



January 2012 eNews

[Visit APIASF Online](#)

APIASF Receives a Record Number of Applications for the 2012 - 2013 Scholarship Cycle

The APIASF Scholarship Application closed on Friday, January 13 at 11:59 p.m. EST. Nearly 8,000 completed applications were received by APIASF for consideration for the 2012 - 2013 scholarship cycle - more than a 50 percent increase from last year.

This increase highlights the significant and growing need for scholarship opportunities for Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) students. According to the 2011 report published by the National Commission on Asian American and Pacific Islander Research in Education (CARE), AAPIs remain one of the fastest growing populations in the United States and continue to have some of the lowest educational attainment rates. For instance, more than 50 percent of Vietnamese, 63 percent of Hmong, 65 percent of Laotian and more than 65 percent of Cambodian adults (25 years or older) have not enrolled in or completed any postsecondary education. Similar trends exist in the Pacific Islander community.

"The opportunity to receive a scholarship can be life-changing for a student and their family," said APIASF President & Executive Director Neil Horikoshi. "The record-breaking growth that we have seen in the number of applications over the past few years demonstrates the clear need for more resources and programs to help make higher education a reality for AAPI students."

Hundreds of volunteers from around the country are giving their time to help read and review the completed applications. Companies like DLA Piper, Farmers Insurance Group of Companies, Hilton Worldwide, Southern California Edison, Sodexo, Walmart and Wells Fargo have also started employee recruitment campaigns to help secure more volunteers. Applicants will be notified of their status in April 2012.

If you are interested in serving as a volunteer reader, please contact Devita Bishundat, Director, APIASF Scholarship Program, at dbishundat@apiasf.org.

For more information about college completion and the AAPI community, [click here](#).

Community Colleges and College Affordability are a National Focus during State of the Union

DONATE



Scholar Profile



"Where I come from, attending college isn't common. I promised myself that I would break that stereotype so I could make a better life for myself. I became a leader in not just my school, but also my community. With this scholarship, I can now pursue my dreams and make them into reality."

Kyle Paradeza
2011 - 2012 APIASF /
Southern California
Edison Scholar

Attending University of
California, San Diego
and Majoring in
Pharmacy

Last week during the State of the Union Address, President Obama made a commitment to train 2 million Americans with the skills that will lead directly to jobs. At the center of this plan was a focus on community colleges and college affordability that will help provide more students with access to higher education.

In his address, President Obama called for more resources for community colleges which is something that has been an important focus for APIASF over the past two years. APIASF was one of the first national organizations to create a scholarship program for AAPI students attending community colleges and made community colleges a central topic during the 2010 and 2011 Higher Education Summits.

Since nearly half of all AAPI students enrolled in higher education are attending community colleges, the success of these institutions is directly tied to the success of the community. Unfortunately, the needs of these students are often overlooked on-campus and in federal education policy.

Investing resources in community colleges will not only help AAPI students, but will help make postsecondary education more accessible for **ALL** students.

To learn more about AAPIs and community college, download the 2010 CARE Report [here](#).

Southern California Edison Renews Partnership with APIASF to Provide More Scholarships

Southern California Edison has renewed its commitment to help increase underserved AAPI students' access to and success in higher education. The partnership will provide eight scholarships worth \$2,500 each to students from Southern California Edison's service area. Additionally, the partnership supports outreach events for students, event sponsorships, updates to the APIASF website, and the creation of a new video that will provide valuable information about the AAPI community.

Southern California Edison will recognize the new group of scholarship recipients at a community reception on May 3 at their office in Rosemead, CA. The new video will also debut at the event.

Look for more information about the event coming soon!



In the photo from left to right are Southern California Edison Senior Vice President of Customer Service and APIASF Board Member Erwin Furukawa, APIASF / Southern California Edison Scholarship Recipient Mei Xian Hsieh, and Executive Vice President for Southern California Edison's Power Delivery Services Lynda

Ziegler at the 2011 community reception.

Did You Know?

Nearly 50 percent of all Asian American and Pacific Islander students enrolled in higher education are attending community colleges.

To help share their stories, APIASF provided video cameras to some of these students to document their experience on and off-campus.

[Click here to hear their stories.](#)

Give the Gift of Education

Did you know that you can make a difference for a deserving Asian American or Pacific Islander Student? One gift to APIASF can support a student in achieving their dream of higher education.

[Click here to make a difference in the life of a student.](#)

Quick Links

[APIASF.org](#)

[Meet our Scholars](#)

[Scholarships](#)

[Translated Material](#)

[CARE Report](#)

[Donate Now](#)

[Forward email](#)



Try it FREE today.

This email was sent to ktranlam@apiasf.org by info@apiasf.org | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund | 1900 L Street NW | Suite 210 | Washington | DC | 20036