Policy on EOP Grant Awarding

PURPOSE:
To establish guidelines for the allocation of Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) financial aid funds to eligible students.

BACKGROUND:
The EOP enabling legislation (Senate Bill No. 1072) of March 1969 authorizes the CSU to provide grants and educational assistance to students from low-income, disadvantaged backgrounds who demonstrate the potential for success in the CSU curricula. Currently, the EOP at California State University Channel Islands (CSUCI) is funded through appropriations from the CSU Chancellor’s Office.

POLICY:
Accountability:
Vice President for Student Affairs or designee, Financial Aid & Scholarships office, EOP

Applicability:
EOP students at CSUCI

Definition(s):
EOP – Educational Opportunity Program - The Educational Opportunity Program is designed to improve academic support of low-income and educationally disadvantaged students. The EOP student has the potential to perform satisfactorily in the CSU but has not been able to realize this potential because of economic or educational background. The program provides admission, academic and financial assistance to EOP eligible undergraduate students.

Eligible EOP Student - An eligible EOP student is an economically and educationally disadvantaged student who has the potential to perform satisfactorily in CSU curricula and has officially been admitted to the program utilizing admission procedures defined in the EOP regulations. Priority consideration may be given to applicants meeting the above criteria who are members of underserved backgrounds (EOP Regulations & Guidelines, 1983-84, 1989).
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Text:
The priority for awarding an EOP financial grant is as follows:

1. All full-time, first-time students (admitted and accepted to EOP) will receive a minimum of $500 per year upon successful completion of Summer Bridge.
2. Continuing students, who are eligible, may be awarded an EOP grant based on one or more of the following: a) program participation (measured by Gold Card completion or similar participation tracking method), b) grade point average (GPA), c) financial need and/or d) funding available.

3. Continuing students may be awarded based on the following GPA ranges. The amount to be awarded for each range will be determined on remaining funding available after first year students are awarded:
   - Range 1: GPA of 2.99 or greater
   - Range 2: GPA between 2.75 and 2.98
   - Range 3: GPA between 2.50 and 2.74
   - Range 4: GPA between 2.00 and 2.49
   - Range 5: GPA below 2.00

Approval of grant eligibility for less than full-time enrollment must be confirmed by the EOP Student Success & Outreach Programs (SSOP) Retention Assistant AVP, EOP Director or designee.

If a student’s enrollment falls below full-time status (12 unit or less), after the designated add/drop period, during the initial change of program period, the EOP grant award may be cancelled, and the student may be required to return funds to the University.

There will be no attempt to recover EOP funds from students who drop below full-time status after census, and receive a grade of “W” on the official transcript.

Prior to the start of each term, EOP will provide a list of entering and continuing EOP students to the Financial Aid & Scholarships office. If any student is discontinued from the program, the Financial Aid office & Scholarships should be notified immediately by EOP.

According to Senate Bill 1072, Section 31226.5, records of the academic progress of each student attending college under a grant shall be kept by the trustees in order that the program created by this chapter may be evaluated. An eligible new enrollee shall participate in EOP services on the basis of need or as required by the EOP Assistant EOP Director or designee of SSOP (EOP Regulations and Guidelines, 1983-1984, 1989).
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EOP students must be in complete compliance with the following requirements:

1. Meet criteria for Pell eligibility
2. Schedule and attend a minimum of two (2) appointments per year with an EOP Counselor
3. Attend all classes
4. Enroll in at least 12 units each semester
5. Maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) or have created an action plan with an EOP Counselor or EOP staff to improve GPA
6. Complete all requirements as stated on the semester EOP Gold Card
7. Notify the EOP Counselor immediately of any major factors that affect the student’s status (e.g., change of schedule, change of address, change of phone number, extended illness and/or withdrawal from the University)
9. Students who do not fulfill these responsibilities will be subject to administrative probation or termination from the program

EXHIBIT(S):
Educational Opportunity Program California State University EOP