Who are Metro students?

Metro students come from diverse communities and are often the first in their families to attend college. In fact, 95% are either low-income, first-generation college-going, and/or underrepresented students. Demographics of the 2018 cohorts:

Persistence and Graduation Rates: Metro has zeroed out the equity gap in bachelor's graduation

Metro's disadvantaged students complete their degrees at a higher rate (58% six-year graduation) than SF State students overall (55% in 2018). Metro is gaining on SF State's CSU Graduation Initiative target of 69%.
Metro at a Glance: A Comprehensive Approach for Student Success

Each Metro Academy has 140 students who take two general education classes together cohort-style throughout the lower division. Each academy has a career or topic theme. Metro goes to the heart of the classroom experience, the principal place our students connect with the institution. The Metro student learning community creates a personalized educational home over time, with strategic follow-up in upper division. Faculty development supports instructors to use engaged pedagogy and a relevant social justice curriculum, sequenced so that students get repeated practice in challenging skills such as writing.

Metro's Growth: Scalable and Sustainable, Not a Boutique Program

Metro reaches across the university, with academies in every college:
- 4 academies in Science and Engineering
- 3 in Health and Social Services
- 2 Liberal and Creative Arts
- 2 Business
- 1 Ethnic Studies
- 1 Education

From 2009 to 2018, Metro at SF State grew from 67 students to 3,671 students, and from one to thirteen academies plus follow-up support. The program is now fully institutionalized.

In 2013, Metro won one of three national completion awards from the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities; in 2015, a three-million-dollar Governor’s Innovation Award together with our sister Metro Transfer Academies at City College of San Francisco; and in 2018, the statewide Wang Family Excellence Award for Outstanding Faculty Innovation in Student Success. We appreciate the collaboration of many partners at our home institutions, especially the SF State Division of Undergraduate Education and Academic Planning (DUEAP), the CSU Graduation Initiative, college deans, department chairs and academic office coordinators, and student services.

For more information, please visit www.metro.sfsu.edu.