

COLLEGE FUTURES

MONTEREY COUNTY



When Students Succeed, Our Community Thrives

We believe that every young person should have the opportunity to pursue their educational, career and life goals. College degrees are vital to a thriving economy and building healthy, safe, vibrant communities. Too many young people with the ability and desire to succeed in college lack the support to do so. Growing the number of students who earn college degrees makes a brighter future for us all.

► Barriers to College

- College costs have risen faster than financial aid. Low-income families are faced with college expenses that require 50-70% of their income.
- First generation students and their parents often don't know how to prepare for and apply to college. Many students don't apply for public financial aid that they qualify for, or apply to college at all.

► Providing scholarships to students with financial need

- College Futures makes scholarship dollars available for low-income, first generation students who have the ability and motivation to achieve in college, but lack the financial resources to do so. Scholarships help:
 - Reduce reliance on loans
 - Offset tuition and college expenses
 - Allow students to focus on their education

► How It Works

- **Outreach** to low-income, first generation students
- **Financial Literacy** test required for all applicants
- **Support Students** to claim their scholarship

► Expanding Access to College — You Can Help

By increasing access to scholarship support, you help more local students graduate from college.

College Futures Monterey County is an initiative of the Community Foundation for Monterey County (CFMC). It provides scholarship funding to students with financial need, helping remove one of the most significant barriers to earning a college degree.

2024

Only **28.2%** of local residents over age 25 have a bachelor's degree.

2030

By 2030, a projected **35%** of job openings will require a bachelor's degree.

access



“

I feel more confident in not only my ability to afford but also succeed in college.”

Andres Efrain Ramirez
Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo

“

This scholarship is more than financial assistance, to me it's motivation to keep working hard toward my dream.”

Angelita Martinez Montesino
Hartnell College

College Benefits

- Our growing economy depends on more young people gaining college degrees and jobs that pay enough to support a family.
- The median income for college graduates in our county is \$62,324, twice the median income for people without a degree. Over a lifetime, college graduates earn about \$1 million more than non-graduates.



HEALTHY, SAFE, VIBRANT Communities



a smart investment



My goal is to matriculate into medical school and one day return to the community that raised me, to serve Monterey County as a physician grounded in equity and real empathy.

Emanuel Serafin Maciel Garcia
UC Berkeley

A Smart Investment in Our Community

The College Futures is a need-based scholarship fund that pools contributions for greater impact. The scholarship supports students who are low-income, first in their family to attend college, and/or from underrepresented populations.

Building Opportunity

An investment in scholarship support is an investment in educational opportunity, economic mobility and a commitment to helping local students reach their full potential.

Get Involved

Make a One-Time Gift or Annual Investment	Establish a Named Fund	Make a Planned Gift
<p>Contribute to the College Futures Monterey County Fund to grow scholarships for local students.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awards range from \$1,500-\$5,000 per scholarship <p><i>You can give cash, stock, real estate or other assets, or make an IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution</i></p>	<p>Establish a named scholarship fund within College Futures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$10,000 non-endowed \$25,000 endowed 	<p>The CFMC can help you explore the best ways to maximize your gift.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IRA or Life Insurance beneficiary designation Charitable Gift Annuity or Charitable Remainder Trust Make a gift in your will or estate plan

12 Participating High Schools:

- Everett Alvarez High School
- Alisal High School
- Gonzales High School
- Greenfield High School
- King City High School
- Marina High School
- North Monterey County High School
- North Salinas High School
- Seaside High School
- Soledad High School
- Rancho San Juan High School

“Your support is more than financial aid, it’s an investment in potential, and a powerful reminder that people believe in students like me, and it helps us find hope within adversity!”

Wawrina Ziarmal, Monterey Peninsula College

Join Us! Help young people with financial need fulfill their dream of earning a degree—and change the future of our region.

To inspire philanthropy and be a catalyst for strengthening communities throughout Monterey County



Cecilia Romero
Vice President of
Philanthropic Services
ceciliar@cfmco.org
831.375.9712 x124



Anna Faith
Director of Gift Planning
annaf@cfmco.org
831.375.9712 x126



Esther Figueroa
Director of Scholarships
and Grants
estherf@cfmco.org
831.754.5880 x107



2354 Garden Road • Monterey, CA 93940
945 South Main Street, Suite 207 • Salinas, CA 93901
cfmco.org/CollegeFutures • [f](#) [i](#) [in](#)



Confirmed in Compliance with
Community Foundations National
Standards