



Santa Clara University

Leadership Excellence & Academic Development Program (LEAD) *Santa Clara University*

Program Description:

The Leadership Excellence & Academic Development Program (LEAD) is a summer orientation and first year experience that assists students of color, first generation college students, and their families in the journey through Santa Clara University.

Program History:

Supported by the James Irvine Foundation, the LEAD Program was established in 2003 as part of a university-wide grant initiative to institutionalize efforts to build a more inclusive community.

Today, as an integral part of the institution, the LEAD Program builds on past successes and aims to enrich the educational experience of scholars throughout their four years at Santa Clara University.

Program Goals:

The program is designed to enhance the support of underrepresented students including first generation college students and students of color at Santa Clara University.

Program Layout:

The components of LEAD include:

- 1.) A summer program that is designed to help students make a smooth transition from high school to college both academically and socially. The intensive 1 week is an academically rigorous and highly structured program that focuses on serving first generation college students and/or students of color. It offers the participants an opportunity to learn about the expectations of college courses and to receive support from a team of faculty, staff, and peer mentors.
- 2.) An orientation program for First Generation College Students, Students of Color and their Families, providing a chance to meet members of the Santa Clara University community and learn about the resources and programs available to students.
- 3.) The Family Engagement Program supports the parents of students of color and first generation college students as they tackle the issues facing the students in their transition from high school to college life. The LEAD Programs has created a multilingual newsletter that addresses the ongoing questions and concerns of Santa Clara's diverse student households.

Effectiveness/Evaluation/Assessment:

(Not Available)