling appointments were essential to my mental health", "I was able to submit my appeal to financial aid thanks to the guidance of the EOPS counselors", and "It helped me stay on track with my educational goals and not stress about fees I may need to pay for".

The Spring 2023 semester culminated with an in-person Achievement Ceremony. There was a total of 100 students that received a certificate, associate degree, and/or transferred to a university; this was a decrease from the previous year. This number of graduates may have decreased since our list of graduates was from April 2023 and would need an updated complete list to reconcile lists and retrieve information. This can be completed during Summer 2023, once Evaluations complete graduate/degree audits. Students were invited to participate in the ceremony and received a sash, certificate, school supplies, and food. The EOPS Program at Mesa College continues to go over, above and beyond for students.

## Summary and Reflection

NextUP & FAST- Our team has Increased foster care awareness training for professionals. During the 2022-2023 academic year we served 26 NextUp students and 18 FAST students.

DRC - During the 2022-2023 academic year we served 138 students. We have taken strategic steps to support our equity efforts:

- a. UndocuAlly training provides best practices to faculty and staff.
- b. The usage of grants and fellowships since non-DACAmented students are unauthorized to work.

Rising Scholars- During the 2022-2023 academic year we served 65 students. Continue outreach and community partnerships, campus education and awareness via workshops and social media.

CARE- During the 2022-2023 academic year we served 16 students. Continuing strong partnership with CalWORKS program to focus on recruitment, outreach is more widespread on campus (post pandemic) and the program is more visible to assist in recruitment, engage in statewide support meetings for best practices (CARE Circle). Increase social media engagement.

### **What other factors (internal or external) might also impact the above data trends and equity gaps?**

EOPS – We saw a decrease in our numbers due to changes in personnel and EOPS classified staff. We also received our list of graduates in April, which might not reflect an accurate count of graduates in EOPS.

NextUp & FAST - Change of staff/team members have impacted our programs in a big way. We have not been able to increase enrollment. We are working strategically to develop programming that bolsters enrollment, such as our Summer Readiness Program (SRP). The goal is SRP will help to connect incoming students at the onset of their academic journey to our EOPS programs and services.

DRC - federal and state funding will maintain and provide additional resources to address undocumented student needs.

Rising Scholars - This is the first year that Rising Scholars receives funding from the state which allowed to build the foundation and develop a more comprehensive program. We are working strategically to develop programming that bolsters enrollment, we look forward to serving more students in the 23-24 year.

CARE- We will continue to partner with other campus partners such as Cal-Works, The. Stand, and Student Health Services. Thus far, these partnerships have been very beneficial for our program.

## Related Documents for Charts and Graphs

### Practice Reflection Complete

Yes

## Mid-Cycle Updates

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### **YEAR 2 Updates (2023 - 2024)**

**Provide any edits or updates to the prompts originally documented in the Executive Summary section for Year 2.**  
Yes, please review Unit goals and action plans updates.

**Provide any edits or updates to the prompts originally documented in the Data Reflection section for Year 2.**  
Yes, please review Unit goals and action plans updates.

**Review Outcomes Report. Review the unit's outcomes assessment process for 2022 - 2023. Discuss connections to unit goals/action plans/resource requests.**

**Provide any edits or updates to the prompts originally documented in the Practice Reflection section for Year 2.**  
Yes, please review Unit goals and action plans updates.

## Summary and Reflection

### YEAR 3 Updates (2024 - 2025)

**Provide any edits or updates to the prompts originally documented in the Executive Summary section for Year 3.**

EOPS -

Our EOPS/CARE Counselor Coordinator transitioned to another college and we are currently working to fill the vacancy.

