

## **National University Scholarship Program Launched to Honor the Nation's Diverse Student Population and Adult Learners**

*The National University Scholars Program covers tuition and expenses for 100 qualified students who demonstrate leadership and academic success; Now available to community college transfer students, the program offers global study opportunities and leadership training*

**San Diego, Calif.** --- With adult learners becoming a significant part of the nation's higher education population, National University is pleased to announce the expansion of the [National University Scholars Program](#) that aims to recognize 100 students through a comprehensive scholarship and educational support program. The scholarship, offered by the private, nonprofit University, is now open to California community college transfer students, and it covers the cost of degree completion for qualifying students who agree to participate in the selective program's co-curricular activities and leadership development component.

The scholarship reflects National University's commitment to serving students of diverse backgrounds, including adult learners. The National Center for Educational Statistics predicts that by 2024 well over half of postsecondary students will be over 24 years of age, and a quarter of those attending college will be over 30 years of age. At National University, where the average age of students is 32, adult learners are juggling family, jobs along with other responsibilities while working to complete their education.

"As an institution that has a long history serving the needs of adult learners and a diverse student population, we are excited to be able to offer this unique opportunity to recognize the great academic contributions of lifelong learners and help further their academic and career goals," said Dr. David Andrews, President of National University. "Adult learners are such an important segment of the nation's student population and the expansion of this scholarship program to community college students allows us a chance to positively impact and transform more students, organizations and communities."

The NU Scholars program started with the selection of National University students in California, including San Diego, Fresno, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, and Sacramento, and is expanding to other regions nationwide. The program is now also available to California community college transfer students – further emphasizing the University's commitment to addressing regional workforce needs by strengthening the pipeline of community college students to degree completion.

Key to the National University Scholars program – available to both graduates and undergraduates – is the curriculum, designed with high-impact and best educational practices, such as leadership, community service, study abroad, seminars and research. Support services may also include special networking and career management opportunities for the scholarship recipients. The program culminates in an ePortfolio, which helps students become competitive in the 21<sup>st</sup> century global workforce. This cohort-based program is aligned with the University's

commitment to identifying approaches for personalized learning for all students through an initiative called Precision Education at National University.

“I am so honored to have been chosen as an NU Scholar and for the ongoing assistance of my professor and advisors throughout my journey here,” said Alejandro Vargas of San Diego, who is pursuing his Master of Arts, Education at the Sanford College of Education. “Being employed full time, a single father, and actively involved in my community, the idea of achieving my educational goals seemed difficult and out of reach, so I’m very grateful for the support offered by National University and for the opportunity to expand my leadership skills even further through the NU Scholars program.”

National University was founded in 1971 by a retired Navy Lieutenant Commander who saw a need to make quality education more accessible to working students who might not otherwise be served by traditional higher education institutions. The University, the flagship institution of the National University System, serves a diverse population of adult learners through innovative educational solutions and offers a unique four-week-class format, evening courses, and options for students to learn on campus, online, or through hybrid programs.

For more information on applying to the National University Scholars program:

<https://www.nu.edu/scholars/index.html>

#### **ABOUT NATIONAL UNIVERSITY**

Founded in 1971, National University is among the largest, private, nonprofit universities in California. With more than 150,000 alumni, National University is the flagship institution of the National University System. National University is dedicated to making lifelong learning opportunities accessible, challenging, and relevant to a diverse population of students. Four schools and two colleges – the College of Letters and Sciences; the Sanford College of Education; the School of Business and Management; the School of Engineering and Computing; the School of Health and Human Services; and the School of Professional Studies – offer more than 100 graduate and undergraduate degrees and 23 teacher credentials. Programs are offered at locations throughout California and across the nation, and are also available online. National University is headquartered in La Jolla, California. <http://www.nu.edu/>