

Colorado School Counselor Corps Grant Program

Senate Bill 14-150

Colorado’s School Counselor Corps Grant Program (SCCGP) funding is awarded to eligible school districts, BOCES, charter schools or Institute charter schools. The purpose of this program is to increase the availability of effective school-based counseling within secondary schools. Grant funds are also used to increase the level of school counseling services provided to improve the graduation rate and increase the percentage of students who appropriately prepare for, apply to, and continue into postsecondary education.

Districts and Schools

- Over the eight-year history of the Counselor Corps Grant Program, 255 secondary schools, 78 of 178 districts have participated, representing all regions throughout Colorado.
- More than 220 licensed school counselors have served Colorado schools, districts, BOCES and students through the grant.
- Eligible grantees have a higher than average dropout rate and/or free and reduced lunch rate as compared to all other Colorado secondary schools.

Outcomes

Highlights from 2011 - 2015

- SCCGP realized a positive trend with on-time graduation rates (nearly nine percentage points) over the course of the four years of funding, closing the gap between the state average and SCCGP funded sites from seven percentage points to three percentage points.
- Prior to SCCGP funding, SCCGP schools had an annual dropout rate of 5.5 percentage points. At the end of three years of SCCGP funding, the schools closed the gap with an average dropout rate, 3.5 percentage points.
- In this last year, funded schools participated in concurrent enrollment resulting in a 74 percent change in student participation over the four years.
- SCCGP schools increased their matriculation rates by approximately 13 percentage points with the first year of funding and were able to maintain that increase over the next two years.
- SCCGP sites yielded a highly lucrative return on the state’s investment, totaling approximately \$319,842,750 or \$20 saved for every \$1 invested.

Student-to-Counselor Ratios Prior to and During the 2011-12
Note: SCCGP funds began in the 2011-12 academic year.

YEAR	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
TOTAL	363:1	261:1	232:1	229:1	216:1

Goals of SCCGP

- Decrease student/counselor ratios
- Increase graduation rate
- Decrease dropout rate
- Decrease remediation rate
- Increase college matriculation rate



About Students

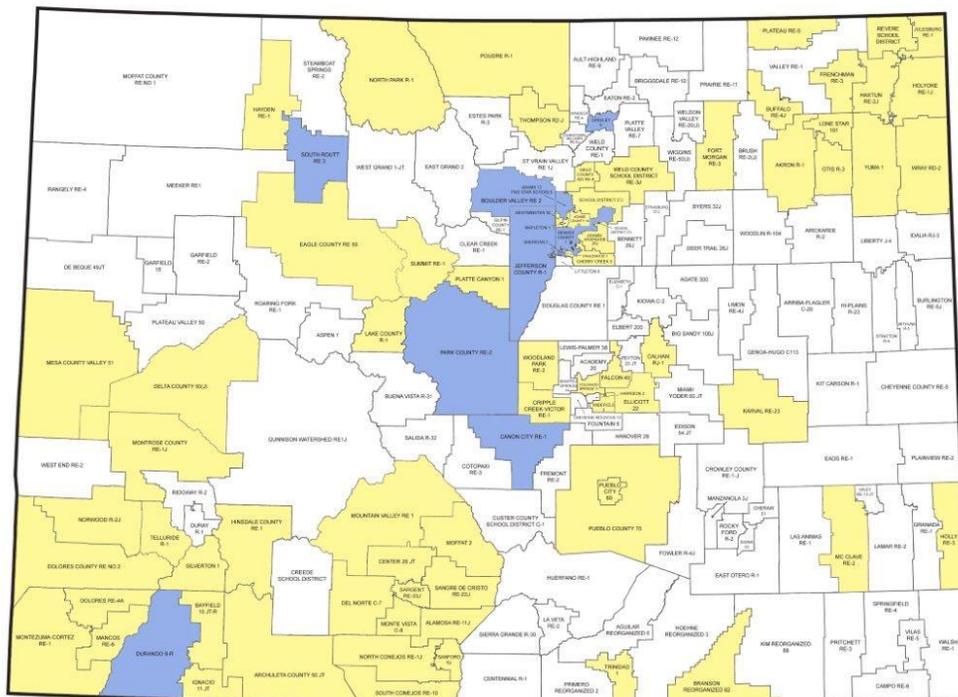
- More than 166,000 students have been served through the schools and districts represented in the SCCGP cohorts.
- Approximately, 60 percent of these students participate in the free and reduced lunch program.

School Counselor Research and Promising Practices

- As found through the Colorado School Counselor Corps efforts, national research reinforces that the presence of effective school counseling has a dramatic impact on the academic success of students.
- Research shows (Belasco, 2013):
 - Low-income students are more likely to attend college if they met frequently with a school counselor who supported their college goals.
 - Students attending high schools with fully implemented school counseling programs earned higher grades and received more college-related information, which improves enrolling and persisting in postsecondary education.
 - School-based college counseling is shown to narrow the college participation gap.

District Map of Counselor Corps Participants 2009-2016

*Shaded districts are current and past grantees. Blue shaded districts are Cohort six School Counselor Corps Grant Map



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Where can I learn more?

- To learn more about the School Counselor Corps Grant Program, visit: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/postsecondary/schoolcounselorcorps>
- For additional information, contact Eve Pugh at pugh_e@cde.state.co.us or 303-866-4123
- To view all CDE fact sheets, visit: www.cde.state.co.us/Communications/factsheetsandfaq