



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thomas College Announces \$13.5 Million Grant from Harold Alfond Foundation, Launches Campaign

WATERVILLE, MAINE, October 14, 2020 – Thomas College announced today that it has received a \$13.5 million grant from the Harold Alfond Foundation and that with the gift, the College is launching its *Guarantee the Future* fundraising campaign.

The Harold Alfond Foundation's grant will support the College's sustained excellence and growth through the launch of new academic programs in leading-edge fields, enhanced student retention programs, expanded affordability initiatives, and a deepening of academic and employer community partnerships through the Harold Alfond Institute for Business Innovation.

"The Foundation's historic gift to Thomas College is a true vote of confidence in both the College's vision of providing unparalleled professional and career development that is affordable and grounded in a solid foundation of business, technology and innovation and our college's legacy of producing the workforce to catalyze economic growth," said Thomas President Laurie G. Lachance.

The Harold Alfond Foundation's philanthropic commitment is the largest in Thomas College's history. It helps to fuel the College's *Guarantee the Future* Campaign, with a total goal of \$27 million. In addition to the Foundation's gift, the Campaign aims to invest in scholarships and affordability; academic and student support programs; and a new athletic facility. Lachance notes that the effort is more than twice the College's last campaign and has less than a million dollars left to raise.

"Thomas has a strong history of growth and service to Maine students, especially first-generation students," said Campaign Co-Chair Doug Cutchin, a Thomas trustee. "The College's focused mission is one of the many reasons my family and I have enthusiastically supported Thomas, including through this Campaign. The Foundation's gift will have a catalytic effect on Thomas and the Maine economy."

About Thomas College: Thomas College has been preparing students for success in their personal and professional lives for over 125 years. Thomas College nurtures the unique potential within each student. Our Guaranteed Job Program, 3-year accelerated offerings in all undergraduate degrees, individualized advising, career counseling, and our Innovation Centers in Business and Education meet a student's determination to succeed with the direction, confidence, and tools to realize the highest version of themselves. Our graduate degree offerings fit your lifestyle ranging from in-person accelerated programs to evening online courses. From the classroom to community activities, or on the athletics field with our 19 varsity sports, Thomas College provides a personalized experience that prepares you for the workplace of tomorrow. Data reported by the New York Times ranks Thomas in the top 13 percent of all higher education institutions in the U.S. for upward mobility of its graduates, and U.S. News & World Report ranks us #7 among colleges in the Northeast. For more information, visit www.thomas.edu or contact MacKenzie Riley Young at pr@thomas.edu or 207-859-1313. Find us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).