

## California Community Colleges receive record-breaking donation

*Thanks to the generosity of the Jay Pritzker Foundation, the Foundation for California Community Colleges received \$100 million to address educational gaps for students facing unexpected financial hardships.*

“This grant is meant to serve those most in need who have the drive to succeed,” says Foundation President Dan Pritzker.

This unparalleled gift elevates the role of community colleges like LTCC in using donor funds to provide students high-quality education without incurring crushing debt.

“We believe education is the key to preserving our democracy and hope others will join in supporting community colleges across the country,” Pritzker says.

LTCC donors continue to support LTCC students generously. As of December 31, LTCC’s year-over-year giving increased by 19%.

### Donors fund accessibility technology for students with disabilities

Thanks to your generous donations, LTCC now proudly offers the HelperBird web browser extension to students! Developed by a dyslexic programmer, Helperbird allows all LTCC students, including those with Dyslexia, visual impairments and blindness, and attention difficulties, to clean up and customize their web pages, e-books, and PDFs that are hard to read or navigate.



Throughout the month of March, LTCC offered weekly “walk-in” zoom sessions to help students learn to use Helperbird software.

Through Helperbird, LTCC’s Student Success Grants make education accessible to all students, regardless of their abilities.

## Student Success Grants provide state-of-the-art educational tools

As we continue to respond to LTCC students’ needs in the era of COVID-19 and phased reopening, it is critical to provide a seamless, hybrid approach to tutoring. Because of the generosity of donors, LTCC purchased a “smart cart,” a collaborative digital

display tool that provides equitable access to high-quality, individualized tutoring.

“Smart carts” are digital whiteboards that serve students who rely on remote tutoring via LTCC’s Cranium Cafe. In Spring 2021, Math, Writing, and Embedded tutors began using the new smart cart to write out math formulas, display anatomical diagrams, and showcase sample essays.

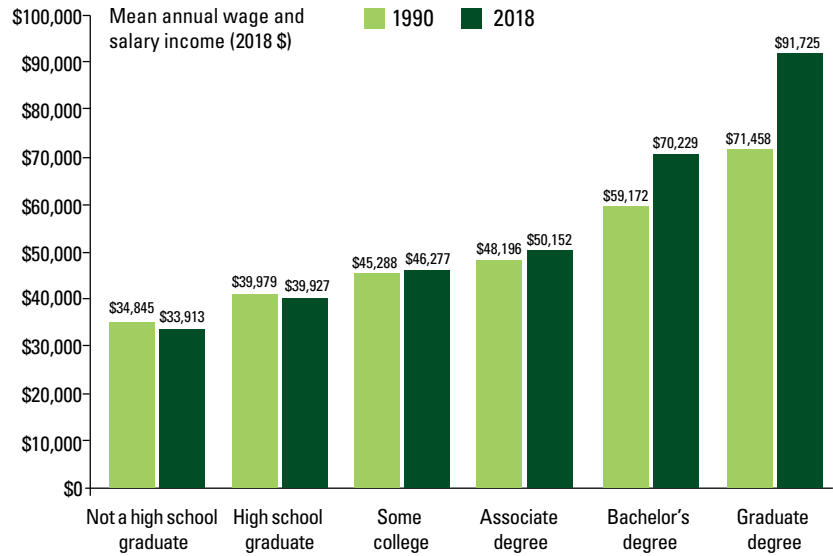
When LTCC can safely reopen facilities, LTCC educators will use the smart cart for remote, hybrid, and in-person tutoring.



## Why we need Promise:

According to the 2019 census data, 24% of the population aged 25 years and older in South Lake Tahoe has a Bachelor’s degree or higher, compared to 34% in the Greater Sacramento area and California and 32% for the United States. By covering tuition, fees, counseling, and book costs, the Promise program empowers students to earn their degrees, enter the career of their dreams, and give back to the Tahoe community.

### California college graduates earn higher wages



### College graduates receive other important benefits

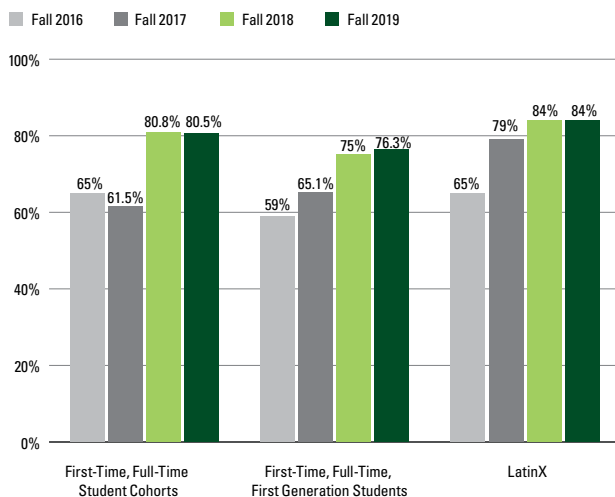
College graduates are more likely to work and have higher quality jobs

All Residents	No HS Diploma	HS Graduate	Some College	Associate degree	Bachelor’s degree	Graduate degree
Unemployment rate (%)	7.2	5.7	4.7	4.0	3.3	2.2
Labor force participation rate (%)	66	74	78	80	86	89
Health insurance through employer (%)	48	66	77	80	86	91
Retirement plan through employer (%)	17	35	40	44	44	52
Full-time employment (%)	53	60	64	65	74	79

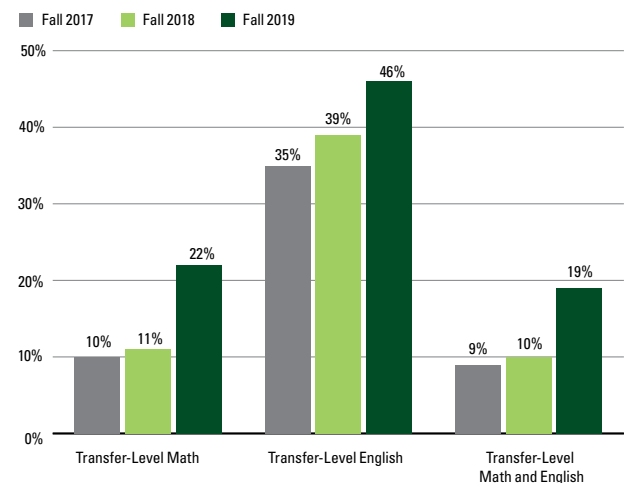
## Promise is working:

Promise students’ fall to winter persistence rates continue to increase each year, leading to a rise in the transfer level completion rates in math and English for all LTCC students.

