Achieving the Dream
2017 DREAM Scholars

DREAM 2017 Student Engagement Program
Overview:

Achieving the Dream’s DREAM Scholars program is an experiential learning opportunity for up to six students from participating Achieving the Dream Institutions, designed to enhance key leadership, critical thinking, and networking skills.

DREAM Scholars will have the opportunity to significantly engage with the efforts both at their institution and across the National Reform Network that impact the student success and completion agenda. Chosen through a competitive application process, selected students will engage in a learning process that culminates in attending DREAM 2017 in San Francisco, CA from February 21-24, 2017. DREAM Scholars will stand to make a difference for their local communities, gaining in-depth insight on the complexities of community college reform and learning from national student success leaders. They will have opportunities to critically respond to reform efforts and present their views during the final DREAM plenary session.

The students will be led by Dr. Joye Hardiman, Emeritus Faculty, The Evergreen State College, who will foster student learning opportunities before and during DREAM 2017. Four Achieving the Dream staff members, Angel Clay, Jazmin Lopez, Mei-Yen Ireland and Tran Le, will serve as guides to the students throughout their DREAM Scholars experience. In addition, each student will be mentored by the Core Team Leader at their institution before, during, and after DREAM 2017. If you have any questions about this opportunity, please email aclay@achievingthedream.org.

See application questions on page 6. Please note that a Core Team Leader or Core Team Member must submit the application(s) on behalf of any student applicant. This act signifies a commitment to mentoring and engaging the student in learning more about ATD on your campus and supporting them through their DREAM Scholars experience and a commitment from the institution to covering the student’s travel expenses to DREAM 2017.

**APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON OCTOBER 3, 2016.**
College Responsibilities:

Colleges are expected to **cover the cost of travel** associated with the student attending the conference. Students will be required to **arrive at the conference on the evening of Monday, February 20** and **depart on the evening of Friday, February 24**. Students will attend an orientation from 12pm to 4pm on Tuesday, February 21 and will be expected to deliver closing remarks in a panel during the final session of the institute on Friday, February 24. More information about student responsibilities is available in the “Student Responsibilities” section below.

Additionally, Core Team Leaders and/or Core Team Members are expected to **“sponsor” each student application** from their institution by committing to engaging the student in opportunities and discussions related to DREAM 2017 and Achieving the Dream at their institution; ensuring the student fulfills the requirements of their participation (including submitting a short video about themselves prior to DREAM and submitting a short reflection paper after the conclusion of DREAM); and periodically connecting with the student during DREAM. This includes sharing with them how Achieving the Dream started on their campus, the evolution the initiative has taken, the types of interventions on your campus, past experiences at DREAM, advice on logistics for traveling to DREAM 2017, etc. Additionally, the Core Team Leader/Member who “sponsors” a selected student is expected to attend the DREAM Scholars reception.

Benefits Provided by ATD:

- Meals covered, including a $250 stipend in the form of a visa card for meals not provided at the conference
- Hotel accommodations at the Hilton San Francisco Union Square (site for DREAM 2017)
- Customized learning experience led by renowned educator Dr. Joyce Hardiman
- DREAM Scholars Networking Reception during DREAM 2017
- Local educational tour in San Francisco, CA during DREAM 2017
**Student Responsibilities:**

Selected DREAM Scholars will engage in a process of learning and sharing their perspective on the impact the Achieving the Dream National Reform Network has on student success. This experience will culminate in a presentation during the final plenary session of DREAM 2017.

The first aspect of this program includes a pre-conference learning period where students will seek an understanding of reform efforts currently underway at their own institutions by connecting with the ATD Core Team.

DREAM Scholars will attend an orientation and several DREAM sessions relevant to the following capacity areas in which ATD seeks to address institutional change: Leadership & Vision, Data & Technology, Equity, Teaching & Learning, Engagement & Communication, Strategy & Planning, and Policies & Practices. Please see the next page for information on each capacity area. Additionally, DREAM Scholars will attend the DREAM Scholars Networking Reception and take advantage of the San Francisco area by attending a local educational tour on one afternoon during the conference.

Conference attendance culminates with a plenary presentation led by the DREAM Scholars and facilitated by Dr. Joye Hardiman. Students will work together with Dr. Hardiman and ATD staff to shape the look and feel of this session. Ultimately, students should share their experience in higher education and their suggestions to the faculty and administrators at DREAM. Please encourage students to visit this video of the 2016 DREAM Scholars to understand expectations regarding the final plenary presentation.

