

UNIVERSITY
OF
CALIFORNIA

K-12 Partnerships



A young girl with dark hair styled in braids, wearing a brown long-sleeved shirt, is seen from behind, raising her right hand in a classroom. In the background, a teacher in a black dress is standing near a whiteboard, and other students are partially visible. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

At the University of California
our commitment to equal
opportunity isn't only about
who we serve on our campuses.

It's about making sure all the state's
youth — especially those who are
underserved — have access to a
quality education.



A MISSION OF ACCESS

Raising the Curve for All Californians

The University of California plays a role in the education of millions of young people, whether or not they are UC-bound.

Kindergarteners benefit from groundbreaking research on early literacy pioneered by UC's nationally ranked schools of education. Fifth graders use math strategies developed by UC learning specialists. Middle school students launch a lifelong love of science and technology by building rockets at UC-administered afterschool programs.

High school students meet with UC advisers at their school's college resource center for one-on-one guidance that makes college attainable.

The University of California's role in the education of California students is embedded in our 150-year-old mission.

It includes supporting educators, partnering with schools to create a robust curriculum and engaging with youth and their families to build a foundation for college and career.

From the coast to the Sierra and from kindergarten through senior year, we bring our leadership in research, teaching and public service to help California students succeed.

PREPARING STUDENTS

Opening a Portal to the Future

Across the state, talented students face barriers to higher education not because they lack ability, but because they lack resources.

Working in under-resourced schools across the state, UC provides support that has enabled countless young people to go on to higher education.

Advisers with the Early Academic Outreach Program (EAOP), for example, offer critical guidance on going to college, such as which courses to take, where and how to apply, and how to receive financial assistance and budget for college. UC's Transfer Prep program helps students enroll in community college and pursue a transfer path to a four-year degree.

Thousands of motivated, low-income students participate in summer academies at UC campuses, where they stretch their abilities, meet like-minded peers and experience university life.

It's part of helping students envision themselves as college material, and providing the practical tools and services to make that vision a reality.

- UC college access programs reach 100,000 students every year.
- Up to 70 percent of participants go on to higher education, compared with 41 percent of all California students.
- Programs are in place in 1,100 schools.





PREPARING STUDENTS

Hands-on Learning Helps Students Reach Higher

Students in the Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) program learn by doing: mastering advanced concepts of physics and engineering by designing devices like solar-powered rovers and robotic arms.

Developed by UC Berkeley educators, the program has become a national model for helping low-income and minority students excel in science and technology. Participants have won national awards and scholarships, and been propelled toward a range of high-tech careers. Alum Victor Glover, for instance, was recently chosen to be a NASA astronaut.

MESA is just one way UC provides quality, hands-on academic enrichment — backed up with mentoring and advisory support — to enable students to excel in a variety of subjects. Through these programs, students gain the experiences to ignite their curiosity and the skills to reach for the stars.

MATH AND SCIENCE

- MESA reaches 20,000 elementary, middle and high school students yearly.
- Roughly 75 percent of seniors go on to college, mostly in STEM fields.

READING AND WRITING

- The UC-led PUENTE program has helped more than 400,000 underserved high school students achieve high scores in writing and literacy.

COLLEGE READINESS

- Participants in MESA, PUENTE and similar programs are twice as likely as their classmates to complete a college-preparatory curriculum.

