



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LACCD Awarded \$1.5 Million State Grant to Support the Los Angeles College Promise

LOS ANGELES—The Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) was one of 14 districts selected by the California Community College Chancellor's Office to participate in the California College Promise Innovation Grant Program. The \$1.5 million grant will support the Los Angeles College Promise, a program that provides one year tuition-free at any of LACCD's nine colleges for students graduating from a Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) high school or local charter school.

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti took the lead for the Los Angeles College Promise through the "Mayor's Fund," by helping to generate more than \$1.7M to fund scholarships for the inaugural class of students. The Los Angeles College Promise benefits the city and region by creating a college-going culture and responding to the workforce readiness gap in California. In addition to the Mayor's Fund for Los Angeles, the partnership includes support from LACCD, LAUSD, Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce and Unite LA and private philanthropist.

"Investing in the Los Angeles College Promise benefits the entire state of California," said LACCD Board President Scott Svonkin. "Our district is the largest community college district in the country and more than 80 percent of our students come from underserved communities or communities of color. With this innovation grant, we will be able to strengthen the services we provide for our students to help them achieve their educational goals and professional aspirations."

The California College Promise Innovation Grant Program was created by Assembly Bill 1741, which Governor Brown signed into law in September 2016. The program provides financial support to districts that are implementing or expanding a College Promise program. LACCD was one of six multi-college districts awarded \$1.5 million. An additional eight single-district colleges were awarded \$750,000 each.

LACCD will apply the California College Promise Innovation Grant funds to improve system-wide coordination, increase outreach to prospective students and local high schools, invest in technology to track and improve student progress, and build the professional capacity to expand the Los Angeles College Promise program.

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About the Los Angeles Community College District

The Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) is the largest community college district in the country, spanning 36 cities in Los Angeles County and serving nearly 250,000 students per year at its nine colleges. Drawing 80 percent of its enrollment from historically underserved populations, LACCD offers affordable and accredited higher education that empowers students to transfer to four-year institutions, earn associate's degrees, and obtain training and job skills that open doors to lifelong opportunities.

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