

# without Borders



By:

Brian Estarella-Murphy, Biology Student and MESA STEM Tutor & Mentor

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Amy Foote, MESA Director and STEM Equity Alliance Lead

# What is STEM without Borders?



- We are a grassroots program designed to assist our Latinx Dreamers, DACA, AB-540 and Undocumented students. We aim to assist these students to strive for success towards transfer to prestigious universities and future careers in STEM.
- We initially begun this program due to the compelling statistics of Latinx student population retention as a whole rate not even isolating that statistics accounting for Latinx Students in STEM.
- We at College of the Canyons pride ourselves as being a Hispanic Serving Institute, so why not design programs contributing to our Latinx success.
- We believe there should not be any barriers or borders stopping these brilliant minds from becoming the next Doctors, Researchers, Engineers and Professionals.

# Who is this Program For?



- DACA Students
- AB-540 Students
- Dreamers
- Undocumented Students
- Any Students Facing “Barriers or Borders”
  - Inclusive of all students regardless of sex, age, race, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation and gender identity.

# AB-540, DACA, Dreamers and Undocumented Students

## What are the differences?

- **AB-540**
  - Nonresident students are exempt from paying nonresident supplemental tuition.
  - Who is eligible? Students (including undocumented students) who, for various reasons, are classified as nonresidents may be eligible.
- **DACA**
  - DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS
  - The purpose of DACA is to protect eligible immigrant youth who came to the United States when they were children from deportation. DACA gives young undocumented immigrants: 1) protection from deportation, and 2) a work permit.
- **Dream Act (Dreamers)**
  - Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act – Bipartisan legislation
  - The DREAM Act would permit certain immigrant students who have grown up in the U.S. to apply for temporary legal status and to eventually obtain permanent legal status and become eligible for U.S. citizenship if they go to college or serve in the U.S. military; and
  - The DREAM Act would eliminate a federal provision that penalizes states that provide in-state tuition without regard to immigration status.
- **Undocumented**
  - There are an estimated 65,000 undocumented students, children born abroad who are not U.S. citizens or legal residents, who graduate from U.S. high schools each year. These children are guaranteed an education in U.S. public schools through grade 12 but may face legal and financial barriers to higher education.
  - There is no federal or state law that prohibits the admission of undocumented immigrants to U.S. colleges

# Breaking Barriers



What are barriers/obstacles that undocumented, AB-540, and DACA students run into in college?

# What are the Barriers?

## ➤ **Family**

- Misinformation
  - Fear of failing (Imposter syndrome)
  - Stigmatized to not ask for help
  - “Working a 20 an hour vs 4+ years of schooling & debt”

## ➤ **Jobs**

- Legal status determines acceptance

## ➤ **Social and Racial Inequality**

- Being labeled
- Fear of aggression and negative biases
- Lack of social services

## ➤ **Legalities**

- Deportation because of status
- Lack of investment due to legality scares

## ➤ **Higher cost of tuition (Undocumented students)**

- Drop classes and school typically due to lack of funds

## ➤ **Inability to access Housing**

- Unaffordable housing

## ➤ **Mental Health**

- Lack of access to medical/health care



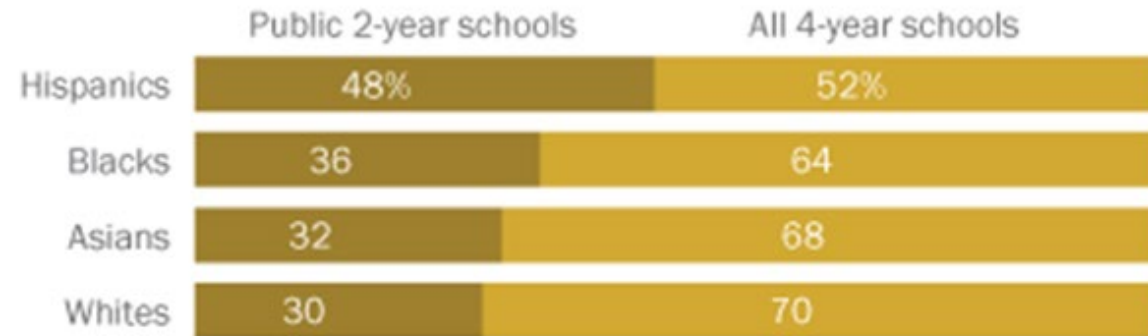
# Why do we need STEM without Borders?

College of the Canyons is an HSI (Hispanic Serving Institute)

- Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) are defined as colleges, universities, or systems/districts where total Hispanic enrollment constitutes a minimum of 25% of the total enrollment.

## Almost half of Hispanic college students attend public two-year schools

*Postsecondary enrollment by race/ethnicity and school type, 2014*



Notes: Enrollment includes students of all ages. Asians include Pacific Islanders. Whites, blacks and Asians/Pacific Islanders do not include Hispanics. Hispanics are of any race. Enrollment in private 2-year schools not shown.

