

**On the ROPES:
Supporting learning success in students
from marginalized communities**

**NJ Convening on Diversifying
the Teacher Workforce**

October 19, 2021

11:30am - 12:45pm

The ROPES Team

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RowanUnive

**OPPORTUNITY FOR POSTSE
EXCELLENCE & SUCCESS**



Funding Support: Office of the Secretary of Higher Education & U.S. Department of Education

- 30 higher education institutions across the state received funding totaling over 33 million dollars
- Rowan University received approximately \$1.5 million dollars.
- “Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund II: Opportunity Meets Innovation Challenge (OMIS)” grant awarded in connection with the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, 2021, (“CRRSA Act”)

ROPES Purpose

The mission of ROPES focuses on **high school juniors** from surrounding communities to:

1. Increase representation of students from racially and ethnically diverse backgrounds in higher education
2. Respond to persistent opportunity gaps and learning loss faced by young people from diverse backgrounds particularly during the pandemic
3. Recruit approximately **100 students** from participating schools/districts to help fulfil OSHE's vision: *“every New Jerseyan, regardless of life circumstances, should have the opportunity to obtain a high-quality credential that prepares them for a successful future. In implementing these strategies, state and college leaders must focus on populations that have been historically disadvantaged, including underrepresented minorities, low-income students, and working age adults.”*

ROPES Objectives

1. Promote opportunities for student success and enhanced workforce readiness in career fields such as ***computer science, engineering, music business, social services, and teacher education***
2. Engage students in experiential activities and develop relationships with Rowan faculty and staff, and connect with student success services.
3. Provide customizable plans for career exploration ensuring equity and opportunities for local low-income students living and attending high school in surrounding schools/districts.
4. Integrate social and emotional learning strategies that will lead to improved educational experiences and ease students' transition to college

Rowan CED's commitment to New Jersey



Vision and mission: access, success, & equity
Three-prong approach to Comprehensive Educator Preparation Pipeline (i.e., initial and advanced preparation)

- Career Exploration (pre-college/college)
- Career Development (nontraditional students/second degree holders)
- Career Advancement (Mid-career professionals)

Collaborative Partnerships for Transformative Impact

- C.A.S.E - Professional Development and Big Data Research Hub

ROPES Partners

Rowan University

- College of Education (CED)
- College of Humanities & Social Sciences (CHSS)
- College of Performing Arts (CPA)
- Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering (COE)
- College of Science & Mathematics (CSM)

P-12 School Districts

- Atlantic City Public Schools
- Bridgeton Public Schools
- Camden City Public Schools
- Paulsboro Public Schools
- Pleasantville Public Schools
- Vineland Public Schools

ROPES Dual Enrollment

Academic Programs

Year 1

Comp I &
Field of Study
Course

Year 2

Field of Study
Course

- CED: Teacher Education
- CHSS: Social Services
- CSM: Computer Science
- COE: Engineering
- CPA: Music Business

Enrichment & Financial Supports

Year 1

Enrichment
Resources

- Summer Institute for in-depth career exploration and academic supports

Year 2

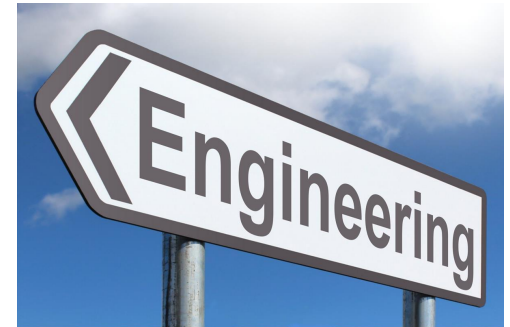
Enrichment
Resources

- Workshops to support social & emotional needs and to support college entry

ROPES Fields of Study



1. Teacher Education
2. Social Services
3. Computer Science
4. Engineering
5. Music Business



Dual Enrollment Course Offerings

Course Title	Type of Course	Credit(s)
Introduction to Career Pathways and Planning	General Education	2
College Composition I	General Education	3

Notes:

- 1) Ensure course equivalents to high school curricula
- 2) Students make career field selection by end of spring 2022

Course Offerings by College and Field of Study

College	Field of Study	Course Title	Credits
College of Education	Teacher Education	History of American Education	3
		Characteristics of Knowledge & Acquisition	3
College of Humanities & Social Science	Social Services	US History Since 1865	3
		Introduction to Sociology	3
College of Science & Mathematics	Computer Science	Introduction to Scientific Programming	3
		Computer Science & Programming	4
College of Engineering	Civil & Environmental Engineering	1st Year Engineering Clinic I	2
		1st Year Engineering Clinic II	2
College of Performing Arts	Music Business	History of Popular Music	3
		Hip Hop Culture	3

Rowan's Responsibilities

- Offer tuition-free, 9-11 credits of dual enrollment courses offered by five colleges; identify course equivalent to high school curricula [**deans' involvement**]
- Conduct a 2-week ROPES Summer Institute - explore in depth careers the five focus areas [**deans' involvement**]
- Provide transportation to/from participating schools/districts for on-campus activities in Fall 2022 & Spring 2023, and 2022 Summer Institute (i.e., 10 days)
- Engage participants about campus life, activities and offer workshops for parents or guardian (i.e., admission process, financial aid applications, and student support services)
- Offer qualifying participants' scholarship support to Rowan University

School/District Partners' Responsibilities

- Attend/Confirm active participation in information sessions
- Assist with recruitment efforts of ROPES participants and identify guidance counselor for course equivalency (i.e., 9-11 credits)
- Maintain a school liaison during the length of the ROPES program
 - Provide information regarding participation changes to ROPES Project Coordinator
 - Serve as a connector to participants, and parents/guardians, and school district leadership
 - Share other pertinent information as needed with grant team
 - Participate in ongoing meetings for student support and planning efforts
- Ensure participants' active engagement with all program activities
- Encourage participants and their families to attend support services and workshops offered by Rowan University

ROPES Student Funding Support

- All campus travel and academic visits
- Instructional materials for Summer Institute
- Instructional materials for all courses
- All meals and snacks provided during grant events
- All costs for tuition and fees for dual credit courses
- Laptop or chromebooks provided to each participant

Current Progress: Steps toward Achieving our Goals

Rowan Deans

1. Identify highly engaged/student-centric faculty to teach general ed & discipline courses
2. Program Information to promote focus areas: computer science, engineering, music business, social services, and teacher education

ROPES Team/Districts

1. Conduct Information sessions w/ deans and district leaders (9/28 & 9/30)
2. Hire Project Coordinator and Graduate Assistant (searches underway)
3. Identify School Liaisons of participating districts
4. Conduct virtual planning meeting w/ school liaisons (October 7th at 11:00 am)
5. Review courses for high school equivalency credits w/ guidance counselors

Recruitment Process

1. Promote the ROPES Program through flyers, email invitations, and recommendations from guidance counselors
2. Conduct virtual Information Sessions for interested participants and their family
3. Interested participants complete an application of interest and submit to the ROPES Project Coordinator
 - i. Deadline to apply: November 15, 2021
 - ii. Acceptance notification: December 1, 2021
 - iii. Start date: January 3, 2022

Questions

