



LACC GUARDIAN SCHOLARS

ABOUT

The Guardian Scholars Program is for current and former foster youth from 16 to 24 years of age. The program is funded through grants from seven private foundations as well as support from LACC and some individual donor support.

MISSION STATEMENT

GSP's mission is to provide academic and personal guidance to help empower students who are current, former, or emancipated foster youth on their educational journeys to earning a Career Technical Certificate, Associate's Degree, and/or transfer to a university.

SERVICES

• Financial Aid Package

- Assistance in acquiring a grant
- Scholarship packages
- Emergency funding to help with tuition, supplies, and living expenses

Academic Advisement

- -Assistance with class selection
- -Registering for courses and long-term planning to meet your educational goal of obtaining any degree, or transferring to a university

• Tutoring & Mentoring

- -Receive support in specific subject areas
- -One-on-one peer mentorship

• Supplemental Support Services

- -Assistance with child care
- -Transportation help
- -Book and supply vouchers

• Employment Services & Career Counseling

- -Resume building
- -Job shadowing
- -Advising
- -Job placement

• Personal Guidance, Counseling, & Tutoring

-Regular contact with a consistent counselor to develop and monitor an education plan

Housing

- -Assistance with finding housing
- -Referrals and priority with year-round housing agencies



TUTORING

Students receive tutoring in a number of disciplines, with most focusing on math and English. Foster youth who have been in numerous foster homes have serious knowledge gaps because they have attended many different schools; specialized tutoring helps them achieve college readiness and succeed in mainstream classes. At the beginning of its seventh year of operation, the LACC Guardian Scholars Program has already shown impressive results, with a transfer rate that is more than twice that of transfer to four-year institutions for the general population of emancipated foster youth.

By providing counseling, support and specialized assistance to current and former foster youth—one of the most marginalized segments of American society—the Guardian Scholars Program staff and LACC campus liaisons are making a difference in the lives of young adults who were once abandoned, neglected and/or abused.

STAFF

The Guardian Scholars Program staff includes a Program Director, an Academic Advisor/life coach, a lead Program Assistant, a Program Coordinator, a High School Outreach Coordinator, a Tutoring Coordinator and four tutors. These dedicated staff members assist more than 125 foster youth each semester in achieving academic success through specialized orientations, independent living skills classes, academic advisement, preparing financial aid forms, university and college applications, internship, and housing forms. In addition, students receive advice on how to join the Associated Student Government (ASG) to learn leadership skills and participate in Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOP&S) and TRIO for low-income students.