Laredo College provides business opportunities for Hispanic women

Hispanic women interested in starting or improving their business in Laredo and surrounding areas had the opportunity to get quality training at Laredo College. Our institution is pleased to announce that the LC Education Foundation has been selected to receive a $7,000 Latina Entrepreneur Academy grant awarded by the LULAC Foundation and the Coca-Cola Foundation.

LC is thrilled to be one of 11 recipients in the second cohort to be selected across the country. Some participating states and territories include Washington, Illinois, Colorado and Puerto Rico.

This academy provides women with the necessary tools, resources and skills to become successful entrepreneurs. This partnership was created to foster Latina entrepreneurs to motivate, train and inspire women to build or enhance their business and become leaders that create positive change in the community.

“I am very excited to be part of this effort to bring interested Hispanic women in our community to learn about setting up and expanding their business,” LC Vice President for Resource Development and External Affairs Dr. Nora R. Garza said. “It will also provide a wonderful opportunity to network with others.” This unique collaborative project between the LULAC Foundation, the Coca-Cola Foundation, the LC Economic Development Center and the Resource Development and External Affairs Division provides exceptional training for 50 individuals and includes books, supplies, knowledgeable guest speakers, a possible incentive and a certificate of recognition. Attendees are learning the importance of branding, networking, accounting and management, among other topics. As part of the program prerequisite, those who enrolled are learning how to complete a business plan, which needs to be submitted to graduate.

“The time to learn new things is now,” Graciela Villarreal mentioned on behalf of LULAC La Flor.

Training began Feb. 7 on campus, and will culminate with a graduation ceremony by the end of March. Even though the program was geared for Hispanic women, everyone was welcomed to enroll. Over 250 applications were received.

Laredo College held Financial Aid Super Saturday!

Laredo College departments joined forces to host a successful Super Saturday on Feb. 12 at the Ft. McIntosh Campus. Current LC students and high school seniors were able to take advantage of the services offered.

Students met with financial aid representatives at this walk-in event to begin the financial aid process, apply for scholarships and even find college jobs. All services were entirely free of charge. The LC departments were on-site to answer questions about additional services, college programs and the admissions process required to become a first-time student.

The 2022-2023 FAFSA application is now open for future and current students. To help meet the HEBS federal mandate that high schools must comply with this year, LC has been instrumental in hosting multiple application drives this year at each local high school, and part of this effort includes this Super Saturday.

Any current and prospective student interested in enrolling at the #1 community college in Texas for the 2022-2023 academic year must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TAFSA). US citizens and eligible noncitizens may apply for FAFSA. Immigrants who have graduated from a Texas high school, have a GED or are DACA recipients may apply for TAFSA.

LC had fun activities, giveaways and light refreshments while students had the opportunity to learn about how vital it is to apply for financial aid, which can help pay for their education. They were also assisted with verification and to continue the process to attain federal grants. The FSA ID is critical to begin the 2022-2023 FAFSA application, which covers costs for fall 2022, Wintermester 2023, spring 2023, Maymester 2023 and summer sessions I & II 2023.

In order to apply for financial assistance, students need the following information:

- Student and parent FSA ID usernames and passwords
- Student and parents’ full name as it appears on the social security number
- Current permanent address
- Student and parent(s) email address
- Student and parent(s) date of birth
- Student and parent(s) social security numbers
- Driver’s license number, if available
- State parents were married/remarried, separated, divorced or widowed
- Student Alien Registration Number/USCIS
- 2020 federal income tax returns such as IRS 1040, W2s, and/or 1099 forms are needed for the applicant and spouse, if married, or for the applicant's parent(s) if a dependent student
- Student and Parent DACA number, if applicable, or social security number if parents are eligible citizens

Once students complete their application, FAFSA will notify them via email if it was successfully submitted. The applicant must follow up with the financial aid office within three weeks or check any status updates in their LC email or PASPort.

If incoming or returning students need personal assistance, our teams can assist through the FAFSA and admissions process to relieve students from the stress of applying. The Veterans Affairs Center representatives are available to assist our country’s veterans and/or their dependents with applying for their VA educational benefits. FAFSA and TAFSA applications are not the only services that are available for our students or prospective students. LC also provides guidance on scholarship availability, on-campus employment and other important services.

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