



NEWS RELEASE

April 15, 2014

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AVID Students Make Up More Than Half of the Dell Scholars Program Class of 2014

10-Year Anniversary Highlights Lasting Impact

SAN DIEGO – [AVID](#) (Advancement Via Individual Determination) students made up more than half of the 302 students in the recently named [Dell Scholars Program](#) class of 2014. More than \$6 million in scholarships will be awarded to this year’s Dell Scholars to attend a college of their choice. Nationwide, 159 of the Dell Scholars participated in AVID.

The Dell Scholars Program is a college completion program that offers low-income, first-generation students support—both personal and financial—to get to and through college. College-ready high school students are evaluated on their demonstrated ability to overcome obstacles and determination to succeed. Once accepted into the program, all Dell Scholars receive support services and mentoring, \$20,000, and essential technology to ensure they have the right mix of support to graduate with a degree in hand.

“We are so grateful to the longtime support of the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation,” said Sandy Husk, CEO of AVID. “Achieving the college dream is even more important in today’s competitive arena, and the Dell Family Foundation makes that possible for our students who have had the strength and determination to see their way to succeed in high school.”

Since 2004, when the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation began the Dell Scholars Program, 1,410 AVID students have been awarded a Dell scholarship. The focus of the program is supporting students to successfully complete college, and this has proven to mean so much more than financial support.

“It is clear that these at-risk students need more than just financial assistance to be successful in graduating from college,” said Oscar Sweeten-Lopez, program officer for the Dell Scholars Program at the [Michael & Susan Dell Foundation](#). “By understanding and addressing the obstacles and personal issues that these students face, we can increase their likelihood of obtaining a college degree.” See their stories on [YouTube](#).

The Dell Scholars Program targets underserved youth and low-income students from high schools nationwide, many of whom participate in AVID, to promote higher education. Requirements include graduation from an accredited high school, demonstrated financial need, a minimum GPA of 2.4 on a 4.0 scale, and intent to enter a bachelor’s degree program at an accredited higher education institution in the fall.

About the Organizations

About AVID – Advancement Via Individual Determination

AVID is a non-profit, proven college readiness system that closes the achievement gap. Today, AVID is implemented in approximately 4,900 schools in 45 states, the District of Columbia, and 16 countries/territories and impacts more than 700,000 students in grades K–12 and in 41 postsecondary institutions. The AVID College Readiness System transforms a school’s academic culture to increase the number of students who enroll in four-year colleges and succeed in higher education and training.

About the Dell Scholars Program

The [Dell Scholars Program](#) is a college completion program unique in the type of students it supports and how it fosters those students on their path to a college degree. An initiative of the [Michael & Susan Dell Foundation](#), the Dell Scholars Program provides its students with resources and mentoring beyond initial financial assistance to ensure they have the support they need to obtain a bachelor’s degree. Follow us on [Twitter](#).

About the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation

Michael and Susan Dell established the foundation in 1999. The gift was inspired by their passion for supporting children's causes as a way to make an even greater difference in a measurable way, particularly for those children living in urban poverty. Based in Austin, Texas, the Dell family foundation funds programs that foster high-quality public education and childhood health, and improve the economic stability of families living in poverty. To date, the [Michael & Susan Dell Foundation](#) has committed more than \$1 billion to assist nonprofit organizations working in major urban communities in the United States, India, and South Africa. We focus on opportunities with the greatest potential to directly and measurably transform the lifelong outcomes of impoverished urban children around the globe. Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

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