Selected students are required to do the following:

- Engage in a pre-DREAM conference call with Dr. Joye Hardiman and ATD staff to review expectations, discuss the panel presentation, and get to know fellow Scholars. **Students are required to attend this call.**
- Submit a short 2-minute “I am from” video. Instructions and assistance on creating the video will be provided by ATD staff. The videos will be featured throughout DREAM 2017 in plenary sessions leading up to the final DREAM Scholars presentation. They will also be featured on the Achieving the Dream YouTube channel. Click [here](#) to view 2016 I Am From submissions.
- Participate in a customized student experience provided specifically for DREAM Scholars, including a networking reception, dinners and local educational tour.
- **Attend conference sessions and workshops at DREAM 2017.** Employ critical thinking skills to analyze and evaluate each conference sessions’ content in terms of its capacity to promote community college student success and completion and to close achievement gaps for historically underserved student populations. Students are encouraged to take notes during sessions.
- **Deliver remarks at the final plenary session during DREAM 2017** on Friday, February 24 based on student findings throughout the conference.
- **Participate in daily debriefing** and experience-sharing with the rest of the DREAM Scholars, Dr. Hardiman, and ATD staff.
- **Submit a reflection blog post** about their experience at DREAM.
Institutional Change Capacity Areas:

- **Leadership & Vision** - The commitment and collaboration of the institution's leadership with respect to student success and the clarity of the vision for desired change.

- **Data & Technology** - The institution's capacity to collect, access, analyze and use data to inform decision, and to use powerful technology to support student success.

- **Equity** - The commitment, capabilities, and experiences of an institution to equitably serve low-income students, students of color and other at-risk student populations with respect to access, success, and campus climate.

- **Teaching & Learning** - The commitment to engaging full-time and adjunct faculty in examinations of pedagogy, meaningful professional development, and a central role for them as change agents within the institution. Also, the college's commitment to advising, tutoring, and out-of-classroom supports as well as restructuring developmental education to facilitate student learning and success.

- **Engagement & Communication** - The creation of strategic partnerships with key external stakeholders, such as K-12, universities, employers and community-based organizations and internal stakeholders across the institution to participate in the student success agenda and improvement of student outcomes.

- **Strategy & Planning** - The alignment of the institution with the umbrella goal of student success and the institution's process for translating the desired future into defined goals and objectives and executing the actions to achieve them.

- **Policies & Practices** - The institutional policies and practices that impact student success and the processes for examining and aligning policies and practices to remove barriers and foster student completion.
Frequently Asked Questions:

1. Can more than one student at an institution apply?
   Multiple students from an institution may submit an application, but only one student per institution will be selected. Core Team Leaders/Members must agree to “sponsor” each student who submits an application.

2. What type of student are we looking for?
   ATD is not looking for a particular type of student. All students of any age, gender, race, ethnicity, program of study, etc. are encouraged to apply.

3. What expenses does the college have to pay for?
   Institutions are responsible for covering the student’s airfare and ground transportation to DREAM 2017. Institutions are also expected to “sponsor” students through mentoring and support from their Core Team Leader/Members.

4. Should I register my student before they are selected for the DREAM Scholars program?
   No, please do not register for the conference before being selected. ATD will issue complimentary registration codes to all students after they are selected. If you register and then need to cancel registration there is a $150 charge.

5. What airport should I fly into?
   The closest airports to DREAM 2017 are the San Francisco International Airport and Oakland International Airport. The student’s institution will be responsible for arranging ground transportation for the students to travel to and from the airport.

6. What does registration cover?
   Registration for the DREAM 2017 will include all meetings and handouts, a welcome reception on Tuesday, February 21, and breakfast and lunch Wednesday, February 22 through Friday, February 24. Dinner on Wednesday, February 22 through Friday, February 24 will be on your own.

7. How will I pay for meals not covered by the conference?
   Students will be provided a visa card for $250 that can be used to go towards meals.

8. Where does DREAM 2017 take place?
   DREAM Institute sessions and workshops will be held at the Hilton San Francisco Union Square located at 333 O’Farrell Street, San Francisco, CA, 94102. The hotel phone number is 415-771-1400.

9. How do I book a hotel room?
   ATD will book hotel rooms for each selected student. Students will be sharing a room with one other student of the same gender.
Application Questions:

Directions: Applicants should type responses to the questions below in a word document. All responses should be written in paragraph form. Each student must have a Core Team Member or Core Team Leader submit the application on their behalf to ATD (this signifies agreement to support and sponsor the student’s learning if the student is selected).

Applications should be emailed to Angel Clay, aclay@achievingthedream.org by close of business on October 3, 2016.

Questions:

1. Full Name
2. Email
3. Phone Number
4. College Name
5. Major or Area of Concentration
6. Date of Birth
7. Tell us about yourself and what you are passionate about.
8. Discuss three social identities you have (race/ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, religion/spirituality, immigration status, etc.) and how they have influenced your educational experience.
9. If you could change one thing about your community college what would it be and why?
10. What DREAM 2016 conference theme(s) are you most interested in learning more about and why?

The themes are: Leadership & Vision, Data & Technology, Equity, Teaching & Learning, Engagement & Communication, Strategy & Planning, and Policies & Practices. An overview of the themes can be found on page 5.