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UNIVERSITY
OF
CALIFORNIA

Diversity and
Engagement

CSMP is a division of Diversity and Engagement, which connects California through strategic partnerships with K-12 schools, the business sector, community organizations, and institutions of higher education to increase the academic aspirations and achievements of students throughout the state.

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A Professional Development
Network for Educators



The **California Subject Matter Project (CSMP)** seeks to improve student achievement and learning by providing comprehensive, content-focused professional development, by building teacher leadership, and by creating and maintaining collaborative networks of K-12 teachers and university faculty.

“CSMP programs not only provide me with practical, research-based strategies and teaching practices, but they inspire and validate me. They have helped me build confidence as a teacher and have supported my professional growth as an educator.”

CSMP PARTICIPANT

Based on the teaching model of the Bay Area Writing Project, developed at University of California, Berkeley, the California Subject Matter Project (CSMP) was launched in 1988 as a network of nine state-authorized projects with the goal of deepening teachers’ understanding of K-12 content areas and supporting student achievement in school and the workplace. CSMP continues to ground its programming in the latest research on professional development, content, pedagogy and collaboration in order to increase success for all students, especially English Language Learners (ELLs) and low-literacy students.

Over time, the network has grown considerably: educators now attend programs sponsored by nearly 90 regional sites housed at campuses of the University of California, California State University, and independent colleges and universities.

CSMP is an asset to California’s education system, providing a professional development infrastructure for educators that can respond quickly and effectively as needs change. With the state’s adoption of Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and

Reflection on teaching through learning, dialogue and peer critique.

Long-term focus on teacher knowledge and leadership.

Emphasis on life-long learning.

Shifting teaching practices from teacher-driven to student-centered.

English Language Development (ELD) standards, as well as the Career Technical Education (CTE) standards and Smarter Balance Assessment Consortium (SBAC) assessments, CSMP provides ongoing support to educators as they build on their content knowledge and instructional strategies to support students in meeting these rigorous academic standards. Expert teacher leaders and professional development providers are well-suited to facilitate the school-level transition to new standards and assessments, as well as the instructional strategies that teachers must employ to address them.

The California Subject Matter Project is a network of nine discipline-based projects that provide rigorous professional development, designed by K-12 and university educators, to enhance learning for all students. Through nearly 90 regional sites statewide, CSMP creates communities of practice that promote high-quality teaching, leadership and educational equity.

- The California Arts Project
- California History-Social Science Project
- California International Studies Project
- California Mathematics Project
- California Physical Education-Health Project
- California Reading & Literature Project
- California Science Project
- California World Language Project
- California Writing Project

Impact & Influence

For nearly 40 years, CSMP has been known for providing consistent, high-quality professional learning opportunities for educators. In independent evaluations, participants consistently rate CSMP's professional development above others.

Responsiveness to emerging needs

Projects have the capacity — in personnel and knowledge base — to best identify and meet the emerging needs of teachers, schools and districts.

Deep engagement with standards-based education

Across subject matter areas, CSMP serves as a resource for teachers, schools and districts navigating the transition to new standards, such as CCSS, ELD, NGSS and CTE.

Relationships with teachers, schools and districts

Buy-in from teachers, schools, and districts is a crucial element of CSMP's success. Through personal and professional networks, projects identify needs, develop programs and maintain partnerships. By offering superior professional development opportunities at a reasonable cost, CSMP fosters commitment among existing and prospective partners.

Long-term interaction with teachers

Teachers explore their content and pedagogical knowledge with peers, teacher leaders and university faculty. This takes place in follow-up programs, workshops and regular communication throughout the year. Participants join CSMP's extended network of individuals committed to improving their work, thus transforming their self-perception as professionals in the process.

Standards alignment

While all CSMP professional development programs are aligned with state-adopted standards, 32% of programs focus explicitly on the Common Core State Standards and/or Next Generation Science Standards.

