

Achieving the Dream 2018 DREAM Scholars

DREAM 2018 Student Engagement Program

Program Overview

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Overview:

Achieving the Dream's DREAM Scholars program is an experiential learning opportunity for up to six students from [participating Achieving the Dream Institutions](#), designed to enhance key leadership, critical thinking, and networking skills.

As a DREAM Scholar, students will have the opportunity to significantly engage with the efforts both at their institution and across the National Reform Network that impact the student success and completion agenda. Chosen through a competitive application process, selected students will engage in a learning process that culminates in attending DREAM 2018 in Nashville, TN from February 20-23, 2018. DREAM Scholars will stand to make a difference for their local communities, gaining in-depth insight on the complexities of community college reform and learning from national student success leaders. Students will be expected to critically respond to reform efforts from their unique vantage point in preparation for closing remarks they will deliver during the DREAM final plenary session.

The students will be led by Dr. Joye Hardiman, Emeritus Faculty, Evergreen State College, who will foster student learning opportunities before and during DREAM 2018. Achieving the Dream staff members will serve as guides to the students throughout their DREAM Scholars experience. In addition, each student will be mentored by the Core Team Leader at their institution before, during, and after DREAM 2018. If you have any questions about this opportunity, please email Francesca Carpenter, fcarpenter@achievingthedream.org.

See application questions on page 6. Please note that a Core Team Leader or Core Team Member must submit the application(s) on behalf of any student applicant. This act signifies a commitment to mentoring and engaging the student in learning more about ATD on your campus and supporting them through their DREAM Scholars experience and a commitment from the institution to covering the student's travel expenses to DREAM 2018.

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON OCTOBER 16, 2017.



College Responsibilities:

Colleges are expected to **cover the cost of travel** associated with the student attending the conference. Students will be required to arrive at the conference on the evening of Monday, February 19 and depart on the evening of Friday, February 23. Students will attend an orientation from 12pm to 4pm on Tuesday, February 20 and will be expected to deliver closing remarks in a panel during the final session of the institute on Friday, February 23. *More information about student responsibilities is available in the “Student Responsibilities” section below.*

Additionally, Core Team Leaders and/or Core Team Members are expected to **“sponsor” each student application** from their institution by **committing to engaging the student in opportunities and discussions related to DREAM 2018 and Achieving the Dream at their institution; ensuring the student fulfills the requirements of their participation (including submitting a short reflection paper after the conclusion of DREAM); and periodically connecting with the student during DREAM**. This includes sharing with them how Achieving the Dream started on their campus, the evolution the initiative has taken, the types of interventions on your campus, past experiences at DREAM, advice on logistics for traveling to DREAM 2018, etc. Additionally, the Core Team Leader/Member who “sponsors” a selected student is expected to attend the DREAM Scholars reception. Once a student has been selected, the Core Team Leader or Core Team Member must sign a commitment document that guarantees their pledge to provide support for their sponsored student during the week of DREAM.

Benefits Provided by ATD:

- Meals, including a \$250 stipend in the form of a visa card for meals not provided at the conference
- Hotel accommodations at the Gaylord Opryland Resort (site for DREAM 2018)
- Customized learning experience led by renowned educator Dr. Joye Hardiman
- DREAM Scholars Networking Reception during DREAM 2018
- Local educational tour in Nashville, TN during DREAM 2018

Student Responsibilities:

Selected DREAM Scholars will engage in a process of learning and sharing their perspective on the impact the Achieving the Dream National Reform Network has on student success. This experience will culminate in a presentation during the final plenary session of DREAM 2018.

The first aspect of this program includes a pre-conference learning period where students will seek an understanding of reform efforts currently underway at their own institutions by connecting with the ATD Core Team.

DREAM Scholars will attend an orientation and several DREAM sessions relevant to the following capacity areas in which ATD seeks to address institutional change: Leadership & Vision, Data & Technology, Equity, Teaching & Learning, Engagement & Communication, Strategy & Planning, and Policies & Practices. *Please see the next page for information on each capacity area.* Additionally, DREAM Scholars will attend the DREAM Scholars Networking Reception and take advantage of the Nashville area by attending a local educational tour on one afternoon during the conference.

