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News Media Contact:

William H. Boyer, Director of Communications, (213) 891-2247 office | (213) 317-6691 cell | [boyerwh@email.laccd.edu](mailto:boyerwh@email.laccd.edu)

**JACK KENT COOKE FOUNDATION NAMES 27 LACCD STUDENTS AS SEMIFINALISTS FOR UNDERGRADUATE TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

LOS ANGELES—Congratulations are due to 27 students from the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) who were recently named as semifinalists in the prestigious Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship competition for 2020. The LACCD students are among the 456 semifinalists who were selected out of a nationwide pool of nearly 1,500 applicants from 311 community colleges across the country.

Final winners of the [Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship](#) will be announced in April. Selected scholars can receive \$40,000 in annual financial support for up to three years to attend an accredited college or university of their choice, plus comprehensive educational advising and the chance to connect with fellow Cooke Scholars.

“We are extremely proud of the accomplishments by all of these students. This is a highly competitive scholarship competition and being named a semifinalist is a significant achievement. We wish all of them the best of luck,” LACCD Board President Andra Hoffman said.

The 27 LACCD students are part of California’s 101 named semifinalists, including:

- [Los Angeles City College](#): Mariam Alaverdian, Dana Brenklin and Jill Scott
- [East Los Angeles College](#): Chris Danielle Caracena, Johanna Carbajal, Nicole Funes, Itzel Gidwani, Angela Gomez, Wen Gu, Brian Ha, Bryan Hernandez Benitez, Jenny Hsu, Brittany Lizaola and Thomas Van
- [Los Angeles Harbor College](#): Stacy Foryoung and Steve Tse Ngwa Foryoung
- [Los Angeles Pierce College](#): Simon Alam, Juan Becerra, Sarkis Chrikjian, Colin Melendez and Fatima Sheyda
- [Los Angeles Southwest](#): Christopher Fennelle
- [Los Angeles Valley](#): Ani Apikyan, Marcelo Lopez-Viva, Oliver Nassiwa, Harutyun Rehanyan and Carmina Schulte

“Year after year, LACCD’s college produce top semifinalists and finalists for this national scholarship honor. We provide outstanding, equitable access to affordable higher education that consistently produces results for our students who go on to achieve great things in life and their academic careers,” Chancellor Francisco C. Rodriguez, Ph.D., said.

Scholarship recipients are selected based on their exceptional academic ability and achievement, financial need, persistence, service to others, and leadership. Students must be currently enrolled community college students or recent graduates residing in the United States.

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**About the Los Angeles Community College District**

*We are the Colleges of Los Angeles! LACCD ([www.laccd.edu](http://www.laccd.edu)) is the nation’s largest community college district, educating about 250,000 students annually at its nine colleges that serve the residents of more than 36 cities and communities from 900 square miles of Los Angeles County. Since 1969, the District has been providing an important learning pathway for students seeking transfer to four-year colleges or universities while also offering two-year degrees and certificated training programs to Southern California’s diverse workforce in many specialized trades and professions. Follow us on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/LACCD>, @LACCD, and on Twitter, <https://twitter.com/laccd> @laccd and Instagram, [https://www.instagram.com/laccd\\_edu/](https://www.instagram.com/laccd_edu/) @laccd\_edu.*

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