

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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1,044 Top High School Seniors Awarded  
Full College Scholarships and Admission to Outstanding Colleges

Palo Alto, California (December 3, 2018) – QuestBridge is proud to announce the results of the 2018 QuestBridge National College Match, a national program that connects high-achieving, low-income high school seniors with full scholarships to the nation's top colleges. After receiving a record high of 16,248 applicants, QuestBridge selected 6,507 Finalists who were considered for the College Match Scholarship. Of these Finalists, 1,044 exceptional students hailing from 47 states and the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico have been selected as this year's College Match Scholarship Recipients. This represents 16% of our Finalists – our highest rate of matching of all time.

College Match Scholarship Recipients are admitted early to QuestBridge college partners with guaranteed, full four-year scholarships that are provided by the colleges and universities, ensuring these students and their families that an education at a top college can be affordable. QuestBridge's 40 college partners include top liberal arts colleges such as Amherst, Pomona, and Williams and exceptional research universities such as Columbia, Duke, Rice, Stanford, and Yale.

This marks our 15<sup>th</sup> year of matching students through the National College Match. Since 2003, the QuestBridge National College Match has successfully connected over 6,000 students with full scholarships at college partners. These 2018 College Match Scholarship Recipients become the first QuestBridge Scholars for the Class of 2023. Based on previous years, we expect that over 2,000 National College Match Finalists will be admitted later in the year through Early and Regular Decision processes. All Finalists who ultimately matriculate to QuestBridge college partners become QuestBridge Scholars. The QuestBridge Scholars Network now includes over 12,000 current students and alumni nationally.

"This year we are excited to connect a record number of bright, high-achieving students from low-income backgrounds to our college partners. Thanks to our partners' generosity, our QuestBridge

applicants can dream big – knowing that their hard work will truly pay off, and they will not have to worry about the cost of attending these outstanding colleges and universities,” said Ana McCullough, CEO and Co-Founder of QuestBridge.

The National College Match is a highly competitive process drawing applications from impressive students across the country. This year’s College Match Scholarship Recipients had an average unweighted GPA of 3.93. On standardized testing, the middle 50% received between 1360-1500 on the SAT and between 29-33 on the ACT. 94% are within the top 10% of their graduating class. Financially, their median household income is \$32,491 and 86% qualify for free or reduced-price lunch. The majority of these new QuestBridge Scholars – 77% – are also among the first generation in their families to attend a four-year U.S. college.

**About QuestBridge:**

QuestBridge, a national nonprofit based in Palo Alto, California, connects the nation’s most exceptional, low-income youth with leading institutions of higher education and further life opportunities. By recruiting, developing, and motivating these students – beginning in high school through college to their early career – QuestBridge aims help talented low-income students attend the nations’ best colleges and to support them to achieve success in their respective careers and communities.

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