

Two EOP summer programs cosponsored by UCSD offered to low-income and minority students

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Two summer programs, cosponsored by the University of California, San Diego, are providing some San Diego Unified School District students with an opportunity to attend school during the summer months despite drastic cutbacks in the district's regular summer school program.

About 900 low-income and minority students are enrolled in a summer workstudy program made possible by the UC San Diego Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), the school district and the county Regional Youth Employment (REGY) program.

Concurrently, 130 ninth-grade students are getting a taste of college life as part of their summer education. The students have been invited to spend a week at UC San Diego, living in apartments on campus and attending classes during the day.

Students enrolled in the work-study program attend classes at one of five district schools: Mission Bay, Crawford, Kearny and Wright Brothers high schools and Memorial Junior High School. Classes are designed to teach students basic educational skills and to provide youngsters with some job training and vocational counseling. Students in the REGY program receive salaries while they attend classes.

Funding is shared by the three sponsoring institutions. The school district provides the facilities; REGY pays for transportation, part of the teachers' salaries and the students' salaries, and UC San Diego contributes to the teachers' salaries.

The youngsters in the summer residential program are the top students in the UC San Diego Partnership Program during the school year. The program provides individual and group counseling to about 2,500 students in the ninth grade in order to motivate them to seek a higher education, and to help them plan their academic programs so they will be prepared for college when they graduate from high school.

During the week-long residency at UC San Diego, the students study basic academic skills and take diagnostic tests in the morning. The afternoon sessions feature activities such as a screening of the film "Scared Straight," a documentary on a prison program designed to discourage youngsters from breaking the law.

The goal of the summer school program, the Partnership Program and a high school program called University Partners is to ensure that low-income and minority students who apply to colleges and universities have taken the classes necessary to qualify for admission. The UC San Diego counselors who visit the high schools and junior high schools also work closely with the parents of students involved with the programs, so the parents can encourage and assist their children at home.

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TO THE EDITOR: Students in the summer residential program will be on campus July 15-20 and August 5-10. A picnic for all of the students participating in the summer school program and the residential program is scheduled August 9 at UC San Diego.

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