



**STEPS TO COLLEGE**  
PASOS A LA UNIVERSIDAD



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**CONSULATE GENERAL OF MEXICO HOSTS STEPS TO COLLEGE 2020**

*Latino High School Students from 24 Northern California Counties Are Invited to the College Financial Aid & Admissions Feria*

Sacramento, CA – (2020) – “This year’s *Pasos a la Universidad* is expected to attract 3,000 students and their families,” said Liliana Ferrer, Consul General of Mexico in Sacramento. She added, “There will be representatives from over 40 public and independent California colleges and universities providing information about their admission and financial aid processes. No other Mexican Consulate located in the United States offers the Mexican community an event like this one.”

Ferrer who a graduate of the University of California, Davis, and whose father once served as Consul General of Mexico in Sacramento, says she’s proud to now be able to help open university doors for the region’s Latino students. She’s partnering with Executive Director Marlene Garcia of the California Student Aid Commission, and approximately two dozen sponsors, to bring resources, grants, scholarships and more to both documented and undocumented students in Northern California.

Garcia, who is just eight months into her job, is a 1<sup>st</sup> generation college graduate who received state Cal Grant financial aid to complete her undergraduate degree from the University of California, Los Angeles. She now oversees the State’s \$2.7 billion financial aid portfolio. Garcia said, “With the California Dream Act now serving over 50 thousand students each academic year we still find that almost 15 thousand potentially eligible students are still submitting their application after California’s March 2<sup>nd</sup> financial aid deadline to attend a four-year campus. The annual *Steps to College* fair helps us share accurate and timely information to students and their families. A lot of hard work goes into the planning of *Steps to College*, now in its ninth year. Many volunteers are working side-by-side with staff representing all segments of higher education. We’re all determined and committed to the goal of encouraging young Latino students to get a college or career education.”

Ferrer says Mexican and other Latino communities, “are eager and ambitious – in the best sense of the word: they want to produce, to work towards the betterment of the community and the society that they live in; a community that has done so much for them.”

This event is FREE. **Steps to College 2020** will be presented in both Spanish and English, parents are encouraged to attend. Students will have the opportunity to apply on-site for the California Dream Act financial aid, Cal Grants, other forms of financial aid. Eligible students will also be

considered for federal grants. The college financial aid application period in California is from October 1<sup>st</sup> until March 2<sup>nd</sup> for students to attend a four-year campus. Eligible California community college students have also a September 2<sup>nd</sup> application deadline. Visit [www.csac.ca.gov](http://www.csac.ca.gov) for more detailed information. Register online at [www.stepstocollegesac.org](http://www.stepstocollegesac.org).

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