

Spotlight on Student Services

January 2016



C U Y A M A C A
· C O L L E G E ·



***“The journey of a thousand miles
must begin with a single step.”
Lao Tzu***

CalWORKs S.T.E.P.S. Program

A-109

619-660-4340

Monday 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday-Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

S.T.E.P.S. = Success Through Education
Produces Self-Sufficiency

www.cuyamaca.edu/services/calworks

Eligibility

- Active CalWORKs/welfare/cash aid recipient
- Enrolled or plan to be enrolled in credit or non-credit classes (can be part-time or fulltime with no minimum units)
- Working toward degree, transfer, or certificate or to improve work skills

The Cuyamaca College CalWORKs S.T.E.P.S. Program provides services to support CalWORKs students in achieving individual educational goals as well as learning employable skills with the ultimate goal of increased wage-earning power to become economically self-sufficient.

Program Requirements

- Attend New Student Orientation
- Meet with a CalWORKs counselor each semester for education plan and Individual Training Plan showing weekly activity hours
- Meet with a counselor for long term education plan
- Turn in activity hours form each month
- Maintain 2.0 GPA
- Provide eligibility documentation as needed

Sara Allen: Helping Students Succeed at Cuyamaca College



Stop by Sara Allen's desk in the CalWORKs office at Cuyamaca College and one of the first things you might notice are the many 'thank you' notes posted on her bulletin board. "It's very rewarding work," Sara said. "Students and counselors come in here and thank us all the time."

And with good reason. Sara is a clerical assistant who helps manage the CalWORKs office at Cuyamaca College's One-Stop Center. CalWORKs (California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids) is an assistance program for eligible needy California families. The CalWORKs program at Cuyamaca College is known as S.T.E.P.S., which is an acronym for Success Through Education Produces Self-Sufficiency. It provides an array of support services such as counseling and work-study plans aimed at helping from 500 to 700 needy students reach their educational goals.

Sara has been with the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District since 2001 and graduated from Grossmont College's Office Professional Training program. She landed employment at Grossmont College through the AmeriCorps Program as a student worker, then later moved over to Cuyamaca College, where she was assigned to the CalWORKs program.

Born and raised in San Diego, Sara met her husband, Michael, who is a Cuyamaca College financial aid advisor, at the One Stop Center. She's also been picking up Arabic from co-workers in the office.

"I love it here at Cuyamaca," Sara said. "It's one of the most diverse colleges I've ever been to. And it offers a wide range of opportunities for students to do what they want to do. I'll stay here forever if I can," she added. "I love working with the students here and I see them in the community all the time."

