

Budget Cuts Would End UC's Educational Outreach to Underserved Students

The Governor plans to eliminate all funding for UC Outreach programs that help prepare educationally disadvantaged students for college, effective next month. This action would sever a lifeline that for 30 years has led thousands of poor and minority students around the state to enroll in college.

Following a 50% cut earlier this year, the Governor's budget would take away the remaining \$12.2 million from University of California Outreach programs on January 1. Although UC's Department of Educational Outreach comprises less than 1% of the University's budget, it supports roughly 28 UC programs and 650 UC staff, and provides effective, direct assistance to more than 110,000 elementary and secondary school students in California. Eliminating this vital assistance places students, their schools and the state at risk.

Who Will Be Affected?

These cuts threaten students who come from low-income families where parents typically have not gone to college and the first language is often not English. About two-thirds belong to groups with below-average rates for UC eligibility and enrollment. They typically attend schools with fewer qualified teachers and the fewest students sent to four-year colleges and universities.

What Does Outreach Do?

UC Outreach is sometimes mistakenly called "recruitment." In reality, the programs do far more than encourage students to attend UC. **UC Outreach works on the entire education system.** Through student development programs, direct work with K-12 teachers, and research, outreach addresses educational achievement gaps and helps schools in the poorest neighborhoods make their students college-ready.

Outreach programs offer professional development that increases teachers' and administrators' effectiveness. They generate new research and policy solutions for reducing disparities in California's education system. They expand the college horizons and skills of highly capable students who otherwise would have little understanding of or access to what they need to succeed at any college — not just at UC. To this end, UC faculty, staff and students are not simply advisers or experts; they are active partners in the daily affairs and challenges of local schools.

These programs are effective. Research shows that the students in this program are better prepared to attend college, and once they enroll, they are as likely as any other student to stay in school.

What Will the Impact of the Cuts Be?

The Governor's proposal targets programs that focus on providing all students with opportunities that many other students take for granted — access to high-quality courses, academic counseling and mentoring, as well as information about reaching UC by transferring from community college. He has also cut the research that ensures that these programs are effective. As a result:

Underperforming schools will lose academic support for services they don't have resources to provide.

Elimination of UC Outreach means dismantling support for the lowest-performing public schools. Once this support is abolished, it cannot be replaced.

- ▶ Losing MESA and EAOP means that more than 600 mostly underperforming schools won't receive vital academic support services in math and science, counseling, test preparation and academic enrichment.

- ▶ **60% of the schools in which UC Outreach operates have median family incomes less than \$50,000 (California's median = \$53,025).**
- ▶ **More than 60% of those schools rank in the two lowest tiers of the statewide Academic Performance Index.**

College Attendance

MESA SENIORS (2001–02)

71% of MESA high school graduates attended college. Here is where they enrolled:

- 29% UC**
- 28% CSU**
- 8% Independent California colleges**
- 27% Community colleges**
- 6% Out-of-state institutions**

EAOP SENIORS (2001–02)

Nearly half enrolled in a state college or university:

- 17% UC**
- 16% CSU**
- 15% Community college**

Students hardest hit by these cuts are those least served by California's education system. Without these programs, the college pipeline would immediately close for more than 110,000 educationally disadvantaged students from low-performing schools and from groups with historically low rates of college eligibility. Most would have been the first in their family to attend college.

- ▶ Currently, 71% of MESA high school graduates attend college, compared with 49% of all graduating seniors in California.
- ▶ In the last three years, enrollment of California community college transfer students at UC has increased by more than 21%. The Dual Admissions Program launched this year will help continue this success.

The cuts would deal a body blow to diversity in higher education. Since the elimination of affirmative action in admissions, Outreach programs have helped ensure diversity in higher education by providing rigorous academic support to educationally disadvantaged students, including underrepresented students. UC now enrolls its largest number of underrepresented freshmen in the last 25 years.

- ▶ 40% of African American and Latino freshmen now attending UC relied on UC Outreach programs to help them prepare for college.
- ▶ 29% of MESA's high school graduates who are African American, Latino and American Indian are eligible for UC; nearly one-third of EAOP students are UC-eligible. Both rates far exceed the statewide eligibility rate (2.8% for African Americans, 3.8% for Latinos).

The cuts would eradicate programs that ensure the health of California's economy. California's future depends on an education system that provides the state's most disadvantaged students with a fair chance to get the college education needed for tomorrow's jobs. Outreach research and programs investigate the state's education system and open portals for school achievement and economic success for all students, regardless of their parents' income or their communities' prosperity. As a result of UC Outreach, students attend and graduate from college and earn a higher income, which translates into higher-income consumers and higher tax revenues for the state. Their children will also be far more likely to earn college degrees.

