

## EAST LOS ANGELES COLLEGE

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## ELAC Student Sophia Ayala to Intern with Congresswoman Linda Sanchez (38th District) for Hilda Solis Internship Program

MONTEREY PARK – East Los Angeles College has proudly announced its decision to send Sophia Ayala to Washington D.C. for the Hilda Solis Internship program this summer. This internship has awarded five students the opportunity to work in the nation's capital directly with members of the House of Representatives. "Students will be housed at the George Washington University dormitories and room and board, round-trip airfare to Washington D.C., and a stipend will be provided by our foundation", stated Paul De La Cerda, Dean and ELAC Foundation Executive Director.

"I'm excited and grateful for the opportunity to represent my college in Washington D.C. and can't wait to share the knowledge and experience I gain this summer with my peers at ELAC", said Ayala, a current Business student.

Sophia will be working with Representative Linda Sanchez, of the CA 38th Congressional District, which includes the cities of Norwalk, Whittier, Pico Rivera, Montebello and Cerritos. Sanchez is dedicated to numerous issues including; improving our education system through tackling matters such as cyber-bullying and early childhood education, reducing crime and advocating for working families' rights. In 2015, Sanchez was voted by her peers to serve as the Chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, a committee, which is dedicated to advocating for issues affecting the Latino and Hispanic communities. "I am proud to partner with ELAC to provide new opportunities for college students from the 38th Congressional District. Internship opportunities in Washington, D.C. offer a front row seat into the work of our nation's leaders and provide students with valuable experience", stated Linda Sanchez.

The Hilda Solis Internship Program is a great opportunity for students interested in pursuing a career in government service and gives them a rare look inside the workings of our legislative, political and administrative systems. "ELAC is committed to providing outside of the classroom experiences for its students and is proud to give this opportunity to such remarkable students", said Marvin Martinez, President of East Los Angeles College.

Sophia is a Business Major at East Los Angeles College. She graduated from La Serna High School and plans to transfer to UC Berkeley after completing her internship in Washington, D.C..

East Los Angeles College empowers students to achieve their educational goals, to expand their individual potential, and to successfully pursue their aspirations for a better future for themselves, their community and the world.

The ELAC Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, Federal Tax ID#33-0034221