



ELCAMINO COLLEGE FOUNDATION



*“The South Bay Promise is a really good program. It’s great how our group is in the same classes. It was nice that I didn’t have to stress about paying for my fees, and I got a lot of help from the counselors with my educational plan.”*

— Trevon Dennis,  
South Bay Promise student fall 2015  
Inglewood High School Class of 2015

## The South Bay Promise

Free college enrollment fees\* for high school graduates in the South Bay might sound too good to be true, but that is the goal of the South Bay Promise. Many families in our community see college affordability as a key priority. In addition, creating a college going culture is necessary for economic growth in our community, benefits local businesses and creates a sense of pride in our community.

In the fall of 2018, thanks to the El Camino College Foundation, the South Bay Promise Program will be expanded to all public high schools in the El Camino College District service area. Enrollment fees for South Bay Promise participants will be paid for up to 500 public high school graduates in the District. These Promise students must commit to attend El Camino College in the fall immediately following graduation, enroll full-time, and complete the matriculation steps to help ensure success.

Through the South Bay Promise, students will go from high school directly to El Camino College with their choice of two pathways: transfer to a four-year university or career technical education.

## College is expensive. We want to help.

College Promise programs are initiatives that address the challenge of higher education affordability by offering funding for students to make college attainable. These initiatives also focus on developing a “college going culture” to increase higher education participation and completion rates of the students they serve, and, as a result, create stronger communities (Miller-Adams, 2015).

The California Community College system is the largest higher education system in the country, with 2.1 million students attending 113 colleges. College Promise programs are being developed at a rapid rate to serve the students of our state. The cost of higher education has increased dramatically, becoming less accessible to students of low to middle income families.

## Affordable. Accessible.

El Camino College launched the South Bay Promise in 2014 with two school districts within the El Camino Community College District (ECCCD): Inglewood Unified School District and Centinela Valley Union High School District. In fall 2017, the South Bay Promise will expand to include Torrance Unified School District. This original South Bay Promise was limited to 30 students from each district. Seeing the excitement and demand for the program, El Camino College is redefining and expanding the program in fall of 2018 to all public high schools in the college district.

\*Enrollment fees will be paid for full-time attendance at El Camino College.

# El Camino Community College District

Centinela Valley Union High School District

El Segundo Unified School District

Inglewood Unified School District

Manhattan Beach Unified School District

Redondo Beach Unified School District

Torrance Unified School District

Wiseburn Unified School District

## El Camino College Success Cohorts

### Athletics

California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs)

Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education (CARE)

Extended Opportunity Programs & Services (EOPS)

First Year Experience (FYE)

Guardian Scholars Program (GSP)

Honors Transfer Program (HTP)

Knowledgeable, Engaged, and Aspiring Students (KEAS)

Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA)

Project Success

Puente Project

South Bay Promise

Special Resource Center (SRC)

Women in Industry & Technology (WIT)

## Accessibility. Affordability. Success.

Students who participate in the South Bay Promise will be linked in a cohort so they have an immediate sense of community. Academic counselors are available to provide needed support. Studies have shown that students who belong to a cohort feel a connection to the college and are more likely to succeed.

Providing internships and access to local businesses for South Bay Promise students is provided by the South Bay Workforce Investment Board, a key partner in the program. Students will take field trips to companies in our community to see first-hand the workforce in action.



## Your help will make the difference.

The South Bay Promise needs community sponsorship. Without the support of our local governments and businesses, the program will not succeed. We need to let our students know we believe in their educational dreams and are willing to surround them with the resources it takes to get ahead.

By working together, we will create the college going culture necessary for our South Bay economy to prosper and grow. College access and affordability can be a reality for every high school student in our community. Please join us in making our Promise program a reality. Thank you for your support.

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The El Camino Community College District is committed to providing equal opportunity in which no person is subjected to discrimination on the basis of national origin, religion, age, sex (including sexual harassment), race, color, gender, physical or mental disability, or retaliation.