Five LACCD Colleges share in over $10 Million in Grant Money

The U.S. Department of Education has awarded grants totaling $10.182 million to several colleges in the Los Angeles Community College District, the money to be spread among five schools.

“The funds from these federal grants advance our educational mission to help more students succeed and achieve their educational goals,” said Scott Svonkin, president of the LACCD Board of Trustees.

Los Angeles Valley College is expected to receive $3.25 million over five years under the Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program, Title V. Two other LACCD schools, East Los Angeles College and Los Angeles Trade-Technical College, will share in the funding as Cooperative Institutions.

“This cooperative project brings together three of the largest Hispanic-serving institutions in Los Angeles to create new strategies that will improve retention, persistence and completion of students," said Dr. Erika Endrijonas, president of LAVC. "Los Angeles Valley College looks forward to establishing practices that will help more students successfully graduate and/or transfer to a four-year college or university."

"This unique dual-level approach brings together a teaching academy for faculty coupled with technology-enhanced learning experiences for students, directly impacting student success," said Dr. Deborah diCesare, dean of academic affairs and economic development at LAVC. "Not only will it help make significant strides in improving student learning and success, but the Endowment Match will allow for continued professional development after the grant ends."

ELAC and Los Angeles Mission College will each receive a $2.6 million individual grant in the same program over the next five years.
“This funding could not have come at a better time,” said ELAC President Marvin Martinez. “We recently hired a number of young, committed instructors who are open to change and innovation — as are many of our existing staff.”

“This grant will support mentoring, reading apprenticeship and tutoring for many more students, significantly increasing student completion and success,” said Dr. Monte Perez, president of Los Angeles Mission College.”

In addition, LAMC has been awarded a $1.14 million, five-year grant by the Department of Education for its Student Support Services – TRIO. TRIO refers to federal programs designed to increase access to higher education for economically disadvantaged students.

“This grant will support student success with more counseling, tutoring, academic workshops and field trips to universities for over 250 students per year,” said Dr. Perez.

Finally, the Department of Education awarded $2.8 million over four years for its First in the World grant program to Cal State Los Angeles with both West Los Angeles College, an LACCD school, and Pasadena City College serving as junior partners. West’s share of that money will be $592,288.

“Our partnership with Cal State underscores our single-minded focus on student achievement and moving STEM students successfully from community college to universities where they can complete their Bachelor’s degrees and beyond,” said Robert Sprague, interim president at WLAC. “At West, we will expand our existing $2.5 million Upward Bound Math Science grants, $600,000 STEM and National Science Foundation STEM scholars programs and strengthen our ability to transfer a diverse group of students who will pursue advanced degrees and employment in Biology, Chemistry, Engineering, Computer Science and Mathematics,”

“The grants are an affirmation of our community college mission,” said LACCD Chancellor Francisco Rodriguez, “to serve the region and signal an important federal investment in helping us ‘move the needle’ on student success.”
ABOUT THE LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

The Los Angeles Community College District, the nation's largest community college district, serves one-quarter million students a year in more than 36 cities in Los Angeles County at its nine colleges. The District covers nearly 900 square miles and has educated and trained the region's diverse workforce since 1969.

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