



FORDHAM UNIVERSITY
THE JESUIT UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP)

Fordham University

Program Description:

The purpose of HEOP is to provide students who demonstrate potential for academic success with the educational supportive services and supplementary financial assistance they need to become successful college students. The program has regular academic workshops through out the year. These workshops focus on academic skills, career and graduate school planning, and institutional training. Through continuous assessment, the program controls and evaluates its process. The supportive services offered include a pre-freshman summer program; tutorial services; academic advisement; career, personal, and financial aid counseling; developmental reading; and selected workshops in various academic and non-academic areas. The services offered through HEOP continue for all 4 years of their undergraduate career.

Program History:

The program was created in 1969, as a part of the New York Legislature mandate that asked for the creation of the Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP). Since its inception in 1969, HEOP has been an integral part of Fordham University. The support services of HEOP are primarily funded by a grant from the State Education Department of New York.

Program Goals:

The goals of the program are to recruit, retain and graduate students. Fordham's HEOP starts with a summer program where students are introduced to such services as academic advising, academic skills services and tutorial services that students can utilize over the year.

Program Layout:

The HEOP pre-freshman summer program provides an academic and social orientation for incoming students. Students are assisted in the transition from high school to college through an academic program that strengthens skills in English, Mathematics, and other academic areas. The orientation of students to University campuses and college life is made easier through early on-site experience, counseling provided to students, and social interaction with program students.

The pre-freshman program is a one-time mandatory summer program. Students receive financial assistance through the period of participation in the pre-freshman summer program. Students who continue their matriculation at the university pursue a variety of liberal arts and business majors offered in the undergraduate colleges. HEOP students take all required courses, as do all other regularly enrolled students. All HEOP students continue to receive the program's supportive services, such as academic advisement, tutorials and supplemental financial assistance, throughout their undergraduate careers.

Effectiveness/Evaluation/Assessment:

All HEOP students participate in the summer program and receive 6 academic credits. There are currently 266 students enrolled (77 freshman) in the program. The makeup consists of 66% Hispanic, 14 % African American, 11% Caucasians, and 8% Asian. 65% are first generation students.