



# California Promise

PATHWAYS TO STUDENT SUCCESS

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## College Promise Programs in Rural California

Kate Mahar, Dean of Institutional Effectiveness, Shasta College

Dawnie Slabaugh, Director of Public Relations & College Foundation, College of the Siskiyous

Randy Smith, President, Rural Community College Alliance



# In this workshop we will....

- Create connections
- Identify common characteristics of rural environments
- Talk about key elements of rural promise programs; including the importance of educational access for rural communities
- Learn about what our colleagues are doing to enhance the promise of accessible education
- Have a dialogue about promising practices for enhancing our work



Brainstorm:

What do we mean by  
*“Rural”*



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# Dr. Randy Smith, President of the Rural Community College Alliance

- National trends and observations from the field
- Criticality of educational attainment in rural areas
- Examples of strong “Promise Programs” nationwide



# College of the Siskiyous, Weed CA



## Siskiyou Promise

Supporting Siskiyou and Modoc County Students -  
Investing in the Future!

The Siskiyou Promise Scholarship Program is funded by a variety of funding sources including the College of the Siskiyous Foundation and State categorical programs.

- Financial Aid Awards/Grants
- Student Equity Funding
- COS Foundation (donations / investment fund)



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# Where are we located?



**Northern California**, often abbreviated **NorCal**, is the northern portion of the U.S. state of [California](#). Spanning the state's northernmost 48 counties, in contrast to the 10 counties of [Southern California](#),<sup>[1][2]</sup> its main population centers include the [San Francisco Bay Area](#) (anchored by the cities of [San Francisco](#), [San Jose](#), and [Oakland](#)), the [Greater Sacramento](#) area (anchored by the state capital [Sacramento](#)), and the [Metropolitan Fresno](#) area (anchored by the city of [Fresno](#)). Northern California also contains [redwood](#) forests, along with the [Sierra Nevada](#) including [Yosemite Valley](#) and part of [Lake Tahoe](#), [Mount Shasta](#) (the second-highest peak in the [Cascade Range](#) after [Mount Rainier](#) in [Washington](#)), and most of the [Central Valley](#), one of the world's most productive agricultural regions.

- Wikipedia -

But really... where are we located?

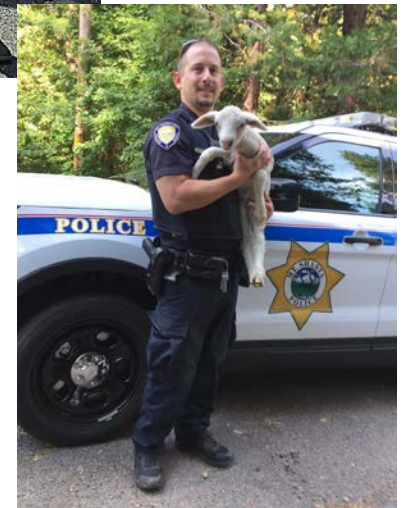


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# We are...



- One hour south of the California/Oregon border
- Population of Siskiyou County is around 45,000 residents
- One hour from a major city – Redding, CA (south) and Ashland, OR (north)
- Nearest airports are 60 to 75 miles away (north or south)
- Closest “mall” is 60 miles away
- It’s not “uncommon” to see sheep walking down the street!





# WHAT IS THE SISKIYOU PROMISE?

- The Siskiyou Promise is designed to remove the economic barriers to education.
- The "Promise" is graduating seniors from Siskiyou and Modoc County high schools (who are also California residents) will have their enrollment fees (\$46/unit cost of classes, health fee, student rep fee, and student center fees) fully funded during their first year (consecutive fall and spring semesters) of attendance at College of the Siskiyous, crediting any applicable financial assistance.
- Promise students will also receive a book voucher for use in the Campus Bookstore during the fall (\$200) and spring (\$200) semesters.
- Promise students must enroll as a full-time student (12 or more units) to be considered eligible for funding.

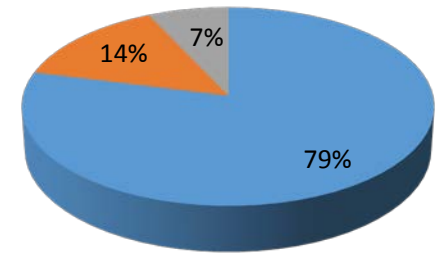


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# HOW IT'S FUNDED?

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■ Fin. Aid/Grants ■ Equity ■ Foundation



# WHO IS IT FOR?

- **First Year** - The Siskiyou Promise "First Year" Scholarship is offered to every Siskiyou and Modoc County high school graduate (and resident) who enrolls at COS the fall semester immediately following their high school graduation as a full-time student.
- **Second Year** - The Siskiyou Promise "Second Year" Scholarship is offered to Promise students who intend to register for a second year (fall and spring) at College of the Siskiyous as a full-time student. Promise students must be in good standing, apply to College of the Siskiyous for the next academic term, and have a comprehensive education plan on file in the Student Services Office.



