The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (OFA&S) administers a number of financial aid programs to enable students without adequate financial resources to attend California State University, Bakersfield (CSUB). Students are encouraged to contact the OFA&S for specific application instructions, and/or visit our website at www.csub.edu/finaid for information on: How to Apply - a General Overview of the Financial Aid Application & Delivery Process; Tips for Success; and, simplified Checklists to assist with a smooth transition to CSUB. The priority filing date for financial aid consideration for all CSU campuses is March 2 prior to the beginning of each new academic year. Applications for financial aid will be accepted after the priority date, but awards to late applicants are dependent upon the availability of funds.

A qualified applicant who has submitted all required verification documentation will be considered for a “financial aid package” which may include monies from one, or a combination of some, of the following programs:

**GRANTS/FELLOWSHIPS**

Grants and fellowships are disbursed to students for education-related expenses and do not need to be repaid unless the student withdraws from all classes prior to completion of 60% of the quarter.

**Athletic Grant-in-Aid.** Athletic Grant-in-Aid is a CSUB grant program for student-athletes. Eligibility is determined by the CSUB Athletic Department and is awarded in accordance with National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) regulations.

**Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Grant.** Native American students who can prove membership in a federally recognized tribe may receive education grants from the Federal Bureau of Indian Affairs. If you are a member of a California tribe, contact the Bureau’s Office of Indian Education, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825, phone (916) 978-6000.

**California Chafee Grant.** This program provides up to $5,000 annually to current or former foster youth to use for vocational school training or college expenses. In order to apply, you must be enrolled in a:
- Vocational school or college that is Title IV eligible
- Course of study of at least half-time
- Course of study that is at least one year long and is Title IV eligible

In addition, you must maintain satisfactory academic progress through your course of study.

To apply, you must:
- Be eligible, or have been eligible for foster care, between your 16th and 18th birthday, and not have reached your 22nd birthday as of July 1 of the award year.
- File two forms:
  1. A Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Students without a Social Security number, or who are unable to complete a FAFSA, may contact the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) for further instructions and assistance.
  2. A California Chafee Grant Program Application must also be submitted. Send it to the CSAC. The form is on the CSAC website at www.chafee.csac.ca.gov. Or, call the CSAC at phone 1-888-224-7268 and request an application.

The CSAC will review your FAFSA and your Chafee Grant Application. The California Department of Social Services will verify your Independent Living Program (ILP) status, and your school financial aid office will determine your financial aid eligibility. At that time, the CSAC will send you a letter to tell you if you are eligible to receive a grant or not.

**Cal Grant Program.** The Cal Grant Program is a state-funded educational opportunity grant program administered by the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) to assist undergraduate students in paying for a college education. Recipients of these 4-year renewable undergraduate awards may request a fifth year of funding while enrolled in specific coursework in post-baccalaureate teaching credential programs. The final filing deadline for these programs is March 2 prior to the beginning of each new academic year.

**Cal Grant A Entitlement Award.** This award provides grant funds to help pay tuition/fees for California residents at qualifying for-credit instructional programs of not less than two academic years. These awards are guaranteed for those students who have a high school GPA of no less than 3.0 and meet the established program eligibility criteria.

**Cal Grant B Entitlement Award.** This award provides grant funds for “access costs” for low-income students in an amount not to exceed $1,551 during their first year of Cal Grant B benefits. This grant is to be used to pay living expenses and expenses related to transportation, books, and supplies. Beginning with the second year of Cal Grant B benefits, Cal Grant B also helps pay for tuition/fees for California residents attending qualifying
institutions offering a baccalaureate degree. These awards are also guaranteed for those students who have a high school GPA of no less than 2.0 and meet the established program eligibility criteria.

**California Community College Transfer Entitlement Award.** This award is offered to California Community College students who were not awarded Cal Grant As or Bs within a year of graduating from high school, but meet certain requirements at the time of transfer from a California Community College to a qualifying institution offering a baccalaureate degree. These awards are also guaranteed for those students who have a Community College GPA of at least 2.4 and meet the established program eligibility criteria. They can represent the equivalent of either a Cal Grant A or B award.

**Competitive Cal Grant A and B Award.** This award is to be used for the same purposes as the Cal Grant A and B Entitlement awards, except that they are not guaranteed. The award is based on a competitive basis and intended for students who did not receive an entitlement award and are from low- and middle-income families.

**Fifth Year Benefits Award.** This award is for Cal Grant recipients who are enrolled in a mandatory five-year undergraduate program, which requires all participants to complete more than four years of undergraduate study.

**CSU Graduate Equity Fellowship Program.** This program seeks to increase the diversity of students completing Graduate degree programs in the CSU and encourages continuation on to doctoral programs and consideration of university faculty careers. It provides fellowships for economically disadvantaged CSU students, especially those from groups that are underrepresented among Graduate degree recipients in their areas of study, and promotes faculty mentoring and research opportunities. Fellowships are administered through the Office of Graduate Studies on a competitive basis for Graduate students. Individual fellowship awards typically range from a minimum of $500 to a maximum of $4,500 with an average award approximating $1,500 for the academic year. Students may apply by filing a FAFSA. Contact the Office of Graduate Studies (661) 654-2275 or write: EOP Office, California State University, Bakersfield, 9001 Stockdale Highway, Bakersfield, California 93311-1099.

**Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) Grants.** This is a state-funded program limited to undergraduates admitted to California State University, Bakersfield through the Educational Opportunity Program. To be eligible for the EOP grant, a student must be disadvantaged according to criteria established by state regulations, and be enrolled at least half time. This program currently provides up to a maximum of $600 annually, based on available funding, to students enrolled in the EOP program. Apply by contacting the EOP Office at (661) 654-2275 or write: EOP Office, California State University, Bakersfield, 9001 Stockdale Highway, Bakersfield, California 93311-1099.

**Federal Pell Grant.** The Federal Pell Grant program is the largest federal student-grant program. Eligibility was previously limited to Undergraduate students for up to five years of full-time attendance. As a result of the Higher Education Act Amendments of 1998, students enrolled at least half-time in teacher preparation post-baccalaureate programs leading to an initial teaching credential are now also eligible. Eligibility for a Pell Grant is dictated by the federal government according to a formula developed by the U.S. Department of Education and Congress. Pell Grant awards for full-time students currently range from $555 to $5,550 annually, but may change from year to year depending on Congressional appropriations. Apply by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

**Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG).** The FSEOG program is a federally-funded program that is designed to supplement other sources of financial aid for Undergraduate students who demonstrate exceptional financial need. Typically, the average award at CSUB is $600 for the academic year because funds are not sufficient to meet the needs of all eligible students. A student’s eligibility for FSEOG is determined by information submitted to the Financial Aid Office on the FAFSA.

**National Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG) Program.** The Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005 (HERA) was signed into law by President Bush on February 8, 2006, and is set to expire on June 30, 2011. This Act created the new Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG) Program to be awarded to eligible students in their 1st and/or 2nd year of study. The U.S. Department of Education (USDE) uses the information collected on the FAFSA to identify potentially eligible students and notifies the university. The maximum 1st year ACG award is $750, and the maximum 2nd year ACG award is $1,300. Students do not need to contact the Office of Admissions or the OFA&S. Confirmation of eligibility will be performed automatically each term.

**National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent (SMART) Grant Program.** The Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005 (HERA) was signed into law by President Bush on February 8, 2006, and is set to expire on June 30, 2011. This Act created the new National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent (SMART) Grant Program to be awarded to eligible students in their 3rd and/or 4th year of study. The university will identify students enrolled in eligible mathematics and science majors, confirm that the
students meet all of the other eligibility criteria, and notify students of their awards each quarter. The maximum 3rd year SMART award is $4000, and the maximum 4th year SMART award is $4,000. Students do not need to contact the Office of Admissions or the OFA&S. Confirmation of eligibility will be performed automatically each term.

Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students (SDS). Funding for this program is provided by the U.S. Health and Human Service Department (HRSA), and awarded to eligible institutions. If funds are available, this program may assist bona fide nursing students from disadvantaged backgrounds who are enrolled as full-time students. Scholarship awards vary and may cover tuition and required fees, books and supplies, and reasonable living expenses incurred while enrolled in school as a full-time student. Bona fide nursing candidates interested in being considered for the SDS Program should contact the Nursing department at (661) 654-3102 or the Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships at (661) 654-3016 for additional information.

State University Grant. The State University Grant (SUG) is a California State University (CSU) funded grant, intended for needy students who are legal residents of California. The California State University Chancellor defines eligibility criteria for award priorities, as well as amounts of the grant. Priority awarding consideration will be given to undergraduate, post-baccalaureate, and graduate students who are considered “on-time” financial aid applicants, have exceptional financial “need,” are enrolled full-time, and who have not exceeded 150% of the unit requirement for graduation from their first undergraduate, teacher credential, or graduate degree program.

LOANS

Some financial aid programs allow eligible students to borrow money to pay their living and educational expenses. Various short-term and long-term loan programs are available to both students and/or their parents. Students must be enrolled at least half-time to be eligible for federal student loans. For more detailed information on the types of loans available, their terms, and borrowing limits, please refer to our web page at http://www.csu.edu/finaid/aid/loan/index.shtml

EMPLOYMENT

Part-time employment opportunities are available on and off campus.

Federal Work-Study. Through the Federal Work-Study Program (FWS), eligible undergraduate and graduate students may work part-time (up to 20 hours per week) and earn money to help pay for their educational expenses. Limited Work-Study funds are awarded to students as part of their financial aid award package. Students awarded Work-Study should follow the New Work-Study Placement procedures outlined on our web page at http://www.csu.edu/finaid/aid/work/fws.shtml Apply by completing the FAFSA.

America Reads/Counts Programs. CSUB also participates in the America Reads/Counts programs, which are federal initiatives that challenge universities to train work-study eligible students to provide tutoring of reading and mathematics to local elementary/middle school children performing below grade level. These programs are part of the Federal Work-Study program. Students interested in participating in this program should contact the Federal Work-Study Coordinator in the OFA&S at phone 654-3016.

