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## **The Applied Materials Foundation Awards \$15,000 to College Forward *Grant Will Fund Nonprofit's Services at LBJ High School and Manor High School***

AUSTIN, TX – September 9, 2010 -- College Forward, a nonprofit organization that provides college access and college persistence services to economically disadvantaged students, was awarded \$15,000 by The Applied Materials Foundation to support the nonprofit's programs during the 2010-2011 academic year.

The grant highlights The Applied Materials Foundation's global philanthropic mission, which includes support of educational programs that provide underserved youth with increased access to a high-quality education aimed at preparing them for a more successful life.

This grant will support College Forward's free services at LBJ High School in the Austin Independent School District and Manor High School in the Manor Independent School District. College Forward expects to work with at least 75 students at the two schools. This year, the total number of clients the nonprofit serves will grow by nearly 34 percent to 1,900 students at the high school and college level.

"The Applied Materials Foundation is making a positive impact within communities by giving to organizations working on the ground level," said Lisa Fielder, founder and executive director of College Forward. "The Foundation helped us launch our program at LBJ High School in 2009, and we thank the Foundation for its ongoing support this year as demand for our innovative services continues to rise."

In the past year, The Applied Materials Foundation provided \$37,500 to support College Forward's series of Scholarship Success Workshops and expand its services to LBJ High School.

**ABOUT COLLEGE FORWARD:** College Forward provides college access and college persistence services to motivated, economically-disadvantaged students, in order to facilitate their transition to college and make the process exciting and rewarding. We believe that access to higher education is the right of every young Texan. [www.collegeforward.org](http://www.collegeforward.org)

**ABOUT THE APPLIED MATERIALS FOUNDATION:** The Applied Materials Foundation, a California nonprofit corporation qualified under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, was established in 1994 by Applied Materials, Inc., the global leader in Nanomanufacturing Technology™ solutions. The Foundation's mission is to make a positive social contribution in regions where Applied Materials, Inc.'s employees work and live through philanthropic investments in the areas of education, civic development, arts and culture, and the environment.

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