

PRESS RELEASE

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[FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE]

City of Ontario
Economic Development Agency

CITY OF ONTARIO BEGINS FIRST COMMUNITY COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

On August 16, 2016, the Ontario City Council approved an agreement with the Ontario-Montclair Schools Foundation to provide administrative support of the *Ontario's Community College Promise Program*.

Ontario believes that all children within the City should have the opportunity to follow their dreams to attend a vocational or higher learning institution. To help fulfill this dream, the Ontario City Council has established a scholarship program for high school graduates which will provide free tuition for up to two consecutive years at a California community college of the student's choice. The goal out of this program is to expand access to higher education for students and support local economic and workforce development initiatives.

"Higher learning isn't just a dream, it is now a reality for all students within the City. We are excited to partner with the Ontario-Montclair Schools Foundation and the Ontario-Montclair Promise Scholars program to work together in maintaining and growing economic value within the community," said Mayor pro Tem Debra Dorst-Porada. "Students who participate in this program,

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not only get free community college tuition, but will also be given opportunities for internship programs throughout their course of study, with a goal of employment upon completion of their program.”

This scholarship program is for Ontario residents who enroll as full-time students at a California community college of the students’ choice within six months of graduation from high school. The scholarship program will provide for up to two consecutive years of tuition for students who do not already qualify for the California Community Colleges Board of Governors (BOG) Fee Waiver Program.

The City of Ontario partners with the Ontario-Montclair Promise Scholars program to prepare all students to be successful as they enter the workforce. The City will work directly with Promise Scholars to increase student’s high school completion rate and college going rates with the help of this scholarship program. Ontario will be working with Promise Scholars to promote this program during the current school year to get students engaged and excited about the opportunity to attend a vocational or higher learning institution.

For more information about the *Ontario’s Community College Promise Program*, visit www.ontarioca.gov/education or call (909) 395-2005.

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