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Respondent

41 Anonymous

**247:07**  
Time to complete

### Application Information

1. Name: \*

Andra Verstraete

2. GCC Title/Position: \*

Director, Transfer Center, Career Services and Student Employment

3. Department: \*

Transfer Center

4. Campus: \*

Verdugo

Garfield

5. E-mail: \*

andrav@glendale.edu

6. Phone: \*

818-240-1000 Ext. 5405

7. Dean or Department Head's Name: \*

Drew Yamanishi

### Project Proposal

8. Name of Project/Program: \*

Transfer Center Campus Tours

9. Please select which category best describes your project: \*

- Arts & Culture
- Athletics & Fitness
- Career & Work Training
- College Operations & Facilities
- Humanities/Social Sciences
- Science & Technology

10. Amount requested: \*

\$9,000

11. What do you propose to do? \*

The Transfer Center seeks funding to expand its University Campus Tour Program during the 2026–2027 academic year. Our goal is to provide eight guided campus tours (four during the fall semester and four during the spring semester), to major transfer destinations throughout Southern California.

These tours will provide students with firsthand exposure to university environments, academic programs, campus resources, and transfer opportunities. By visiting campuses in person, students can better envision themselves as transfer students, increase their confidence in pursuing a bachelor's degree, and make more informed decisions about their educational goals.

This initiative is particularly important for first-generation and historically underrepresented students, who may have limited opportunities to explore four-year institutions on their own. The program is designed to increase awareness of transfer pathways, support educational planning, and encourage successful transfer outcomes.

12. Who will be involved in the project/program? \*

The program will be coordinated by the Transfer Center Director (Andra Verstraete), Transfer Center Coordinator (pending), Transfer Center Counselors (Kevin Meza, Nahal Ghodousi, and Melinda Ryan), and Transfer Center Student Programs and Services Specialist (Sarah Bejarano).

Transfer Center staff will work collaboratively with university admissions and outreach representatives to coordinate campus visits and student experiences. The primary participants will be GCC students interested in transferring to four-year institutions, with intentional outreach to first-generation and underrepresented student populations.

13. What are the benefits of this project/program to the students, college, and the community? \*

The University Campus Tour Program benefits students by increasing awareness of transfer opportunities, strengthening educational planning, and building confidence about pursuing a bachelor's degree. Experiencing a university campus firsthand allows students to better understand campus culture, available resources, academic programs, and transfer expectations.

The college benefits through increased student engagement, stronger transfer outcomes, and progress toward institutional goals related to equity, student success, and educational attainment. Campus tours help reinforce transfer as an achievable goal and encourage students to stay on track toward completion.

## 14. How does this project/program support the College's Institutional Strategic Plan? \*

View ISP at <https://www.glendale.edu/home/showpublisheddocument/68172>

The University Campus Tour Program directly supports Glendale Community College's 2025–2030 Institutional Strategic Plan, particularly Priority B: Success, Goal B.8, which calls for ensuring that all students are informed of transfer pathways and processes throughout their educational journey. By providing students with firsthand exposure to four-year institutions, the program increases awareness of transfer opportunities, strengthens transfer readiness, and supports the College's objective of increasing transfer rates to four-year universities.

The program also advances Priority A: Inclusion by expanding access to transfer exploration opportunities for first-generation and historically underrepresented students. Through intentional outreach and engagement, the project helps reduce barriers to transfer, promotes equitable educational outcomes, and supports GCC's commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility.

Additionally, the program strengthens relationships with transfer institutions, supporting Goal A.5's focus on expanding intersegmental partnerships and creating more effective pathways for student success. By helping students envision themselves as university students and better understand transfer expectations, the program contributes directly to GCC's mission of empowering students to achieve their educational, career, and life goals.

## 15. Timeline for the project/program. \*

The project will take place during the 2026–2027 academic year. Campus tours are planned for September, October, and November 2026, and March, April, and May 2027. Planning, student recruitment, registration, and assessment activities will occur throughout the academic year to support successful implementation of all eight tours.

## 16. How do you propose to use the funds requested? Please include specific budget information. \*

Grant funds will be used exclusively for student transportation to and from university campuses. Transportation is the primary expense associated with the program and is necessary to ensure equitable access for all participating students.

Based on current transportation rates, bus costs average approximately \$1,100–\$1,125 per tour. Funding of \$9,000 will support transportation for eight campus tours during the 2026–2027 academic year. Any remaining funds will be used to accommodate minor fluctuations in transportation costs.

## 17. Please list any other sources of funding you have applied for and include dollar amounts if already awarded. \*

N/A

## 18. How will the Foundation's support be recognized? \*

The Foundation's support will be recognized on promotional materials related to the campus tours, including flyers, digital communications, social media posts, and website announcements. Foundation support will also be acknowledged during student orientations for the tours and in program reports, presentations, and other communications highlighting the program's impact.

## 19. How do you plan to evaluate this project's success? \*

Program success will be evaluated through student participation data and post-tour surveys. Surveys will assess students' knowledge of transfer opportunities, confidence in pursuing transfer, understanding of university resources, and overall satisfaction with the experience.

The Transfer Center will also track participation across tours and review transfer-related engagement indicators, including student interest in transfer services and application activity when available.

## 20. If your project/program is successful, how will it inform your practice moving forward? \*

If successful, the program will demonstrate the value of experiential learning opportunities in supporting transfer readiness and student success. Survey results and participation data will help the Transfer Center identify effective practices for engaging students and increasing awareness of transfer pathways.

The information gathered will be used to improve future campus tours, strengthen transfer programming, and explore opportunities to expand the number of tours and university partnerships. Ultimately, the program can serve as a sustainable model for increasing transfer access and advancing equitable student outcomes.

## 21. Please provide a 2 – 3 sentence summary of your project proposal. \*

The Transfer Center is requesting \$9,000 to provide eight university campus tours during the 2026–2027 academic year. These tours will give students firsthand exposure to transfer destinations, helping them build confidence, explore educational opportunities, and make informed decisions about their academic futures. The program will especially benefit first-generation and historically underrepresented students by increasing access to experiences that support successful transfer outcomes.

## Signature and Acknowledgments

22. I hereby acknowledge/certify: \*

- My Dean or department head is aware of this application and has authorized its submission.
- If my proposal involves the hiring of temporary/contracted professionals, I will obtain approval from Human Resources before proceeding and will provide documentation to the Foundation that the hiring/contracting has been reviewed and approved.
- If my proposal involves conference and/or other travel, I will complete the GCC travel approval process and adhere to GCC travel guidelines.