The EOPS Summer Readiness Program (SRP) / Personal Growth 120 was a great success. We offered one course, serving ~35 students. The course bolstered our enrollment and students were able to meet members of our campus community, complete an abbreviated education plan, and learn about career services, transfer services, financial aid, and the Stand. One PERG 120 course were taught by our Borderless Scholars Adjunct Counselor.

o We had a successful Orientation for Fall semester for all new and continuing EOPS students. We had over 60 attendees, and all were invited to learn more about eligibility, program requirements and benefits. Students also had an opportunity to learn about our special programs: STAR TRIO, Next UP, FAST, CARE, Borderless Scholars, and Rising Scholars. Students also heard from our Counselor Chair and our EOPS Tech Team. Students received a survival kit, composed of a backpack and school materials.

o We also continued to partner up to hold a number of "Registration Rallies." All Summer CRUISE students were invited to participate in four sessions that focused on direct matriculation support. Students were able to meet with the EOPS Counselors and receive timely support with Abbreviated Education Plans, pre-requisites, and navigating the MySDCCD portal, registration/enrollment. Our EOPS Counselors were able to connect with over 200 prospective students.

During the Fall semester, EOPS had an opportunity to team up with STAR TRIO and Special Programs to promote a number of Major-Based Workshops: People, Culture, & Society; Business & Entrepreneurship, and STEM. These workshops were of great interest to students and were well attended.

o We held a special event entitled "Churray for Success" where EOPS students were invited to get to know our EOPS Counselors and grab a tasty treat. We had drop in hours, where students could ask questions about academic support, personal development, or just chat with a Counselor. It was a very special and welcoming event.

o EOPS held registration workshops for spring enrollment. During these workshops, we reminded students about their priority registration appointments. Counselors were able to support students with updating their education plans as well as course selection.

We partnered up with Brian Lesson, faculty member, to hold two financial literacy workshops. We had students from the EOPS & Special Programs as well as Hire UP attend both sessions.

o In November, we held a special event for all EOPS & Special Programs students, entitled "A Gour-Geous Gathering." During this event, students had an opportunity to hear from all programs, tips and recommendations to finish the semester strong. Programs spoke about MT2C (our Tutoring Center), they also shared on meeting with Professors during office hours, the benefits of study groups, and so much more. We had over 50 attendees.

NextUp & FAST -

During the 2023-2024 academic year, the NextUp and FAST Scholars program underwent a key personnel changes to enhance operational efficiency. The NextUp and FAST team are confident that this strategic changes will result in improved outcomes for both programs. Transitions include:

o NextUp Counselor/Coordinator: Nathan Klein transitioned out of the role of NextUp Counselor and Coordinator and Ivonne Valencia-Meza was appointed as the new NextUp Counselor and Coordinator effective September 2024. With a strong background in working with historically underserved students, Ivonne is well-positioned to enhance our program initiatives. From mid-September 2024 until the remainder of the fall 2024 semester, Ivonne was on maternity leave.

o Adjunct FAST Scholars Counselor: Ivonne Valencia-Meza transitioned out of the role of FAST Scholars Counselor and Coordinator and Juan Carlos Velasco was appointed as the new Adjunct FAST Scholars Counselor effective September 2024. With a strong background in working with historically underserved students, Juan Carlos has been an invaluable asset to the team and program.

· There are ongoing discussions about establishing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Just in Time For Foster Youth, an organization in San Diego that helps transition age foster youth achieve self-sufficiency and well-being. The goal of this MOU is to strengthen our program initiatives.

· We began a partnership with Promises2Kids, an organization in San Diego that provides an array of support

## Summary and Reflection

services to individuals who have experienced foster care. The organization held office hours once a month at the FAST center, allowing students to meet with staff members and learn more about the services offered. This initiative is part of our effort to create a one-stop shop for student support.

- We continued our partnership with California Coast Credit Union to provide monthly financial literacy workshops to students.
- We continued partnership with John Burton Advocates for Youth (JBAY). For the fall 2024 semester, 15 FAST Scholar students were eligible for the JBAY Critical Needs and Opportunity fund.
- This semester, fall 2024, we hosted a diverse range of events and workshops aimed at strengthening the sense of community and belonging among NextUp and FAST students. Looking ahead to next year, our initiatives will focus on offering events and workshops centered on personal wellness to further enhance the student experience.

### Rising Scholars -

o We hired two Project Assistants as well as an adjunct counselor/coordinator to support program efforts. This allowed us to offer more engagement opportunities and helped with retention efforts.