Eliminating Outreach will not dent the budget deficit. The effect will be largely symbolic, and the message to California's most disadvantaged students will be that the state cares little about their future. These very students are the ones the state must rely on to recapture and preserve California's prosperity and educational preeminence. Outreach is a small price to pay to guarantee that the University's greatness and opportunities reach the students whose schools provide them the fewest chances.

"I had potential, but I didn't know how to apply to college. My parents didn't know either, so how could they help me? I don't think I would be here at UCLA if it wasn't for (outreach). They pushed me."

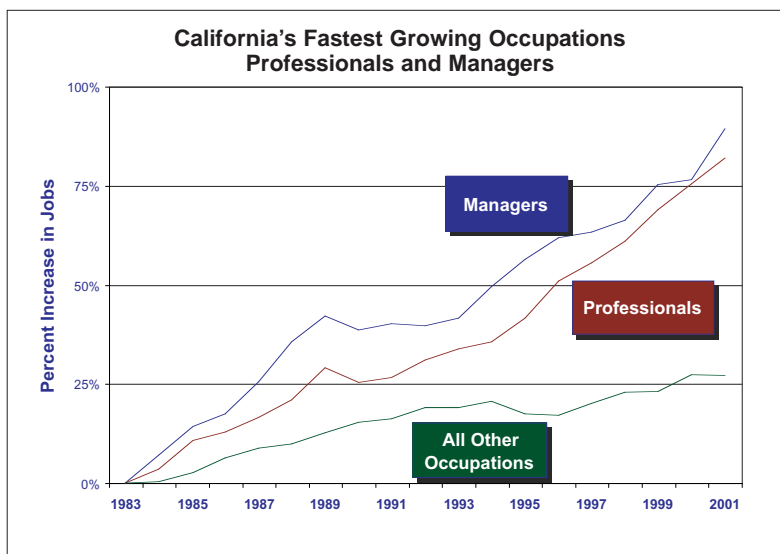
—Juliana Carranza, first-year pre-psychology major

UC Outreach is an investment that California can't afford to do without.

University of California Effect of Midyear Budget Cuts

Higher Education Is More Important to Economic Competitiveness and Quality of Life for Californians Than Ever Before

- ▶ A college education is essential for jobs in a knowledge-based economy. California's fastest growing occupations are professional and managerial jobs (see graph at right). Most of these new jobs require at least a bachelor's degree and many require a master's or doctorate.
- ▶ The industries that will be driving California's economic recovery depend on university research for innovations and productivity improvements. University research is essential because corporations typically focus their R&D spending on later stages and under-invest in basic research. UC scientists and engineers have founded at least 290 major R&D-intensive California firms in key industry sectors.
- ▶ California should be investing more in higher education as a down payment on its future.

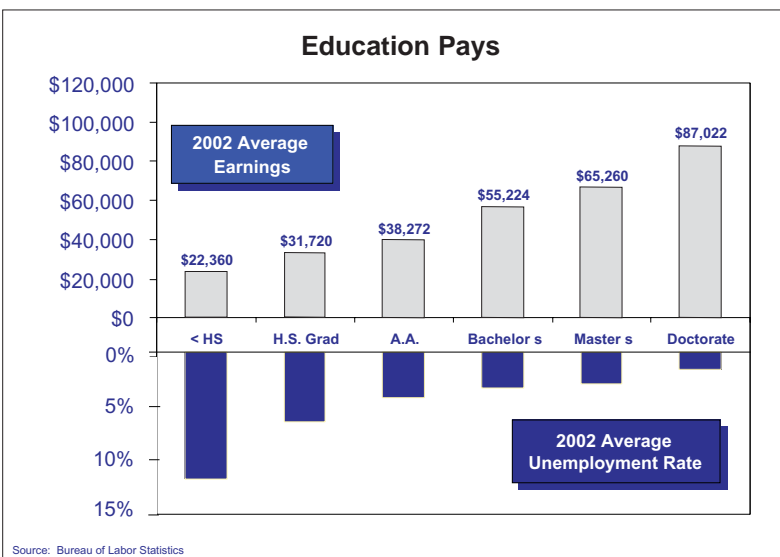


But California Is in the Midst of a Fiscal Crisis

We have been well aware that California's fiscal crisis could lead to further UC budget cuts, but we have had very little time to react to this new proposal.

