



## DA VINCI X

“We thought we would teach DVX students about advertising. However, we’ve learned from them as well. Their tenacity to rise above socioeconomic challenges, family pressures, and awkward teen years has shown me that anything is truly possible.”

– Tish Fletcher, Brand Manager, 72andSunny –

Da Vinci X’s college program, founded in 2015, builds upon the success of the Da Vinci Schools’ K-12 program, blending college, career and life to support students in their journey to becoming happy, healthy, independent adults. DVX was created in response to the national college dropout crisis -- just 11% of low income students who enroll in college end up graduating (*Source: Brookings Institution*). Most leave college with debt and no degree. At Da Vinci, many of our graduating students were experiencing the same fate – able to start the race but not cross the finish line.

Through partnerships with leading higher education innovators, DVX students have the opportunity to complete a two-year associate’s degree, a four-year bachelor’s degree, or a one-year gap program that enables students to earn credits and transfer to a four-year university. Each cohort of students meets in a blended learning format (face-to-face instruction + online learning) two evenings per week at a Da Vinci site through UCLA Extension, Southern New Hampshire University, and/or El Camino Community College. Students have access to tutoring, advising, and teacher/professor office hours at Da Vinci as they complete their college coursework. The program also focuses on holistic life skills through access to diverse supports and “adulting” classes. Topics include mental health, financial planning, and grit to support students’ transition into becoming lifelong learners. Students leverage these tools, gaining exposure and access to real-world opportunities through on-the-job work experience in high-skill, high-demand jobs. Paid and unpaid internships, certificate programs, and strategic mentoring opportunities aligned with their personal interests also are included.

**College Programming** - DVX provides 3 pathways to earn college credits:

### UCLA Extension 13<sup>th</sup> Year Pathway

- A no-cost dual enrollment program allows students to complete their freshman year general education college coursework while receiving extra supports. All earned credits will apply toward a bachelor’s degree at the UC or CSU systems.

### UCLA Extension & El Camino 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> Year

- A 2-year AA university transfer and career pathway program for students who wish to complete their AA through El Camino Community College. This program is offered at no cost to families, and all earned credits apply toward a bachelor’s degree at the UC or CSU systems.

### College for America (CfA) at Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) College Degree Pathway

- An affordable, flexible, and relevant-to-employment pathway to Associate’s or Bachelor’s degree completion. The program is online and self-paced with a competency-based approach and real-world projects. The cost of this program is about \$6,000 per year, and can be subsidized by Pell and local funding resources.
- Associate Degrees:
  - General Studies
  - Healthcare Management
- Bachelor’s Degrees:
  - Business
  - Communications
  - Healthcare Management

### DVX Students At A Glance

- Established in 2015
- Da Vinci X believes in the power of a diverse community
- DVX currently serves 120 students
- 60% of DVX students are the first in their family to attend college
- Over 60% of DVX students are considered socio-economically disadvantaged

### Partner Certificate Programs

INTEL  
Certified Nursing Assistant  
UCLA Extension, Early Childhood Education

### Industry Partners

Belkin  
ARC  
72andSunny  
Gensler  
Atlas Capitol Group  
Kerlan-Jobe Orthopaedic Clinic  
Hecho  
New Earth  
El Segundo Animal Hospital  
Litigation Legal  
About Space  
Mofilm  
FIDM  
Susan G. Komen  
NKSBF  
ReStore Habitat for Humanity  
Michael Stars  
Silvia Cardona, D.D.S.  
LITILI  
Air Philosophy  
B REEL

### College Outcomes

- 100% of Da Vinci students attending DVX completed 12<sup>th</sup> grade CSU/UC eligible, though only 40% were accepted to a 4-year college in grade 12, a rate 35% lower than the Da Vinci average
- Despite a lower acceptance rate, 100% of DVX students enrolled in college the fall after 12<sup>th</sup> grade
- 100% of DVX students earned college credits in their first year after 12<sup>th</sup> grade, and persisted into a second year of college studies
- 60% of the first DVX cohort continued with the CfA degree pathway, while the other 40% transferred directly to UC Davis, UC Irvine, El Camino College, and LA Trade Tech
- DVX students have a 61% two-year transfer/graduation rate and a 93% persistence rate

Life Skills Programming - DVX focuses on holistic life skills through access to diverse supports and “adulting” classes. Topics include mental health, financial planning, and grit to support students’ transition into becoming lifelong learners. Students leverage these tools, gaining exposure and access to real-world opportunities through on-the-job work experience in high-skill, high-demand jobs.

Career Pathways Programming - The career support program is designed to place students in career certificate or internship roles that allow them to explore their interests and the future careers that align with these interests. Students have a menu of options each quarter to meet their career goals, and must complete the minimum requirement each quarter.

- Quarter 1: Access Boot camps - Students engage with multiple industry partners in one-day boot camps designed to showcase particular industries and help students gain insight on potential career options. Partners design a full day of activities in their space, including meet and greets with employees, career panels, and hands on activities aligned to the career pathways and job skills needed to succeed in that space. Students must attend a minimum of three boot camp opportunities in quarter 1.
- Quarter 2: Non-Profit Internships, Certifications, and/or Project Consultancy - Students engage in an unpaid internship in a non-profit organization for 10-15 hours per week over a 12-week period. In many career fields, certificates open the door to higher level career opportunities. During quarter 2, DVX works with local community colleges, UCLA Extension and others to offer quality certificate options that lead to higher paying career opportunities.
- Quarter 3: For-Profit Internship, Certifications, non-profit internship - After extensive exposure to options, students engage in an interview process and participate in an unpaid or paid internship. Students spend 20-30 hours per week, for 12 weeks, learning about the for-profit industry landscape and refining their career skills. When better applicable to student goals, students may choose to participate in an advanced certificate program.