

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS

Summer research experience program for community college students



Center for Education,
Engagement and
Evaluation

Connecting environmental science and people
to inspire curiosity, community and action



Learn more

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

- Students conduct authentic research projects in Earth and environmental sciences, mentored by scientists from CU Boulder, NOAA, USGS, USFS, and other partners
- 9-week paid summer immersive experience
- Students receive professional development and science communication training
- For Colorado community college students and students from rural community colleges in surrounding states



RECCS PROGRAM BY THE NUMBERS (2014-2024)



11 Cohorts

125 Students 146 Mentors



“ RECCS provided me with resources and opportunities I didn’t know were possible such as learning about how to apply to graduate school and the opportunities available in for me in STEM. I was able to unapologetically show up as myself and remove any stereotypes I had about academia, STEM, and research. RECCS made me realize that I love research and that I can be involved in academia. ”



“ The workshops provided with the hands-on aspect allowed me to grow my confidence in science, communication, self advocacy, networking, data collection, and public speaking. ”

43% first-generation
college students

16% Rural 45% BIPOC



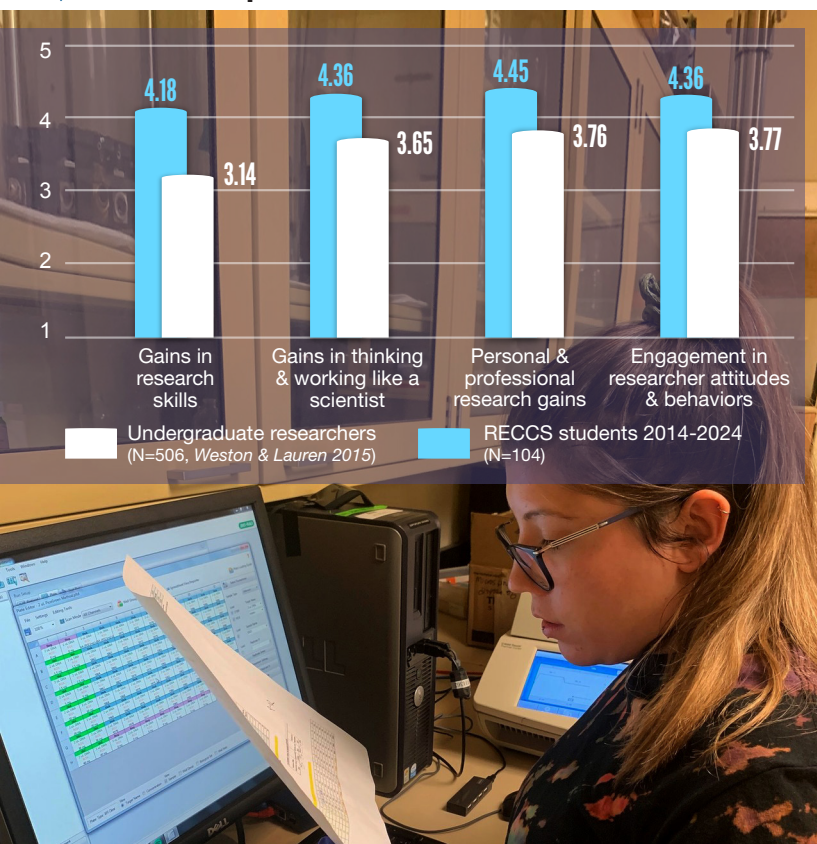
Learn more: ceee.colorado.edu/programs/reccs



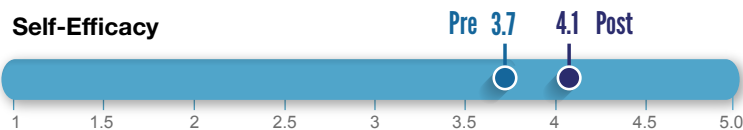
University of Colorado
Boulder

PROGRAM IMPACTS

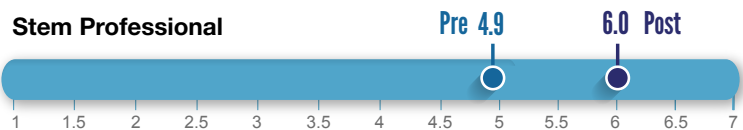
1. Self-Reported Gains



2. Students' confidence in their research skills (self-efficacy) improved significantly



3. Students saw themselves as STEM professionals after the program



What past RECCS students are saying...



“ While the cohorts are small, the impact that this program makes ripples throughout the region and within the CU Boulder campus, making it a program that is pushing for inclusive excellence. ”



“ I could see the changes and discoveries of science happening right before my eyes and felt so connected to it. I was able to meet up with so many different types of people from all sorts of various backgrounds. What I originally thought was just for the select majority was actually accessible for so many through programs like RECCS. ”

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Research Experience for Community College Students

Learn more: ceee.colorado.edu/programs/reccs | reccs@colorado.edu



University of Colorado
Boulder



93% of RECCS students would recommend the program to others

93%

4. Mentors rated students' progress as scientists-in-training highly

Words for areas of most growth



5. Completing the program positively impacted students' future academic and career plans



Former RECCS Student, Jae Robinson, is one of just 12 CU Boulder students to receive the prestigious NSF Graduate Research Fellowship which supports outstanding graduate students in science-related fields.