#### Updates:

- o We have two Adjunct Counselor, one Project Assistant (formerly incarcerated) and one Workstudy (formerly incarcerated) to support program efforts
- o Program grew from 57 students to 126 students at the end of Fall 2024 semester
- o Partner with The Access Project for yearly expungement clinics
- o Partner with Health Services/ mental health services for group support
- o Partner with M2TC for monthly student study/tutor sessions
- o Monthly Empowerment Hour lunches
- o Partnerships with SDSU Project Rebound and UCSD Underground Scholars
- o Partnership with Equity Librarian on campus
- o Partnership with Garden 31, a non-profit, founded by a formerly incarcerated individual, that aims to support regenerative agriculture
- o Various workshops during the semester to boost community among Rising Scholars to include: journaling workshops, meditation workshops, movie nights, self-care and affirmation workshop
- o Students receive direct aid in forms of educational packages twice a semester which includes meal vouchers and transportation assistance
- o Students receive book grant each semester if meeting program requirements
- o Student receive support with semester health fees
- o Student receive support with external transcripts fees
- o Provide graduation sashes for graduating students
- o Student receive priority enrollment

### CARE -

- o We are in the process of hiring a new EOPS/CARE Contract Counselor Coordinator. This hire will support our efforts to grow the program and to better support students and their families.
- o Continue to bolster our partnership with a vendor to present the Parent Workshop series.
- o Working to increase retention efforts back to 20+ students.
- o Continue to build and strengthen the student parent community on campus by continuously hosting three Parent Cafe's a month.
- o Extend wrap around support to students who are close to graduating in Spring 2025.

### Dreamer Resource Center (DRC) & Borderless Scholars -

- o As of Fall 2024, the DRC continues to provide in-person legal services and most of the appointments (virtual or in-person) are fully booked a month in advance.
- o We currently serve as a member for the Region X UndocuLiaison.
- o Currently, the JFS fellowship position is vacant due to funding. We have other avenues to help Borderless Scholars to obtain fellowships and a stipend, such as DSIG or MIP.
- o We now have included Student Health Services (Mental Health) to the UndocuTask Force. Previously, Avanza joined the UndocuTask Force.
- o Currently, the DRC serves only as a member for Region X. We extended the group by inviting SDSU, CSUSM, UCSD, and SDU to some of the meetings to keep improving the pipeline for undocumented transfer students.
- o We offered the revised UndocuAlly Training for Spring 2024 and Fall 2024.

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- o The DSIG program was offered in Spring 2024 and not in Fall 2024 due to the unexpected issues of Financial Aid.
- o The DRC did not host a MIP student for Fall 2024. We are working to merge the DSIG program with MIP by Spring 2025.
- o Currently, the FA director serves as the FA Liaison and two admissions staff members as the Admissions Liaison.
- o This Fall 2024 semester we implemented an Undocumented Student Month of Action instead of a week. Also, we added an Honoring You addressing mental health and financial literacy series, and a wellness week and self-care week to address the presidential election. Additionally, we implemented CSAC Dream Act
- o Incentive Grant Program and Promise Program information sessions, and UC and CSU transfer workshops. Based on funding, we provided visa cards, bookstore credit, and grants to qualify Borderless Scholar students.

### **Provide any edits or updates to the prompts originally documented in the Data Reflection section for Year 3.**

#### EOPS -

There have been changes to a major funding source, the COVID Block grant has reached its funding limit, effective November 2024, we have had to transition Project Assistants and Counselors to other department funding sources. The support from COVID Block helped us to provide ample support to students to complete their 3 EOPS contacts.

This Spring we will be able to fill our department vacancies: (1) EOPS/CARE Counselor/Coordinator. In filling this position,, we will be working to increase our student count, develop additional programming, and better serve our students.

#### Next UP & FAST -

74 students served for Fall 2024

36 NextUp students served for Fall 2024

38 FAST students served for Fall 2024

- Hire Up grant was provided to 14 eligible FAST Scholars students.
- We are strengthening our connections with the San Diego County of Education to improve equity in access to higher education from K-12 to community college.
- We are streamlining our onboarding process to improve recruitment efficiency and increase the number of students we serve.

