

The MESA Continuum

A Brief Introduction to the MESA Approach for
Building the Domestic STEM Workforce

Mathematics, Engineering Science Achievement (MESA)
University of California Office of the President
Oakland, CA

What is MESA's Mission?

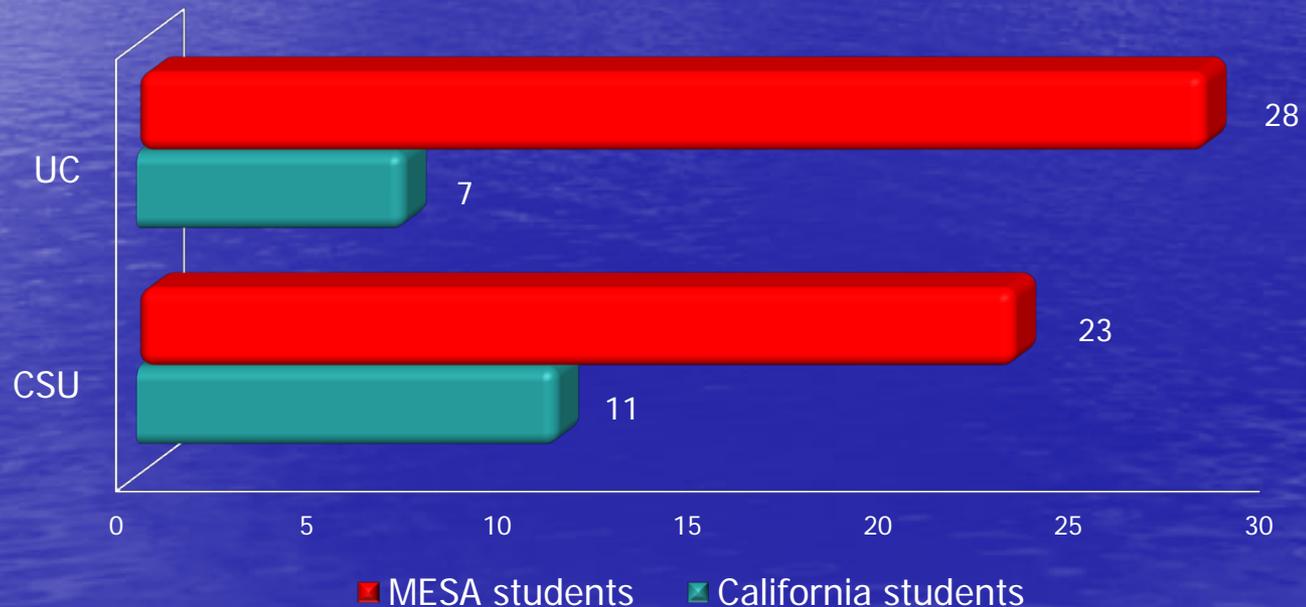
- MESA enables educationally disadvantaged students to prepare for and graduate from a four-year college or university with a math-based degree in areas such as engineering, the sciences, and computer science.
- Through MESA, students develop academic and leadership skills, increase educational performance, and gain confidence in their ability to compete professionally. MESA has special interest in and focus on students from those groups who historically have had the lowest levels of attainment to four-year and graduate level programs.
- MESA has three program units – the MESA Schools Program (MSP), the MESA Community College Program (MCCP), and the MESA Engineering Program (MEP.)

Key Elements of MESA

- Founded in 1970, now serving over 21,000 CA students
- Intersegmental (UC, CSU, CA community colleges, independent colleges, school districts, community groups)
- Strong industry involvement with a Board of Directors combining industry and education representatives: advises like a business
- Three programs allowing student involvement across the entire K-16 educational pathway
- Replicated in over a dozen states (nearly 50,000 students served), award-winning, nationally recognized
- Results oriented/data driven

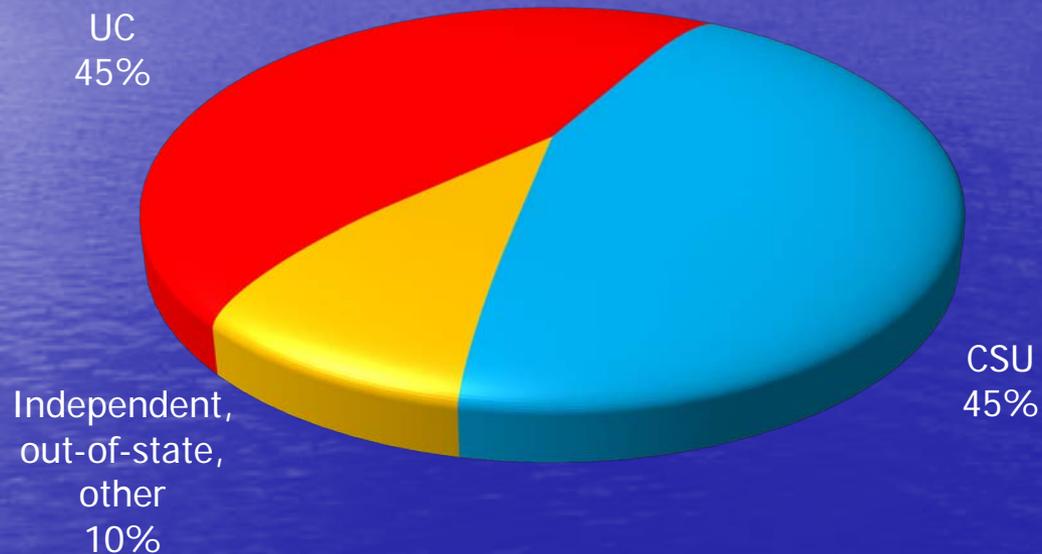
Why California needs MESA: MESA works.

Comparison: Percentage of MESA vs. California high school grads who went to UC or CSU immediately after graduation



MESA works

Destinations of MESA community college students who transferred to four-year colleges & universities.



100% of MESA community college students transferred to four-year institutions as science, engineering or math majors.

The MESA Advantage

- MESA offers a proven, low-cost model for preparing educationally disadvantaged students for college and STEM degrees.
- MESA closes the math and science gaps for African Americans, Latino Americans, American Indians, and other disadvantaged groups by enhancing the STEM experience with hands-on learning opportunities, academic and career preparation and project-based competitions that supplement classroom learning.
- MESA's success, based on powerful intersegmental and industry alliances, is *portable and scalable*.