

Financial Aid Information for Exchange Students

What student exchange programs are offered through California State University, Bakersfield?

The CSUB Office of International Students & Programs (ISP) offers information, guidance and support to those students who are interested in participating in any of the following three Student Exchange Programs offered by the University. The ISP website is <http://www.csub.edu/ISP/> or you may call (661) 664-2014.

National Student Exchange (NSE) Program: The NSE program provides opportunities for undergraduate student exchange at more than 175 institutions of higher education located throughout the United States and Canada. Through the NSE, a student can typically study for up to one academic year at another eligible institution. The National Student Exchange *Directory of Exchange Opportunities* is available at the CSUB Office of Admissions & Records or online at <http://www.nse.org>.

CSU International Programs (IP): The IP program provides opportunities for undergraduate or graduate-level student exchange at more than 50 distinguished universities and other institutions of higher education in 18 countries where you can pursue course work for CSU resident credit. Through the CSU IP program, a student can study for up to one academic year at another eligible institution. Information about the IP program is available at the CSUB Office of International Students and Programs, from Dr. William Perry, Assistant Vice President, Student Life, <mailto:wperry@csub.edu>, Dr. Kaye Bragg, Chair of Political Science, <mailto:kbragg@csub.edu>, or online at http://www.csub.edu/ISP/csu_programs.htx.

International Student Exchange Program (ISEP): The ISEP program provides opportunities for undergraduate or graduate-level student exchange at more than 245 institutions of higher education located throughout the United States and 35 other countries. The program is administered by a central office in Washington, DC, and by the designated coordinator at each member institution. The program is designed so that students exchanged throughout the ISEP network pay all of their fees, including room and board, to their home institution, but attend classes at a host institution, with no money changing hands. Through the ISEP program, students may study at another eligible location ranging from one academic term up to two years. Information about ISEP is available at the CSUB Office of International Students and Programs or online at <http://www.isep.org/>.

As an exchange student, can I qualify for financial aid?

The CSUB Office of International Students & Programs (ISP) can assist you in choosing an eligible exchange program. Students are eligible for financial aid to attend most of the institutions in the exchange program. However, please make an appointment with John Casdorff, Associate Director, in the Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships to verify your financial aid eligibility at the visiting institution prior to applying to an exchange program.

How financial aid applied to my exchange program costs?

Applying for financial aid for exchange programs is the same process as applying for aid as a CSUB main-campus student. You need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). By filing the FAFSA you are applying for federal/state grants and/or student loans. We encourage you to apply by the March 2 priority date for the upcoming academic year. FAFSA on the web is located at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>.

Do I qualify for any additional financial aid to assist with my exchange program costs?

For most programs, your eligibility is based on CSU Bakersfield's standard cost of attendance for in living off-campus housing. In some circumstances, the ISP Coordinator can provide the Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships with documented proof of higher expected costs for your specific exchange program. This may increase your overall student loan eligibility, if you are not already awarded the yearly maximum.

What financial aid regulations must I observe so as to not jeopardize my aid eligibility?

Exchange students, like all other CSUB financial aid students, must meet the campus Satisfactory Academic Progress Standards listed online at: <http://www.csub.edu/FinAid/requirements/sap.html>. In addition, exchange students must be aware that their exchange program units cannot exceed 25% of their total CSUB degree/program unit requirements.