Student Assistant (on campus) & Part-time (off campus) Employment. Student Assistant employment is available on campus and eligibility is not based on financial need. Part-time, off-campus employment is available to all students as well. Positions are advertised in the Community Engagement and Career Education (CECE) Development located in the Student Center, phone (661) 654-3033.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The purpose of the University’s scholarship program is to provide monetary support and public recognition to students who have demonstrated academic excellence in the classroom. CSUB’s growing scholarship program encompasses campus-wide, school/departmental, and community-based scholarships that are awarded by donors and/or respective scholarship committees. Scholarship awards typically range from $300 to $2,500, and are usually disbursed on a quarterly basis. CSUB students may apply for CSUB campus-based scholarships online at http://www.csu.edu/finaid/scholarships/scholarships.shtml. The priority application filing period is February 1st to March 15th each year.

REQUIREMENTS

The Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships (OFA&S) requires that full-time undergraduate student aid recipients, and post-baccalaureate Teacher Credential student aid recipients, must enroll in and satisfactorily complete 12 units per quarter toward their stated degree objective. Full-time Graduate students must enroll in and satisfactorily complete 8 units (which should consist of 500 and 600-level coursework) per quarter toward their stated degree objective. Graduate students will not receive credit for courses numbered below 300.
For those undergraduate and credential students who are receiving financial aid based on enrollment of less than full-time, their unit expectation is prorated based on their part-time enrollment as follows:

**Undergraduate and Teacher Credential Enrollment Requirements**

- Less than half-time: 1 - 5 units
- Half-time: 6 - 8 units
- Three-quarter time: 9 - 11 units
- Full-time: 12 or more units

The unit expectation for graduate students is as follows:

**Graduate Enrollment Requirements**

- Less than half-time: 1 - 3 units
- Half-time: 4 - 5 units
- Three-quarter time: 6 - 7 units
- Full-time: 8 or more units

**NOTE:** Students must be enrolled at least half-time for eligibility in most federal and state student financial aid programs.

**Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP).** In accordance with regulations that govern federal and state financial aid programs, California State University, Bakersfield (CSUB) is required to establish, publish, and consistently apply reasonable standards for measuring a student’s academic progress. Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) must include both a qualitative component (e.g. GPA) and a quantitative component (e.g. percent of units completed). Both components must be cumulative in nature, and must be evaluated by the University at least once per year to certify the student’s SAP.

Student eligibility for all federal, state, and institutional financial aid programs is affected by this policy. It is the responsibility of every CSUB financial aid recipient to read, understand, and comply with these standards of eligibility. Students may view the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) guidelines in full detail on our website at [http://www.csub.edu/finaid/requirements/sap.html](http://www.csub.edu/finaid/requirements/sap.html)

**STUDENT RIGHTS**

Financial aid recipients are advised of their rights with respect to their financial aid and scholarship records and of their right to appeal certain types of decisions made by the OFA&S. In consideration of limited catalog space, these rights are referenced in this section and students are referred to the OFA&S website at [http://www.csub.edu/finaid/enrollment.shtml](http://www.csub.edu/finaid/enrollment.shtml) for more detailed information.

**Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).** The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act affords students certain rights with respect to their educational records including: 1) the right to inspect and review their educational records within 45 days of the day the University receives a request for access; 2) the right to request the amendment of their educational records that they believe are inaccurate; and 3) the right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in their educational records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

**WITHDRAWAL**

Financial aid recipients who completely withdraw from CSUB will be subject to a pro-rata calculation of “earned” Title IV aid based on the withdrawal date and the requisite return of federal Title IV funds to the appropriate accounts. Responsibility for repayment of these funds will be shared by CSUB and you, according to policies and procedures contained within the federal formula for pro-rata refunds of unearned Title IV aid. The portion of unearned Title IV funds that must be repaid by you and CSUB is calculated by the Financial Aid and Scholarship Office. The percentage of earned Title IV funds, excluding Federal Work-Study, is based on the number of calendar days you completed before withdrawing, divided by the number of calendar days in the quarter. No repayment of Title IV funds will be required for withdrawals occurring after the 60% point of the quarter. Withdrawal BEFORE the first day of classes of a quarter, but AFTER you have received payment for that quarter requires 100 percent repayment of all funds paid to the student, including student loans of any kind. If you are required to repay a portion of your aid due to having withdrawn, you will need to discuss options for repayment with the CSUB Student Financial Services Office.

**Important Note:** Financial Aid Withdrawal Calculations by the CSUB Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships are separate from the Fee Calculations by the CSUB Student Financial Services Office (Bursar). A student who withdraws may not owe a balance to the university, but may still owe all or part of their student loans to their lender.

For more information on withdrawal calculations and process please refer to the information posted on the CSUB Financial Aid website at [http://www.csub.edu/finaid/](http://www.csub.edu/finaid/)