



PRESS RELEASE

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CSUSB Palm Desert Campus offering full-ride scholarships to outstanding local students

PALM DESERT, Calif. – The CSUSB Palm Desert Campus is creating a new opportunity for students of the Coachella Valley to realize just how accessible a college education can be. The campus announced this week it has opened the application process for the first class of University Legacy Scholars.

“This new program has been created to help some of our best and brightest stay right here in the Valley to pursue their education and stay to provide leadership to our region as it changes and grows,” said Sharon Brown-Welty, dean of the Palm Desert Campus. “The vision came from our campus volunteer leadership, and it was easy for our community to get behind our University Legacy Scholarship effort.”

Scholars will be selected on the basis of their academic achievement, leadership and service to the community, and financial need. The University Legacy Scholars will be awarded a four-year scholarship to support full tuition and fees for an undergraduate degree at the CSUSB Palm Desert Campus. This program is established for deserving local students who are graduates of high schools from the Coachella Valley Unified School District, Desert Sands Unified School District, and Palm Springs Unified School District. In addition, students graduating from accredited private and online schools in the Coachella Valley will be eligible for this scholarship program.

The first class of University Legacy Scholars will be welcomed in fall 2017, with the goal of the program to fund a class of 10-15 new scholars each year. As the program becomes established, benefits will be offered to transfer students, as well.

“The program’s expansion is limited only by the level of support from our community” said Brown-Welty, “We have been so pleased to receive so much support already, but we want to continue to build the resources that make it possible to keep our academic talent local and be a part of lessening our ‘brain drain.’”

A first-year fundraising event in early 2016, hosted at the home of Geoff Kors and James Williamson in Palm Springs, raised nearly \$200,000 in funding for the scholarship fund. The campus has already received the support of a host and exquisite home for the 2017 event, which is slated for March 2.

A scholarship application and further information about the process can be found at <http://pdc.csusb.edu/scholarships.html>. Scholarship application packages are also available at area high schools. The university is not able to provide or accept applications electronically, and incomplete applications will not be considered. Applications must be completed and postmarked no later than December 31, 2016. To be considered for this award, applicants must complete the FAFSA and request that a copy be sent to California State University, San Bernardino.

For additional information about the University Legacy Scholarship application process, contact Avisinia Rodriguez, CSUSB Palm Desert Campus Counselor, at arodrigu@csusb.edu.

Located in beautiful Palm Desert, the CSUSB Palm Desert Campus offers bachelor's and master's degrees, a doctorate in educational leadership, and teacher credentials and certificates. With more than 1,400 students, it is the only four-year public university in the Coachella Valley and plays a vital role in educating and training the region's growing population.

For more information about the CSUSB Palm Desert Campus, contact Mike Singer in the campus's Office of Public Affairs at msinger@csusb.edu or (760) 341-2883, ext. 78107 or visit the campus website at www.pdc.csusb.edu.