

**LONG BEACH CITY COLLEGE JOINS CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH
IN PARTNERING WITH THE DREAM.US TO DELIVER AB540 SCHOLARSHIPS**

TheDream.US launches with more than \$25 million available for scholarships

LONG BEACH, California – Long Beach City College (LBCC) and California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) officially announced today their participation in TheDream.US scholarship program, a new national movement that aims to provide more than 2,000 college scholarships to undocumented immigrant students, enabling highly motivated, low-income DREAMers to graduate with career-ready college degrees.

A total of 12 institutions across the country signed-on to the program that will cover up to 100 percent of tuition costs, fees and books (maximum of \$25,000).

“TheDream.US scholarship program brings new possibilities to immigrant students often faced with tremendous obstacles in achieving their academic goals,” said Long Beach City College President, Eloy Ortiz Oakley. “Assisting these students achieve their academic goals is good for our community and our economy as once they obtain a college credential their families are more likely to contribute to the economy in positive ways. I am pleased to partner with CSULB to bring these resources to our students.”

The participation by LBCC and CSULB in TheDream.US program is the latest of many student access and support programs in which the two institutions have partnered. Other collaborative efforts include The Long Beach College Promise program that prepares Long Beach high school students for college life and academic success.

“Access to a high quality, affordable college education is an essential element in reaching personal and career goals. This initiative represents an excellent opportunity for our two institutions to serve these hard-working and motivated students in reaching their personal and career goals,” stated CSULB President, Donald Para. “Further, we know that when one member of a family earns a college degree, other family members follow. This lifts an entire family to be able to achieve their collective dream of a better life, which benefits California, our nation, and our society.”

Today’s announcement is the result of a collaboration of DREAMers, business and education leaders and current and former elected officials from across the country who gave their input on best approaches to enable DREAMers to succeed academically.

In order for DREAMer students to be eligible for a scholarship through TheDream.US program they must meet the following criteria:

- Be a first-time college student enrolled in one of TheDream.US partner colleges;
- Have graduated from a U.S.-based high school with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher (or equivalent GED score);
- Be DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals ACT) eligible and have applied for/received DACA approval.
- Must demonstrate financial need;
- Must show a strong motivation to succeed in a career-ready associate’s or bachelor’s degree program

The deadline to apply is March 31. Recipients will be notified on May 15 as to their eligibility and scholarship award. To apply, and for more details on the program, students can visit www.TheDream.US

TheDream.US co-founders include Graham Holdings Company CEO Donald E. Graham, Democratic political activist and philanthropist Henry R. Munoz, III and former U.S. Secretary of Commerce Carlos Gutierrez. The organization will be led by Candy Marshall, former director with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

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About Long Beach City College

Long Beach City College is one of the largest single college districts in the California Community College System. LBCC is a comprehensive college which provides quality educational programs and related student services to nearly 30,000 students pursuing a wide range of degrees, certificates, transfer and other courses of study. LBCC is a driving force in the regional economy as lead host of the Los Angeles Regional Small Business Development Center Network, serving Los Angeles, Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties; and, as the Goldman Sachs *10,000 Small Businesses Initiative* site serving Southern California. In 2013, LBCC supported small businesses in creating 2,355 new jobs, increasing client sales by more than \$198 million and helping clients access more than \$100 million in new capital. LBCC’s economic activity generates over \$2.12 million daily in the region’s economy. The College is also in the middle of a \$700 million construction bond program that was approved by local voters.