Pre-College Academy
2016
June 13 - July 21

APPLICATION AVAILABLE ONLINE AT
eaop.berkeley.edu

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
March 25, 2016
Important Program Dates

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<tr>
<td>Student &amp; Family Orientation:</td>
<td>June 4, 2016 (tentative)</td>
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<td>Closing Ceremony:</td>
<td>July 21, 2016 (5:30pm—8:30pm)</td>
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General Information

The Pre-College Academy (PCA) is a six-week college-preparatory summer program hosted by the Early Academic Outreach Program (EAOP) at the University of California, Berkeley. For over 30 years, PCA has provided intensive academic enrichment for EAOP students from partner high schools in the Bay Area. PCA prepares students for their academic and professional future by providing them with the opportunity to share in the University of California’s tradition of educational excellence and diversity. PCA prepares students for academic success in the following school year, including preparation for classes that meet the standards of the University of California’s and California State University’s A-G subject requirements.

PCA offers students rigorous coursework, college-style expectations and a chance to be part of a community of college-bound scholars. Students enrolled in PCA take two courses. All students are enrolled in a theme-based College Writing course and are also placed in a Math (Geometry, Algebra II or Pre-Calculus), Engineering or Web Application Design course. Additionally, students attend weekly activity sessions that may include team building and leadership activities, and college counseling. All classes are offered on the UC Berkeley campus.

Program Schedule

During the summer, students attend PCA four days a week, Monday through Thursday. PCA hours are approximately 8:30 am — 3:30 pm. Students’ schedules will vary throughout the week (final schedule will be given during the orientation). Participating students MUST attend the entire program including orientation.
Program Fees, Transportation & Food

Students do not pay PCA program fees. Students are responsible for the cost of transportation. However, financial assistance for public transportation will be available to students who qualify.

To be eligible for financial assistance, student must provide information required in the online application. Verification of income will be required from families after.

Students are expected to provide their own lunches. Students are given a lunch period daily, during which time they may eat the lunch they have brought or purchase lunch on or around campus.

Student Expectations

Students are expected to arrive to all PCA classes and activities on time, to complete all assignments, and to conduct themselves according to the EAOP Student Expectations listed in the PCA Student Handbook (distributed and reviewed at the Student and Family Orientation on June 4, 2016 (Orientation date subject to change). Students who do not adhere to the expected policies will be subject to dismissal at the discretion of the EAOP administration.

Attendance Requirements

Attendance at all PCA activities is mandatory. Students may be dropped from PCA after two absences; two tardies are equivalent to one absence.
PCA Course Offerings

PCA’s courses are designed to introduce students to academic subject matter they are likely to see in the following school year and beyond. All classes emphasize independent critical thinking and small group and collaborative learning strategies. No class is intended to supply a semester’s worth of curriculum. PCA courses do not fulfill A-G course requirements, and do not count toward school credit unless otherwise stated by your high school.

College Writing
PCA College Writing courses help students to further develop their writing skills, and to familiarize themselves with the critical reading and analysis necessary for becoming stronger writers and thinkers. Courses are theme-based with readings drawn from various academic disciplines.

Mathematics
PCA Math courses are designed to help students further their skills and to excel in Geometry, Algebra II or Pre-Calculus.

Engineering
The goal of the class is to inspire students to consider STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) post-secondary studies and career options by giving them an exciting classroom experience, including opportunities for hands-on project based learning. Further details about the course content and curriculum will be made available to students who are admitted to the program.

Web Application Design
In this course, students will work as a technology start-up to improve a multimedia college-readiness app created by UC Berkeley students called PIC Your Future. All facets of tech development will be covered, including how to develop a web application, create digital media and bring a product to market. The overall goal of the class is to develop a new version of the app that addresses the specific challenges aspiring college students encounter when preparing for college.
PCA Community-Wide Activities

PCA community-wide activities are opportunities for the whole community to come together in fun, educational and interactive settings. Large group activities in the past have included a PCA Extravaganza, PCA Amazing Race, College Panel and a Talent Show.