#### Rising Scholars -

9 students could be eligible to apply to graduate in May 2025

307 students served Fall 2024

40 of the 126 students served are housed at the local CDCR program for incarcerated women (Westcare)

Data received from District Dean of Outreach and Student Affairs for outreach purposes and emails were sent to potential eligible students

Currently exploring partnerships with Juvenile Justice programs in the community

Currently exploring partnerships with The Children's Initiative- Juvenile Justice Program

Hire Up grant initiated and is currently working with 13 Rising Scholars found eligible

#### CARE -

During the 2024-2025 academic year we served 19 students. Continuing strong partnership with campus programs such as CalWORKs program to focus on recruitment, outreach and the program area is more visible to assist in recruitment due to the Parent Cafe's. We have also continued to provide the Parent Workshops this Fall semester. We also offered programming in the Summer, to ensure our students remained connected to our CARE team. In addition, engaging in statewide support meetings for best practices (CARE Circle).

#### Dreamer Resource Center (DRC) & Borderless Scholars -

For incentives in Spring 2025, we will no longer provide Visa cards and Uber cards. We will only provide bookstore credit and cards, gas cards, and campus meal cards.

Also, DRC laptops continue to be unavailable until further notice.

The DRC continues to work with Outreach for incoming undocumented students to have a smooth transition from high school to SD Mesa College.

Also, the DRC will be relocating to a bigger space to adequately support the undocumented student population.

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Undocumented students will be able to utilize the center and make it a second home.

### **Review Outcomes Report. Review the unit's outcomes assessment process for 2023 - 2024. Discuss connections to unit goals/action plans/resource requests.**

EOPS - Based on the 2023-2024 data we see improvements with our unit goals/action plans.

Dreamer Resource Center (DRC) & Borderless Scholars -

The DSIG program continues to be funded through CSAC and funds have not reached its limit. Even if funds are exhausted, we are merging DSIG with the MIP program and students will be eligible for a stipend.

In Fall 2024, we were able to have three non-DACA recipients to do the DSIG program, but couldn't start due to the financial aid situation. These students will start in Spring 2025.

### **Provide any edits or updates to the prompts originally documented in the Practice Reflection section for Year 3.**

EOPS -

In regards to enrollment we have made great strides in supporting our disproportionately impacted students (headcount in the program):

African American - (15%) of our current cohort

Latino - (48%) of our current cohort

Asian - (20%) of our current cohort

White - (16%) of our current cohort

Pacific Islander - (1%) of our current cohort

Native American - (1%) of our current cohort

EOPS continues to support students via different modalities, such as google voice, and online orientations. This semester, we have offered more in person orientations and continue to provide online orientations. These online orientations flexibility has supported our students immensely.

Next UP / FAST -

The program numbers have increased and will continue to increase with the support of the Student Services Technical and Project Assistants.

For Spring 2023, there were 27 students in the NextUp program. As of Fall 2024, there are 36 students in the NextUp program.

For Spring 2023, there were 15 students in the FAST Scholars program. As of Fall 2024, there are 38 students in the FAST Scholars program.

- Continue to increase enrollment and visibility on campus for both programs.

- Continue to strengthen collaboration with NextUp programs across Region X to learn of best practices to continuously refine support services.

Dreamer Resource Center (DRC) & Borderless Scholars -

For incentives, we will no longer provide Visa cards and Uber cards. We will only provide bookstore credit and cards, gas cards, and campus meal cards.

Also, DRC laptops continue to be unavailable until further notice.

Below is our data and the funding impact that has helped to serve students.

