

**CHAVEZ EXTENSION PROGRAM (CEP)**

**Cesar Chavez Community School**

**Students Served**

The Chavez Extension Program (CEP) is designed to meet the educational needs of the students who are identified as continuously enrolled since age 18. (*Continuously enrolled since age 18 is defined as: A student who has been continuously enrolled since turning age 18 without a gap in enrollment of more than 30 consecutive calendar days, California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 5, Section 1039.2*)

Students for whom the traditional school day is not conducive due to extenuating circumstances such as lack of childcare, work schedule, transportation, or family matters, etc., are welcome to enroll in the CEP as staff are trained to help students navigate these challenges.

CEP enrollees would not be required to have a transfer referral from their district of residence; however, they must meet the following criteria:

- Must be between ages 18 – 21 years of age, be enrolled in a school program and meet one or more of the following criteria:
  - Probation
  - Truant/Attendance
  - Expelled youth
  - Behavior concerns/School discipline concerns
- May be served through independent study until their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday, even though they have had a break in enrollment.
- May be served through independent study up to the age of 21, as long as they remain continuously enrolled and their break in enrollment was less than 30 calendar days.

**Summary and Conclusion**

Selected Yolo County students, primarily the ones who decide to drop out of school, often need: (1) More time to complete a high school diploma; and (2) More flexibility, with increased support. Therefore, YCOE staff should consider implementing the Chavez Extension Program because it can address the forementioned student needs. Additionally, CEP is in alignment with the YCOE Strategic Plan and underpins YCOE’s cradle to career philosophy.

As stated, the purpose of the Chavez Extension Program (CEP) is to re-engage students, ages 18-21, who are in jeopardy of dropping out of high school, or who have been out of school and want to return to complete their diploma. Often, these students drop out of school because they view themselves as too mature to engage in conventional high school environments, but not mature

enough to participate in formal adult education environments. The CEP can/will provide students an opportunity to engage in learning activities with other 18-21-year-olds, at times that are convenient to them, and in a location that is geographically near their homes.

The CEP was specifically designed to help students who need extra time to graduate high school. Through personalized education plans, the flexible CEP model utilizes an independent study model which provides daily, in-person academic support as well as the minimum independent study appointment. Flexibility allows students to finish their requirements while still meeting employment, personal, and family obligations.

**Adopted:** April 9, 2024

Yolo County Office of Education