

2026 High School Summer School and Attendance Recovery Program Update

Overview

Downey Unified School District's 2026 High School Summer School and Attendance Recovery Program provided students with opportunities to earn credits, recover attendance, access college and career preparation experiences, and participate in academic and athletic enrichment programs. The program served students from Downey High School, Warren High School, and other secondary programs through partnerships with community and higher education organizations.

Attendance Recovery Program

The Attendance Recovery Program was implemented in accordance with Senate Bill 153 to address chronic absenteeism and support student learning. The program provided supplemental instructional opportunities outside of the regular school year and allowed students to recover or bank attendance.

Program outcomes included:

- 10,185 days of attendance recovered between June 11 and June 30, 2026.
- 9,827 days of attendance banked between July 1 and July 13, 2026.
- 27 Attendance Recovery teachers at Downey High School.
- 31 Attendance Recovery teachers at Warren High School.

Community Partnerships

The District continued partnerships with Cerritos College and Elite Academic Academy to expand summer opportunities for students. Through these partnerships:

- 61 teachers, 2 lead counselors, and 36 coaches were funded.
- A total of 2,688 students participated in summer school programs, representing an increase of 485 students from the previous year.

Cerritos College Partnership

Through the continuing education program at Cerritos College, the college funded 13 credit recovery courses taught by Downey Unified teachers. Students participating in the program also received a Cerritos College identification card, helping streamline future dual enrollment or college enrollment opportunities.

Program outcomes included:

- 51 Downey Unified teachers supported through the partnership.
- 13 credit recovery courses offered.

- 1,680 students completing Cerritos College-funded courses, an increase of 120 students from the previous summer.

Peak Performance and College Readiness Programs

Through Elite Academic Academy, student-athletes participated in the Peak Performance Program, which combined athletics with academic support and credit recovery opportunities. Students could enroll in athletic electives, credit recovery classes, or both. The program concluded with an event at Dignity Health Sports Park.

Additional college readiness opportunities included:

- Viking PEN at Downey High School.
- Bears University Seminar (BUS) at Warren High School.

Participation included:

- 390 student-athletes and 74 Viking PEN students at Downey High School.
- 307 student-athletes and 237 BUS students at Warren High School.

School Site Highlights

Columbus High School

Columbus High School enrolled 237 students during the summer session and reported:

- 2,235 credits recovered.
- 31 summer graduates.
- 35 students becoming eligible to return to a comprehensive high school.

Expanded wellness, family engagement, student leadership, and community school programming throughout the summer session.

Downey High School

Downey High School served 1,496 students through summer school and attendance recovery programs.

Outcomes included:

- 13,040 credits earned.
- 174 students participating in dual enrollment, earning 1,740 college credits.
- 431 students participating in Elite Academy programs with the potential to earn 2,155 credits.

The school also implemented student engagement initiatives, including:

- Character Counts student recognition activities.
- A classroom cell phone policy pilot designed to improve focus and reduce distractions.

- Wellness and student engagement activities throughout the summer session.

Warren High School

Warren High School reported:

- 1,027 summer school students.
- 231 BUS students.
- 759 dual enrollment students.
- 94 multilingual learner students.
- 206 students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs).
- 8,290 high school credits earned.
- 3,303 college units earned.
- A 97 percent pass rate.

Conclusion

The 2026 High School Summer School and Attendance Recovery Program expanded access to credit recovery, college coursework, athletic development, attendance recovery, and student support services. Through partnerships with community organizations and higher education institutions, the District increased student participation, supported on-time graduation efforts, and provided meaningful opportunities for academic, personal, and postsecondary success.