

February 2026

Dear Loyal Leo,

One of the first questions a student has when thinking about higher education is, “What will it really cost?” followed swiftly by “—and can I even afford that?”

When I joined the University of La Verne in 2020, I did so with admiration for the work already taking place here: students were being recruited and admitted on the basis of their merit, rather than on their ability to fund a private education; and we had a financial aid plan that made good on the promise of affordability for all. Leveraging scholarships, university grant funds, and resources from state and federal governments, we work to build that bridge we call “affordability” brick by brick—spanning the gap between what families have and what it takes to attain a high-quality education. By supporting those who need it most, the University of La Verne is a community that welcomes all who are dedicated to pursuing their education.

This method works! Every year we see that upwards of half of our undergraduate students are recipients of the federal Pell Grant—a resource limited to those families with the least ability to make their students’ dreams come true. More than that, 98% of our undergraduates receive some kind of financial aid, both to recognize their academic promise and to shorten the distance between dreams and reality. When it comes to how we serve those who need it most, we outpace our peer institutions substantially.

Even with our strategically developed methods, there are still times when the bridge stops short of the goal, and that is where your generosity makes all the difference. **Because of you,** we are able to target students with unsustainable funding gaps, ensuring they can stay enrolled and pursue their dreams of a ULV education. These students are often at a transition point in their academic journey, at risk of withdrawing over the concern of cost. Donors like you become the final step in completing the bridge and pursuing the dream. During the 2024-2025 academic year, we were able to provide nearly \$3 million in donor-supported scholarships to more than 1,100 students. None of that would have been possible without your generous and steadfast support.

Now more than ever, access to education remains the surest path towards a better future; and the University of La Verne has been [perennially recognized](#) as a national standout, and indeed the statewide leader in this area for advancing upward social mobility for our students. We hope you take great pride in the role you play in securing this recognition—and more importantly in making our students’ educational dreams a reality. Your investment is one that pays dividends in the form of strengthened communities, advancing science and knowledge, and engaging future leaders of society.

I am incredibly excited that next month we’ll start the process of building bridges for the 2026-2027 academic year; and I am eternally grateful for YOUR participation in this work: saying YES to students who need us, so they can say YES to their dreams.

With great appreciation,

Laura Evans
Director of Financial Aid