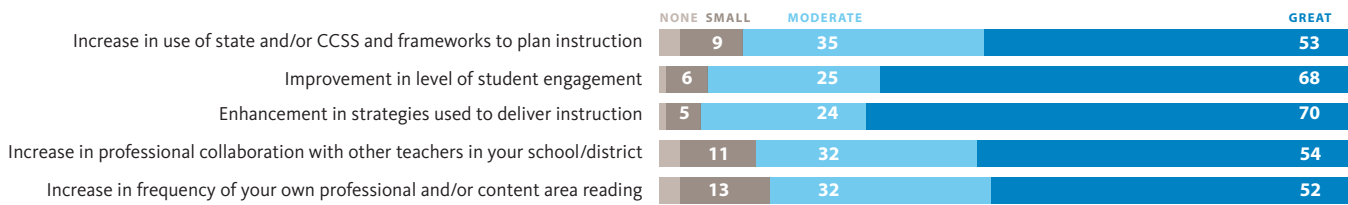
BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION

In 2014, CSMP administered surveys to participants attending characteristic professional development programs — high-quality, intensive, and incorporating follow-up sessions. More than 1,200 program participants responded. The surveys yielded positive results related to the quality of CSMP professional development programs as well as the anticipated impact of CSMP programs on their teaching.

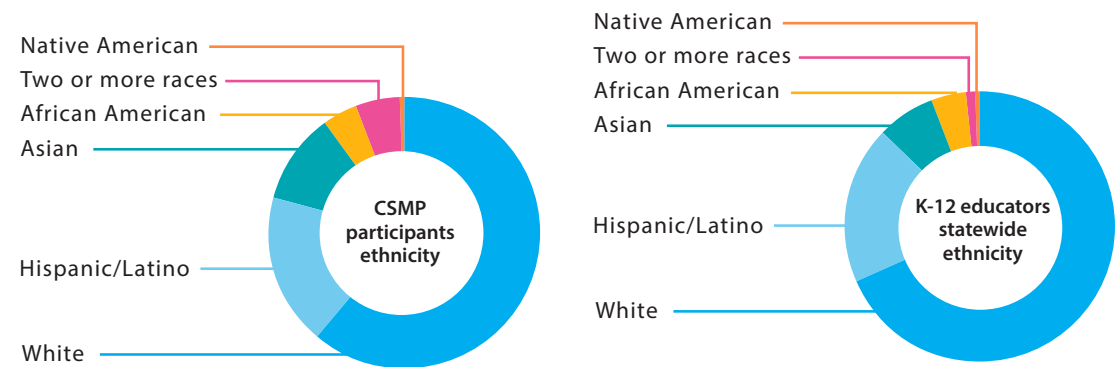
Of those who responded:

- Nearly half (45%) attended the institute with colleagues from their schools
- 85% ranked CSMP as either significantly better (69%) or somewhat better (16%) than other professional development activities in which they have participated

Educators anticipate that participating in CSMP professional development will impact their teaching in the following ways:

