

# Sequoia Grove Charter Schools

## A-G Completion Improvement Grant Program

### College Opportunity

February 2022

#### Overview

The A-G Completion Improvement Grant is a program to provide additional support to local education agencies to help increase the number of California high school pupils, particularly unduplicated pupils, who graduate from high school with A-G eligibility.

#### Goals

1. **Increase A-G Completion rate among unduplicated students:** A focus on our EL students, Foster Youth and Title 1 eligible students with specific invitations and grant-funded opportunities as outlined in the College Opportunity Program. Our program builds a cohort that encourages enrollment in courses with approval in the UC Portal. Increasing A-G course enrollment will improve A-G completion rates and in turn, college applications and acceptances.
2. **Increase A-G Completion rates among all students:** Many elements of the College Opportunity Program will also be available to students who do not fall into any of the unduplicated categories. Grant funding for these students will depend on the amount of funding received and the number of students interested.
3. **Establish and Implement the College Opportunity Program:** Detailed below, this program seeks to use this grant funding to increase our A-G Completion rates (Goals 1 & 2) across all three Sequoia Grove high schools.

## Specifications

Grant details found on the [CDE Website](#).

The grant is automatically configured by the School Finance Department which sets allocations according to the number of qualifying students. Apportionments then go directly to the LEAs. The survey exists for the California Department of Education to collect information on funding and the success of the A-GCIP program.

Here is the link to the survey: [A-G Completion and Improvement Grant Survey \(ca.gov\)](#)  
Surveys were submitted on 1/31/22 and the printouts of the submissions for each school are in [this folder](#).

## Current Status

Criteria as set by the California Dept. of Education:

Allocation will be based on an equal amount per unduplicated pupils enrolled in grades 9-12 as reported in CALPADS or 2020-2021 fiscal year Fall 1 submission. Access grant LEA had less than 67 percent A-G completion rate. Success grant LEA had an overall A-G completion rate of 67 percent or higher.

GRANT ELIGIBLE STUDENTS Per 2020-2021 fiscal Fall Submission				
	Title 1	English Learners	Foster Youth	TOTAL ELIGIBLE (Numbers may not add up if student qualifies >1 category)
Clarksville Charter School	72	10	2	73
Feather River Charter School	98	14	3	107
Lake View Charter School	28	0	0	28

As schools with <67% A-G Completion, we will be seeking the higher funding amounts involved in the Success Grant.

Percentage of TOTAL Graduates with A-G Completion						
	Actuals			Goals		
	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Clarksville Charter School	14.29%	1.82%	19.4%	25%	30%	35%
Feather River Charter School	3.06%	9.8%	16.98%	25%	30%	35%
Lake View Charter School	–	0%	0%	25%	30%	35%

Percentage of UNDUPLICATED Graduates with A-G Completion						
	Actuals			Goals		
	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
Clarksville Charter School	16.67%	0%	10%	25%	30%	35%
Feather River Charter School	4.44%	15%	11.54%	25%	30%	35%
Lake View Charter School	–	0%	0%	25%	30%	35%

## Evidence of College and Career Readiness - Dashboard

Another tangible way to show improvement in this program would be tracking the CCI Dashboard for each school. Below are links to our CDE Dashboard statistics in the two most recent years:

<a href="#">Clarksville 2021</a>	<a href="#">Feather River 2021</a>	<a href="#">Lake View 2021</a>
<a href="#">Clarksville 2020</a>	<a href="#">Feather River 2020</a>	
<a href="#">Clarksville 2019</a>	<a href="#">Feather River 2019</a>	
<a href="#">Clarksville 2018</a>	<a href="#">Feather River 2018</a>	

# College Opportunity Program Components

## Program Summary/Overview

Students interested in attending college after high school would apply to this College Opportunity program. Unduplicated students would be personally invited to participate. The program would group them in cohorts and would offer grade-specific college-bound enrichment and support. The grant would provide for both community, academic support, and enriching experiences, increasing their likelihood of completing the A-G sequence of courses and attaining the goal of college admission and attendance.

Student accepted into the program would sign a contract and participate in the critical components of the program as follows:

### Enrollment in A-G Courses in Pursuit of A-G Completion at Diploma

Courses include HST-supervised course outlines, HSVA courses with credentialed high school teachers and any Concurrent Enrollment or Dual Enrollment courses with community colleges. We will encourage high-quality A-G options by financially incentivizing our internal programs, HSVA and Dual Enrollment with Yuba College—students would have their HSVA courses and Yuba College books paid from out of the grant.

### Orientation Wilderness Retreat + One Social Activity Each Semester

Before the start of the school year, students accepted into the cohorts will have the opportunity to participate in a week-long wilderness retreat. This is a team-building event with abundant life-skills building opportunities and support from Sequoia Grove Staff. Ongoing social opportunities promotes buy-in and longevity in the program, supplying a community of support for these students.

## Use of California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI) & Enrollment in Academic Planning Course Appropriate to Grade Level

CCGI is the CDE-sponsored premier Academic Planning and Guidance software. Our newly partnered relationship with CCGI allows students to explore college and career options that personally tailor their search for post-high school goals. Additionally, CCGI tracks A-G courses and facilitates college applications and financial aid.