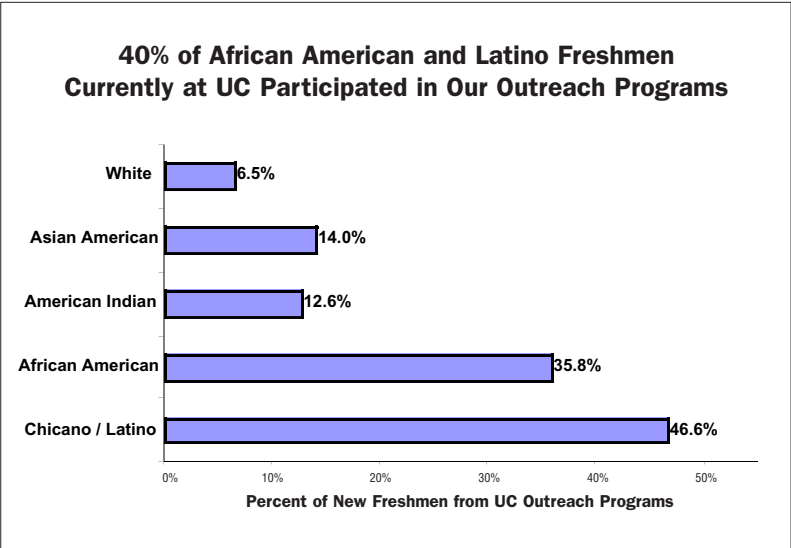
Higher Fees Halfway through the year, our choices are limited. It is too late to reduce enrollment because students have already been admitted for the current year. Tuition and fees were already raised substantially to offset a portion of last year's budget cuts. More budget cuts will hurt programs. For example:

- ▶ **Eliminating Outreach** UC's Outreach programs work with K-12 students and teachers to address income disparities and the educational achievement gap. Funding for these programs was cut in half last year, and the Governor's new proposal eliminates all remaining State funding.



- ▶ **Research Cuts** Research and advanced education are critical to competitiveness in a knowledge-based economy, and the University of California performs a unique and crucial role under the Master Plan for Higher Education. Unfortunately, the UC research budget was cut by 10% in 2002–03 and another 10% in 2003–04. The Governor's midyear proposal includes yet another UC research cut. The proposal eliminates the funding for the Institute for Labor and Employment, which coordinates faculty and other researchers who study the workforce and its impact on the economy.
- ▶ **Deeper Overall Cuts** The Governor's proposal also assigns an additional \$18 million general cut to the University's budget. This is particularly painful because we already experienced deep budget cuts over the past three years (\$424 million in base budget cuts; \$230 million in cuts offset by student fee increases; and another \$424 million in funds we should have been spending to keep faculty salaries competitive, cover higher energy costs, purchase up-to-date equipment, etc.). Over the past three years, the University of California has experienced an 18% growth in enrollment while State support has declined more than 14%.

► **Outreach Effectiveness** UC Outreach programs are targeted to schools in low-income areas, where parents typically have not gone to college and the first language of many families is not English. These programs are effective. In fact, 40% of African American and Latino freshmen currently studying at UC campuses took part in UC Outreach programs while in school (see chart at right). Eliminating Outreach funding will affect the lives of more than 110,000 elementary and secondary school students who will need a college education to find jobs in careers that offer the highest salaries and lowest unemployment levels (see chart on previous page).



University of California

2003–04 Outreach Programs Impacted by Midyear Budget Cut

K-12 Student Academic Development Programs

- Early Academic Outreach Programs (EAOP)
- Student-Initiated Outreach/Yield
- MESA K-12 Programs
- High School Puente
- Test Preparation Programs
- Gateways
- UC Links Technology (UC Links + UC Nexus combined)

K-12 School-University Partnerships

- P-16 Regional Intersegmental Alliances (formerly School-University Partnerships)
- Community Partnerships (Urban Community-School Collaborative & CERC)
- UC College Preparatory Initiative (online courses)
- Preuss Charter School
- UC ArtsBridge

Community College Programs

- Transfer Programs
- Dual Admissions
- ASSIST
- MESA Community College Programs
- Puente Community College Programs

Graduate & Professional School Programs

- Graduate Outreach
- UC LEADS
- Law School Programs
- Medical School Programs
- Public Policy & International Affairs (PPIA)
- Pre-Graduate Mentorship
- Undergraduate Scholars

Other Outreach Programs

- Central Valley Programs
- Informational Outreach & Recruitment
- Evaluation
- Research (UC/ACCORD)

Demographic Information on UC Outreach Programs: EAOP, MESA and Puente

The University of California's student-centered outreach efforts are aimed at bolstering academic performance in California's schools and better preparing students for college. These efforts encompass programs that provide tutoring, mentoring, academic preparation, college counseling and other direct services to K-12 students.

