Aspiring Scholars Highlights

A four-year, inclusive path to learning, belonging, and meaningful employment at Cal State San Marcos.

2025-2026 YEAR IN REVIEW

A **landmark year** for the program, and a **thriving one** for its scholars.

THE PROGRAM

A pioneering model, growing fast

A CSU FIRST

1st

four-year ISPE program in the CSU system

One of only two four-year Inclusive Postsecondary Education (ISPE) programs in California.

ENROLLMENT & GROWTH

4 → 33

students enrolled, Fall 2026

Demand for inclusive higher education at CSUSM keeps climbing.

8x enrollment growth since the first cohort

INVESTMENT

$2.5M+

in grant funding secured

New multi-year funding secures the future of the program.

New dedicated center space on campus

STUDENT SUCCESS

Learning, belonging, and getting hired

COURSEWORK

80+

unique courses taken

Scholars build individualized academic pathways in classes alongside CSUSM undergraduates.

60+ peer mentors alongside them

CAMPUS LIFE

130+

student event attendances

From club meetings to campus traditions, scholars take part in the full life of the university.

1st ISPE Day celebrated at CSUSM

INTERNSHIPS & EMPLOYMENT

9 students completed internships → **4** transitioned to paid employment

> *This program has impacted my life because I can have more socialization and positive relationships with others on campus.*
>
> ROMAN MARTENS · ASPIRING SCHOLAR

Be part of the journey

Become a peer mentor, support the program, or learn how to apply.

csusm.edu/aspiringscholars

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Funded in part by the U.S. Department of Education TPSID grant · Academic Year 2025-2026