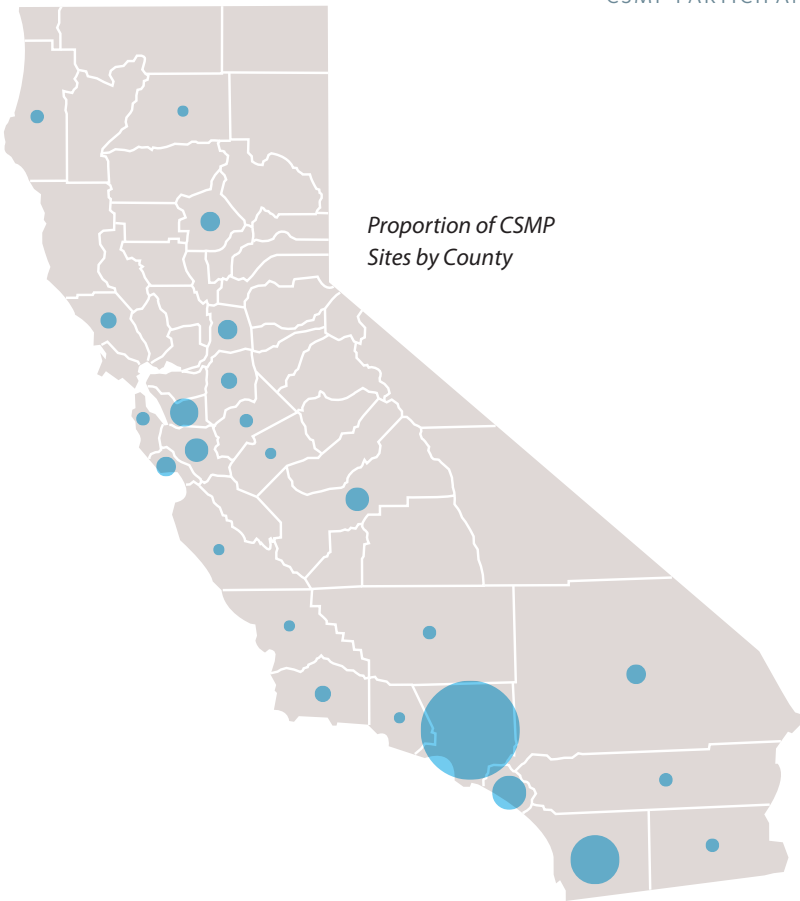


DIVERSITY OF CSMP PARTICIPANTS COMPARED TO EDUCATORS STATEWIDE



STATEWIDE INFLUENCE

The CSMP network reaches teachers and students through nearly 90 regional sites located on university and college campuses across California. There, each subject matter project partners with faculty advisors, teacher leaders, institutional sponsors and educational leaders to support local K-12 districts, schools and teachers.



“Participating in CSMP programs has been the most exciting and beneficial professional learning experience of my career. The expertise of the presenters, quality of the content, and access to new sources of information will improve my teaching practice for years to come.”

CSMP PARTICIPANT



- 42,072** Total number of participants who attended CSMP professional development programs during 2014.*
- 2,181** Total number of professional development programs provided by CSMP during 2014.
- 9,679** Total number of schools served by CSMP in 2014.*
- 76%** Percentage of California's school districts served by CSMP.
- 51%** Proportion of schools served by CSMP participants that are designated as “low-performing.”

* Number of schools and participants are duplicated because individuals and schools may participate in multiple programs

California Subject Matter Projects

Each project is dedicated to supporting long-term improvements to educator instruction and student learning. Programs are aligned with state-adopted standards and assessments.

The California Arts Project

TCAP TCAP is grounded in the belief that an education rich in arts content and project-based learning will prepare students to become creative leaders in their communities and workplaces. TCAP works to improve teaching, learning and leadership in the realms of visual, performing and career arts (Arts, Media, and Entertainment Industry Sector). Its statewide network of teacher leaders strives to ensure access to a comprehensive, standards-based arts education for all California students. TCAP's intersegmental programs and leadership communities work to provide ongoing, effective professional learning for educators across the state.

California History-Social Science Project

CHSSP CHSSP is dedicated to improving classroom instruction for teachers of history and the related social sciences, including civics, geography and economics. Participants acquire research-based approaches to improve students' content knowledge, disciplinary understanding, and critical thinking, reading, oral language, and writing skills. Each year, the project convenes scholars and teachers to create programs that increase teachers' content knowledge, improve their teaching practice and develop students' academic literacy.

California International Studies Project

CISP CISP seeks to increase teacher competence in international studies to better prepare students to live and work as informed, active citizens in a world where distant conditions, peoples and events may have a critical impact on their lives. The project and its regional sites bridge cultures, cultivate equity, build community and provide access to high-quality interdisciplinary instructional experiences for California's diverse student population. In doing so, it strengthens historical and contemporary knowledge of 21st century realities that are fundamentally altering international and domestic affairs.

California Mathematics Project

CMP To help K-12 students achieve proficiency in mathematics — from arithmetic to calculus — is to give them tools for academic and professional success. CMP provides teachers a rich, rigorous and coherent mathematics curriculum, presented by competent and confident mathematics teachers. Here, teachers (and, by extension, their students) become mathematical thinkers as they investigate, conjecture and justify.

California Physical Education-Health Project

CPE-HP Participants in CPE-HP learn best practices for teaching knowledge and skills that can lead K-12 students to physically active lifestyles and positive health behaviors. The project's network of educators, classroom teachers and university scholars delivers superior, standards-based physical education and health education content. Cutting-edge programs use a “teachers-teaching-teachers” model, emphasizing hands-on learning and engagement with fellow educators.

