

September 28, 2004- SBC GEAR-UP Grant

Rep. Sanchez Announces \$175,000 in
SBC – GEAR-UP Grants for Students in Orange County

SANTA ANA, Calif. – Today, Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez joined representatives from the SBC Foundation at McFadden Intermediate School to award \$175,000 in GEAR-UP grants to various educational institutions in Orange County.

The grants will support the following programs:

- McFadden Intermediate School; Santa Ana - Creation of the McFadden Mathematics Institute to provide additional math instruction to seventh and eighth graders- through technology-based materials to help boost performance and accelerate learning.
- Anaheim High School; Anaheim - Finance a new mathematics program at California State University, Fullerton, to help young women improve performance on standardized tests, prepare for college and learn more about careers in mathematics.
- The University of California, Irvine – The Center for Educational Partnerships will collect data to increase analysis and comparison with GEAR-UP programs across the United States.“I would like to thank SBC Foundation for their commitment to education and for investing in the students of Orange County,” said Sanchez. “These funds will empower our students to pursue college and launch professional careers. This is perfect example of how the private sector and the federal government can work together to improve our schools.”

Created by Congress in 1998 as a result of the Higher Education Amendment, the Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR-UP) creates new and expands existing academic programs designed to provide educational opportunities that will prepare low-income students for college.

“Mathematics is essential for the success of every student. Financial literacy enables individuals to become successful, manage their money wisely and contribute to the economy,” said Sanchez.

Sanchez currently serves as Chairwoman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Task Force on Banking and Finance and is committed to increasing financial literacy in minority communities by educating them on business and career opportunities.