

WILLIAM T. SCROGGINS, PH.D.

President/CEO

bscroggins@mtsac.edu

May 7, 2019

Dear Friend of EOPS:

The California Community College Chancellor's Office recently informed the Extended Opportunity Program & Services (EOPS) community that they would soon be implementing changes to the EOPS guidelines. Chancellor's Office staff are using terms such as "flexibility" and "local control" to make fundamental changes to the program's service delivery and expenditure decisions, which will severely jeopardize academic success for the underrepresented students who the program excels at serving.

Since the implementation of EOPS in 1969, EOPS has served over 2.5 million students from historically underrepresented and underserved populations with documented success. At Mt. San Antonio College (Mt. SAC), EOPS students perform equal to, or better than, the general student population in nearly every success metric in spite of the numerous barriers they face in college (see Attachment). It is unconscionable that during the 50th anniversary year of EOPS, the Chancellor's Office would propose the following changes to EOPS:

1. The elimination of the Minimum Qualifications for the EOPS Director
2. The elimination of the minimum qualifications for the EOPS Counselors
3. Watering down the mandatory counseling contacts by allowing other services to be substituted (tutoring and workshops)
4. The elimination of the requirement for programs with over 500 students to have a full time [EOPS] Director
5. Redirecting EOPS counselors to see non EOPS students
6. Allowing colleges to redirect EOPS funds by charging EOPs programs for: furniture; construction, remodeling, renovation, or vehicles; travel costs for non-EOPS staff and students

The Chancellor's Office's proposal for far-reaching changes to EOPS Guidelines were introduced without prior input from EOPS leaders across the state and with very little time to respond. Mt. SAC's executive leadership and EOPS faculty, staff, and students strongly oppose the proposed changes and the method by which they were proposed by the Chancellor's Office. We request you to join us in urging the Chancellor's Office to work in partnership with EOPS to strengthen and support EOPS programs and students, rather than weaken them. We welcome the opportunity to discuss strategies to assist with increasing student success for all students, but they cannot come at the expense of EOPS.

Respectfully and in solidarity,



Mt. SAC EOPS Community and William T. Scroggins, President & CEO

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

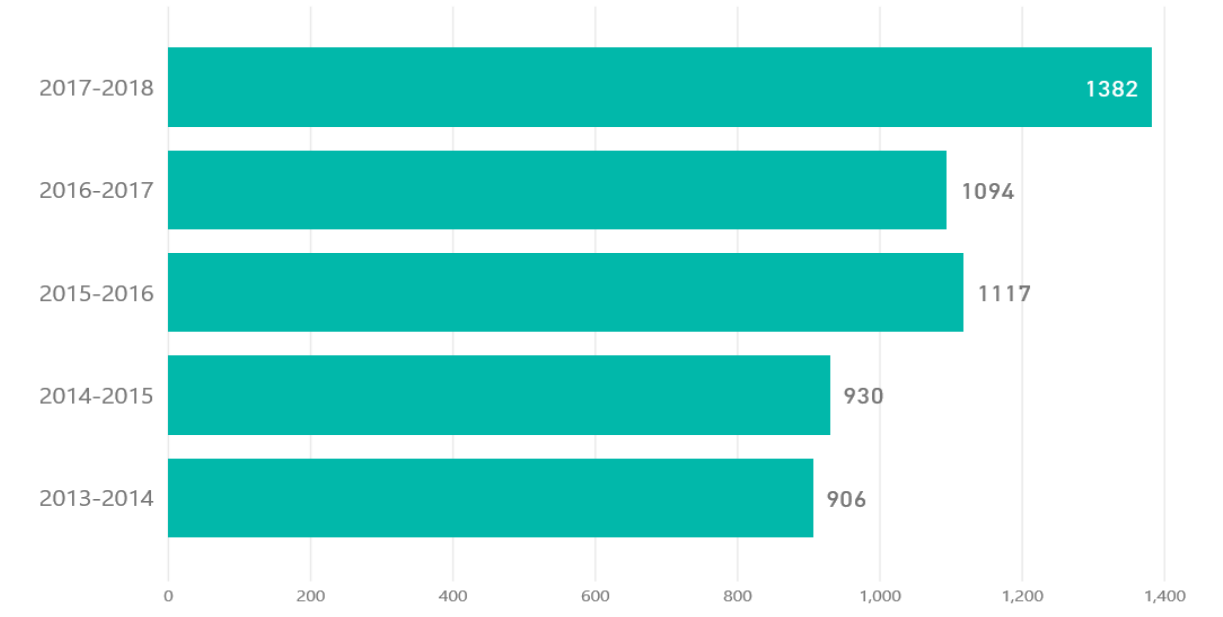
DR. MANUEL BACA - ROSANNE BADER - JAY CHEN - JUDY CHEN HAGGERTY, ESQ. - DR. DAVID K. HALL - ROBERT F. HIDALGO - LAURA SANTOS