Source: National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education

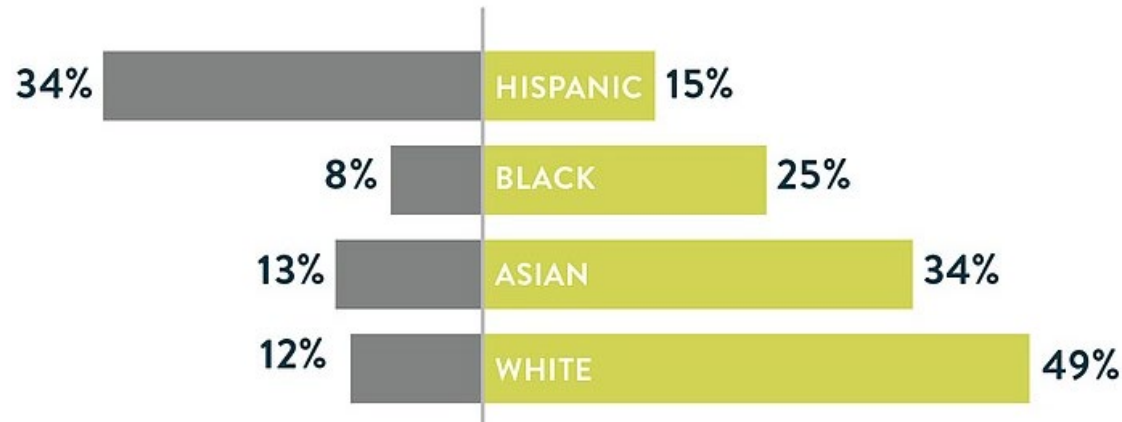
PEW RESEARCH CENTER

# Why do we need STEM without Borders?

The program will attempt to impact these statistics:

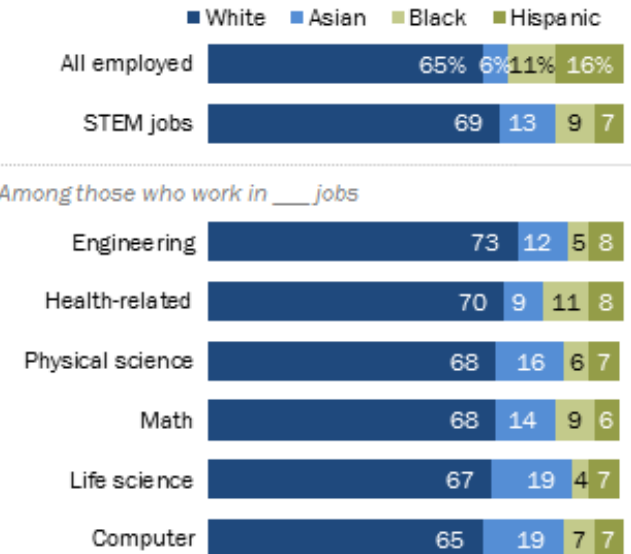
## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT RATES BY RACE AND ETHNICITY

■ LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL ■ BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR HIGHER



## Blacks and Hispanics underrepresented across most STEM job clusters

% of employed in each occupational group who are ...



Among those who work in \_\_\_ jobs

Note: Based on employed adults ages 25 and older. Whites, blacks and Asians include only non-Hispanics. Hispanics are of any race. Other and mixed race non-Hispanics are not shown. Engineering includes architects. STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and math.  
 Source: Pew Research Center analysis of 2014-2016 American Community Survey (IPUMS).  
 "Women and Men in STEM Often at Odds Over Workplace Equity"



# How will STEM without Borders Help change the statistics?

Financial Aid

How to Apply  
Assistance



- Increase the number of students applying for:
  - Financial aid
  - Scholarships
  - Transfer to UC or CSU
- Assist students to realize full self potential and work through Impostor Syndrome.
- Students encouraged to explore all options in STEM and possibility to reach their goals and future career.

# How do I become part of the program?

## You must be:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Generation College Student
- Referred by one of the following:
  - Faculty, Counselor or Staff
  - EOP&S: Extended Opportunity Programs & Service
  - Alliance on campus
  - MESA: Mathematic , Engineering, Science Achievement
- Registered at College of the Canyons
- Must be declared in STEM major: Calculus and Non-Calculus based STEM majors

# What STEM without Borders Offers

## The following benefits have been suggested:

- Academic Counseling 1 on 1 with STEM Counselor
- Specialized Workshops:
  - Applying to UC's and CSU's
  - Applying for Financial Aid
  - Fundamental knowledge
  - Successful mindsets/practices for acing intensive STEM courses
- Laptop and Textbook loan/assistance program
- Access to apply to research, internship and scholarship opportunities
- Advocacy, Legalities and Financial Aid assistance
  - Teaching families the importance of college and a degree
  - Short term vs long term goals
  - Know your rights workshops
- 1 on 1 mentoring to focus on students mental & physical health as well as academic progress



# Where will STEM without Borders be housed?

**We will be investigating the use the following areas:**

- We currently have a website:  
<https://www.biologyclubcoc.org/stemwithoutborders>
- MESA Center - Evenings to hold presentations
- New Multicultural Center currently being planned – to hold events and meetings
- Events may be held in different parts of campus dependent on event and the day.
- We will have a canvas shell to house all resources and connect virtually with members of our student community.

