

Educational Opportunity Program



SUMMER 2004 • FALL 2004 • WINTER 2005 • SPRING 2005



*2004-2005 Information
and Application Forms*

Learn more about the CSU at www.csumentor.edu

The Program

What Is EOP?

The Educational Opportunity Program is designed to improve access and retention of low-income and educationally disadvantaged students. EOP students have the potential to perform satisfactorily in CSU but have not been able to realize their potential because of their economic or educational background. The program provides admission, academic, and financial assistance to EOP-eligible undergraduate students. Campuses tailor their programs to accommodate the needs of their student population.

What Can EOP Do for You?

EOP provides information to help you select a campus and assists you in completing the admission process. Once admitted as an EOP student, you may be eligible to enroll in an EOP summer program to strengthen your math, reading, or other skills. Orientation sessions are provided to help you learn about campus services and programs. During your enrollment in college, you can receive counseling, tutoring, and advising services. If you are eligible, an EOP grant may be awarded.

Who May Apply?

Only low-income and educationally disadvantaged undergraduate students who need admission assistance and support services to succeed in college are admitted to EOP. They must demonstrate academic potential and motivation, be California residents, and meet the income criteria stated (page 3). Applicants may access EOP information and download the EOP application forms from the Internet at: www.csumentor.edu/planning/eop.asp.

EOP Income Criteria

EOP applicants must meet the low-income guidelines listed on page 3 and demonstrate their family is unable to provide an annual contribution of more than \$1,500 toward their college expenses. Applicants whose total family income exceeds the guidelines may be considered if their family contribution does not exceed \$1,500. These guidelines are not intended to exclude disadvantaged students but to identify and give priority to the most financially needy applicants.

2004-2005 EOP Family Income Guidelines*

Dependent Students

Family Size	Maximum Income	Family Size	Maximum Income
2	\$29,600	6	\$47,400
3	\$32,700	7	\$51,200
4	\$37,600	8	\$55,200
5	\$42,200		

Independent Students

	Family Size	Maximum Income
Single, No Dependents	1	\$9,900
Married, No Dependents Other Than Spouse	2	\$17,300

For independent students with dependents other than, or in addition to, a spouse, use the income for the appropriate family size in the Dependent Student category.

These guidelines reflect an income level that will generate an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of approximately \$1,500. For dependent applicants, this contribution is based solely on the parental income and does not take into account any parental assets nor does it assume any contribution from the student's income or assets. For independent applicants, the contribution is based strictly on income with no consideration of available savings or other assets.

*2004-2005 table is based on the 2004-2005 Expected Family Contribution (EFC) formulas for federal student financial aid.

Financial Assistance

Students seeking admissions to EOP are required to file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This will allow the campus financial aid office to determine financial aid eligibility and consider the student for an EOP grant for up to \$2,000 per year. However, due to limited campus program funding, the average award per student is \$810. To be considered, you must apply for financial aid by filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Apply as soon as possible after January 1, 2004, and before the CSU financial aid priority filing date of March 2, 2004. EOP grants will be awarded only as long as funds are available. You will have a better chance of receiving an EOP grant and other financial aid for which you are eligible if you apply before March 2, 2004.

Application for financial aid is a separate process from the EOP admission process. See page 5 for more information about materials required for your financial aid application. For additional information about financial aid, please review the 2004-2005 CSU undergraduate application for admission booklet.

EOP Admission

CSU Admission Requirements

Freshman Requirements—You will qualify for admission as a first-time freshman if your grades and test scores reflect that you are in the upper third of California high school graduates and you have completed the subject requirements detailed in the 2004-2005 CSU undergraduate application for admission booklet.

Transfer Requirements—If you were eligible as a freshman, you may be eligible as a lower division transfer student (fewer than 56 transferable semester or 84 quarter units) with a grade point average of 2.0 (C) or better. If not eligible as a freshman, you must complete at least 56 semester units with a grade point average of 2.0 (C) or better, including specified college courses. The 2004-2005 CSU undergraduate application for admission booklet describes fully the transfer admission requirements.

You may be considered for admission to CSU if you do not meet these requirements. For additional information, consult with your school counselor.

