

CALIFORNIA Global Education PROJECT



The **California Global Education Project (CGEP)** inspires and supports educators to develop global competence for active citizenship in all PK–12 students. CGEP helps teachers prepare students to explore and investigate their local and global communities, recognize different perspectives, communicate ideas effectively and take informed action on issues of local and global significance. Global education aims to empower students — who will live and work in an increasingly interconnected world — to be resilient innovators, influencers and leaders equipped with the knowledge, skills and dispositions described in the global competence framework.

CGEP expands participants’ geographic perspectives and understanding of the world’s diverse cultures and environments. Programs are designed to show teachers and their students the interconnectedness of people, events, places and issues. Key themes include human rights, conflict and resolution, environmental sustainability, migration and peace and justice.

CGEP works with teachers across disciplines and grade levels to address all of the California frameworks and standards in addition to initiatives in ethnic studies, environmental literacy, STEAM education, media literacy and career and technical education.

“This experience has been life changing because it gave me a better understanding of how to be a better (globally competent) teacher.”

ELEMENTARY TEACHER, RIVERSIDE COUNTY

LEADERSHIP

CGEP builds teacher leadership through:

- In-depth experiences with standards-based content and contemporary issues that also address regional priorities and academic literacy development
- Participation in a community of scholars who explore global studies in a range of long-term project activities
- Programs that bridge cultures, cultivate equity and enhance access for California’s diverse student population

CONTENT

CGEP has a long tradition of offering interdisciplinary professional learning programs designed to support teachers at all grade levels. Programs encompass:

- Global competence indicators and benchmarks
- Geography, culture, history, government and economics
- Global issues based on the UN Sustainable Development Goals
- Environmental literacy, justice and sustainability
- 21st-century themes and learning skills
- International virtual exchange
- Student-centered, inquiry-based learning
- Social-emotional learning designed to explore identity and community
- Curiosity and exploration that leads to action

OFFERINGS

In addition to subject-specific programs, CGEP provides resources, support and training in other integral areas:

- Teaching for global citizenship through global competence
- Geospatial technologies to promote global studies
- Communications, media literacy and English language development
- Coaching for instructional practices and emotional resilience
- School and district partnerships tailored to enhance global education
- Cross-cultural exchange with international students
- Connections between the intellectual resources of local universities and the academic and pedagogical needs of teachers, schools and districts
- Teacher certification and leadership in global competence
- Interdisciplinary project-based and design-thinking learning programs
- Communities of practice focused on global education
- Programs that integrate student activities with professional learning programs for teachers

IMPACT

The CGEP (formerly the California International Studies Project) has advocated for global education in PK–12 education for more than three decades. CGEP has:

- Maintained a statewide network of professional growth to strengthen teachers' subject knowledge, cultural knowledge, instructional skills and dispositions required for global competence
- Developed a growing cohort of global education leaders in schools, districts, universities and county offices of education in collaboration with community partners
- Supported efforts to maintain a stable, statewide system of professional growth in all PK–12 teaching subjects in collaboration with other CSMPs, the California Department of Education, 21CSLA, California Geographic Alliance and other education partners
- Established a program aimed at cultivating students' environmental literacy and informed participation in their local and global communities to address sustainability
- Built strong professional learning communities that contribute to teacher retention

HOST SITES

Columbia Elementary School District

Glenn County Office of Education

Humboldt County Office of Education

Orange County Department of Education

San Diego County Office of Education

UC Berkeley (ORIAS)

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752

Number of educators served (2024–25)

252

Number of schools served (2024–25)

“I have an interdisciplinary team at my site invested in incorporating global goals into their curriculum. We have connected with community partners to support civic engagement opportunities for students — especially those related to sustainability and social justice.”

HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER, SAN DIEGO



CGEP is a member of the **California Subject Matter Project (CSMP)**, a network of nine discipline-specific projects administered by the University of California Office of the President (UCOP) that provide high-quality professional learning for PK–12 teachers throughout California. Each project is represented statewide by regional sites on the campuses of UC, California State University and independent colleges and universities. For more information about CSMP, please visit csmponline.org.