WHERE DO I GO FROM HERE?
CONNECTING FIRST GENERATION STUDENTS TO COLLEGE RESOURCES

WELCOME!
Cal-SOAP LA
California Student Opportunity & Access Program

• College Peer advising
  ➢ One-on-one and small group college & career enrichment
  ➢ Individualized goal setting & academic education plans
  ➢ Career & college major exploration
  ➢ Reviewing A-G requirements
• College applications
• Classroom presentations
• SAT/ACT registration workshops
• Financial Aid presentations & events
• Personal Statement/Insight Ques.
Who are “First-Generation College Students?”

- First in the family to pursue education beyond high school
- Neither parent attended a 4-year college
- Neither parent earned a 4-year college degree

**Parent’s level of experience with higher education**

- First in the family to ever attend any type of college
- Neither parent earned any college degree
Why are resources and support important/needed: First-Generation College Student Statistics

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- Couldn’t afford to continue going to school
- Would rather work and make money
- Change in family status
- Conflicts with demands at home
- Personal problems, injury, or illness
- Classes not available, or class scheduling wasn’t convenient
- Job or military considerations
- Difficulty completing requirements for your program
- Finished taking desired classes

COMMON CHALLENGES COLLEGE STUDENTS FACE

CULTURE SHOCK
Discomfort that can come from being in a new environment, which maybe drastically different than what one is used to. Some colleges/universities are not as diverse as others and this may discourage some students.

FEAR OF FAILURE
Extremely common for first year college students. Students are often concerned that they if they struggle in college, that is an indication that they do not belong.

HOMESICKNESS
Challenges with being away from family for the first time and living in a new environment.

FEAR OF DISAPPOINTING PARENTS/FAMILY
Many students are afraid to share struggles with their family because they do not want them to be disappointed.
Campus Resources

- Educational Opportunity Program (EOP)
- First-Year Experience / Summer Bridge
- Academic Support Services
- Disability Support Services
- Ethnic and Gender Resource Centers
- Dream Centers
- Counseling and Psychological Services
- On-Campus Clinics/Medical Care
- Financial Aid Office
- Food Pantries
- Gym/Athletics
Student panel time!

First Generation Students: Telling Our Stories