

Cuyamaca College Rising Scholars: Grant Goals 2020-2021 to 2023-2024

Report Prepared February 2025

Cuyamaca College's Rising Scholars program supports the success of justice-involved students. The program set annual goals to increase the number of justice-involved students enrolled, increase access to Counseling services, increase fall-to-spring persistence for first-time students, and increase certificate and degree completion relative to the 2020-2021 baseline academic year. The program exceeded these four goals as of 2023-2024 (year 3).

Goal 1: Increase Students Enrolled as of Census

In the Fall 2020 baseline semester, 19 Cuyamaca College Rising Scholars were enrolled as of census at the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District (GCCCD). Compared to the baseline student headcount, there was a 47% decrease to 10 Rising Scholars in Fall 2021 (year 1), and a 5% decrease to 18 students in Fall 2022 (year 2). In Fall 2023 (year 3), 26 Rising Scholars were enrolled, reflecting a 37% increase from the baseline semester. This exceeds the program's goal of a 20% increase in Rising Scholars enrolled in the fall semester as of census by year 3.

Semester	Rising Scholars Cohort #	% Change from Baseline	% Change Goal
Fall 2020	19	--	--
Fall 2021	10	-47%	5%
Fall 2022	18	-5%	10%
Fall 2023	26	37%	20%

Notes: Counts of unduplicated students in each cohort include Cuyamaca College Rising Scholars students who were enrolled at GCCCD as of census in the given semester.

Goal 2: Increase Access to Counseling

In the 2020-2021 baseline academic year, 21 of the 32 Rising Scholars (66%) received Counseling services. This Counseling access rate increased 22% in 2021-2022 (year 1), increased 47% in 2022-2023 (year 2), and increased 25% in 2023-2024 (year 3), in which 28 of the 34 Rising Scholars (82%) received Counseling services. This exceeds the program's goal of a 20% increase in access to Counseling by year 3.

Academic Year	Rising Scholars Cohort #	Received Counseling Services			
		#	%	% Change from Baseline	% Change Goal
2020-2021	32	21	66%	--	--
2021-2022	25	20	80%	22%	5%
2022-2023	26	25	96%	47%	10%
2023-2024	34	28	82%	25%	20%

Notes: Counts of unduplicated students in each cohort include Cuyamaca College Rising Scholars students who were enrolled at GCCCD as of census in the given academic year and received Counseling services at Cuyamaca College in the given year.

Goal 3: Increase First-Time Student Persistence

The 2020-2021 Rising Scholars cohort included seven first-time students who started at GCCCD in the Summer or Fall 2020 semesters. Of these seven first-time students, one persisted to the Spring 2021 semester, resulting in a 14% persistence rate. This persistence rate increased 600% in 2021-2022 (year 1), with the one first-time student persisting to Spring 2022. Compared to the 2020-2021 baseline, the persistence rate increased 250% in 2022-2023 (year 2), and increased 444% in 2023-2024 (year 3). This exceeds the program's goal to increase first-time students' persistence rates 20% by year 3.

Academic Year	Rising Scholars First-Time Cohort #	Persisted to Second Semester		% Change from Baseline	% Change Goal
		#	%		
2020-2021	7	1	14%	--	--
2021-2022	1	1	100%	600%	5%
2022-2023	6	3	50%	250%	10%
2023-2024	9	7	78%	444%	20%

Notes: First-time cohort includes Rising Scholars students who started at GCCCD in the summer or fall of the given academic year. Persistence rates reflect the percentage of first-time Rising Scholars students who were enrolled in the subsequent spring semester as of census.

Goal 4: Increase Certificate and Degree Completion

Three of the 32 Rising Scholars students in the 2020-2021 cohort completed a GCCCD certificate or degree by the end of the 2023-2024 academic year, representing a 9% completion rate. This completion rate increased 113% in 2021-2022 (year 1), increased 105% in 2022-2023 (year 2), and increased 25% in 2023-2024 (year 3). This exceeds the program's goal to increase certificate and degree completion rates 20% by year 3.

Academic Year	Rising Scholars Cohort #	Completed Certificate or Degree		% Change from Baseline	% Change Goal
		#	%		
2020-2021	32	3	9%	--	--
2021-2022	25	5	20%	113%	5%
2022-2023	26	5	19%	105%	10%
2023-2024	34	4	12%	25%	20%

Notes: Counts and percentages reflect Rising Scholars students who completed a GCCCD certificate and/or degree by June 30, 2024.