



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Shaena Engle
Manager, Public Relations
engles@lacitycollege.edu

Los Angeles City College Receives Nearly \$1 Million in Basic Needs Funding

Funding is part of Biden-Harris American Rescue Plan, which has dedicated resources for students

LOS ANGELES (February 4, 2022) — Los Angeles City College (LACC) is pleased to receive nearly \$1 million in basic needs funding that will help underserved students pursue their education. This money is part of a new issuance of \$198 million in American Rescue Plan funds that will primarily support community colleges to cover housing, food and basic needs of students and mitigate the spread of COVID-19, with the Omicron variant currently spreading widely throughout the country.

Los Angeles City College is set to receive \$986,832 over a three-year period as part of this new funding, which will enable improved systems coordination that will ease access to basic needs resources—giving students the freedom to focus on their classwork. This will remove significant barriers to academic completion, as students in these communities have already been forced to contend with myriad other challenges during the pandemic and could use a reprieve.

“The pandemic had a profound impact on everyone, but many of the communities our students come from were particularly affected and have not benefited from what has been an unequal recovery” said Los Angeles Community College District Chancellor Francisco C. Rodriguez, Ph.D. “Our campuses are struggling with this once-in-a-lifetime challenge. I want to congratulate City College for putting itself in position to receive these funds at a critical time and I also want to thank the Biden-Harris Administration for advancing equity by stepping up for the students who need it most.”

This money is part of nearly \$40 billion funded from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) of the American Rescue Plan, which has focused on making bold investments in institutions like community colleges whose students were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.

“I am so proud of the resilience shown by our students over the last two years, as they were forced to contend with uniquely challenging circumstances,” said Los Angeles City College President Dr. Mary Gallagher. “This funding is welcome news, and will allow many of our

students to access key resources that will help stabilize their lives on and off campus and position themselves for success.”

“We are extremely grateful for this funding which will enable us to continue to assist our students,” said Marcy Drummond, LACC Vice President for Economic and Social Mobility Innovation.

At LACC, these new resources will be used to provide a monthly stipend for food and housing for a specific cohort of students with the greatest unmet financial need. In addition, LACC will use this funding to help provide textbooks and school supplies to students who cannot afford them, as well as case management and public benefits enrollment, advocacy and follow-up and tutoring specially geared toward students with disabilities, many of whom had a particular struggle with remote school.

With this basic needs funding, LACC aims to implement a plan improving cross-agency coordination of resources and basic needs support, encourage students to use campus and community resources at a higher rate, increase the annual persistence rate for high-risk students and help them earn their degree or certificate so they can achieve success in the workforce more quickly.

###

About the Los Angeles Community College District

We are the Colleges of Los Angeles! LACCD (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, [@laccd](https://twitter.com/laccd) and Instagram, https://www.instagram.com/laccd_edu/ @laccd_edu.