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BILLINGS – Rocky Mountain College will receive approximately $1.5 million over the next five years for its Services for Academic Success (SAS) program from a federal grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Education, according to Dr. Jane Van Dyk, RMC associate vice president and director, Services for Academic Success.

Services for Academic Success (SAS) is a comprehensive support program, which provides the skills, support, and encouragement needed for eligible students to successfully complete college. A high percentage of Rocky students - 62% - meet the low-income, first generation or disability requirements of the program. The program serves 250 students and is staffed with a director and four academic specialists.

This is the fifth multiyear federal grant Van Dyk has received for SAS and brings the total federal funding and other grant funding for SAS to over $6 million.

“We’re delighted with the news. Our students tell us time and again that if it were not for this program they don’t think they would make it through college,” Van Dyk said.

SAS provides a variety of services tailored to meet a student's individual needs. Services are free to participants and include developmental coursework in reading, writing, and mathematics; study skills classes; drop-in tutoring and individual tutoring; supplemental instruction; academic, career, and personal counseling; graduate school counseling; accommodations for students with physical and learning disabilities; cultural and academic enrichment opportunities; special scholarships; use of computer labs; stipends for international study trips; and advocacy.

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8/11/2010