Mentors Make All the Difference

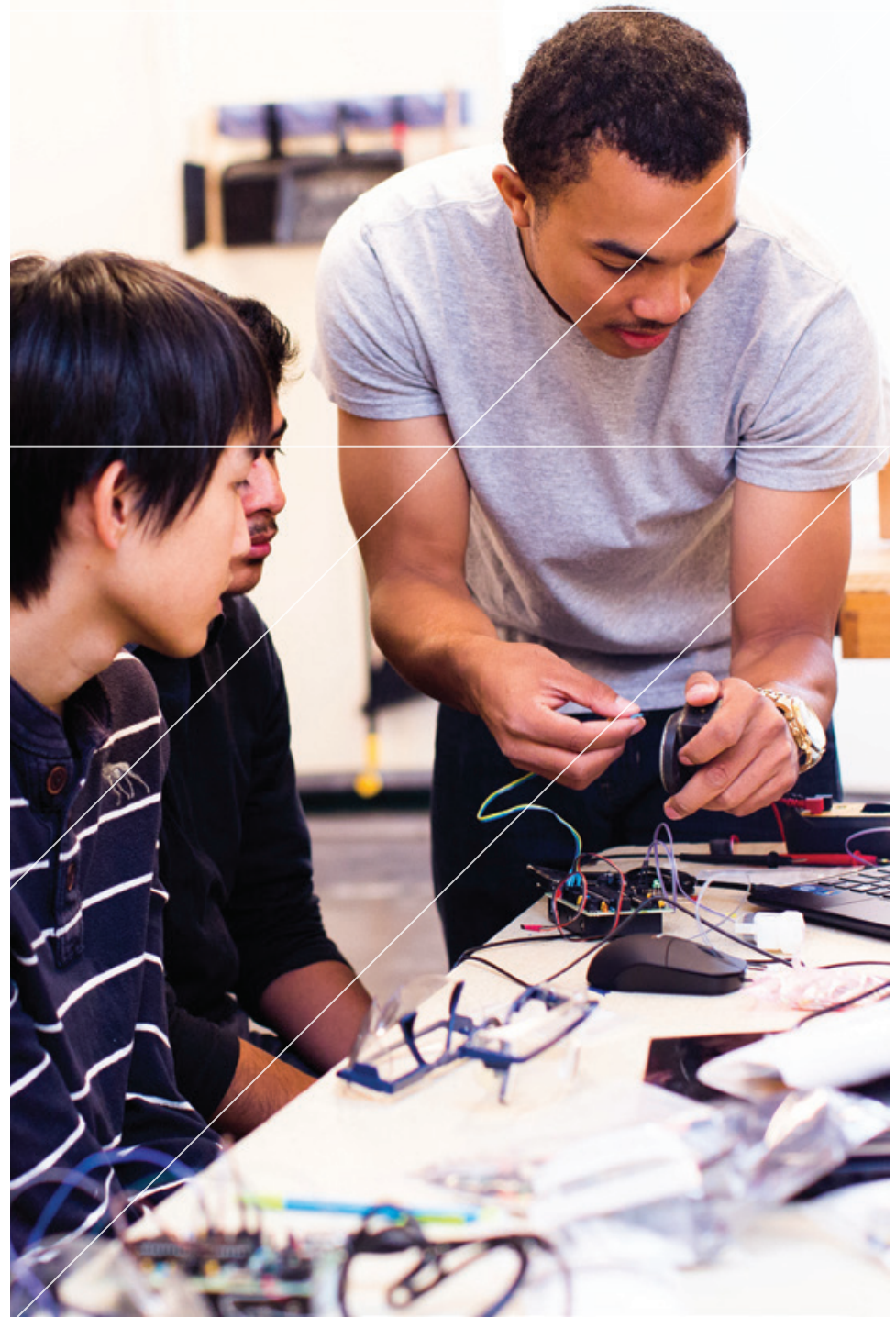
In partnership with communities and nonprofits across the state, UC programs connect young people with mentors and role models who inspire them to strive.

Roughly 30,000 disadvantaged students in California participate in educational outreach programs in their communities, founded and operated by UC students. UCLA's CODE to College, for example, brings foster youth to campus, where they are mentored by undergraduates who themselves were in the foster system.

Thousands more UC students serve as tutors in afterschool programs and volunteer in K-12 classrooms.

UC also reaches thousands of parents of K-12 students with programs that cultivate the power of family members as a driving force in student success.

Through the Mission Graduates program in San Francisco, parents who are recent immigrants work together to build a college-going culture, learning about grade point averages, the “a-g” curriculum and federal financial aid while their future college graduates climb on monkey bars outside. Through programs like this one, UC trains parents to serve as peer advisers who can help others in their community steer their kids toward a college degree.







PARTNERING WITH SCHOOLS

Putting Theory Into Practice

At UC's eight nationally recognized schools of education, faculty and researchers tackle the big issues: improving literacy, lowering dropout rates, removing barriers to educational equality.

They also gather the evidence to inform everyday approaches to instruction: Which elementary school math concepts are most important to later success? What reading strategies work best for English learners? It's intelligence they are putting to work to improve education across the state.

At UCLA's Center X, for example, UC education experts work closely with classroom teachers. Together, they craft new strategies to erase achievement gaps, overcome obstacles and boost learning for the underserved students of Los Angeles.