Conference attendance culminates with a plenary presentation led by the DREAM Scholars and facilitated by Dr. Joye Hardiman. Students will work together with Dr. Hardiman and ATD staff to shape the look and feel of this session. Please encourage students to visit [this video of the 2016 DREAM Scholars](#) to understand expectations regarding the final plenary presentation.

DREAM Scholars are required to do the following:

- Engage in a pre-DREAM conference call with Dr. Joye Hardiman and ATD staff to review expectations, discuss the panel presentation, and get to know fellow Scholars. **Students are required to attend this call.**
- **Submit an “I am from” poem.** Instructions and assistance on writing the poem will be provided by ATD staff after the student is selected. The poems will be read by the students throughout DREAM 2018 in plenary sessions leading up to the final DREAM Scholars presentation.
- Participate in a customized student experience provided specifically for DREAM Scholars, including a networking reception, dinners and local educational tour.
- **Attend conference sessions and workshops at DREAM 2018.** Employ critical thinking skills to analyze and evaluate each conference session’s content in terms of its capacity to promote community college student success and completion and to close achievement gaps for historically underserved student populations. Students are encouraged to take notes during sessions.
- **Deliver remarks at the final plenary session during DREAM 2018** on Friday, February 23rd based on student findings throughout the conference.
- **Participate in daily debriefing** and experience-sharing with the rest of the DREAM Scholars, Dr. Hardiman, and ATD staff.
- **Submit a reflection blog post** about their experience at DREAM.

Institutional Change Capacity Areas:

- **Leadership & Vision** - The commitment and collaboration of the institution's leadership with respect to student success and the clarity of the vision for desired change.
- **Data & Technology** - The institution's capacity to collect, access, analyze and use data to inform decision, and to use powerful technology to support student success.
- **Equity** - The commitment, capabilities, and experiences of an institution to equitably serve low-income students, students of color and other at-risk student populations with respect to access, success, and campus climate.
- **Teaching & Learning** - The commitment to engaging full-time and adjunct faculty in examinations of pedagogy, meaningful professional development, and a central role for them as change agents within the institution. Also, the college's commitment to advising, tutoring, and out-of-classroom supports as well as restructuring developmental education to facilitate student learning and success.
- **Engagement & Communication** - The creation of strategic partnerships with key external stakeholders, such as K-12, universities, employers and community-based organizations and internal stakeholders across the institution to participate in the student success agenda and improvement of student outcomes.
- **Strategy & Planning** - The alignment of the institution with the umbrella goal of student success and the institution's process for translating the desired future into defined goals and objectives and executing the actions to achieve them.
- **Policies & Practices** - The institutional policies and practices that impact student success and the processes for examining and aligning policies and practices to remove barriers and foster student completion.

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. Can more than one student from the same an institution apply?

Multiple students from an institution may submit an application, but only one student per institution will be selected. Core Team Leaders/Members must agree to “sponsor” each student who submits an application.

2. What type of student is ATD looking for?

ATD is not looking for a particular type of student. Students of any age, gender, race, ethnicity, program of study, etc. are encouraged to apply.

3. What expenses does the college have to pay for?

Institutions are responsible for covering the student’s airfare and ground transportation to DREAM 2018. Institutions are also expected to “sponsor” students through mentoring and support from their Core Team Leader/Members.

4. Should I register my student before they are selected for the DREAM Scholars program?

No, please do not register student for the conference before you receive notification that the student has been selected. ATD will issue complimentary registration codes to all students after they are selected. If you register a student and then need to cancel registration, there is a \$150 charge.

5. What airport should I fly into?

The closest airport to DREAM 2018 is Nashville International Airport. The student’s institution will be responsible for arranging ground transportation for the students to travel to and from the airport.

6. What does registration cover?

Registration for DREAM 2018 will include all meetings and handouts, a welcome reception on Tuesday, February 20, and breakfast and lunch Wednesday, February 21 through Friday, February 23. **Dinner on Wednesday, February 21 through Friday, February 23 will be on your own.**

7. How will I pay for meals not covered by the conference?

Students will be provided with a visa card for \$250 that can go towards meals.

8. Where does DREAM 2018 take place?

DREAM Institute sessions and workshops will be held at the Gaylord Opryland Resort, 2800 Opryland Drive, Nashville, TN 37214. The hotel phone number is 615-889-1000.

9. How do I book a hotel room?

ATD will book hotel rooms for each DREAM Scholars. **Students will be sharing a room with another student of the same gender.**