



"Making College a Reality"

**Cal-SOAP**

Student Opportunity and Access Program



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

# College Presentation

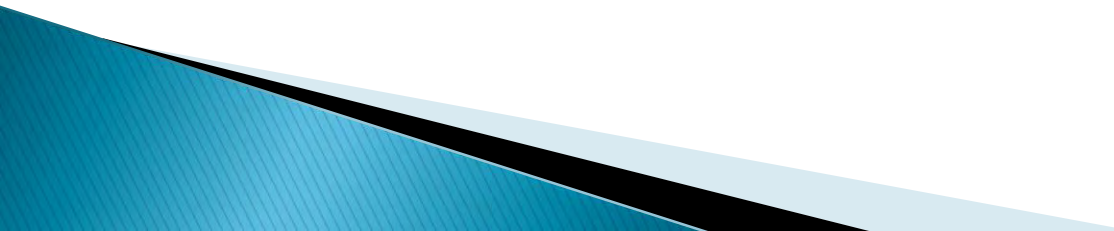
Kristy Renteria  
Tutor Coordinator  
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# California Student Opportunity and Access Program

- ▶ The mission of Cal-SOAP is to help prepare students in the Santa Barbara area for education beyond high school
- ▶ Cal-SOAP provides FREE programs and services:
  - Tutoring
  - College visits
  - College and career planning
  - College admissions information
  - Financial aid advising
  - Scholarship opportunities
  - Workshops (parents, students)

