

## **Funding Request Institutionalization of the Dreamer Support Program**

### **Background**

In 2018-2019, the District was awarded the California Campus Catalyst grant (CCCCG), a three-year grant in the amount of approximately \$336,000 each year. The purpose of the grant is to provide support services and resources for undocumented students and community members. The grant was funded by the California Campus Catalyst Fund (Catalyst Fund), a multimillion-dollar, three-year initiative which seeks to expand support services for undocumented students and their families across California Community Colleges and California State University (CSU) and University of California (UC) campuses.

Year two of the grant ended on June 30, 2020. Thus far, the District has met all of the grant goals, objectives, and outcomes including the following:

- Establishing an infrastructure for the Dreamer Support Program and Dreamer Resource Centers at City, Mesa, and Miramar Colleges.
- Expanding the educational pipeline from Continuing Education (CE) to the credit colleges for undocumented students pursuing non-credit education.
- Increasing the number of undocumented students and community members served Districtwide by about 30%.
- Increasing the number of AB 540 affidavits and Dream Act applications submitted by about 1%.
- Conducting an annual Districtwide undocumented Student Empowerment Conference with over 15 workshops and activities, and over 250 participants.
- Providing more than 300 hours of individualized legal services for students.

A key condition to receiving the grant funds was that the District would institutionalize and permanently fund the resources and support services initiated through the grant once the grant ended. As the District is in its third and final year of receiving grant funds, it is critical that the District and colleges begin to identify funding sources to support institutionalizing the grant activities.

### **Proposal**

In order to continue operating the Dreamer Resource Centers and serve students at the level afforded under the Catalyst grant, funding is requested to develop the following positions at the Colleges and Continuing Education.

### **Needs and projected costs at City, Mesa, and Miramar Colleges:**

- One full-time (1.0 FTEF) tenure-track Counselor/Coordinator, 1 full-time Classified Student Services Technician, and 2-3 Peer Mentors position per campus. These positions must be filled by individuals who have the institutional knowledge with regards to the admission, matriculation, registration, scholarship, and transfer process for undocumented students. They must know how to process AB540, AB2000, SB68, CA Dream Act requirements; be up-to-date with immigration legislation; and empathize with student's circumstances. In addition to having the intimate experience, which creates important personal relationships that validate the immigrant experience and the work being done towards equity; have the experience of working to address the different and unique situations of our undocumented and immigrant students; and be able to maintain and build collaborations across departments. Following are the projected costs per college to create these positions:

- 1 full-time tenure track Counselor/Coordinator (approximately \$126,000)
- 1 full-time Student Services Technician (approximately \$78,000 per college)
- 2-3 Peer Mentors (approximately \$25,000 per college)
- Operational Costs & Digital Resources (\$20,000 per college)
- Dedicated office space to provide Dreamer Support Services and an enclosed private meeting space for counseling appointment and immigration consultations.

**Estimated Annual Costs per College: \$249,000**

#### **Needs and projected costs at San Diego Continuing Education (SDCE):**

Due to Continuing Education's structure of seven campuses, and accounting for the CE student population being over 50% immigrant-based, resources for the CE future Dreamer Resource Program must include 2-3 sites. Following are the total needs and projected costs for San Diego Continuing Education (SDCE):

- 1 full-time tenured track Counselor/Coordinator (approximately \$126,000)
- 2 Adjunct Counselors (\$60,000)
- 2-3 full-time Program Assistants (\$156,000 - \$234,000)
- 6 peer mentors (\$66,000)
  - In order to ensure the hiring of peer-mentors with similar lived experience, we will need to identify a process for paying students via stipend since these peers may also have DACA or other undocumented status.
- Operational Costs & Digital Resources for 2-3 sites (\$42,000)
- Dedicated office space with enclosed private meeting space for counselors

**SDCE Estimated Annual Costs: \$450,000 - \$528,000**

#### **Next Steps/Proposed Timeline**

This proposal was developed collaboratively with members of the Dreamer Support Program workgroup. Following is a timeline for the dissemination of this proposal through the various shared governance groups at the District, colleges, and CE. This proposal may be revised prior to and in between any of the dates listed below based on feedback from constituency groups at the District, colleges, and CE.

##### **October 2020**

- The proposal will be shared with various shared governance groups at the colleges and CE for support and feedback.
- Key changes, recommendations, and input should be sent to the Dreamer Support Committee by October 30, 2020.
- The proposal will be revised to incorporate input/feedback from constituency groups.

##### **November 2020**

- The proposal will be presented for a 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> reading at the District Vice President of Student Services meeting.
- Conversations will begin at the college and CE level to begin identifying funding for the proposed positions and activities.
- The proposal will be revised to incorporate input/feedback from the District Vice Presidents of Student Services.

##### **December 2020**

- The proposal will be presented for first reading at the Chancellors Cabinet