# Southern's PACE Campus Partners

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# PACE

Pathways to Academic & Career Empowerment





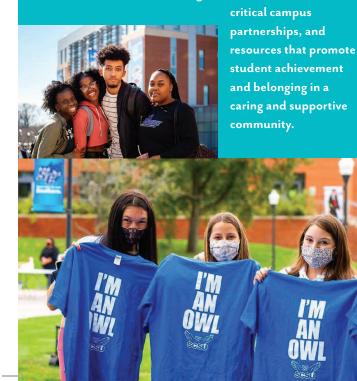
Support for SCSU Students with Experience in Foster Care





# What is PACE?

Southern Connecticut State University is an intentionally diverse community that is committed to social justice and student success. Southern's Pathways to Academic and Career Empowerment (PACE) holistically supports the success of foster youth who aspire to earn a college degree. Under the stewardship of University Access Programs (UAP), PACE scholars get connected to mentors,



## **SUMMER INSTITUTE**

Program participants complete a 3-week enrichment program prior to the start of the fall semester. Students receive academic skill development, get connected to key staff members, start certain core courses early, and work with an academic success coach.

#### **EARLY ARRIVAL PROGRAM**

PACE students participate in a 1- to 2-day early arrival program before the fall semester. Students will learn about helpful resources and begin to navigate the campus. They will also meet one another and engage in meaningful ways with faculty and staff who will be a part of their support network.

#### **MENTORING RELATIONSHIPS**

PACE students meet bi-weekly or monthly with a UAP professional advocate who provides emotional support and direct connection to university resources. Advocates help students overcome barriers to academic success, hold students accountable to identified goals, develop professional skills, and coach them to build meaningful relationships with faculty, staff, and peers.

#### ACADEMIC SUCCESS ENHANCEMENT

Program participants are offered academic support through content and academic skill development. Participants have the option to use tutors and Peer Academic Leaders (PALS) to support their content understanding of their classes. They also will be assigned an academic success coach to support and develop their academic skills and success in their classes.

### **CAREER EXPLORATION**

Program participants follow a tailored curriculum through the Office of Career & Professional Development. Students become a part of an individualized career community focused on three core areas:

- Career Exploration and Navigation
- Internships and Professional Development
- Employability and After College Success.

Each participant is assigned a career coach that connects with them throughout their academic journey at Southern.

#### **FINANCIAL WELLNESS**

Program participants engage in targeted activities and training opportunities to learn the basics of credit and money management. Through a collaborative approach from multiple Southern departments, participants learn the essential building blocks to financial wellness. Additionally, each participant builds plans for economic well-being after college.

## COMMUNITY Programming

PACE students are supported by a nurturing community of UAP students and staff. They participate in UAP programs and

activities that help them acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions and set and achieve positive goals. Students also learn to feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions.

Pursuing Excellence. Transforming Lives. Impacting Communities.



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