

## Cover Letter

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### **MicroCollege (Honors Pathway) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)**

#### WHAT

*We operate college pathway programs for low-income, college-bound students who are college-capable but not yet college-ready. We enable students to complete up to two years of college classes at no cost and provide them intensive coaching and support until they earn their college degrees and begin professional careers.*

*Since 2017, we have partnered with public high schools throughout Northern California and are developing a national consortium of sponsor universities to support our expansion. (<https://honorspathway.org/>)*

#### SO WHAT

Data from the CAP program suggests that our Wave-Makers who attend community colleges and some of the CSU campuses are not persisting, transferring (to four-year colleges), and graduating at the same rates as our students attending the UC schools and private colleges.

The MicroCollege Honors Pathway program is an opportunity for us to pilot additional post-secondary programming pathways for our Wave-Makers. It allows them to continue to pursue an appropriately challenging post-secondary pathway that is aligned with the dreams they have for themselves and their career aspirations.

On average, students enrolling in this program have a cumulative GPA of 1.9. This GPA is consistent with less than 10%-15% of our senior classes, historically. In addition, about 15%-25% of our senior classes are on a continuum between “college-eligible” and “college ready”, choosing to attend either a community college, a CSU, or vocational certification program.

This is an opportunity for a small percentage of our senior classes to receive additional support in pursuing and achieving college success.

#### NOW WHAT

- Signing the MOU has no fiscal impact for MWA.
- In summary, we are asked to make our seniors available to share the details of the program and work with them on their FAFSA and financial aid applications.
- CAP has verbally agreed to amend the entrance requirements to allow MWA alumni who participate in the Honors Pathway program to still be able to participate in the CAP program later on.