

A-G Completion Improvement Grant First Review

Background:

The A-G Completion Improvement Grant Program provides additional support to local educational agencies (LEAs) to help increase the number of California high school pupils, particularly unduplicated pupils, who graduate from high school with A-G eligibility requirements completed for admission to the California State University and the University of California.

Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District (LVJUSD) has been allocated \$398,340 to meet the goal of the grant. The grant term is four years and a final report will be due to the California Department of Education by August 2026.

The grant requires two meetings to discuss and approve the plan. This first review will outline the grant requirements and the data used to monitor our progress. Staff will request approval of the plan at the March 15, 2022 LVJUSD School Board meeting.

Status:

Our District has renewed its focus on increasing the number of students who graduate being A-G eligible. The LVJUSD Graduating class of 2021 had 52.6% A-G eligibility rate. The targeted student groups for the A-G Completion Improvement Grant, including English Language Learners (ELL), Socio-Economically Disadvantaged (SED), and/or foster youth, are below 52.6%, warranting additional focus and attention.

According to the Public Policy Institute of California, [Improving College Pathways in California](#), academically prepared students fail to advance through the A-G course sequence, Statewide, due to: 1) Graduation requirements influencing students' course taking behavior; 2) Course placement policies that affect student progression; and 3) Counseling and academic support that affect course taking decisions. Grades 11 and 12 see the most dramatic decrease in participation in A-G courses. African American and Latinx students have higher attrition rates in the A-G math sequence. In student surveys, LVJUSD students often cite their plans to attend a 2-year community college at Las Positas after graduation as a reason for not aspiring to meet A-G requirements in their schedule. This necessitates a mindset shift, in order to obtain different outcomes related to A-G completion rates.

Recommendations and Best Practices:

- Training and coaching for counselors through counselor organizations
- Developing and implementing comprehensive advising and pupil support programs including post-secondary plans, tutoring, and additional-research based interventions

- Expanding Advanced Placement (AP) and dual enrollment in A-G course options and offerings.
Expanding equitable access to AP and Honors courses for unduplicated students
- Conducting data and transcript audits to ensure accurate and consistent internal practices for A-G completion
- District coaching with Alameda County Office of Education
- Additional College and Career counselors to allow students increased access to counselors
- Implementing College and Career classroom lessons
- Partnerships with local universities and college advising programs
- Marketing campaign for students, families and teachers focused on A-G requirements and the benefits of completion for all students, not just those planning to attend a 4-year university after high school

Next Steps:

A-G Completion Improvement Grant Plan is being finalized and will be presented for approval at the March 15, 2022 School Board meeting.