Rise Program 2018-19 Report

Caltech Y
Program Growth

The Rise Program began in 2006 with 45 tutors and 50 students. The program has grown tremendously since then.

In 2018-19, we served 133 students from the Pasadena area with 150 tutors. In addition, the Rise Program has added an SAT/ACT Summer Prep Program along with several college counseling workshops.
Rise Program
2018-2019 Highlights

150 Tutors served in the Rise Program

133 Students participated in the Rise Program

6 College Scholarships were awarded

63% Improved their grade in math

53% Improved their grade in science

51% Were returning students

0% of students failing science compared to 11% at the start

1% of students failing math compared to 14% at the start

100% of seniors enrolled in a 2 or 4-year college
Student Pre & Post Test

**Before**
- 37% Felt confident in their math ability
- 39% Knew how to find the answer to a problem
- 26% Thought they received good scores on quizzes and tests

**After**
- 68% Felt confident in their math ability
- 76% Knew how to find the answer to a problem
- 66% Thought they received good scores on quizzes and tests
**Rise Scholarships**

**WILLIAM HAN**  
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

There was never a time at the Rise Program where I would be given the answer to a problem straight away. I was always challenged to think critically and explain my reasoning behind everything. If there was a concept that I did think I understood well, I would be encouraged to think conceptually or be posed with even more difficult questions.

**INGRID JAIME**  
UC MERCED

I started the Rise Program hating math and feeling unsure about science, but now I am proud to say that I’ve realized math isn’t as bad as I made it seem (of course with the right help) and for science I grew a passion for Biology which is why I will be studying a Biology related major in the fall of this year.

**ERICK VARGAS**  
CAL STATE NORTH RIDGE

The Caltech Y Rise Program has helped me on the path to my dream career as a Civil Engineer. I plan to study Civil Engineering at the California State University of Northridge, and have been accepted into the program. It was not an easy journey to reach my goal, but the Rise Program really pushed me to my limits to ensure my success.

**INALA TAYLOR**  
SANTA MONICA CITY COLLEGE

When I finally joined the Rise Program, my life, as well as my grades, improved tremendously. With time, I began to comprehend what I was being taught, and how to properly retain the information when it comes time to implement the information in class. The Rise program allowed me the opportunity to take my educational difficulties by the horns, and help audit what and what does not work for me academically.

**YANETTE ABZUN**  
PASADENA CITY COLLEGE

I saw how drastically my grades fell when I didn’t go to tutoring that I immediately rejoined the Rise Program my Junior year. I am very thankful for my tutor who has been with me ever since because she always has such a positive mindset and is very enthusiastic which therefore makes me so excited to learn more. Now I am a senior taking AP Statistics and AP Environmental Science which I enjoy learning about so much.

**EDEN PORRAS HARTH**  
UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Rise gave me so many tools that I have used in my remaining amount in high school, but it really gave me the confidence and ability to complete and really master topics in regards to math and use my learning difference as an advantage rather than let it hold me back. I am very grateful for everything Rise has given me.
The Rise Program continued its SAT/ACT Summer Prep Program. This year, the program doubled in size and length and gave each of our students access to 26 free hours of one-on-one SAT/ACT tutoring prep.

- **8** Weeks
- **30** Tutors
- **480** Free tutoring hours of SAT/ACT Prep
- **50** Average point increase on SAT math
What do you like about the Rise Program?

I really love the Rise Program. It’s helped me so much. I’ve noticed that when I don’t come, I don’t perform as well on my tests, but when I do come it makes a big difference. My tutor is really great at helping me.

My tutor helps me a lot on my homework. I’m very focused when I’m here. I’m never distracted, and I’m very comfortable with my tutor. I feel like I could ask her anything and she’ll always help me no matter what. Here I can really go into depth with the subject that I’m in. I can work at my own pace, whereas at school I feel rushed and I feel like we just briefly talk about some subjects and I can’t really go into depth.

How has this program helped you?

This program has helped me finish my homework assignments, get better grades, and understand the subjects better. The environment here at the Rise Program is very positive, which has made me become more focused and has motivated me a lot. When I don’t come, I’ve noticed that my grades drop, but when I do come more often, it’s helped me get better grades and pass my classes.

What is your plan after graduating high school?

After I graduate high school, I plan on attending Pasadena City College and then transferring on to a 4-year to get my Bachelor’s degree in nursing.

The environment here at the Rise Program is very positive, which has made me become more focused and has motivated me a lot.
Tutor Interview

Sean Pike, Caltech Graduate Student, Physics

Sean has tutored at the Rise Program for two and a half years. He's been a tutor on Caltech's campus and at John Muir High School.

Q: Why did you start tutoring? Why do you continue to tutor?

I started tutoring because I was part of a similar program during college, and I always found it to be a fun and rewarding way engaging with my community outside of the campus bubble. Public education in particular is very important to me, and I feel that this kind of work is a small way that I can support schools in the communities I live in.

I keep tutoring because every session is a new experience. It’s challenging and rewarding to figure out the best way to get through a particular problem with my students, and I always feel that I’m learning along with them.

Q: What do you like best about tutoring with the Rise Program?

My favorite part of the program is watching students’ confidence in themselves grow as they feel more comfortable with their class material. If my students feel like they are capable of finding solutions to problems they haven’t encountered before, then I feel like I’ve been successful.

Q: What have you learned from tutoring with Rise?

I’m always learning how to be more patient. In particular, I am better about allowing time and space for students to think quietly about a question before I eagerly jump in to offer a solution.

Q: Do you have other thoughts about the program?

Rise is great! It’s a lot of fun to be involved in a program with people who genuinely care about students’ success and growth.
Thank You!

Rise Program Tutors contributed over 5800 hours of tutoring in 2018-19.

Thank you to all the amazing tutors, students, and donors that make the Rise Program possible!