

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Congresswoman Matsui Announces \$220,000 in Federal Funding for American River College**

*Funds Will Support Local Low-income, First-generation, or Disabled College Students*

**SACRAMENTO, CA** – Congresswoman Doris Matsui (D-Sacramento) announced today that American River College, one of four campuses in the Los Rios Community College District, will receive \$220,000 in Federal funding through a competitive grant program issued by the Department of Education. The money will provide support and assistance to low-income, first-generation, or disabled college students in order to ensure they remain in school and graduate. Services provided to these students may include instruction in financial aid assistance, basic study skills, tutorial services, career guidance, personal counseling, and mentoring. It also supports the campus's continued efforts to maintain a diverse student body and access to a quality education.

“Especially during tough economic times, it is imperative that we support our students and educational institutions that are providing them with the skills they need to take an active part in our economic recovery,” Congresswoman Matsui said. “The Los Rios Community College District has been a leader in providing access to a high-quality education for Sacramento’s families, and this Federal grant recognizes the terrific support American River College gives to its students.”

“For years, American River College has been focused on expanding and improving its student success programs aimed at helping low-income, first-generation, and disabled students graduate and transfer,” said David Viar, President of American River College. “Now, during these challenging economic times, this Federal grant is essential, and will ensure that American River College can provide new, innovative success-oriented services that might not otherwise be implemented.”

The grant was made available through the Department of Education’s Student Support Services Program and starts September 1st of this year. The funding announced today is in addition to the \$275,940 for Sacramento State University under the same grant program through the Department of Education that Rep. Matsui announced earlier this week.

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