- ▶ EAOP, MESA and Puente serve more than 110,000 elementary and secondary students statewide.
- ▶ The programs concentrate their efforts in low-performing schools — more than 60% of schools in which UC programs operate score in the two lowest tiers of the Academic Performance Index.
- ▶ Students served by EAOP, MESA and Puente come from lower-income families.
- ▶ UC Outreach programs serve a diverse group of students — approximately two-thirds of participants are underrepresented students (Latino, African American and American Indian).

Questions and Answers

About the Early Academic Outreach Program (EAOP)

What is EAOP?

EAOP, the University of California Early Academic Outreach Program, is UC's largest outreach program and one of the oldest. EAOP expands postsecondary education opportunities for California's educationally disadvantaged students. Since 1975 EAOP has been working with local schools to improve the quality of education by providing challenging academic enrichment opportunities to students. In short, EAOP prepares students for the opportunity to make college possible by working together with families, educators, schools and communities.

What kinds of students participate in EAOP?

EAOP students are generally from low-income families and will be the first generation in their families to go to college. They generally attend schools with low API (Academic Performance Index) scores — 62 percent of EAOP students attend schools in the lowest 40 percent of the school API rankings. Most belong to groups with below-average rates for UC eligibility and enrollment: 57 percent are Chicano/Latino; 14 percent are Asian; 11 percent are white; nearly 10 percent are African American; less than 1 percent are Native American; and 7 percent did not state ethnicity.

How many students and schools receive EAOP services?

EAOP has 85,000 students at more than 600 schools in California. The bulk of the students, more than 60,000, are high school students at more than 360 schools. The remaining students are in middle schools.

How does EAOP work?

EAOP provides academic enrichment programs for students, which begin in junior high or middle school and last until high school graduation. Services focus on challenging academic preparation, academic instruction, test preparation, academic advising and other activities that help students get ready for college.

Families play an important role in EAOP. Through workshops, conferences, short courses and campus visits, families learn how they can help their students prepare for college. Most of these families have very limited exposure to college campuses. These families want what is best for their children and hope that includes a college education, but they often do not know how to make that happen.

What is academic enrichment?

Academic enrichment is a broad term that includes classroom work, academic and college advising, cultural enrichment programs (such as going to museums and lectures), college campus visits, on-campus summer programs that focus on coursework, information on how to build skills to improve classroom performance, test-preparation programs and workshops on college life. In short, academic enrichment provides students whose families have little or no college exposure with the skills and experiences that college-bound students need.

Don't the schools do this already? Isn't that their job?

Only the best schools, generally the private schools or the public schools in the more exclusive urban areas or suburbs, truly have all the resources it takes to help students prepare for college. The bulk of California schools are underfunded and preparing students for college is not a priority. Our school counselors are overburdened and, although they have the best intentions, frequently do not have the time or resources to provide comprehensive college counseling. And as college admissions becomes more complicated, even the very best students often do not understand how to prepare for college, how to select a college or how to apply for college.

Students who attend low-performing schools or schools that do not have an active college-going culture often do not know how to reach their full potential, no matter how bright or hardworking they are. EAOP and other outreach programs help fill this gap so that our state's best students, regardless of their economic circumstances, their location, or their family's level of education, can make college possible.

Can't students find the information on how to go to college on the Web or at the library?

EAOP does provide students with written materials and publications that help them prepare for college. But it does much more than simply provide information. For example, middle school students improve their writing skills in intensive summer workshops. Advanced Placement readiness programs provide intensive study, experimentation and field experience. SAT I, SAT II and ACT test preparation classes help students gain confidence and succeed on these important college entrance exams. Mathematics institutes help high school students succeed in calculus. And regular monitoring of academic performance helps EAOP students stay on track and succeed in the college preparatory ("a-g") courses.

Anybody can tour a college campus. What does EAOP do on campuses that is so different?

EAOP provides students with opportunities to study on the campuses as well as to tour the campuses. The program offers intensive courses in math and science for students whose schools do not have the resources to prepare them for, say, advanced calculus. Often, these courses are offered on University of California campuses on Saturdays or during the summer, so that students who may never have seen a major university campus have the experience of attending classes, doing research, using the libraries and working with real professors and other students.

Students who are really smart, who get good grades, will go to college anyway, won't they?

Even the best students need someone to believe in them, to tell them "You can do this; here's how." Many students come from families where education is not a given. Their parents likely did not go to college, or if they did, attended a community college for only a short period of time. Many students come from immigrant families whose native countries offer systems of higher education that are vastly different from California's. Perhaps families are telling their children "You can do this." But often as not, they do not know how to make college happen for their children. EAOP helps students and their families learn how to take action toward the goal of going to college.

