

California State University, Bakersfield
High School Equivalency Program

ABSTRACT: California State University, Bakersfield – High School Equivalency Program, CSUB-HEP, would like to provide High School Equivalency (HSE) services to migrant and seasonal farmworkers in the Southern San Joaquin Valley of California, one of the richest agricultural areas in the nation. Our goal is to serve 80 eligible participants annually by providing instructional services and support assistance so they can successfully earn a HSE Certificate. CSUB-HEP intends to implement a commuter accelerated summer course on the CSUB campus; additionally, the HEP program will offer five classes in rural farm working communities such as Wasco, Shafter, Porterville, and two sites in Bakersfield located throughout Kern County and part of Tulare County.

The primary objectives of the CSUB-HEP program are as follow: (1) Recruitment – conduct timely and proper identification and recruitment of migrant and seasonal farmworkers to enroll a minimum of 80 eligible participants each program year; (2) HSE Attainment – deliver specialized instructional services to help enrolled students successfully complete the course of study and earn a HSE Certificate; (3) Placement Services – offer post-HSE placement services to HSE graduates to help them begin a postsecondary education, vocational training, and/or gain improved employment; (4) Supportive Services – provide student retention and personal counseling services; (5) Health Services – assist participants with referrals to local health service providers; (6) Cultural Enrichment – support students with exposure to cultural and social events in the community; (7) Financial Assistance – cover the cost of HSE exam fees and furnish instructional books and materials.

As per the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) measure, CSUB-HEP plans to exceed the national GPRA 1 benchmark by achieving an annual 75% GPRA 1 and by placing 80% of its HSE graduates to achieve an annual 80% GPRA 2.