



# NEWS

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**For Immediate Release**

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## **El Camino College Awards \$1.4 Million in Student Scholarships for 2015-16**

Kimberly Scharf says she is the perfect example of why the El Camino College Foundation Scholarship Program is so important.

A few years ago her life changed drastically. Kimberly lost her marriage and house and had been out of the workplace for the past 20 years because she stayed at home caring for her two special needs children. She had been taking some classes at ECC, but at this point she decided she needed to pick up the pace and earn her degree. She also needed financial help.

“The only reason I’ve able to stay in school is because of this scholarship program, I can’t say enough about how much it means to me,” said Kimberly, 52, of Redondo Beach, who joined ECC’s highly successful Radiologic Technology Program full time last year.

Kimberly is one of the many outstanding students who will be honored at the annual El Camino College Foundation Scholarship Awards Ceremony and Reception April 15 and 16 at Marsee Auditorium. Approximately \$1.4 million was awarded to approximately 510 students for the 2015-2016 academic year.

Kimberly will continue her radiologic technology studies with the help of the Torrance Memorial Scholarship – one of four \$1,000 scholarships awarded this year. She received the Kaiser Permanente Scholarship last year as well. Scholarship funds are helping Kimberly cover the costs of fees, books, uniforms, and other supplies needed in the “rad tech” program.

“The El Camino College rad tech program is one the best in Southern California,” Kimberly said. “When I visit all the local hospitals, nearly everyone working there is an El Camino College graduate. It is a not an easy program, it is challenging and definitely takes a lot of work. But it is such a great experience; what I’ve gone through helped me to fulfill my dreams. And now my daughter will attend El Camino College after she graduates high school in June.”

The ECC Foundation Scholarship Program continues to grow each year, providing critical support to students in a variety of academic disciplines.

“The Scholarship Awards Ceremony is one of the most anticipated events of the academic year and we are proud to celebrate the success of our students,” said El Camino College President Thomas Fallo. “We also thank the donors and community supporters who made these scholarships possible.”

ECC’s high school scholarship program also continues to grow. This year 38 incoming students were awarded scholarships of \$1,000 per year for two years. The California Community Colleges Endowment Fund (Osher) also provided nearly 170 students \$1,000 scholarships.

For more information about the Foundation El Camino College Scholarship Program, contact the El Camino College Foundation at [www.elcamino.edu/administration/foundation](http://www.elcamino.edu/administration/foundation) or call 310-660-3683.

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