



# NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA STATE TREASURER BILL LOCKYER

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## **Treasurer Lockyer Awards Grants to College Programs That Help High School Students from Low-Income Families Attend College** *California Educational Facilities Authority Gives More Than \$400,000 to Pomona and Scripps Colleges*

SACRAMENTO – State Treasurer Bill Lockyer today announced the California Educational Facilities Authority (CEFA) has awarded \$250,000 to Pomona College and \$189,313 to Scripps College to bolster both institution’s outreach programs for low-income middle and high school students.

“Pomona’s Summer Scholars Enrichment Program and Scripps’ Summer Academy both provide an excellent service to high school students in their community,” said Lockyer. “By providing underprivileged youngsters a taste of college life and a supportive, encouraging environment to learn, the programs give students the means to succeed and motivate them to strive for a college degree. CEFA’s grant ensures that these strong programs will continue to bring deserving but disadvantaged teens to college campuses throughout California.”

CEFA’s Academic Assistance Grant Program helps eligible private colleges and universities create and expand academic assistance programs that enhance higher education opportunities for low-income California students in grades 7-12. The goal of the grant program is to promote access to higher education and prepare students for college. The program will provide a total of \$2 million in grants, with a cap of \$250,000 per school. CEFA officials today made visits to both colleges, hand-delivering disbursement checks for a portion of the grant payments.

Pomona College will use its grant to expand its Summer Scholars Enrichment Program (SSEP). SSEP is an intensive four-week academic program that serves high school seniors from groups traditionally underrepresented in higher education – students who are first in their family to attend college, those from low-income families, and those who are African American or Latino. The program includes coursework and academic evaluation, research experience, college counseling, financial aid workshops, mentoring and a year-round Saturday Academy.

“This grant allows us to continue to provide a comprehensive, academically rigorous program for 90 local low-income high school students,” said Maria Tucker, director of Pomona’s Summer Scholars Enrichment Program. “One of the great things about SSEP is it broadens their perspectives about colleges and gives them a first-hand glimpse into the college experience – this grant will enlarge our reach.”

Scripps College will enhance its Summer Academy Program by creating its own Saturday Academy to provide continuing instruction to participants throughout the year. Scripps partners with various urban, low-income high schools and middle schools to identify academically promising young women and invites them to participate in the academically intensive two-week program. The goal of the Scripps Summer Academy is to foster a college-going culture by providing academic assistance and enrichment services to 9<sup>th</sup>- and 10<sup>th</sup>-grade students.

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“The two-week program is an important part of the overall goal to reach out to underserved middle and high school students, but not the only part,” said Sylvia Ruiz, director of Scripps’ Summer Academy and a Scripps graduate. “The CEFA grant will allow us to provide essential academic resource programs so that we have a consistent, year-round effort and maintain communication and mentoring services at our partner schools.”

CEFA, chaired by Lockyer as State Treasurer, provides tax-exempt, low-cost financing to private, non-profit higher educational facilities. CEFA administers several programs, including a bond financing program for construction projects, a short-term loan program for equipment, an academic assistance grant program and a student loan program. Additionally, CEFA manages the California Student Loan Authority, which has the authority to issue tax-exempt bonds to fund student loans and to purchase federally reinsured student loans from eligible lending institutions.

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