



Communications Office  
Media Advisory  
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**Contact:** Trinette Marquis, PIO  
Twin Rivers USD  
916.566.1789

## College Bound 101

Donations are needed for this unique program that supports students who have overcome great obstacles to attend college.

"I don't know what we are going to say to the 9 students that are left," said Kate Bishop-Hazarian, Project DREAM co-founder. "We are thrilled with the donations we have received to date for our College Bound Scholarships. 100% of funding for the scholarship program comes from individual and corporate donations, and it is remarkable that we have received funding for 38 of the 47 who applied."

College Bound Scholarships are awarded by Project DREAM and target Twin Rivers USD students heading to community college or four-year university who are the first in their families to go to college, have experienced homelessness or been in foster care, or have overcome some other life challenges to be accepted to college.

Scholarship students receive a \$300 shopping spree at Target. They will be shopping with a favorite teacher, mentor or coach. When they send in their grades at the end of the first semester or quarter, they get an additional \$100 gift card. This confirms if they actually went to college and how they're doing.

To be eligible to apply for the Project DREAM College Bound Scholarship, graduating seniors must attend a day-long workshop which prepares them for the transition from high school to college. They learn about financial responsibility, how to pay for college, how to select courses, what they can expect when living in a dorm and how to find the resources they'll need on campus.

The College Bound Scholarship program partners with Pam Quattlebaum and IVS Computer Technology. \$5,000 of donated funds from the Kelly Foundation is used to purchase wireless laptops, and IVS supplements the funds so 15 computers can be purchased. IVS also buys the software and virus protection package. Project DREAM hopes to raise enough funds to purchase more computers.

Last year, 26 students out of 52 applicants received College Bound Scholarships. 23 out of the 26 students sent their grades. Of those students, only one failed a class. Monitoring shows that none of them are on academic probation. This is quite exceptional for any freshman class, not to mention students who have struggled with so many challenges.

A video is posted on the DREAM webpage: <http://www.dreamtwinrivers.com/thanks.html>  
Donation information is also available there. As with all DREAM donations, 95% go directly to fund student programs such as College Bound.

The College Bound Scholarship program was also recognized by the College Board as an innovative program for getting low-income youth ready for college.  
[http://advocacy.collegeboard.org/sites/default/files/11b\\_4868\\_CollegeKeys\\_Catalog\\_WEB\\_120111.pdf](http://advocacy.collegeboard.org/sites/default/files/11b_4868_CollegeKeys_Catalog_WEB_120111.pdf)

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*Project DREAM (Developing Resiliency through Education, the Arts and Mentoring) is a private non-profit that supports enrichment activities in the schools and communities within Twin Rivers Unified School District. For additional information on College Bound Scholarships or Project DREAM, call Kate Bishop-Hazarian at (916) 566-1759 or by email at [kate.bishop@twinriversusd.org](mailto:kate.bishop@twinriversusd.org).*

*The Twin Rivers Unified School District was created in July 2008, merging four North Sacramento area school districts to serve 28,000 Preschool through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. In the first three years, graduation rates, attendance rates, and enrollment have increased dramatically.*