ATTACHMENT

EOPS/CARE Student Success Data

In order for students to be counted as served they must have 1) completed an EOPS application 2) attended an EOPS Information Session 3) signed the Mutual Responsibility Contract 4) enrolled in a minimum of 9 units and 5) received at least one service.

Distinct Count of EOPS only Students by Academic Year

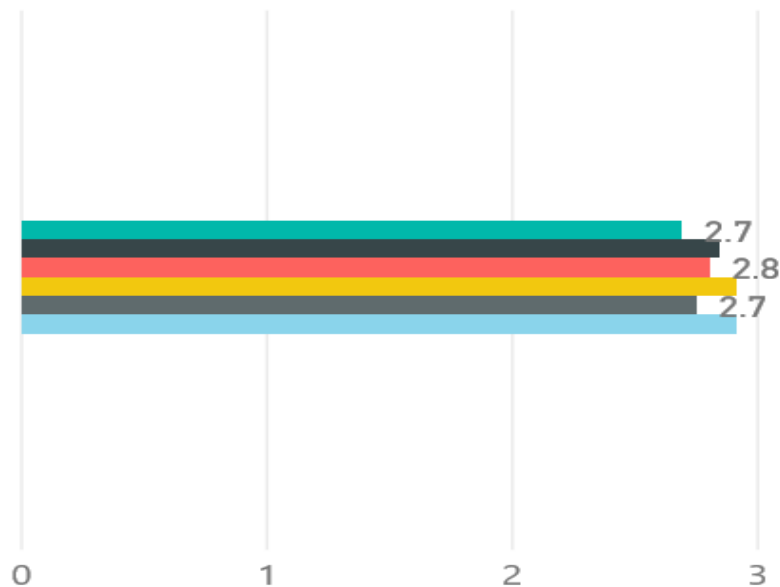


Below is the Average Cumulative GPA of our EOPS/CARE students.

Average Cumulative GPA

Term

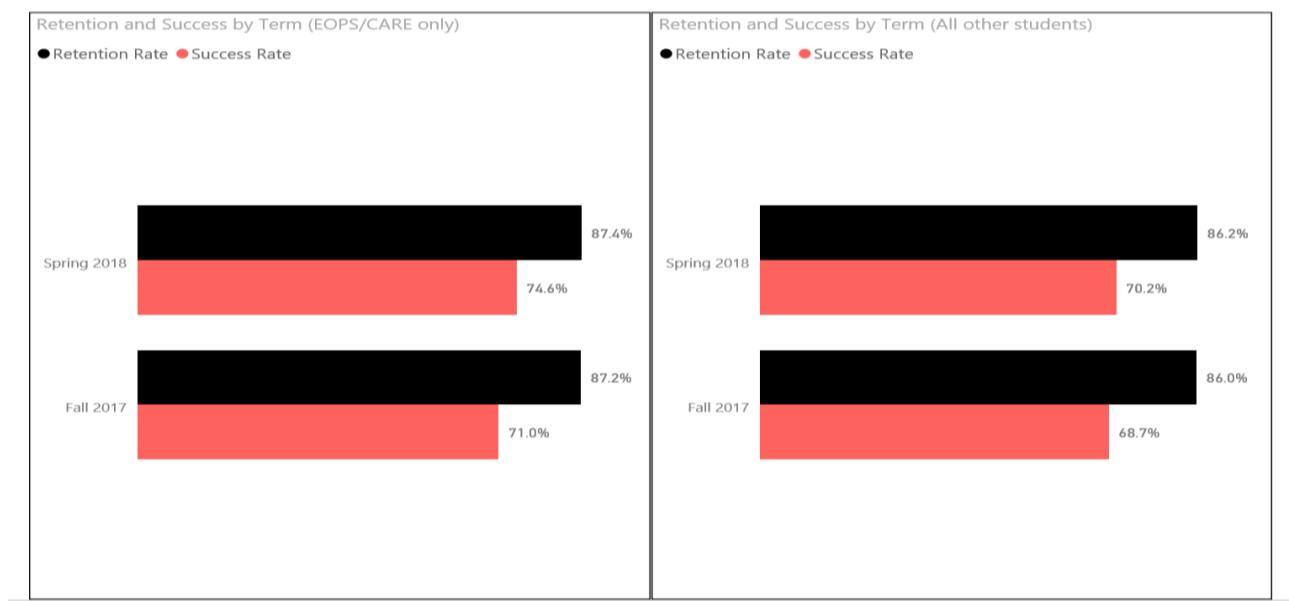
- Fall 2018
- Summer 2018
- Spring 2018
- Winter 2018
- Fall 2017
- Summer 2017



