

PAY IT FORWARD SCHOLARSHIP & MENTORING PROGRAM

Pay It 
Forward
Scholarship & Mentoring Program

OUR FOUNDERS

Mike and Linda Dorn

Early in 2008, after a number of meetings, it became clear to Mike & Linda that there was a need for a program to support local, first-generation college students – something that would make a real difference in the lives of these young people. Through this program, they wanted to “pay it forward” and they wanted the students selected to “pay it forward” too. Thanks to their generosity and the support of a small group of dedicated allies, the Pay It Forward Scholarship & Mentoring Program at CSUMB was born. Pay It Forward provides a four-year, \$20,000 scholarship to each student, matches them with a mentor for the four years, delivers monthly student meetings for learning life skills beyond academics, keeps students on-track to graduate, and requires each student to mentor a younger student for at least five hours per month.

OUR SCHOLARS

Beat the Odds

The Center for First-Generation Student Success (firstgen.naspa.org) reports that, nationally, first-generation college students are: **MORE** likely to utilize financial aid services but **LESS** likely to utilize supportive services like health centers, academic advising, and academic support services; **LESS** likely to graduate and **MORE** likely to have student debt; and **MORE** likely to work longer hours and **LESS** likely to work on campus or in their field of study.

Pay It Forward ensures our students utilize the resources available to them, stay on-track to graduate in four years with no or minimal debt, make community connections through their mentors, and find work on campus or in their field while limiting their hours to ensure their job as a student comes first.

OUR RESULTS

Speak for Themselves

The support Pay It Forward Scholars receive ensures their success.

Thanks to Pay It Forward, 8 out of 10 of our students graduate (vs. 2 out of 10 nationally), 5 in 10 graduate with honors and only 1 in 10 have student debt.

Our alumni are in Masters, PhD and MD programs across the country and work locally for organizations like Monterey Peninsula College, Uber, San Jose Earthquakes, Hayashi Wayland, Center for Employment Training, CSUMB, Natividad Medical Center, Monterey County Rape Crisis Center, Northrop Grumman, Scribe America, and several Monterey County School Districts.



Click on each of these
icons to hear directly
from one of our Scholars