### Fall to winter persistence rate:



### Transfer Level Math and English Completion Rates All Students:



## Promise Student profile — Sarah Gonzalez

When Sarah Gonzalez graduated from Whittell High School in Nevada, she did not plan to attend college.

“I felt that college would be a waste of money, because not only is it expensive, but I did not know what I wanted to study in school,” Sarah remembers.

Gonzalez changed her mind when she learned about the Lake Tahoe College Promise program.

“When I heard that I could get my associate’s degree for free, I decided that if — or when — I decide I am ready to pursue a bachelor’s degree, already having an associate’s degree would bring me one step closer to that goal,” explains Sarah.

Sarah joined the 2020 Lake Tahoe Promise cohort and immediately felt supported by the College Promise course, which provided weekly guidance to help her succeed in the program — including navigating online schooling with Canvas.

“They make it as simple as possible, so that even students who may not have grown up in a household with a computer and might need help with technology can succeed in the online learning environment,” Sarah says.

Sarah decided to major in liberal arts, because her College Promise counselors advised her that it would provide a gateway to most bachelor’s degree programs.

“The College Promise counselors



ensure that all of the classes you take align with the requirements of Bachelor’s degree programs.”

Because of her hard work, Sarah was inducted into the National Society of Leadership and Success. She feels confident that she is building a strong foundation to continue her education at a California university.

## Promise Student Profile — Quinn Harris

Quinn Harris chose LTCC over other colleges and universities because the College Promise program offered him the opportunity to complete his general education requirements for free.

“I haven’t spent a dime, not even on a book, because LTCC always gives me the supplies that I need.”

At first, Quinn pursued a three-year Biology major track. After he enrolled in a Business class, he decided to switch his major.

“I don’t know what I would have done if I had paid for Biology courses only to realize that this major isn’t for me.”

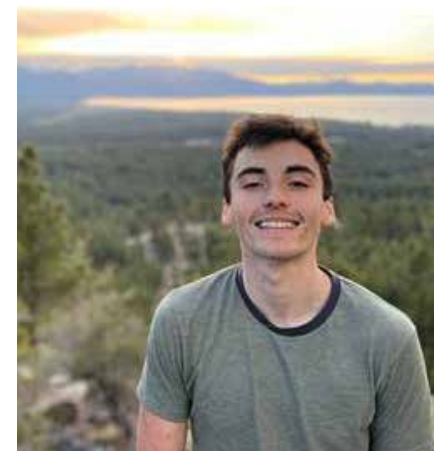
Quinn’s Promise advisors helped him not only change his major

to Business, but also reduce his education plan from three years to two years. Now, Quinn is finishing his second year and has already been accepted to University of California Santa Cruz’s Business program.

“The College Promise program helped me realize what I want to do with my life. Now I know what I want to pursue for the rest of my education.”

In addition to the College Promise staff, Quinn feels that his Statistics and Calculus classes with Professor Larry Green have positioned him for success in the next step of his academic career.

“His classes are rigorous, and the subjects are not easy for



a lot of people, but I did well because of how he formatted the class, presented the information, and used real-life scenarios.”

Quinn feels grateful for mentorship from faculty like Professor Dr. Jon Kingsbury.

“He reaches out and shows that he cares. His motto is that he is going to push us and we are going to fly.”

- LTCC increased counseling hours for students from 1055 to 1430!
- TimelyMD mental health support now available to LTCC students!!

### Give today to support the Lake Tahoe College Promise!

Your donation ensures that Lake Tahoe College Promise students have the resources they need to stay in school and earn their degrees. This year, the rate of College Promise fall to winter quarter persistence success rate was 97%!

Because of your compassionate, caring support, LTCC students will have the resources they need to become independent, successful adults. Your gift to Lake Tahoe College Promise students is an investment in the future our Lake Tahoe community.

## LTCC Foundation Executive Director Earns CFRE



Nancy Harrison, Executive Director for LTCC Foundation, joins over 7,200 professionals around the world who hold the Certified Fundraising Executive (CFRE) designation.

“Earning the CFRE designation ensures the Foundation operates in accordance with the best practices and highest standards of fundraising,” Harrison says.

The CFRE credential requires tenure in the profession,

education, and demonstrated fundraising achievement.

“Working together with the board, the Foundation is maintaining the highest level of trust from donors and the community,” says Harrison, emphasizing that her CFRE will further advance LTCC Foundation’s mission to support the students and programs at LTCC.



Brought to you by



**Taste of Gold is scheduled for Saturday, July 17, 2021 on campus in the Ledbetter Terrace and Demonstration Garden. The health and safety of our students, employees and donors is our top priority, so we will follow the CA guidelines for maximum event attendance and safe food and beverage service at that time.**

**Visit [ltcc.edu/tasteofgold](https://ltcc.edu/tasteofgold) for more information!**

**For more information contact the Foundation: [foundation@ltcc.edu](mailto:foundation@ltcc.edu) or (530)541-4660 x.245.**