UC education and policy experts helped guide development of the new Common Core State Standards. They provide training and materials to help educators implement the standards in a way that will bring their subjects to life.

UC SCHOOLS OF EDUCATION

Berkeley: gse.berkeley.edu

Davis: education.ucdavis.edu

Irvine: education.uci.edu

Los Angeles: gseis.ucla.edu

Riverside: education.ucr.edu

San Diego: eds.ucsd.edu

Santa Barbara: education.ucsb.edu

Santa Cruz: education.ucsc.edu

Making Middle School Count

The California GEAR UP program administered by UC has partnered with more than 250 high-poverty schools — a fifth of the middle schools in California — to give students the foundation to climb the academic ladder.

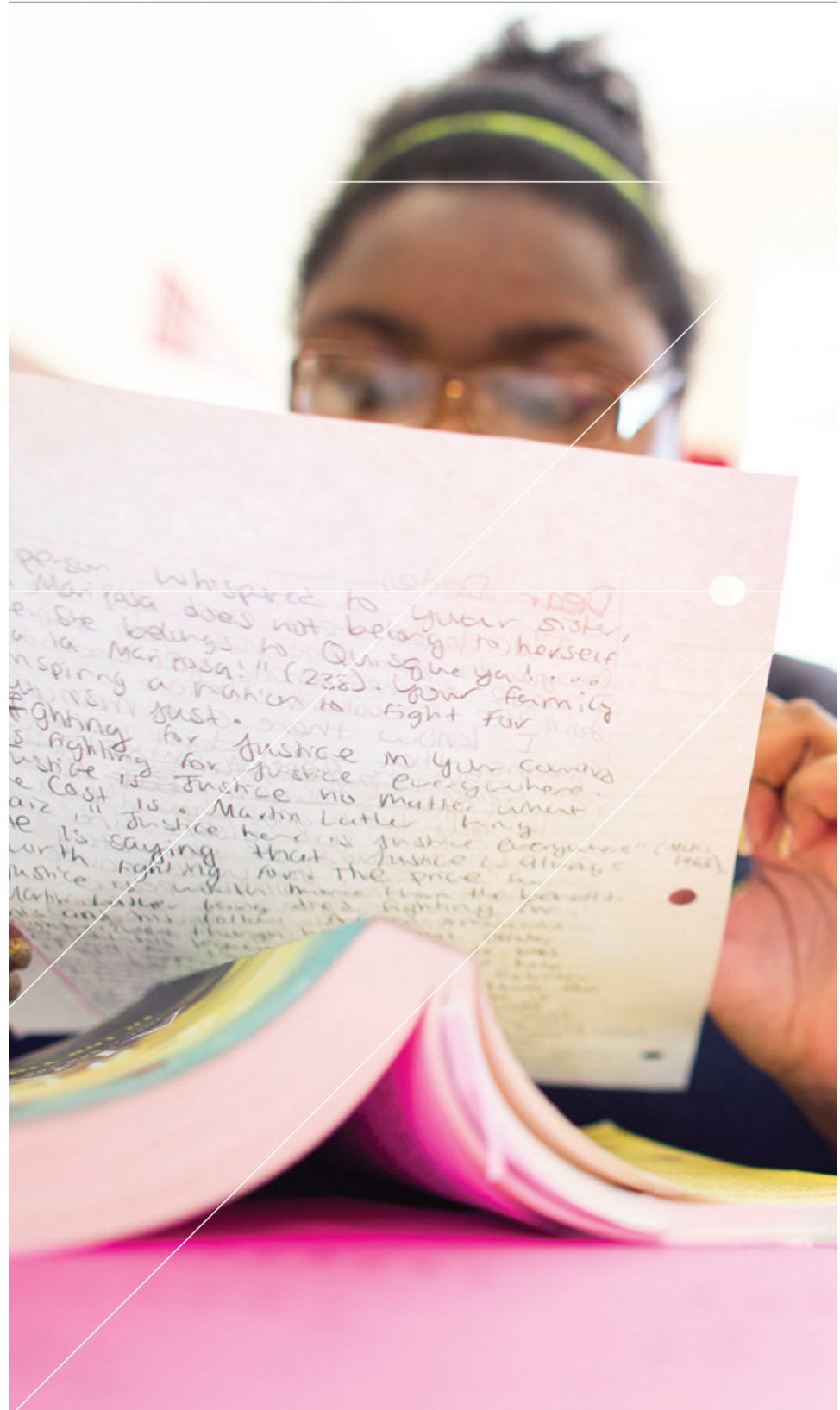
The program works to involve the entire school, from parents to principals, in creating a college-going culture. School leaders develop action plans to boost academic rigor and address hurdles to student achievement.

