

2026 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SHOWCASE

Sacramento State College Corps

Heidi Torres, Fellow Advisor and Coordinator

Various within K-12 Education, Climate Action, Food Insecurity, and Economic Opportunity



Program Description

Many College students face challenges of securing paid internships, and Sacramento State College Corps helps bridge that gap. The #CaliforniansForAll College Corps, an initiative from the Office of the Governor, is designed to create debt-free pathways to college while engaging students statewide in addressing critical community issues. This innovative program will deploy over 10,000 Fellows across the state over the next four years. Notably, AB540 CA Dream Act students are included in this state service program.

College Corps Fellows can earn up to \$10,000 per academic year, placed in various Community Host Sites in three focus areas: K-12 education, Climate Action, and Food Insecurity.



Experiential Learning for Career Readiness & Civic Impact

Sacramento State College Corps is in its fourth year of operation. In alignment with #CaliforniansForAll initiative, we are committed to enhancing student engagement, expanding enrollment, fostering leadership development, building career skills, and strengthening community partnerships. Our overarching goal is to create a lasting, meaningful impact on both our students and the communities that stand to benefit the most from these efforts.

Through placements with community partner host sites, fellows engage in direct service, lead projects, and contribute as community research assistants. We carefully evaluate potential community partner host sites to ensure that our fellows placed they can learn and make an impact on addressing community issues within our four areas of focus: K-12 Education, Food Insecurity, Climate Action and Economic Opportunities. These experiences help them develop essential career-ready skills such as communication, leadership, problem-solving, and teamwork. Additionally, by aligning placements with students' schedules and transportation needs, we ensure they can fully participate and succeed, strengthening their readiness for post-graduate career opportunities.



Our focus on Assets-Based Community Development (ABCD) is significant. By identifying and mobilizing existing assets within our student population, we can match fellows with host site partners who exemplify a proactive and sustainable approach to community development. This approach empowers individuals, associations, and institutions within the community, promotes collaboration, and enhances the capacity for long-term resilience and success. Our efforts are positively impacting the well-being of our students and communities.

Focus Area	Examples of Service Activities	Community Outcomes	Data Collected (AY 2024-25)
K-12 Education	Tutoring, Mentoring, Coaching (may include Social/Emotional learning/support)	# of K-12 students with improved academic performance or academic engagement	Tutoring: 6,115 (S1) + 3,939 (S2) = 10,054 ; Mentoring: 2,026 (S1) + 827 (S2) = 2,853 Outreach: 8,644 (S1) + 8,112 (S2) = 16,756 engaged + 40 volunteers recruited
Climate Action	Urban Greening Wildfire & Flood Mitigation, Food rescue and Waste diversion, Environmental Education and Resources	# of individuals with increased knowledge of environmental practices, Reduced energy consumption/costs, Reduced wildfire risk, Acres of public land improved.	Outreach: 6,621 (S1) + 1,125 (S2) = 7,746 engaged, 1,682 volunteers recruited 5,172 individuals served ; Trees Planted 520 (S1) + 60 (S2) = 580
Food Insecurity	Meal delivery & preparation, Nutrition/Food Support, Volunteer engagement Education/Training	Increased ability of food banks with increased capacity to recruit	Meals Served: 44,659 (S1) + 33,750 (S2) = 78,409 Outreach: 411 (S1) + 258 (S2) = 669 engaged ; Harvested/Collected: 18,838 lbs.

*S1-Semester (2024-2025 AY); S2-Semester 2 (2024-2025 AY) **Data is up to date as of the 3/21 report

Community Impact

Alchemist CDC partnered with Soil Born Farms to host their Annual Neighborhood Harvest, where our Fellows served as Harvest Leaders to guide teams in collecting **3,824 lbs of citrus from 12 homes**. The fruit was donated to the Sac State Food Pantry, Rancho Cordova Food Bank, and Alchemist's Community Food Connection.



Our climate action site, River District, Fellows complete projects to promote active transportation, healthy living, and enhance public spaces through beautification and litter removal along the American River.



"Our partnership with Sacramento State College Corps has allowed us to double our impact in the community... Fellows have contributed to shifting the perspective of our neighborhood as a safe and welcoming community for everyone.

Having Fellows participate in our organization is seeing their innate leadership skills grow and seeing them in action. Each fellow has the opportunity to lead and facilitate community activity during their time with us. Having fellows is a great opportunity for us to learn as well as impart the importance of good public spaces."

- Cristina Navarro, Program Manager, River District

Career Readiness/Civic Impact Program Highlights

- 5 graduating seniors were offered jobs at host site placements
- Cohort 4 Received **567** applications
- Awarded additional three years of grant funding from California Volunteers, Office of the Governor, a **nearly \$7.5 million** investment that will expand support for underrepresented students through our Division of Student Affairs.

	Cohort 1 Numbers	Cohort 2 Numbers	Cohort 3 Numbers	Cohort 4 Numbers
Student Fellows	81 AmeriCorps 27 Non-AmeriCorps	67 AmeriCorps 30 Non-AmeriCorps	131 AmeriCorps 28 Non-AmeriCorps	150 AmeriCorps 30 Non-AmeriCorps
Enrollment	106	114	168	180
Completion	87 (82.075%)	96 (84.211%)	150 (89.286%)	165 (Projected)
Staff & Faculty	1 Director 2 Advisors 1 Admin 1 Data Analyst 1 Faculty	1 Director 1 Lead Advisor 1 Admin 1 Data Analyst 1 Faculty 2 Graduate SAs	1 Director 1 Lead Advisor 3 Advisors 1 Resource Analyst 1 CHP Coordinator 2 Graduate SAs	1 Director 1 Lead Advisor 3 Advisors 1 Resource Analyst 1 CHP Coordinator 3 Graduate SAs 3 Undergrad SAs

*Enrollment and Completion data listed includes figures provided by West ED and California Volunteers

Campus Community Impact

As a Carnegie-classified institution for community engagement, Sacramento State integrates service and experiential learning to our students. The College Corps program accelerates this strategic priority of advancing workforce development, driving equitable degree completion, and deepening community impact.

"College Corps creates a powerful pathway for students to graduate with less debt while making a meaningful difference"

-Vice President Aniesha Mitchell

"Our students graduate not only career-ready, but community-ready"

-President Luke Wood

"College Corps has been a meaningful experience for me both personally and academically... Through hands-on service and professional training, I... built skills such as communication, time management, teamwork, and leadership.

Even though my major does not directly align with my focus area, I gained valuable transferable skills and real-world experience that will benefit me in any career path."

-Cristina Cohort 4