2018-2019: 168 students served

2019-2020: 252 students served

2020-2021: 443 students served

2021-2022: 507 students served

2022-2023: 491 students served

2023-2024: 564 students served

Rising Scholars –

The program numbers for this year have increased and will continue to increase with the support of the adjunct counselor/coordinator, project assistant and work study student, both formerly incarcerated students

Currently exploring partnerships with juvenile justice programs in the community

Increase presence on campus with outreach efforts and collaborations with campus departments

Increase social media presence (Instagram)

Working on the grand opening of an affinity space on campus

## Summary and Reflection

Completing our second third year and continue to increase services, retention, enrollment, and visibility on campus

CARE -

During the 2024-2025 academic year we served 19 students, which was a slight decrease from the previous year. In 2023-2024, we served 20 students. The reason for this decrease is due to changes in personnel.

We are continuing the strong partnership with campus programs such as CalWORKs program to focus on recruitment, outreach and the program area is more visible to assist in recruitment due to the Parent Cafe's. We have also continued to provide the Parent Workshops this Fall semester.

### **YEAR 4 Updates (2025 - 2026)**

**Provide any edits or updates to the prompts originally documented in the Executive Summary section for Year 4.**

**Provide any edits or updates to the prompts originally documented in the Data Reflection section for Year 4.**

**Review Outcomes Report. Review the unit's outcomes assessment process for 2024 - 2025. Discuss connections to unit goals/action plans/resource requests.**

**Provide any edits or updates to the prompts originally documented in the Practice Reflection section for Year 4.**

# Unit Goals, Action Plans, and Updates

## Completion

**Unit Goal:** Increase the number of students receiving an associate degree, certificate or transferring to a university.

**Goal Status:** Active

**Beginning Year:** 2022 - 2023

**Projected Completion Year:** 2025 - 2026

## Mapping

Mesa College Strategic Plan: Roadmap to Mesa2030: (X - Highlight the X to Align)

- **Community - Objective 1:** Use technology to improve communication and accessibility across campus. (X)
- **Completion - Objective 1:** Develop pathways that provide students with clarity about degree, certificate, and transfer requirements. (X)

Action Plans	Action Plan Update
<p><b>Action Plan Status:</b> Active</p> <p><b>Action Plan:</b> 1. Review program requirements during new student orientation. 2. Send emails to students listing program requirements and update website to reflect updated program requirements.</p> <p><b>Action Plan Cycle:</b> 2022 - 2023, 2023 - 2024, 2024 - 2025, 2025 - 2026</p>	<p><b>Submission Date:</b> 01/12/2024</p>

## Unit Goals, Action Plans, and Updates

**Action Plan Update:** EOPS - We successfully filled all of our vacancies: (1) SR.SSA, (2) SSTs, and recently we filled our Director of EOPS position. In filling these positions, we expect our numbers to increase.

Updates:

" We had a successful Outreach event in summer, entitled "Registration Rally." All Summer CRUISE students were invited to participate in four sessions that focused on direct matriculation support. Students were able to meet with the EOPS Counselors and receive timely support with Abbreviated Education Plans, pre-requisites, and navigating the MySDCCD portal, registration/enrollment. Our EOPS Counselors were able to connect with over 200 prospective students.

" During Welcome Week, EOPS partnered STAR TRIO, Rising Scholars, Borderless Scholars, CARE, NextUp, and FAST to provide students an open house called, EOPS Survival Kit. During this event, all students were invited to stop by the different centers, and pick up items to support them academically. We saw over 400 students via this effort.

" EOPS partnered with the Transfer Center to provide our students with one-on-one support with the transfer process. Ensuring students submitted transfer applications before the UC and CSU deadline.

" EOPS held registration workshops for spring enrollment. During these workshops, we reminded students about their priority registration appointments. Counselors were able to support students with updating their education plans as well as course selection.

" We are partnering with Brian Lesson, faculty member, to develop tailored workshop series that will focus on financial literacy. Brian presented to our team and the next phase is for him to meet individually with our special program Coordinators.