# Other Programs on Campus:



**EOPS**  
COLLEGE OF THE CANYONS

**EXTENDED OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS  
& SERVICES**

**WHO CAN APPLY?**  
ENROLLED IN **12 UNITS**  
**RECEIVE**  
**BOG FEE WAIVER A OR B**  
HAVE COMPLETED  
**LESS THAN 60**  
TRANSFERABLE **UNITS**

**BENEFITS:**  
**PRIORITY**  
REGISTRATION  
**BOOK VOUCHERS**  
**SCHOLARSHIPS/GRANTS**  
**COUNSELING**  
CAP AND GOWN  
**TUTORING**  
CSU/UC APPLICATION **FEE WAIVER**  
**AND MORE**

**LOCATED AT:**  
STUDENT SUPPORT **CENTER 117**  
**(VALENCIA CAMPUS)**  
**(661)362-3279**  
[WWW.CANYONS.EDU/OFFICES/EOPS](http://WWW.CANYONS.EDU/OFFICES/EOPS)  
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@EOPS\_COC



The Mathematics, Engineering and Science Achievement (MESA) Program serves to enrich the experience of students majoring in math, science and engineering at College of the Canyons. We support financially disadvantaged and/or historically underrepresented students by providing a variety of services including academic advisement, discipline specific enrichment and community building opportunities. Our primary goal is to equip MESA students with the skills and attitudes necessary for their successful transfer to university.

# Student Engagement in Clubs & Campus Activities



- Foster creative & healthy environment to encourage and promote students to engage in student clubs and activities!
- Engagement in clubs and activities assist students to build sense of community and directly contributing to engagement on campus and social/mental health as well as academic success
- Clubs to include students from program and assist them to voice themselves as well as become engaged on campus & in the local community.
- Engagement with college community & local community directly assists with college applications in extracurriculars as well as assists in building social connections.

# Similar College/University Programs

**The following Community Colleges and Universities have Undocumented Students Programs:**

Los Angeles Community College District – “Dream Resource Center”

Pasadena City College - “Quest Center”

UCR - “The Butterfly Project”

UCLA - “Bruin Resource Center”

UCSD - “Borderless Scholars” program

Cal Poly Pomona - “Bronco Dreamers Resource Center”



# Aspirations for STEM without Borders



1. Program develops to a fully established program within Student Services at College of the Canyons.
2. Program will provide College of the Canyons undocumented STEM students with a direct pipeline between COC and the UC and CSU University systems.

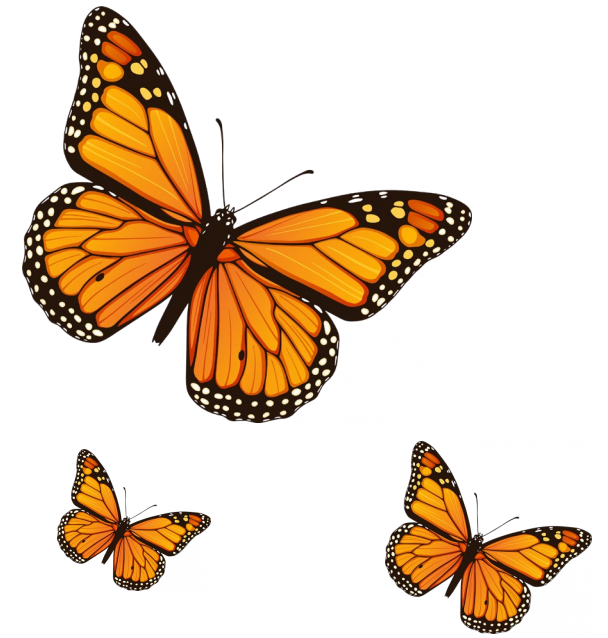


# Ultimate Goal of STEM without Borders

- To provide Latinx Dreamers, DACA, AB-540 and Undocumented students support, access to resources, and assistance to transfer and academic success.



# Thank you! Any Questions?



## Contact information and website:

- STEM without Borders website: (Still in process)  
<https://www.biologyclubcoc.org/stemwithoutborders>
- Brian Estarella-Murphy – Student Lead and Creator of STEM without Borders  
[bnestarellamurphy@my.canyons.edu](mailto:bnestarellamurphy@my.canyons.edu)
- Amy Foote, M.S. – MESA Program Director  
[amy.foote@canyons.edu](mailto:amy.foote@canyons.edu)