Regional Meetings / College Knowledge Workshops

Regional Meetings will be held throughout the program for students to meet with the EAOP staff who work in their schools. Various activities and workshops will be held during the regional meetings including College Knowledge workshops. The College Knowledge Workshops, facilitated by PCA staff, are interactive workshops in which students learn and practice the skills necessary to succeed in high school and college. Topics may include general college knowledge, leadership, self-advocacy and other issues pertinent to college bound high school students. Students will meet for an hour and a half three times during PCA for the College Knowledge Workshops.
Leadership Academy (For Returning Students)

Returning PCA participants have the opportunity to enroll in the PCA Leadership Academy, in which they will participate in a series of interactive workshops twice a week.

The PCA Leadership Academy will explore these questions:
- Who is a leader? What makes someone a leader?
- What are different leadership styles?
- What are the ways participants have already served as leaders?
- What are the ways students can be involved as leaders in their schools and communities?

Leadership Academy participants also explore their own narratives as they relate to being leaders, and engage in dialogues about oppression, resilience and social justice.

Leadership Academy Retreat
Leadership Academy participants participate in a two-day camping retreat, during which they will participate in team building exercises and explore key concepts of leadership in further depth.

Program Requirements

PCA can accommodate a limited number of students. The selection process is designed to select a group of highly qualified and engaged students. For acceptance, students must demonstrate academic qualifications and/or participation in EAOP activities during the regular school year.

Academic requirement: Students must have a minimum 2.5 weighted Grade Point Average (GPA) in their A-G coursework.

Must be currently enrolled in 9th or 10th grade at an EAOP partner school.

Application Deadline

The deadline to submit the PCA online application is March 25, 2016. All applications submitted after the deadline will be automatically placed on the wait pool.
Online Application

Students must submit a completed online application by the deadline. Applications turned in after this date will automatically be placed on the wait pool. The PCA Application can be found on the EAOP website at eaop.berkeley.edu under the Pre-College Academy page.

Short Personal Statements
The online application for PCA asks for multiple personal and school information. It also requires that students answer three short personal statements in no more than 150 words each.

1. What types of educational opportunities (classes, activities, etc.) have you participated in that you feel will prepare you for college and how have you grown as a result of these opportunities?
2. Why are you choosing to apply to the Pre-College Academy?
3. Tell us about a talent, experience, contribution or personal quality you will bring to Pre-College Academy?

Leadership Statements
The online application also invites second-year students to participate in the Leadership Academy, an optional component which requires additional short responses. Students who are interested should be prepared to answer the following questions in no more than 150 words each.

1. Why do you want to participate in the Leadership Academy?
2. In your opinion, what makes a “leader”?
3. If accepted in the Leadership Academy, what do you hope to gain from it?

Selection Process

PCA participants are selected based on a comprehensive evaluation of the completed EAOP PCA application.

Selection is based on an applicant’s demonstrated level of scholarship in preparing for university work, and/or past participation in the EAOP program. In addition, selection is based on evidence of outstanding personal leadership skills in the student’s school or community as reflected in their application.

Notification of Admission: Students who apply by the deadline will be notified of their admission decisions by mid-April via email.

Statement of Intent to Register: Students who are accepted to PCA will need to fill out a Statement of Intent to Register and other pertinent registration forms. Failure to complete and return these forms on the designated due date may result in forfeiture of acceptance.
For further information please contact:
Nikko Roxas
Associate Director of Academic Enrichment
510.725.5691 • nikko_roxas@berkeley.edu

Para más información puede contactar:
Jennifer Alcaráz
Coordinadora del Programa
510.365.4167 • jalcaraz@berkeley.edu

You may also contact your EAOP Representative:

Antioch & Pittsburg High Schools:
Herb Dubon
925.408.2820 • dubon@berkeley.edu

James Logan, Mt. Eden & Tennyson High Schools:
Adriana Garibay
510.812.0629 • ab_garibay@berkeley.edu

Burton & Mission High Schools:
Ron Marshall
510.725.5002 • ronron@berkeley.edu

Jesse Bethel High School:
Nikko Roxas
510.725.5691 • nikko_roxas@berkeley.edu

San Leandro, San Lorenzo, Skyline & Oakland Technical High Schools:
Theresa Vidaurri
510.333.2768 • tvidaurri@berkeley.edu

West Contra Costa High Schools:
Emerald Young
510.541.9515 • emeraldy@berkeley.edu
or
Jennifer Alcaráz
510.365.4167 • jalcaraz@berkeley.edu