Rising Scholars -

" We have one Adjunct Counselor, one Project Assistant (formerly incarcerated) and one Work-study (formerly incarcerated) to support program efforts

" Program grew to 76 students at the end of Fall 23 semester

" Rising Scholars is serving 40 of the 76 students at Westcare- CCTRP,, a local CDCR facility

" Partner with The Access Project for yearly expungement clinics

" Partner with Health Services/ mental health services for group support

" Monthly Empowerment Hour lunches

" Laptop loans

" Partnerships with SDSU Project Rebound and UCSD Underground Scholars

" Partnership with Equity Librarian on campus

" Partnership with Garden 31, a non-profit, founded by a formerly incarcerated individual, that aims to support regenerative agriculture

" Various workshops during the semester to boost community among Rising Scholars to include: journaling workshops, meditation workshops,, movie nights, self-care and affirmation workshop

# Unit Goals, Action Plans, and Updates

Action Plans	Action Plan Update
	<p>" Partnership with Next Up program for sound healing workshop and STAR TRIO for movie night</p> <p>" Students receive monthly meal vouchers and twice per semester transportation assistance</p> <p>" Students receive book grant each semester if meeting program requirements</p> <p>" Provide graduation sashes for graduating students</p> <p>CARE -</p> <p>" We partnered with programs across the campus such as the STAND, CalWorks and Student Health services to create more workshops such as Thriving through Thanksgiving, Healing Circle, Parent Cafe and Family Game Night for student parents.</p> <p>" Forming a new partnership with a vendor to present the Parent Workshop series.</p> <p>" Growing the CARE program to 21 students.</p> <p>" Building and strengthening the student parent community on campus by continuously hosting three Parent Cafe's a month.</p> <p>" Scholarship Opportunities - Soroptimist Live your Dream</p> <p>" Forming the Parent Taskforce Committee to support non eligible student parents</p> <p>" Two CARE students will be graduating and one is transferring to National University</p> <p>Borderless Scholars -</p> <p>" As of October 2023, the DRC has started to provide in-person legal services.</p> <p>" We serve as the Region X representative for CCCCCO</p> <p>" Currently, the JFS fellowship position is vacant because the student transferred.</p> <p>" We added the Avanza center to the UndocuTask Force.</p> <p>" We extended the group by inviting SDSU, CSUSM, UCSD, and SDU to build a pipeline for undocumented transfer students to have a better transition.</p> <p>" We offered the UndocuAlly Training for Spring 2023, but we didn't for Fall 2023 due to emerging issues that needed to be addressed.</p> <p>" The DSIG program was only offered in Spring 2023. DSIG student had to appeal to be readmitted to the program for Spring 2024.</p> <p>" The DRC hosted at least one student each semester (spring and fall)</p> <p>" We are currently missing a FA Liaison.</p> <p>" This Fall semester we collaborated with the UndocuRegion X for the Undocumented Student Action Week. Due to funding, this time we were able to provide visa cards, Uber cards, bookstore cards, Starbucks cards, meal cards, and bookstore credit.</p> <p><b>Update Year:</b> 2023 - 2024  <b>Action Plan Progress:</b> On Track</p>

# Unit Goals, Action Plans, and Updates

## Enrollment

**Unit Goal:** Increase the number of units enrolled per semester.

**Goal Status:** Active

**Beginning Year:** 2022 - 2023

**Projected Completion Year:** 2025 - 2026

## Mapping

Mesa College Strategic Plan: Roadmap to Mesa2030: (X - Highlight the X to Align)

- **Completion - Objective 1:** Develop pathways that provide students with clarity about degree, certificate, and transfer requirements. (X)
- **Completion - Objective 4:** Support students' access to resources to mitigate the impact caused by technological and basic needs insecurity (X)

Action Plans	Action Plan Update
<p><b>Action Plan Status:</b> Active</p> <p><b>Action Plan:</b> 1. All new and continuing students will either create, update, and/or review their education plan every semester during their 1st required counseling appointment and their education plan is accessible via their student portal.</p> <p>2. Provide open labs during Priority Registration period to support students in enrolling in classes for the following term.</p> <p><b>Action Plan Cycle:</b> 2022 - 2023, 2023 - 2024, 2024 - 2025, 2025 - 2026</p>	<p><b>Submission Date:</b> 01/12/2024</p>

## Unit Goals, Action Plans, and Updates

### **Action Plan Update:** EOPS -

" In regards to enrollment we have made great strides in supporting our disproportionately impacted students (headcount in the program):

Ethnicity Percentage in the program

White 25%

African Amer 13%

Hispanic 43%

Asian 16%

Native Amer 4%

Pacific Islander 1%

Total 760\*

Active Students 591

Many students reports multiple mixed ethnicities\*

NextUP & FAST - This past year, we saw a number of trends in our program area. The following are some of the trends:

" We saw an increase in basic needs for students.

