

CSN's Jumpstart Concurrent Enrollment Program Provides Early Access to College to Thousands of Local High School Students

Overview

Colleges across the nation offer dual and concurrent enrollment opportunities for high school students, allowing them to obtain high school and college credit through one course delivered at the high school or college campus. Research in this area is exploding as educators notice a variety of positive outcomes, including increased high school completion, college placement and college success rates, particularly for low-income and minority students. One of CSN's Concurrent Enrollment programs, is the CSN Jumpstart Program. The Jumpstart Program began in 2007 where CSN personnel work with appropriately credentialed high school instructors to deliver college courses at the high school campus, allowing juniors and seniors to obtain high school and college credit. CCSD instructors with the same educational credentials required of our CSN faculty are certified through the program to teach CSN curricula so high school students are receiving the same course, with the same quality and rigor they would at a CSN campus. A typical three-credit CSN Jumpstart class costs students' families \$69.50 to enroll.

Thanks, in part, to Senate Bill 19 that was passed into law in June 2017, local high school student participation in CSN's Jumpstart Program continues to rise with student success metrics also continuing to show positive results.

	High Schools	Students	Instructors	Class Sections	CSN Credits Earned	Passed Courses at C or Better
Fall 2016	9	615	13	28	2,067	94%
Fall 2017	22	1,532	40	70	4,948	92%
Fall 2018 (Anticipated)	32	2,750	75	125	TBD	TBD

Community Support

This past year, AT&T generously awarded CSN \$10,000 to fund scholarships for low-income high school juniors and seniors so they could enroll in CSN Jumpstart concurrent enrollment classes offered at their campuses at no cost to the student.

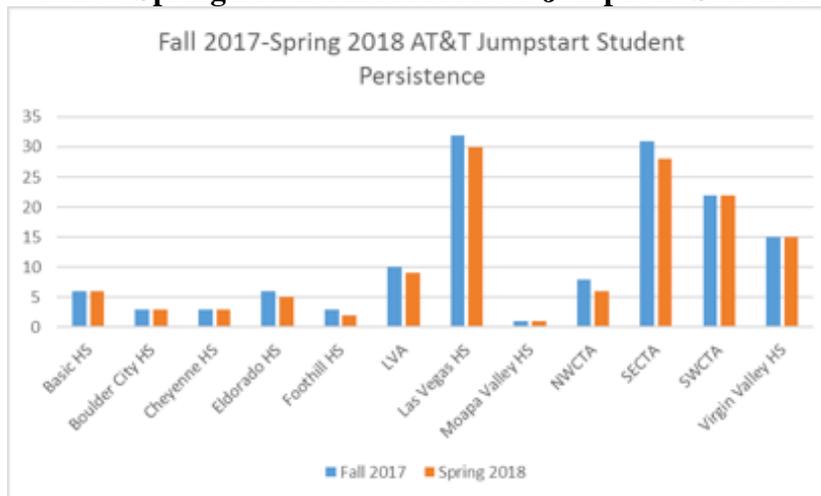
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AT&T Director of External Affairs Sandra Douglass Morgan presents a check to CSN Acting President Margo Martin to fund the college's first-ever dual enrollment scholarship.

Students' persistence in college coursework from one semester to the next is an important metric of success in postsecondary education. The figure and chart below depict the persistence or retention of the AT&T Jumpstart scholars from the fall semester in which they received the scholarship to the spring 2018 semester, for which they did not receive any scholarship or financial support to cover their course fees. These numbers reflect a positive trend among these students, who persisted to earn additional college credit in the spring despite the cost assessed in the second semester. One may assume this is because they had a positive experience in the fall and realized the benefits of earning postsecondary credit in high school, thanks to the AT&T scholarship.

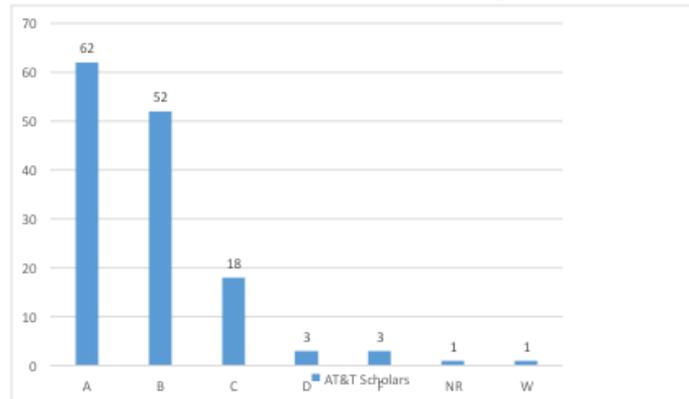
Fall to Spring Persistence for AT&T Jumpstart Scholars



Student success in postsecondary education is typically measured by the number of students who pass a course with a D or better. The chart below depicts the grade distribution of the AT&T scholars during their fall 2017 Jumpstart coursework covered through the scholarship. Among the 140 recipients, 44 percent received As and 37 percent received Bs. Because Jumpstart concurrent enrollment courses are equivalent to

college courses and follow CSN curricula, this is a great indication of how these students will perform once they graduate from high school and continue to a postsecondary institution.

Grade Distribution for AT&T Jumpstart Scholars



While the cost to students and their families to participate in CSN’s Jumpstart program is minimal at \$50 per three-credit class (compared to the standard \$97 per credit for community college courses in Nevada) plus a \$6.50 per credit technology fee, this can present a barrier for participation to low-income students. The AT&T Jumpstart Scholarship outcome data shows the importance of this generous award and supports the feedback CSN received from participating high schools, which was overwhelmingly positive.

I would like to thank Nora Mirabal, Chanel Conner and James McCoy who work to provide day-to-day leadership for CSN’s Jumpstart Program. Additionally, a big thank you to all of CSN’s department chairs, lead faculty, Jumpstart faculty liaisons and CSN advising professionals who assist in providing critical support to the students and faculty who participate in this program. I am committed to continue to support the Jumpstart Concurrent Enrollment Program as it provides a positive opportunity for our local high school students to get an early start to college—something our region so desperately needs.