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## News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### HEAD START TO SUCCESS PROGRAM AWARDS OVER \$12,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS TO LOCAL STUDENTS

El Paso, Texas (April 30, 2026) – The Head Start to Success Program, coordinated by Education Service Center Region 19, recognized local high school students for their commitment to college and career readiness during its annual scholarship awards ceremony, awarding \$12,100 in scholarships to graduating participants.

The program identified more than 1,800 students from across the region, with 59 high school juniors and seniors selected to participate in the cohort. Students completed eight college and career readiness sessions, while parents attended a session focused on personal financial literacy to help families support their students' educational goals.

This year, 18 students received scholarships, with awards ranging from \$100 to \$3,000, and 28 students attended the ceremony to celebrate their accomplishments with family members and community partners.

Top scholarship recipients included:

- **Mia Michelle Azpeitia** — **\$3,000**, Pebble Hills High School, pursuing Diagnostic Medical Sonography at El Paso Community College
- **Ashley Torres** — **\$2,000**, Horizon High School, pursuing Culinary Arts at Southwest University at El Paso
- **Alexis Dominguez** — **\$1,000**, Socorro High School, pursuing a path toward becoming a Dermatologist at The University of Texas at El Paso

In addition, Azapeitia (from Pebble Hills HS) and Moises Hernandez (\$750 recipient from Canutillo HS) received laptops donated by Junior Achievement USA for completing six micro-credentials on work skills needed to thrive in the workplace.

The success of the program is made possible through the collaboration of its Steering Committee partners, including Bank of America, Better Business Bureau, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, El Paso Community College, GECU, Grand Canyon University, Junior Achievement USA, Park University, Project Vida Health Center, Socorro Independent School District, Southwest University at El Paso, Strive Now, The University of Texas at El Paso, Western Technical College, and Workforce Solutions Borderplex.

The program continues to connect students with the resources, mentorship, and financial literacy skills needed to successfully pursue higher education and future careers.

For more information about the program, visit:

<https://tech.esc19.net/college-and-career-readiness/head-start-to-success-program>

For pictures from the awards ceremony on April 29, 2026, please visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.1598167438975903&type=3>