# WHY?

The Siskiyou Promise Scholarship is intended to be a “middle dollar” scholarship used to cover tuition and other mandatory fees not covered by federal or state grant sources.

The Siskiyou Promise Scholarship helps address these issues by offering a two-year scholarship so that students can focus on their education – rather than their finances.

Being able to focus on their studies full-time has been shown to significantly benefit a students’ ability to succeed in college.



# FIRST YEAR ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To qualify for an initial Siskiyou Promise scholarship, students must meet all of the following criteria:

- Be a Siskiyou or Modoc County resident who will graduate from a Siskiyou County or Modoc County high school in June 2017.
- Apply to College of the Siskiyous via CCCApply.
- Complete the 2017/2018 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA – [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)) or a 2017/2018 Dream Act Application (AB540 students) and add school code – 001187 (College of the Siskiyous).
- Fill out and submit Siskiyou Promise [application](#).
- Complete College of the Siskiyous Orientation, Advising, and Registration Process (SOAR)
- Enroll at College of the Siskiyous as a full-time student (12 or more units) for Fall 2017 and Spring 2018. For students with disability accommodation needs, please call (530) 938-5374.



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# First Year – Timeline to Apply

Step	Deadline
Apply to College of the Siskiyous via CCCApply	August 1, 2017
Fill out your Siskiyou Promise Application – Print and mail to: Office of Student Services, College of the Siskiyous, 800 College Avenue, Weed, CA 96094	March 1, 2017 – August 1, 2017
Apply for FAFSA or the Dream Act – priority deadline is March 2, 2017	August 12, 2017
Complete the College of the Siskiyous (Siskiyous, Orientation, Advising, Registration) SOAR Process	May 1, 2017 – August 12, 2017
Register for your classes	May 1, 2017 – August 12, 2017



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# SECOND YEAR ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be considered for a Second Year Continuation Promise Scholarship:

- Be a COS student in good standing - minimum 2.0 grade point average for the first year at COS.
- Complete the 2017/2018 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA – [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)) or a 2017/2018 Dream Act Application (AB540 students) and add school code – 001187 (College of the Siskiyous).
- Declare a major and have a comprehensive education plan on file.
- Meet with a College of the Siskiyous counselor minimum once each semester (mandatory progress check).



# Siskiyou & Modoc County High School Graduates

High School	Graduates 2016	Promise Applicants 2016	Graduates 2017	Promise Applicants 2017
Butte Valley	23	4	16	4
Yreka	149	44	134	42
Dunsmuir	17	6	13	4
Etna	40	6	39	8
Golden Eagle Charter	24	7	49	18
Happy Camp	11	7	14	6
Jefferson	14	1	7	1
Mattole Valley Charter	40	3	40	5
Modoc	43	2	58	1
Mt. Shasta	76	28	82	38
Tulelake	35	5	34	0
McCloud	2	0	4	1
Weed	31	16	30	21
Other (Unidentified)	1	1	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>151</b>

## 2016 Cohort:

- Total Promise Applicants – 139
- Applicants who Attended COS in Fall 2016 – 128
- Number Receiving 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Continuation – 74

## 2017 Cohort:

- Total Promise Applicants – 151
- Applicants Currently Enrolled for Fall 2017 at COS – 151
- Total Graduates in 2017 - 462





# The First Year – What did we do?

## Campus Engagement Activities:

- Welcome Reception for Recipients and Family
- Scavenger Hunt and Ice Cream Social
- Tickets to Home Athletic, Theater, and Music Events
- End of the Year Celebration and Pizza Party
- Check-Ins/Reminders – Minimum 2 each semester



# Shasta Promise: Tehama-Trinity- Shasta Counties

- Started with the premise: What are we actually promising?
  - **Equal access to affordable, relevant, postsecondary opportunities in a rural region**
- “Promise Scholarships” are just one part of that



# Increased Capacity in High Schools

**Challenge:** Counselor Survey indicated varying knowledge of postsecondary education, with correlations to income level of students served.

When we launch our Promise, how will we know that all students and families will know about it?

**Solution:**

High School Counseling Initiative



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# Streamline Experience through Community College

**Challenge:** Ensuring that students get in and through Shasta College in most efficient manner.

**Solution:**     **Guided and Streamlined Pathways**

- Expanded Dual Enrollment (free for all high school students)
- Adoption of Multiple Measures for Placement
- Restructure of Remedial Education Sequence (Co-Requisites and additional student support)
- Automated Education Plans
- Completion of Math and English in year 1



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# Increase opportunities for BA attainment

Challenge: No public universities in north state; extremely limiting for first generation and low income students

Solution:

***BOLD: Bachelor's Through On-line and Local Degrees***

- Links ADT's w/ affordable on-line degree completion programs
- Provides structured support for students in degree completion program (technology, cohort, tutoring, case management)
- Creates an “Educational Home” for students



# Partnerships!

Rural Promise Programs can not happen in isolation!



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# Q and A: What Did We Learn?



- All Promise Programs are unique!
- It may look easy, but it's not!
- It's constantly needs work!