So EAOP is only for those students who are definitely going to college, right?

Wrong. EAOP is for students who have the potential to prepare for college, students who attend many of California's lowest-performing schools. Students are expected to participate in EAOP activities and programs and to work hard to realize their full potential. But it is not limited to students who only earn the very top grades or test scores at their schools — any student who attends a low-performing school and who aspires to college is welcome in EAOP.

What if an EAOP student doesn't want to go to UC?

EAOP believes that if a student is prepared for the University of California, that student will be prepared to attend any college or university. In 2002, nearly one-third of all EAOP seniors were eligible to attend the University of California. Nearly half of all EAOP students enrolled in a state college or university. Statistically, 17 percent enrolled at a UC campus, 16 percent enrolled at a CSU campus, and 15 percent enrolled at a community college.

Are EAOP students really prepared for top-tier schools like the University of California?

Yes. A recent study from UCLA shows that EAOP students are twice as likely to have completed the required "a-g" subject coursework when compared with their non-EAOP peers. More important, their persistence rates rival those of all UC students.

So, once EAOP students get in to UC, they stay?

Absolutely. More than 91 percent of the EAOP students enrolled at a UC campus completed their first year (compared with just over 92 percent of all entering freshmen). Equally important, of those EAOP students who entered UC as freshmen in 1998, more than 81 percent were still attending and working toward their degrees after three years — compared with 80 percent of all freshmen who entered that same year.

How important is EAOP to helping the University of California live up to its mandate of reflecting the diversity of the state?

EAOP participants represent nearly one-third of the historically underrepresented students at the University of California (African American, Native American, Chicano/Latino).

Sample Letter to the Editor

Please encourage students and families to voice their concerns about cutbacks to EAOP. Legislators monitor the local media to find out where their constituents stand on issues. This is a good way for EAOP students and families to stand up and be heard about the elimination of outreach programs at their schools.

Students tend to be very vocal about this program. If possible, encourage them to write of their personal experiences and why EAOP is important to them and to their futures. Encourage them to talk about their family's educational background, their college goals and how the program benefits them. Ask them to limit their letter to 500 words.

If families do not have the time or do not choose to write their own letters, please supply them with the draft template letter (below), asking them to personalize it however they would like.

The letters should not be more than 500 words, preferably less. The letter should be addressed to "Letters to the Editor" and sent to the local newspaper (not necessarily the largest newspaper). Letters also can be sent to "News Desk" at the local radio or television station. Letters should be signed, along with the address and telephone number of the person sending the letter (virtually all news organizations will call to confirm that the letter is real). Some news organizations have the ability to receive letters via e-mail through their Web site. It is not necessary to know the name of the editor (newspaper) or news director (TV/radio). A simple salutation, such as, "Dear Editor" or "Dear News Director" will suffice.

Sample text for family letter:

Dear Editor,

If enacted, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's budget proposal will eliminate EAOP, which helps many students at our local school get ready for college. The governor says that every outreach dollar belongs in the classroom and the schools, and that is exactly where EAOP services are centered.

EAOP is an academic enrichment program, which means that it helps fill the educational gaps that result from the state's low per-pupil spending. Programs like EAOP help students at our local schools have at least some of the advantages that are often available to students who attend private schools or schools in wealthier neighborhoods and communities.

This program helps our local students boost their achievement in the classroom. It provides in-school academic advising, test-preparation programs, on-campus summer residential programs, information for families about how to help students get ready for college, workshops on how to obtain financial aid and so much more. It inspires students to believe in themselves and families to believe in the future.

The governor's budget proposal will eliminate EAOP and all other UC Outreach programs immediately. Last year, the program lost 50 percent of its funding because of state budget cuts. Now, the state wants to eliminate these programs entirely.

Eliminating the program will not save California. Instead, it will exact a painfully high price as fewer of our students will be prepared for college, or for rewarding careers. Instead of helping our students achieve their full potential, the state will compromise the future of our children by eliminating programs designed to help families and students in communities and schools where the need is greatest.

One-third of the historically underrepresented students currently attending UC participated in this program. Research shows that the students in this program are better prepared to attend universities, and once they enroll, they are as likely as any other student to stay in school. This program is helping the California economy by preparing students in our school and from our community to become contributing members of society.

EAOP helps students and families turn the dreams of college into the reality of actually going to college. Last year nearly one-third of all EAOP seniors were eligible to attend first-rate universities, like the University of California. If the budget cuts are enacted and EAOP is eliminated, our students will not benefit—instead they will pay the terrible price of not being able to realize their full potential.