

School Counselor Corps Grant Program



COLORADO
Department of Education

Colorado's School Counselor Corps Grant Program (SCCGP) was created through legislation in 2008 to increase the availability of effective school-based counseling within secondary schools. Grant funding is awarded to eligible school districts, BOCES or charter schools. Grant funds are also used to increase the level of school counseling services provided to improve the graduation rate and postsecondary education opportunities.

School counselor research

- 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 meet frequently with a school counselor who supports their postsecondary goals.
 - Students attending high schools with fully implemented school counseling programs earn higher grades and receive more postsecondary-related information, which improves enrolling and persisting in postsecondary education.
 - School-based postsecondary counseling is shown to narrow the postsecondary participation gap.

Districts and schools

- Over the 10-year history of the Counselor Corps Grant Program, 427 schools in 101 Colorado school districts have participated, representing all regions of Colorado.
- More than 300 licensed school counselors have served Colorado students, schools, districts and BOCES through the grant.
- More than 225,000 students have been served through the schools and districts represented in the SCCGP cohorts, (2011 through 2018).
- Approximately, 69% of these students participate in the free and reduced-priced lunch program.

"This grant has made such a difference in the lives of the students. Systemically, the SCC grant did much more than simply provide the vast resources that leveraged so much remarkable change, but it also created a HUGE change in perspective about school counseling. The grant created a complete paradigm shift of what school counselors do, and created a new school-wide support of school counseling in general. Students, parents, advisory board members, community members became part of grant goals and became part of the school counseling mission in our district . . . A K-12 comprehensive program now is the standard. Administration is in full support of the implementations that changed the school culture."
Grantee Cohort 4

Program outcomes

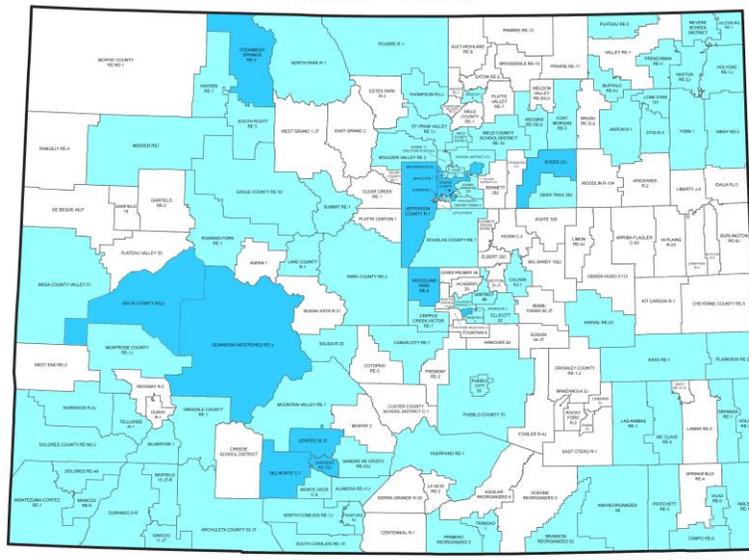
Highlights from 2011-2012 through 2017-2018 (Cohorts 2 - 6)

- Since the Class of 2015, SCCGP-funded schools and previously funded schools have achieved graduation rates higher than the state average. The SCCGP Class of 2018's grad rate was 1 percentage point higher than the state's average.
- Concurrent Enrollment participation for SCCGP funded schools increased at more than five times the rate as the state's level of participation.

- On average, nearly twice as many students enroll in Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses in the second year of funding as compared to the first.
- Since the Class of 2015, SCCGP funded schools and previously funded schools have achieved Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) completion rates higher than the state average. The SCCGP Class of 2018's SCCGP FAFSA complete rate was 3 percentage points higher than the state's rate.
- Grantees report accessing nearly 25,000 hours of postsecondary and workforce readiness professional development reaching over 2,100 professionals annually.
- SCCGP funded schools provide additional opportunities to attend career fairs, visit colleges and university campuses across the state.
- The average School Counselor Corps Grant Program funded school student-to-counselor ratio is well below the best practice recommendation of 250-to-1.

District Map of Counselor Corps Participants 2009-2019

School Counselor Corps Grant Program 2009 - 2020



*Shaded districts are current and past grantees. Blue shaded districts are Cohort Nine

WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE?

- To learn more [visit the School Counselor Corps Grant Program website](#).
- For additional information, contact Eve Pugh at pugh_e@cde.state.co.us
- [View all CDE fact sheets](#).