EOP Selection Procedure

Once your EOP forms are received they will be reviewed carefully by a campus selection committee. The committee will consider such factors as disadvantaged background, financial need, academic performance, motivation, and potential for success in college. The committee may also look for any contributions that you have made or intend to make to your community, work experience, or the career you wish to pursue. Be sure to complete all forms accurately to assist the committee in understanding your academic preparation and motivation.

EOP applicants may be notified separately from both the Admission and EOP offices. Typically, EOP admission notices will be sent to fall applicants in May or June if they complete their files by campus priority deadlines. (Please check with the campus of your choice for specific campus deadlines.) Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and Cal Poly Pomona accept applications for fall quarter only. Applicants from high schools that have year-round schedules should plan on completing their EOP application materials earlier than usual to accommodate the school calendar.

Interviews and Skills Assessment

Some campuses use interviews and/or skills assessment testing to help in determining the types of services you are eligible to receive if admitted. The EOP Office at the CSU campus to which you apply will notify you if an assessment is required during the selection process.

How to Apply

All EOP applicants must submit the application materials requested by the campus Admission and EOP Offices. Applicants must submit the materials requested by the Financial Aid Office if they wish to be considered for an EOP grant or other financial assistance. You are required to include your Social Security number on EOP forms by authority contained in Title 5, California Code of Regulations, Section 41201.

Admission Materials

Apply for admission electronically at www.csumentor.edu or obtain a copy of the 2004-2005 systemwide undergraduate application for admission booklet and submit the following to the Admission Office:

1. On the undergraduate application for admission, complete Item 14a;
2. \$55 CSU application fee or Request to Waive Admission Application Fee Form (EOPS transfers from community college campuses should obtain an application fee waiver form from the community college EOPS Office);
3. High school and/or college transcripts, or GED score; and
4. SAT I, or ACT test score.

EOP Materials

In addition to the above materials, EOP applicants must submit these forms:

1. Applicant Information Form
2. Nomination Form
3. Autobiographical Statement
4. Recommendation Form
5. Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) if financial aid is needed.*

* Available from high school counselors and college financial aid offices. All EOP applicants should submit the FAFSA since it is used to determine EOP income eligibility. The same FAFSA will be used to determine eligibility for financial aid (see section below). EOP may request other forms of documentation if the FAFSA is not submitted.

EOP application deadlines vary from campus to campus. Check with the EOP and/or Admission Office at the campus you wish to attend for the EOP application deadline. The Applicant Information Form and Autobiographical Statement should be sent to EOP in the attached envelope, and the Nomination and Recommendation Forms should be sent to EOP by the person(s) completing them.

Financial Aid Materials

If you are applying for financial aid, the following materials must be submitted:

1. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) (submit by March 2, 2004). The FAFSA is available on the Web at www.csumentor.edu/finaid;
2. Copy of 2003 federal income tax (IRS Form 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ) and/or comparable nontaxable income documentation, and/or
3. The "Student Aid Report" (SAR) you will receive from the federal processor.

Apply Early

To receive priority consideration, the FAFSA must be sent to the processing service listed on the form prior to March 2, 2004. You must file the FAFSA and submit a verified grade point average (GPA) to the California Student Aid Commission by March 2, 2004, to apply for a Cal Grant. See your counselor to find out how to submit your GPA.

You should submit the required income verification and other documents requested by the campus Financial Aid Office as soon as possible.

2004-2005 Checklist of CSU Admission, EOP, and Financial Aid Applications and Forms

The following checklist can be used to keep a record of the materials submitted to complete your file. You will be notified by the appropriate office if additional documentation is necessary. As you complete and submit these materials, record the date sent or requested.

	Date Requested	Date Sent
Admission to the Campus		
1. The undergraduate application for admission		<input type="text"/>
2. \$55 CSU Application Fee (or Request to Waive Admission Application Fee Form)		<input type="text"/>
3. Official high school and/or college transcripts	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
4. SAT I, or ACT test score	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Educational Opportunity Program

1. Applicant Information Form		<input type="text"/>
2. Autobiographical Statement		<input type="text"/>
3. Nomination Form Person completing form: _____	<input type="text"/>	
4. Recommendation Form Person completing form: _____	<input type="text"/>	

Financial Aid

1. Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
2. Copy of 2003 federal income tax return (IRS Form 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ) and/or the untaxed income verification form if requested by the Financial Aid Office	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
3. Other documents requested by the Financial Aid Office: _____ _____ _____	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>

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