

Joint Resolution of the Sierra College Senates: ASSC, Classified Senate, Management and Confidential Senate, and Academic Senate

Approved December 10, 2025

Additional Information: The AANAPISI (Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions) program was established in 2007 by Congress alongside the College Cost Reduction and Access Act [3]. This federal program aims to strengthen the growth, retention, and graduation rates of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, and low-income student populations at eligible colleges. In 2021, Sacramento State University received a \$2 million grant through the AANAPISI program at the U.S. Department of Education [1]. Through its partnership with Sacramento State, Sierra College gained access to these funds and has since used them to support AANHPI and low-income students, as well as the broader student body. Events and programs supported by this grant have uplifted Sierra College students, faculty, and staff, fostering a campus environment where individuals can embrace their heritage and thrive academically. However, the AANAPISI grant supporting Sierra College will officially expire at the end of the 2025-2026 academic year. To continue advancing Sierra College's mission to empower students, close equity gaps for underserved students, and cultivate an inclusive and equitable community, the Sierra College Administration must establish a long-term funding plan to sustain the progress and engagement that the AANAPISI grant made possible.

WHEREAS, Sierra College in Rocklin was one of the six regional community colleges to improve graduation rates for Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander transfer students [1] via a \$2 million federal AANAPISI grant from Sacramento State University, awarded by the U.S. Department of Education.

WHEREAS, the AANAPISI grant started the SAC Project [2] led by Sacramento State University and the Full Circle Project to provide support for Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) students through developing a transfer student services model aiming to boost academic performance, improve retention rates, and support students in finishing their undergraduate degrees on time [3].

WHEREAS, the AANAPISI grant is shared between the community colleges [2] including American River College, Cosumnes River College, Folsom Lake College, Sacramento City College, San Joaquin Delta College in Stockton, and Sierra College in Rocklin through Sacramento State University.

WHEREAS Sierra College in Rocklin is home to two AANHPI-serving programs, Empowering Asian Students (EAS) and United Students of Oceania (USO), both of which relied heavily on using the AANAPISI grant to fund past events including but not limited to [4] Asian American Women in Politics: A Conversation with Betty Yee, ConservAsians and

PasifikAsian Mental Health workshops, and Pasifika graduation and Empowering Asian Students Graduation.

WHEREAS, Sierra College in Rocklin's AANAPISI Grant Team Faculty Members have been collecting data over the past three academic years providing data [5] with positive growth shown in the following trend: Year One (2021-2022) grant was awarded, Year Two (2022-2023) - 224 students were served, Year Three (2023-2024) - 494 students were served, and Year Four (2024-2025) - 674 students were served.

RESOLVED, ASSC, Classified Senate, Management and Confidential Senate, and Academic Senate advises that the Sierra College Administration develop a long-term funding plan to sustain AANHPI student support programs, cultural events, and services for AANHPI students previously supported by the AANAPISI grant.

RESOLVED, ASSC, Classified Senate, Management and Confidential Senate, and Academic Senate calls for the Sierra College Administration's long-term funding plan to include such strategies as donation contributions and institutional partnerships with previous AANAPISI shared recipients; Los Rios Community College District Schools (Folsom Lake College, American River College, Sacramento City College, and Cosumnes River College); San Joaquin Delta College; and Sacramento State University.

RESOLVED, ASSC, Classified Senate, Management and Confidential Senate, and Academic Senate urges Sierra College Administration to recognize AANHPI student equity as an institutional priority by protecting and expanding the resources essential to AANHPI student achievement and belonging.

RESOLVED, Sierra College Administration investigates, in collaboration with Academic Senate, solutions to keep USO and EAS programs active at Sierra College .

References:

[1] Sacramento State receives \$2 million federal grant to improve grad rates for AAPI transfer students | Sacramento State University. (2021, September 30).

<https://www.csus.edu/news/newsroom/stories/2021/9/aanapisi-week-grant.html>

[2] Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions Program | U.S. Department of Education | College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007 (HEA, Title III, Part F, Section 371; CFDA# 84.382B). (2025, August 14). <https://www.ed.gov/grants-and-programs/grants-special-populations/grants-native-americans-alaskan-natives-and-pacific-islanders/asian-american-and-native-american-pacific-islander-serving>

[3] 2025 ASCCC Exemplary Program Letter of Nomination | AANAPISI Grant Team Faculty Members (2025, October 28). [2025 ASCCC Exemplary Program Letter of Nomination](#)

[4] 2025 ASCCC Exemplary Program Letter of Nomination | AANAPISI Grant Team Faculty Members (2025, October 28).

[https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/sierra/Board.nsf/files/DMWRSS6EA17E/\\$file/2025%20ASCCC%20Exemplary%20Program%20Award%20-%20AANAPISI%20Grant-USO-EAS.pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/sierra/Board.nsf/files/DMWRSS6EA17E/$file/2025%20ASCCC%20Exemplary%20Program%20Award%20-%20AANAPISI%20Grant-USO-EAS.pdf)