## Summer School Credit Recovery

In the event that we have students with failing grades for graduation-required courses or any grades of "D" in pursuit of A-G completion, they will have the opportunity to take a vendor course in the summer, if that is their best option. This allows them to retake the problematic course(s) for grade improvement or credits earned.

## Participate in the C.R.E.W Program

This is a 15-month program for 11th-12th graders. It includes workshops covering applications, essays and entrance testing as well as college tours, mentorships, and scholarship/financial aid assistance. The C.R.E.W. program follows up with students once a semester all the way through graduation, offering both support to the students and data for our schools.

## Two Counselor Meetings each Semester

Each student will check in regularly to assess progress in the program and receive individualized support. One meeting is with the same-grade cohort and the other is one-on-one. Topics covered include Academic Planning Course subject matter, A-G Class progress checks, Tutoring referrals, if necessary.

## Signed Contract Acknowledging Participation Requirements

Contract outlines the role and responsibilities of the student, and also outlines what the school provides to participants in the program.

## Program at a Glance

Student's Responsibility	School Provides ~At no cost for Unduplicated Students, made available to all as financially feasible~
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completes the 15 year-long course A-G Sequence with grades of C or better</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HSVA and Dual Enrollment Courses free of charge, including books</li> <li>• Tutoring provided at no expense when needed</li> <li>• Ability to retake courses to earn a "C". Summer school vendor courses available, if needed</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation in Orientation</li> <li>• Ongoing Community Events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Camp Augusta Wilderness Week</li> <li>• Regular events like rock climbing, swing dancing, movie outings, etc</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI)</li> <li>• Completion of Academic Planning Coursework</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CCGI Partner Software</li> <li>• Grade-specific college-bound coaching from counseling staff</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular meetings with Counselor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and accountability from counselor invested in student's goals</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation in C.R.E.W. College Program</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of Pathways to Travel's proven <a href="#">C.R.E.W. program</a> that includes               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ College Tours</li> <li>○ College Application coaching</li> <li>○ Financial Aid Assistance</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## Costs

Preliminary College Opportunity Costs (Per student)	
1500	Camp Augusta Wilderness Week
200	Various Community Events
2000	Four HSVA Courses each semester or books/materials from DE courses
500	Tutoring for AG Level Coursework, particularly writing, math, science
8	Use of California College Guidance Software
100	Possible summer school remediation/credit recovery with a vendor (SVHS?)
	Dedicated Counselor time for students in program
2500	Pathways to Travel C.R.E.W. Program for 11th & 12th graders

For students in unduplicated groups, these costs would be covered under the grant funding. Students outside the unduplicated groups are welcome to apply and financial backing would be considered depending on the size of the grant.

Even without the financial support from the grant, students would be encouraged to participate in the program, using their regular funding as needed. The program would be open to all who are interested in pursuing a college goal post-high school.

# Funding in Support of our High School Virtual Academy

Summary:

- Using grant money to subsidize the deficit in the HSVA program benefits ALL students, raising A-G completion rates across the schools. It also serves as a transition buffer to ensure the financial health of this important program.

Funding from the grant beyond this College Opportunity program would be used as a support for our in-house premier A-G virtual school, HSVA. HSVA has been making A-G courses accessible for our Sequoia Grove students for two years now.

HSVA is our key strategy for supporting all students in their A-G pursuits with highly qualified subject-area credentialed teachers. Enrollment in HSVA courses is a superior foundation for success in meeting standards as determined by CAASPP testing. Earning school dashboard credit for AG Completion Improvement also requires that students meet standards on their CAASPP testing, so quality instruction is key in both the AG Completion and Testing Mastery metrics.

For the 22-23 school year, we will be operating without partner schools for the first time and may incur transition expenses that this grant funding could provide to make A-G curriculum more available to each high school student at Sequoia Grove. As we split from Central and establish a program dedicated to our Sequoia Grove Students, we'd like to hire key teachers who have been part of HSVA, but are currently employed by Central Schools. This will make our classes smaller than is financially required to roughly cover salaries. (Ideally, a high school virtual teacher would have 180 students using \$500 of funding/year = \$90,000) This grant is an opportunity to establish our strong program supporting AG and CAASPP "Standards Met" with a financial supplement, knowing that we will "grow into" these larger numbers as the grant expires.

Currently, of course, the program is subsidized by the general fund as the expense to run it is not covered by the \$225 per course cost that students take from their funding accounts. For the 2019-2020 North/Central school year, student funding covered roughly 65% of the expenses, and we are looking at roughly 44% for the 2021-2022 Sequoia/Central school year.



## Assessment of Success

In accordance with the grant, LEAs need to report on the initial success of the three-year implementation by 12/31/22.

Using the metrics from the Current Status section of this report, we will track numbers from:

- General population students who have completed the A-G sequence of coursework by graduation
- Number of general population students enrolled in the program, committing to completing the A-G sequence and applying to college.
- Breakout of unduplicated students who have either graduated with the A-G Sequence complete or who have enrolled in the program and committed to an A-G complete college-bound path.