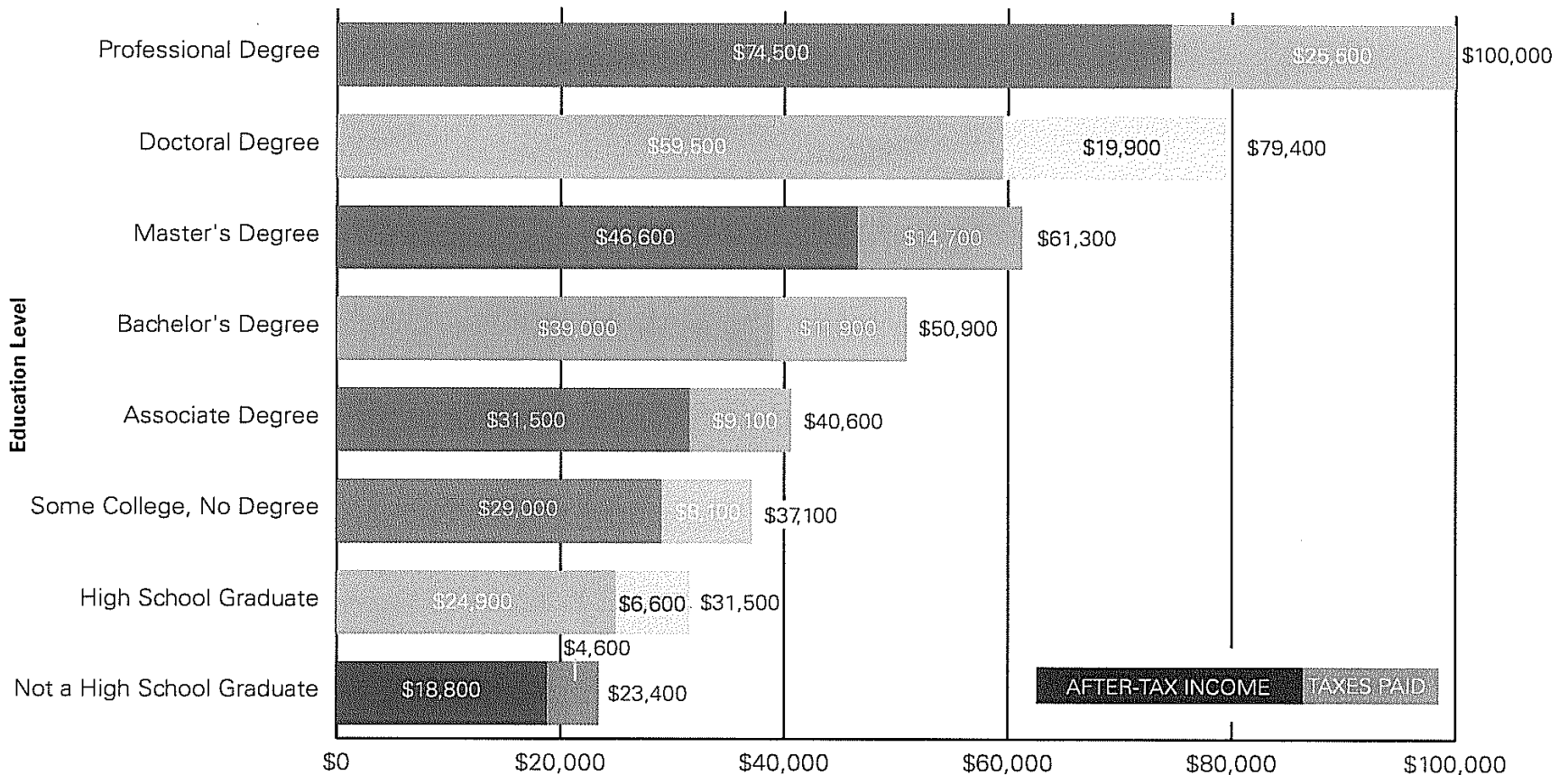


# Benefits of Higher Education

- ▶ Personal growth/development
  - ▶ Experiential learning
  - ▶ Networking/building relationships
  - ▶ Professional development/job training
- 

# Benefits of Higher Education

Figure 1.1: Median Earnings and Tax Payments of Full-Time Year-Round Workers Ages 25 and Older, by Education Level, 2005



Source: CollegeBoard, "Education Pays" by Sandy Baum and Jennifer Ma, 2007

# Higher Education Pays

## Education pays

Unemployment rate in 2008



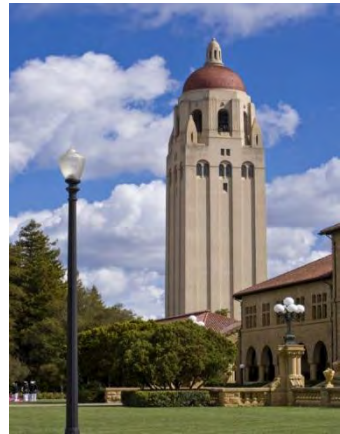
Median weekly earnings in 2008



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey

# Four Systems of Higher Education

- ▶ California Community College – 110
- ▶ California State University – 23
- ▶ University of California – 10
- ▶ Private/Independent Colleges and Universities - 76



# A-G Course Requirements

- ▶ 15 year long courses completed in high school which are required for eligibility for admission to UC and CSU system
- ▶ History – 2 years
- ▶ English – 4 years
- ▶ Math – 3 years (4 recommended)
- ▶ Lab Science – 2 years (3 recommended)
- ▶ Foreign Language – 2 years (3 recommended)
- ▶ Visual & Performing Arts – 1 year
- ▶ College Prep Elective – 1 year



# Paying for College



## ▶ Financial Aid

### ◦ Scholarships

- Money awarded for exceptional achievement, talent/skill, and/or financial need

### ◦ Grants

- Money given usually because of financial need

### ◦ Work-Study

- Money earned by working a part-time job while you are in school

### ◦ Loans

- Money borrowed that you must repay after you finish college



# College Planning



- ▶ Meet with your counselor every term to determine if you are on track for meeting both A-G course requirements and graduation requirements
- ▶ Use planning tools provided to you by your high school counselor
- ▶ Maintain good grades and follow through with the more challenging courses
- ▶ Seek tutoring or outside assistance if needed
- ▶ Consider other obligations when creating your academic schedule
- ▶ REMEMBER TO ASK FOR ASSISTANCE FROM ADULTS IN YOUR LIFE WHO WANT TO HELP YOU PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE 😊



It's never too early to begin planning for college!