" We also saw a rise in on campus department conflicts with students.

" This past year we grew our roster of students from 27-32. We anticipate growing this number for the Spring semester

### Rising Scholars -

" Seven students applying for transfer Fall 2023

" Three graduates in May 2023

" 76 students served Fall 2023

" 40 of the 76 students served are housed at the local CDCR program for incarcerated women (Westcare)

" Data received from District Dean of Outreach and Student Affairs for outreach purposes and emails were sent to potential eligible students

" Currently exploring partnerships with Juvenile Justice programs in the community

" Hire Up grant initiated and will be working with Rising Scholars to identify eligible students

### CARE -

" The trends observed in our program area include:

" The student parent community within the campus has grown exponentially.

" Student parents need immediate support and resources such as basic needs in order to continue their education. Our goal with building community partnerships will increase the opportunity to provide resources.

" The following are services offered by the program area:

" Student parent workshops, transportation assistance such as gas and meal cards,

## Unit Goals, Action Plans, and Updates

	<p>amazon cards</p> <p>Borderless Scholars -</p> <p>" The following are some of the types of services offered and used by our program: Legal services, educational workshops, loan laptops, book and food vouchers, bookstore credit, door dash and, Starbucks, and amazon cards, stoles, assistance with CADAA and AB540, and academic and personal counseling.</p> <p>" We no longer provide DoorDash cards but we added Visa cards and Uber cards— Students can use this card for UberEats or UberRides.</p> <p>" Also, DRC laptops are currently unavailable for the Fall 2023 semester</p> <p>" Update:</p> <p>" The DRC is working with Outreach to implement a pipeline for Spring 2024.</p> <p>" The DRC staff and student population is growing, and we have officially submitted an affinity space to request a bigger center. If approved the center will afford our students a center that adequately can support their various needs.</p> <p>EOPS – Currently for the 2023-2024 academic year San Diego Mesa College is serving 591 students. We are seeing a steady increase to reach our semester goal of 600 enrolled students. We have continued to provide services remotely and in person such as hosting counseling appointments and workshops via zoom.</p> <p>Our webpage has been updated, which is helping to bolster recruitment. Our department and services are visible to students that seek services in person and departments have also referred students to our office. The EOPS Application was available online via Google form. EOPS counselor and staff continue to provide wellness check-ins where they either called or text students using Google Voice in an effort of ensuring that students have access to the necessary resources and to let them know that the EOPS Team was available remotely via phone, email, and zoom. We also continue to increase our social media presence on Instagram @SDMesaEOPS to provide another platform to share information about EOPS, the EOPS page has over 1,000 followers.</p> <p>We offered priority registration, open labs and study breaks. We continued to partner with various college programs and departments to outreach to prospective students, we partnered with programs such as the Outreach, Assessment, and the Transfer Center.</p> <p>Services to EOPS students included, but are not limited to educational grants, book service, health fee, student government fee, parking permit, school supplies, and academic, personal and career counseling. Our program also offered grants every semester, grants were processed promptly in order for students to access funds that would support them throughout the semester. In an effort to cultivate student success our program continued to offer one-hour appointments for the first contact with new students. This additional appointment time provides counselors the opportunity to connect with students and discuss their academic, professional and personal goals. Continuing student appointments continued to be 30 minutes, continuing</p>
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## Unit Goals, Action Plans, and Updates

students have the opportunity to schedule follow-up appointments as needed or can also request to extend appointment from 30 minutes to 1 hour.

