

**CALIFORNIA STATE SUMMER SCHOOL  
FOR MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE  
(COSMOS)**

**Highlights from the 2000-2008 Evaluation**

- **Over 3,600 students have participated in COSMOS** for the summers 2000-2007. The four program sites (on the Davis, Irvine, San Diego and Santa Cruz campuses) operate at or above capacity.
- The **demand for admission to COSMOS is strong** and has been since its inception. Despite adding two campuses over the course of the program's lifetime (one in 2001 and another one in 2005), only about 50% of applicants are admitted to COSMOS.
- Overwhelming evidence supports the assertion that **COSMOS is realizing the short-term goals established by the Legislature**: it provides outstanding students with a demonstrated passion for and success in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) disciplines with opportunities to flourish under the guidance of UC faculty. New data also shows that COSMOS is **also achieving the Legislature's long-term goal for COSMOS**: enhancement of the state's economic climate by developing future scientists, engineers, and mathematicians.
- Using higher education application, enrollment, and persistence data from the National Student Clearinghouse and the University of California, evaluators tracked 2,790 COSMOS graduates (or 92.3% of the total COSMOS alumni population through 2006) – and all of these graduates have been admitted to college. This data reveals the following:
  - **Approximately half** of the COSMOS alumni that matched data in the National Clearinghouse database **enrolled at a UC campus**, and **25% enrolled in a four-year private university**. The **remaining 25% were split evenly among universities from the California State University system and California Community Colleges**. After UC, the top five universities COSMOS participants attend are Stanford; the University of Southern California; California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo; Harvey Mudd College; and Imperial Valley Community College.
  - COSMOS alumni rates of admission to all UC campuses ranged from 92.5% in 2000 to 96.8% in 2007, with an average of 95.9% from 2000 to 2007.
  - Among COSMOS alumni who enrolled at UC campuses, 18% attend UC Berkeley, 6.7% attend UC San Diego, and 6.6% attend UCLA.
  - Almost 65% of COSMOS alumni who enrolled in the UC system indicated that they intended to major in a STEM discipline.
- COSMOS has developed a **sustainable and thoughtful balance among funding partners**: the State contributes 55% of the program's funding, participants with the ability to pay contribute 27%, and private contributions contribute the remaining 18%. Other financial points of interest:
  - Thanks to the generosity of private and corporate donors who provide financial assistance to over 30% of program participants, **no student who is admitted to COSMOS is turned away due to financial need**.
  - COSMOS leadership has raised \$433,000 for **college scholarships to award to participant alumni who apply for such awards**.
- Evaluators recommend **refining data collection** to permit more detailed reporting of aspects of alumni demographics to improve recruitment, academic cluster content development, and information distribution to support student preparation for future STEM study.