



PATHWAY TO COLLEGE CAMPUS VISITS

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Purpose and Overview

This University Outreach initiative serves as an opportunity to host local area K-8th students through campus visits, while providing them with information and motivation for postsecondary education. The three hour long visit incorporates a basic fundamental understanding of the benefits of a college education and also outlines a step by step checklist that guides them through the A-G requirements, SAT/ACT, choosing a college and financial aid information. That is followed by a CSUCI student panel in which our first generation students are able to serve as role models and as educators while sharing their journeys to CSUCI. The CSUCI student volunteers then conduct a campus a tour and after lunch we finish with an interactive trivia game. The trivia games incorporates physical challenges and team work, and also serves as a retention exercise for the visiting student because the questions are taken directly from the information that was presented to them earlier in the day. The visiting students are also able to take with them folders with college preparation information and CSUCI souvenirs, as well as certificates of completion for the Pathway to College Campus Visit. We have used a pre and post test questionnaire as a way of assessing our success and also as a tool for continual improvement.



Pathway to College Campus Visit participants take a proud picture outside the Bell Tower.

A Unique Component



Visiting students from local elementary school sit in the South Quad as they finish lunch and prepare for the "Pathway to College Knowledge Bowl".

For many students, the opportunity to visit a college campus alone can be a life altering experience. With this program we are not only able to expose them to a lively university, but also address the information that has proven to be necessary in order for them to become aware of the expectations leading up to college. Our CSUCI student leaders share motivating stories of their own college journey and can answer questions regarding preparation and seeking out resources to overcome obstacles. The financial aid awareness that is developed through a PowerPoint discussion serves as a method of overcoming the financial myth that "college is only for the rich". We are proud to say that we address, and provide resources for many of the obstacles that first generation students face in attaining a college education. By covering the academic preparation as well as the socio-economic issues, it is our hope that we will stand out as a program that is all encompassing in it's efforts to meet the needs of the whole person.

Assessment



The tool for measuring our success has been the pre and post test. The results showed that on average 41% of the students learned about the A-G requirements which are the courses that they will need to take in order to become

eligible for university admissions. Our assessment results also show that 40% of the students learned about at least one of the four types of institutions of higher education in California. As for qualitative evidence that reflects the success of the program, we have a file of teacher evaluations that quote many thank you's for the impact of the program and the information that we teach the children. One teacher stated that "this is the information that the students need to hear and that this program is something they invite as much and as often as possible because of the effectiveness".



PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- To motivate students by providing them with college success stories and CSUCI experiences.
- To inform students of A-G requirements, college entrance exams, GPA importance, California systems of higher education, and financial aid.
- To provide students with an opportunity to visit a post-secondary institution.