

# Toyota Says Thanks a Million to Future STEM Scholars

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Georgetown, Ky. (April 29, 2016) — As Yogi Berra put it, “the future ain’t what it used to be.” The same could be said for manufacturing, which is why Toyota continues to invest in the people and institutions at the center of the industry’s future.

The latest, a \$1 million grant to Georgetown College from Toyota Motor North America, Inc., was announced today at an event on Georgetown College’s campus. The contribution will directly support education programs for students preparing for careers in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM), with an emphasis on future educators who will teach in a STEM-focused field.

The Georgetown, Ky., college neighbors Toyota’s largest manufacturing plant, Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Kentucky, Inc. (TMMK). Over the last 30 years, Toyota has partnered with Georgetown College on other scholarship initiatives, giving more than \$1.5 million prior to Friday’s announcement. Annually, Toyota’s Georgetown plant provides over \$171,000 in direct scholarships to Kentucky students attending colleges and universities across the state.

“At Toyota, we believe investing in education is an investment in our future, for our community and our company,” said Wil James, president of TMMK. “Partnering with institutions like Georgetown College to advance STEM opportunities won’t just have an impact on how we make cars in the future; we believe it will help shape the future of mobility for our society.”

Toyota is currently one of Kentucky’s largest employers with around 8,000 full-time employees. In 2017, the plant will become the home of Toyota’s North American production engineering headquarters, which will bring 600 engineers under roof in Georgetown.

In academic year 2016-2017, Georgetown College will have an estimated 350 students pursuing degrees in STEM-focused fields. With support from Toyota’s grant, approximately \$6 million will be awarded in direct aid scholarship funding to students in these fields of study. Each year, Georgetown College provides approximately \$17 million in total direct aid scholarships to students.

To create a multiplier effect, Toyota’s funding emphasizes providing opportunities for future STEM teachers.

“This generous gift from Toyota Motor North America affirms and will enable Georgetown College to strengthen its commitment to STEM programs already underway,” said the school’s President, Dr. M. Dwaine Greene, during Friday’s announcement. “I am thrilled that, with keen insight, Toyota has seen in Georgetown College not only an institution with an excellent reputation in the liberal arts, but an institution which also does superb work in the sciences and other STEM fields. We are grateful to Toyota for being part of the vision and future of Georgetown College.”