California Reading & Literature Project

CRLP If today's readers become tomorrow's leaders, then teachers of reading and literature have a special role in preparing K-12 students to take their places in society. CRLP provides quality, standards-based professional development in language and literacy instruction, to ensure that every student is academically prepared to finish high school, ready for college, career and civic life. Programs are grounded in theory and classroom application, an approach that empirically informs teacher practice and provides a foundation for teacher leadership development.

California Science Project

CSP Science education is not about giving students the right answers, but teaching them to make sense and explain natural phenomena and design solutions for engineering problems. CSP offers high-quality, research-based professional development to science educators across all grade levels, with a special focus on high-needs schools and English learners. Teams of educators and scientists, drawn from universities and school districts, collaborate to improve science education for California students.

California World Language Project

CWLP A limited knowledge of world languages can translate into a limited view of the world and its rich cultural diversity. CWLP provides professional learning programs for teachers of world languages and cultures with the goal of expanding their students' global perspectives, and academic and career opportunities. The project advocates for retaining and expanding students' heritage languages and promotes all world languages, especially those deemed essential to preparing California students to successfully participate in and contribute to our diverse society. CWLP's professional learning communities provide ongoing support for educators to strengthen their content knowledge, and pedagogical and leadership skills.

California Writing Project

CWP Because writing well is essential for academics, work, and citizenship, CWP has a central mission: to improve student writing and learning by improving the teaching of writing. In partnership with schools and communities, CWP teacher leaders and university faculty provide professional learning programs, at all grade levels and in all disciplines, tailored to the specific needs of participating teachers and their students. CWP develops and sustains teacher leadership, creates instructional and assessment resources, and builds research and classroom knowledge focused on improving writing and learning for all students.

A Unique Model

The California Subject Matter Project gives educators a variety of professional learning opportunities designed by teachers and university faculty, including workshops, leadership institutes and in-service programs. Through the project's research-based approach, participants improve and enrich their teaching of specific subjects. The CSMP network encompasses the course content represented in California's K-12 standards and frameworks, and covers all of the academic requirements students need to meet, including the coursework necessary for college entrance (“a-g”). Of the many professional development opportunities available to California teachers, few are as well-regarded and enduring as CSMP's portfolio of programs. The project differs from other educator professional development providers in its unique, long-standing model.

CSMP Hallmarks:

- Programs join subject-specific content with innovative pedagogy and research-based practices.
- School-university partnerships, including collaboration between teachers and university faculty, are collegial in nature, honoring teacher knowledge.
- The project cultivates and emphasizes teacher leadership.
- After completing a program, teachers are offered ongoing educational resources and support through professional communities.
- These core elements have remained consistent, in spite of budget cuts and the growing needs of the districts, schools and teachers CSMP serves.

Legislation, Governance and Funding

The California Subject Matter Project was launched as a network of nine projects authorized by California statute in 1988. It was reauthorized in 2011 by Senate Bill 612, again demonstrating the legislature's investment in enhancing teachers' content knowledge and instructional strategies, and in providing them opportunities for subject-specific collaboration, learning and research to support academic achievement for all students in California.

CSMP is administered by the University of California, Office of the President in concurrence with the California Department of Education, State Board of Education, California State University, California Community Colleges, Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities, Governor's Office, Commission on Teacher Credentialing, and the Instructional Quality Commission. Each project has a statewide office, regional sites and an advisory board comprising representatives from these organizations as well as professional associations and industries.

CSMP receives financial support from state and federal funds to help the state meet teacher quality goals and assist its K-12 partners with whole-school reform efforts in low-performing schools. For further support, projects and sites receive grants from foundations, private industry, and other state and federal sources.

“A major part of improving the performance of California’s diverse student population is to make sure that all students have access to a high-level, cognitively demanding curriculum. The California Subject Matter Project is dedicated to working with K-12 teachers to make this a reality.”

CSMP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Critical Resource

As California works to support educators in implementing new standards and assessments, CSMP represents a critical resource for teachers, schools and districts throughout the state. Its programs support teachers in using strategies that nurture the academic skills of ELLs and low-literacy students. With a core group of expert teacher leaders and university faculty working with educators to engage students in rigorous academic work, CSMP bolsters the state's efforts to incorporate new standards and assessments. CSMP also works to ensure that all of California's diverse students acquire the requisite content knowledge to succeed in college and careers.

