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CONSULATE GENERAL OF MEXICO HOSTS STEPS TO COLLEGE 2015

2015 Pasos a la Universidad Invites 4,000 Latino High School Students and their families to College Financial Aid & Admissions Feria

Sacramento, CA - (2015) -**Steps to College 2015** takes place on Saturday, February 7, 2015, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Consulate General of Mexico in Sacramento, located at 2093 Arena Boulevard, in the Natomas neighborhood of Sacramento.

This event is FREE. **Steps to College 2015** will highlight the importance of higher education for Latino high school students. This event is presented in both Spanish and English and parents are encouraged to attend. Students will have the opportunity to apply on-site for the California Dream Act financial aid, Cal Grants, and institutional aid and, if students are eligible, federal grants. The college financial aid application period in California begins on January 1, 2015 and is open until March 2, 2015. Visit <u>www.csac.ca.gov</u> for more detailed information. Register online at <u>www.stepstocollege2015.org</u>.

According to Diana Fuentes-Michel, Executive Director of the California Student Aid Commission, "High school seniors from twenty-four northern California counties are expected to attend Steps to College 2015. Students can also participate in a college tour of Sacramento State University or the University of California at Davis."

"This year's Pasos a la Universidad is expected to attract 4,000 people, mostly students and their parents," commented Carlos González Gutiérrez, Consul General of Mexico in Sacramento. He added, "Behind the fair, there is a lot of hard work and planning from many educators, local officials and community leaders, all of them committed to help young Latino students to get to College. There will be representatives from over 50 public and private colleges and universities providing information about their admission and financial aid processes." He also highlighted the fact that this year the fair will host more Mexican universities than previous years. "An opportunity for those students who want to enroll in academic exchange programs and be part of the cultural immersion"

The objective of **Steps to College 2015** is: 1.) To explain the full array of resources available for Latino students to finance their higher education 2.) To expose Latino families to the admissions process in California higher education institutions; and 3.) To assist Latino students in completing their student aid applications. Student



workshop topics will include Financial Aid and College and University Admissions. Students will learn more about available scholarships and the Cal Grant program. High schools seniors attending Steps to College 2015 and who apply for financial aid by March 2nd, will have the opportunity to participate in the 2015 Regional Performance-Based Cash for College \$2,000 scholarship. For more information please contact Patti Colston at 916.206.1285. View a video clip of Steps to College 2013 at <u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BJudZTX0548</u>.

The fourth edition of **Steps to College** is presented by The California Student Aid Commission; the Consulate General of Mexico in Sacramento, *Cien Amigos*; the Mexican Cultural Center of Northern California; the University of California; UC Davis; KFC; and, Univision 19.

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