Teachers participate in UC-led professional development programs and benefit from groundbreaking educational research.

Even small actions, like setting up a college fund jar and tucking in stray dollars, can help families cultivate a college-going mindset. Participating schools have seen test scores improve and students enter high school more academically prepared.

And they've established practices and relationships that continue to help students and teachers long after they exit the six-year program.

The result doesn't just impact what students learn today. It reaches them at a critical time in their schooling, expanding their options far down the road.





PARTNERING WITH SCHOOLS

Creating Transformational Schools

Charter schools that operate in partnership with UC campuses are breaking new ground in serving low-income and first-generation college-going students. And they're cracking into the ranks of the nation's top-rated schools.

For three years running, Newsweek has named The Preuss School, affiliated with UC San Diego, as the most transformative high school in America. It boasts graduation rates and standardized test scores that place it among the best schools in the country.

At Cal Prep, affiliated with UC Berkeley, students wear university sweatshirts as their uniforms, develop personalized roadmaps to higher education and return to the school as alumni to share their experiences of college.

Tutoring, weekly one-on-one advising and frequent field trips to campus help students succeed in mastering a rigorous college-prep curriculum.

These strategies have paid off with some of the highest college-going rates in the nation. Virtually every graduating senior is accepted into a four-year university.

UC collaborates directly with almost 400 schools, serving 100,000 K-12 students.



SUPPORTING TEACHERS

Bringing Undergrads to the Head of the Class

Public schools across the state are struggling to find enough math and science teachers. UC is working to address the issue through CalTeach, a program aimed at enticing undergraduate students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics to pursue careers as K-12 educators.

Participants are able to complete field hours in the classroom and earn their teaching credentials at the same time they complete undergraduate degrees.

Since its launch in 2005, CalTeach has prepared more than 1,000 highly qualified teachers in the subjects considered most valuable to tomorrow's workforce — and helped put them to work in classrooms where they are urgently needed.

Across all majors and disciplines, UC provides students with numerous opportunities to get a taste of what it's like to teach in a K-12 classroom.

The aim: Enable California's best and brightest undergraduates to discover a calling to teach, and provide schools with educators who are passionate and knowledgeable.





SUPPORTING TEACHERS

Nurturing the Wisdom of Seasoned Educators

Students at Sierra Preparatory Academy in Santa Ana have excelled at reading and writing by using tactics developed through a collaboration between Santa Ana teachers and specialists at UC Irvine. The students use routines to hone their focus before reading and approach passages with a specific goal in mind. Such approaches have helped students advance more in reading and writing than students at any of the district's 60 other schools.

The California Subject Matter Project makes such success possible. Through a mix of intensive workshops and ongoing collaboration, teachers stay on top of the latest approaches to instruction. They receive deep subject-area training, along with materials and curriculum support.

They return to the classroom with the tools and techniques to make a difference for their own students and raise the quality of instruction throughout the school.

CALIFORNIA SUBJECT MATTER PROJECT

- Program reaches 30,000 educators in 6,000 schools every year.
- Nearly half of the educators are in the state's lowest-performing schools.
- At least 85 percent of participants say the program has improved their ability to teach.

UC'S PRINCIPAL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTES

- Program has equipped 1,000 educators with skills and strategies to lead urban schools.
- More than 90 percent go into high-poverty, hard-to-staff schools.

Building the Foundation for Opportunity

At the University of California, we're working hand-in-hand with K-12 educators to create a robust and relevant education: one that will inspire students not just to learn but to think, not only to give answers but to question and solve.

We bring to this partnership our hard-won insights: research that has shaped policy, elevated standards and fostered innovative new approaches. We bring our people: national experts with years of experience in supporting schools and teachers in implementing a dynamic curriculum.

And we bring our commitment to public service: UC prides itself on being there for California's families, its youngsters and its communities, and offering the resources that empower young people to learn and grow.

Together, we're putting the best minds to work to improve California education — and give all students the foundation to achieve a productive, satisfying future.