The implementation of the EOPS timeline continue to be strengthened. We consistently reached out to students via email, phone, student portal, and during appointments to remind them of their EOPS appointments and services. This framework has supported our goal of retaining more students. The EOPS Exit Survey captures that the book services, grants and supplies are among the most needed financial benefits that EOPS offers. Moreover, the EOPS Advisory Committee met to review and discuss program progress and goals. There was an ongoing discussion about implementing best practices and collaborating with on-campus and off-campus organizations to offer additional support to students.

Our EOPS Chair is now a part of the enrollment management committee and Pathways. She supported the planning for the first College of Continuing Education conference at Mesa College. During this conference she presented on EOPS eligibility and services. She has also been instrumental in promoting our services to our campus community. Her role as Chair has enabled her to meet with Faculty and lend her expertise to campus efforts, such as the Mesa College Success Coaches.

We partnered with Region X EOPS to host workshops for students in which attendees had the opportunity to learn about the transfer process to a CSU, and a live demo of the newest FAFSA application. We also partnered with various student services departments to inform students of the plethora of resources available on-campus that may address needs having to do with food and/or housing insecurity. Our counselors continue to be involved in the financial aid appeals process as committee members. This has helped our office better assist students with financial aid appeal applications and provide input when our students are being reviewed by the committee. The Director is an active member of various college committees and meetings, some of which include but are not limited to, the Campus Administrator's Meeting, President's Cabinet Meetings, Student Services Council, Student Equity Plan, Guided Pathways, and the Mesa 2030: Education and Facility Master Plan. Participation in these meetings allows for the Director to be abreast of campus happenings and share EOPS information with the campus community.

In order to better understand our students, the EOPS Office has been administering surveys using Google Form to assess student needs, and program strengthens and areas of opportunities.

The EOPS Program at Mesa College continues to go over, above and beyond for students.

NextUP & FAST- Our team has Increased foster care awareness training for professionals. Our team will be attending foster care trauma informed training to improve our support services

## Unit Goals, Action Plans, and Updates

to students. During the Fall 2023 semester, we served 32 NextUp students and 28 FAST students.

DRC - During the 2023-2024 academic year we have served 74 students. We have taken strategic steps to support our equity efforts and bolster our numbers:

" UndocuAlly training provides best practices to faculty and staff.

" The usage of grants and fellowships since non-DACAmented students are unauthorized to work.

Rising Scholars- During the 2023-2024 academic year we went from serving 16 to 81 students. We continue to outreach and develop community partnerships, campus education and awareness via workshops and social media.

CARE- During the 2023-2024 academic year we served 18 students. Continuing strong partnership with CalWORKs program to focus on recruitment, outreach is more widespread on campus (post pandemic) and the program is more visible to assist in recruitment, engage in statewide support meetings for best practices (CARE Circle). Increase social media engagement.

<<What other factors (internal or external) might also impact the above data trends and equity gaps?>>

EOPS – We saw a decrease in our numbers due to changes in personnel and EOPS classified staff. We also received our list of graduates in April, which did not reflect an accurate count of graduates in EOPS.

NextUp & FAST - Change of staff/team members have impacted our programs in a big way. We are working strategically to develop programming that bolsters enrollment in the following ways:

" Creating comprehensive training guidelines through the lens of trauma-informed and student-centered practices to support the new team in improving our services to students.

" Improving avenues of communication internally within the program.

" Continue the Summer Readiness Program (SRP). The continuation of SRP will help to connect incoming students at the onset of their academic journey to our EOPS programs and services.

DRC - federal and state funding will maintain and provide additional resources to address undocumented student needs.

Rising Scholars - This is the first year that Rising Scholars receives funding from the state which

## Unit Goals, Action Plans, and Updates

Action Plans	Action Plan Update
	<p>allowed to build the foundation and develop a more comprehensive program. We are working strategically to develop programming that bolsters enrollment, we look forward to serving more students in the 24-25 year.</p> <p>CARE- We will continue to partner with other campus partners such as Cal-Works, The. Stand, and Student Health Services. Thus far, these partnerships have been very beneficial for our program.</p> <p><b>Update Year:</b> 2023 - 2024 <b>Action Plan Progress:</b> On Track</p>