

## CUSTOMER SPOTLIGHT

## California Lutheran University

California Lutheran  
UNIVERSITY

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—Carol Lingrosso, Financial Aid Counselor

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Founded in 1959, California Lutheran University is home to more than 2,963 undergraduate and 1,273 graduate students who come from more than 45 countries and represent a wide variety of faiths. Both in the classroom and outside of it, everyone at Cal Lutheran is committed to helping each student pursue their passions to discover their purpose, and follow that purpose to transform their community—and the world.

### Multiple Award Systems Creating Multiple Problems

California Lutheran University completes two scholarship cycles each year: one in fall and one in spring. Each cycle used a completely different process than the other.

During the fall, the university used a reporting tool on campus to match all students to scholarships. Once this large report was done, students were notified of their award. Afterward, the advancement office began a completely separate process to collect donor acknowledgements, which often took months to finish.

California Lutheran University  
is powered by:

Blackbaud Award  
Management

In the spring, another scholarship management process was used to collect applications from both new and returning students who wished to apply for criteria-based, endowed scholarships. However, the system suffered from instability and browser limitations, which led to many challenges for both scholarship administrators and student applicants.

## Blackbaud Award Management: Providing a Single Solution

California Lutheran University chose Blackbaud Award Management to provide a single solution to manage both the fall and spring scholarship cycles.

Now in the fall cycle, data for all students is imported into Blackbaud Award Management from their student information system. Matching eligible students to endowed funds is simple. Once all the awards have been made, students receive an email from the advancement office telling them about the awarded funds and requesting any additional required information. Blackbaud Award Management also allows students to submit their donor acknowledgement directly online.



# 100

California Lutheran University received over 100 donor acknowledgements in the first few days



Now students submit their donor acknowledgement directly online

During the spring scholarship cycle, students apply for scholarships online using the same system. Once applications are completed, the financial aid staff easily matches students to endowed scholarships and again communicates awards to students directly through Blackbaud Award Management.

## Better Management: Improved Student and Donor Experience

With the assistance of Blackbaud Award Management, California Lutheran University's scholarship process is now streamlined and more efficient. Keeping all scholarship activities on campus in a single system has saved significant costs in time spent managing scholarships alone. "With Blackbaud Award Management, we are even able to manage departmental scholarships as well as those that are given out at completely different times throughout the year," said Carol Lingrosso, financial aid counselor at the university.

Donor stewardship has improved also, by speeding up donor acknowledgments. The Blackbaud Award Management solutions prompt recipients to write acknowledgments, which are then transmitted electronically to the financial aid office for dispersal.

"When we first moved this process online, we received over 100 donor acknowledgements in the first few days," notes Lingrosso.



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## Simplifying Scholarship Management

Blackbaud Award Management simultaneously unified two separate scholarship management systems and increased donor stewardship efforts for California Lutheran University. Please contact us to see how we can help your scholarship management efforts.

[Learn more](#)

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### About Blackbaud

Leading uniquely at the intersection point of technology and social good, Blackbaud connects and empowers organizations to increase their impact through software, services, expertise, and data intelligence. We serve the entire social good community, which includes nonprofits, foundations, corporations, education institutions, healthcare institutions, and the individual change agents who support them.

