



Early College Academy for Leaders and Scholars

High School Profile 2020-2021

PUC eCALS

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SCHOOL INFORMATION

PUC Early College Academy for Leaders and Scholars (PUC eCALS) was founded by PUC in 2011 to meet the educational needs of students living in the city of Los Angeles, with a concentration on the communities of Lincoln Heights, Cypress Park, Glassell Park, Elysian Valley, and Highland Park. In our tenth year of operation, PUC eCALS' Class of 2021 will be the ninth graduating class. The mission of PUC Schools is to develop and manage high quality public charter schools in densely populated urban communities with overcrowded and low achieving schools. We create school programs and cultures that result in preparing all students for college graduation and career readiness. The 2019 U.S. News Best High Schools ranked PUC eCALS in the top 8% of high schools in the country, and top 10% in California. PUC eCALS was also recognized by Innovate Public Schools, in conjunction with USC, as a top public school in Los Angeles County for low-income Latino students. The school operates on a traditional August-June academic calendar.

ACCREDITATION AND CHARTER AUTHORIZATION

- Accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Schools--Western Association of Schools and Colleges.
- Charter authorized by Los Angeles Unified School District.

HOW COVID-19 IMPACTED OUR STUDENTS

Fall 2020: ACADEMIC PROGRAM: With students' and teachers' safety at the forefront, all PUC Schools will remain virtual to start the 2020-21 school year. Classes are provided through synchronous learning through block schedule Monday – Thursday (10:00am – 2:50pm), and synchronously on Friday mornings (10:00am – 11:20am) for Advisory. The remainder of students' Friday consists of asynchronous learning (11:30am – 2:50pm). **GRADING:** Returned to letter grades A-F *PUC Schools does not award "D" grades since "Ds" do not count towards college admissions eligibility. **SCHOOL & COLLEGE COUNSELING SUPPORTS:** PUC eCALS' School & College Counselors' virtual program provides seniors and their families with individual meetings, small group counseling sessions, classroom guidance presentations, and a PUC-Wide webinar series. Specific senior counseling services include academic, career and higher education counseling supports which include: virtual college rep visits, virtual college fairs, as well as virtual application workshops to ensure students' college and financial aid applications are accurate, thoughtfully completed and deadlines are met. In addition, the PUC Alumni Network will provide a Senior Send-Off Webinar Series starting Spring 2021 to empower seniors with resources, and refine their skills to help them successfully transition from senior year to life after high school (college or alternative higher education pathway, employment & life skills).

PRINCIPAL
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Spring 2020: ACADEMIC PROGRAM: Students moved to virtual learning starting Monday, March 16, 2020 through the end of the school year Friday, May 29, 2020. Students attended online synchronous classes Monday – Friday (10:00am – 3:00pm). **GRADING:** PUC Schools adjusted the grade scale to a pass/fail for all classes, and excluded pass/fail grades from Grade Point Averages (GPAs). **SCHOOL & COLLEGE COUNSELING SUPPORTS:** PUC eCALS School & College Counselors' main focus in Spring 2020 was to support students with adapting to their new virtual environment, and connecting students and families to services that supported their mental health and basic needs. The traditional Senior Institute (in-person) summer week-long college prep meeting was canceled due to COVID-19.

2020-2021 DEMOGRAPHICS

- Students in grades 9-12: 251
- Students in the Class of 2021: 67
- Students: 92.46% Hispanic/Latino; 3.17% Declined to specify; 0.79% American Indian or Alaska Native; 0.79% Black or African American; 0.79% Filipino; 0.40% Multiple Races; 0.40% Vietnamese & 0.40% White
- Students qualifying for free or reduced lunch: 89%
- Student-Teacher Ratio: 15:1

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- English.....40 Credits
- Math.....30 Credits
- History/Social Science.....30 Credits
- Foreign Language.....20 Credits
- Laboratory Science.....20 Credits
- Visual & Performing Arts.....10 Credits
- College Prep Electives.....10 Credits
- Physical Education.....10 Credits

Minimum of 220 credits is required for high school graduation



GRADING

In alignment with University of California and California State University undergraduate admissions requirements, PUC Schools do not grant “D” letter grades. A grade below a “C” is a fail and will not satisfy the PUC graduation requirements. Students earning an “F” for any required course must repeat the course to earn a grade of “C” or higher.

- **College Courses** – College course grade of “C” or higher will receive 1 GPA added value point.
- **Grade Replacement** - PUC Schools implemented a PUC-Wide grade replacement policy starting the 2015-16 school year. Students may retake any failed course. The newly earned grade, GPA points and credits will replace the previously failed course. The original failed course and grade will remain the students’ transcript (*Must be same course name & content*).

GRADE SCALE

A	100 - 90
B	89 - 80
C	79 - 70
F	69 - Below
In Progress	0

GRADE DISTRIBUTION:

Class of 2021 Cumulative Weighted GPAs

GPA Range	# of Students	GPA Range	# of Students
4.1 - 5.0	2	2.0 - 2.5	15
3.6 - 4.0	9	1.5 - 1.9	8
3.1 - 3.5	8	1.0 - 1.4	14
2.6 - 3.0	11		

- PUC Schools does not rank students.
- The Class of 2021 cumulative GPAs (weighted & unweighted) includes 9th grade through 11th grade fall semester.
- Due to COVID-19, PUC Schools adjusted our Spring 2020 grade scale to a PASS/FAIL for all classes and excluded Pass/Fail grades from GPAs.

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS EXAMS

Class of 2021 students were registered to take the April and May 2020 ACT. Due to COVID-19 closures, many students have not had the opportunity to take the SAT or ACT.

DUAL ENROLLMENT COLLEGE COURSES

Partnership with Los Angeles City College (LACC)

- FREE college courses offered at PUC eCALS site and are taught by LACC college professors.
- College course enrollment is open to all students starting their second semester of 9th grade through senior year.
- Students must be passing all of their core academic courses to be eligible.
- On average, 4 college courses are offered to students throughout the school year: 2 courses per semester (2 courses after school and 2 courses embedded into the school day).

Due to school’s virtual program (COVID-19), PUC eCALS is offering two college courses this fall, and plans on offering 3 college courses due to student demand (LACC’s courses are online fall 2020).

ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAM

- After careful review of our Advance Placement (AP) and college course student data, starting this 2020-21 school year, PUC eCALS has discontinued our AP program, and will focus solely on our dual enrollment college course program to expand our high school course offerings.
- College course pathways are under development, allowing students to explore careers, take a sequence of courses to earn a certificate and/or Associates Degree, hence saving students time and money on tuition.
- 2019-2020 AP Course Offerings:
 - 1) AP Calculus AB; 2) AP Biology; 3) AP English Language and Composition; 4) AP English Literature and Composition; 5) AP US History; 6) AP Spanish Language & Culture and 7) AP Government and Politics US.
- May 2020: 62 students took 1 or more AP Exams; 81 AP exams were administered

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS DATA CLASS OF 2020

- 89% admitted to 2 & 4-year colleges/universities
- 47% admitted to a 4-year college/university

POST-SECONDARY COMMITMENT DATA

- 42.8% - 4-year college/university
- 41.7% - 2-year college
- 1.0% - Military
- 3.2% - Employment
- 15.38% - Other (Gap Year, Defer, etc.)
- 81% - In-State
- 2.1% - Out-of-State