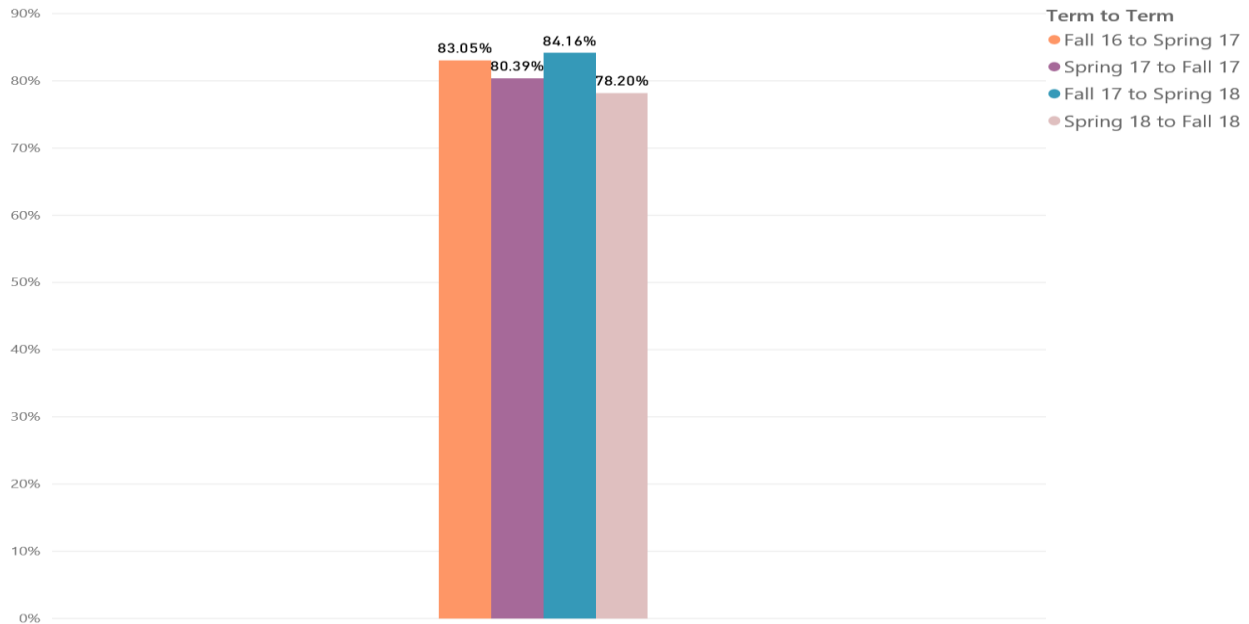
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DR. MANUEL BACA - ROSANNE BADER - JAY CHEN - JUDY CHEN HAGGERTY, ESQ. - DR. DAVID K. HALL - ROBERT F. HIDALGO - LAURA SANTOS

Below is the Retention and Success Rate of our EOPS/CARE students compared to the general Mt. SAC student population. For this purpose, retention is the percentage of students who continue at Mt. SAC the following year. Success Rate is defined as the percentage of students who are completing all their courses with a C or higher.



This chart shows the term-to-term persistence among our EOPS/CARE students. Persistence is defined as the percentage of EOPS/CARE students who enrolled in one term and into the next consecutive term.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DR. MANUEL BACA - ROSANNE BADER - JAY CHEN - JUDY CHEN HAGGERTY, ESQ. - DR. DAVID K. HALL - ROBERT F. HIDALGO - LAURA SANTOS