



California Mini-Corps 50th Anniversary Celebration

Proposal for 2017 CABE Conference

The California Mini-Corps 50th Anniversary Planning Committee (CMCAPC) is proud to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the California Mini-Corps Program (CMC) in 2017 and very excited about partnering with the California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE) to mark this important milestone in the Program's history. This proposal provides information about the California Mini-Corps Program and outlines the CMCAPC's proposal for collaboration and participation in the 2017 CABE Conference to be held in Anaheim, California on March 29-April 1, 2017.

The CMC shares CABE's vision of "**biliteracy, educational equity, and 21st century success for all**". From its inception in 1967, the California Mini-Corps Program (CMC) has positively impacted the educational lives of thousands of migrant children and has contributed to California's bilingual teacher workforce. With the increased number of Latino and English Learner (EL) students in California's public schools and throughout the nation, the CMC provides a successful model that can be readily replicated and implemented to serve similar student populations in other states. The CMC was established in 1967 and modeled after the Peace Corps through an innovative partnership among the California Department of Education, Chico State University and the Butte County Office of Education. The program originally started as a summer school program where college students with a farm worker background were recruited to work as teacher assistants in migrant-student impacted summer schools. Over the next six years, the program expanded and proved to be a promising vehicle for graduating former migrant students who went on to pursue careers in education. In 1974, the CMC expanded to the regular school year. In 1976, the State Board of Education adopted the California Master Plan for Migrant Education and in it, institutionalized the CMC. Under the Master Plan, the program would recruit and provide specialized training to college students with a migrant background that would enable them to provide tutorial services to migrant students. These college students would also receive professional development and classroom experience to help them become future bilingual-bicultural teachers.

The Program Today

Since its inception, the program has expanded to 24 programs on 22 community college and university campuses across the state. Throughout its history the program has been administered through the Butte County Office of Education with Title I – Part C contract funds from the California Department of Education. The CMC encompasses two major goals:

1. To provide direct instructional services to increase migrant student academic achievement through a cadre of trained college tutors.
2. To develop a cadre of future credentialed bilingual educators that will be better equipped to work with migrant students.

Apart from the 24 college campus project sites, the program houses a central administration office in Sacramento. Collaboration with the 20 Migrant Education regional offices and the Institutions of Higher Education are essential to the program's success. Each year the program issues memoranda of understanding with each regional office and IHE partner that outlines the deliverables and responsibilities of each entity. Each IHE provides in-kind services that include office and classroom space, assistance with tutor recruitment and collaboration on professional development activities. The Migrant Education regional offices assist with tutor placements and collaborate on professional development activities.

Currently, the program provides tutorial support to migrant students, K-12, during the regular school year and summer school. During the regular school year each project site is staffed by a certificated project coordinator, a part time office assistant and a cadre of 18-20 college tutors. To be eligible to work as a CMC tutor, applicants must be full-time undergraduate college students, bilingual, with experiential knowledge of the migrant lifestyle, and be seeking a career in education. Once hired, the tutors are placed in K-12 classrooms and provide direct instructional services to migrant students under the supervision of a certificated master teacher. During the summer the CMC employs over 375 tutors that are placed in migrant impacted summer schools throughout the state. As in the regular year, these tutors work under the supervision of certificated summer school teacher. In 2014-15, the CMC served an average of 6,000 K-12 migrant students during each fall and spring semesters and nearly 7,000 students during the summer.

Strengthening Program through Partnerships and Collaboration

The CMC celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2017 and has endured and grown stronger through an established network of formal partnerships that include Migrant Education regional offices, 24 community and state colleges and hundreds of school districts throughout the state. The planning committee believes that a partnership with CAFE will strengthen and yield many positive outcomes for both organizations. As such, the CMCAPC submits this proposal to celebrate CMC's 50th anniversary and to partner with CAFE at its 2017 annual state conference.

The CMCAPC requests that the CAFE Board of Directors consider the inclusion of the following activities during its 2017 conference in Anaheim.

1. A pre-institute on Wednesday afternoon, 1:30 – 4:00 p.m. ~~with a reception from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.~~ Tentative agenda is as follows:

1:30	Welcome
1:45	Reconnecting Through Mini-Corps Initiatives
3:00	MC: 50 Years in Retrospect

Space/AV Needs: Small ballroom or conference room that accommodates 350 participants.

2. A CMC strand of workshops on Thursday. The workshops will focus on CMC related themes but will be of interest to both teachers and administrators. Below is a list of possible workshops for this strand.

- Mentoring Latinas for Educational Leadership
- The MCM Story
- Re-instilling Empathy and Social Justice Into Teaching
- How to Work Effectively with Para-Educators and Tutors
- Cognitive Coaching to Improve Instruction
- Building Leadership Skills through Outdoor Education/Wilderness Programs

Space/AV Needs: At least 6 workshop rooms with capacity of 50.

6:00 Reception with Entertainment/Recognition

- Estudiantina Primavera
- Puppeteers

3. Integration of a workshop focusing on CMC as an effective teacher recruitment program during the Superintendent's Symposium on Friday.
4. A 50th Anniversary Reception Celebration for the CMC on Thursday evening, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. The reception would include appetizers and no host bar.

Space/AV Needs: Ballroom with stage, mic, screen, and sound system.

5. A special room on Wed or Thursday featuring CMC memorabilia, historical artifacts, a walk of fame and sample alumni information. This hall would also include an interviewer collecting alumni stories and experiences.
6. A page in the conference program recognizing the CMC.
7. Formal program recognition at Friday's Seal of Excellence Dinner.
8. Conference registration waiver for Mini-Corps alumni and guests attending only the CMC reception on Thursday.

For any questions or more information regarding this proposal please contact the planning committee Co-Chairs: Guadalupe Mendoza, 562.922.6162, mendoza_lupe@lacoee.edu or Ernesto Ruiz, 530.301.5212, ernier52@hotmail.com.