

Textbooks for Income Eligible Students

Project Personnel

Total Award Amount \$75,000

Project Director

Name: Christi Chisler
Title: Associate Vice President
College: Student Affairs Administration

Co-Project Director

Name: Kevin Colaner
Title: Associate Vice President
Department: Student Services

Co-Project Director

Name: Celeste Salinas
Title: Administrator in Charge
Department: Children's Center

Co-Project Director

Name: Patricia Duran
Title: Program Coordinator
Department: ARCHES

Project Description

The Cal Poly Pomona Children's Center and ARCHES are proposing to use Kellogg Legacy Funds to assist low income student parents and students with high financial need to help in the purchase of textbooks. Both of these programs serve economically disadvantaged students as determined by their eligibility for their respective programs. In the Children's Center student parents whose income falls below 75% of the state median income are eligible for subsidized child care. These same students are often also first generation and from underrepresented populations. They struggle to balance the demands of earning their degree along with the demands of providing for their families and ensuring their children are being cared for in a safe environment.

The demographics of ARCHES students meet the common defining classification of "disadvantaged students" which includes first-generation and low-income. The additional category that places students at a disadvantage towards engaging and accessing their education equally is those classified with disabilities. Forty-five percent of our students meet the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services definition of low-income, which is an individual whose family's taxable income did not exceed the 150% of the poverty level amount. Forty-two percent of our students transferred from a community college and find themselves exhausting their access to financial aid because of the unit caps of 280.

The actual award amount will be \$250/quarter. In 2013-14 there were approximately 115 students in these programs who fully met or exceeded this requirement so we do not anticipate any difficulty fully allocating these funds. If there are any remaining funds they will be used to award book grants to Renaissance Scholars and Veterans who meet the same criteria.

The students will have to apply through the established Financial Aid scholarship system and will be awarded based on participation in the programs, good academic standing and demonstrated financial need. The offices will work closely with Financial Aid to ensure the book scholarship does not replace other free aid.

Currently, the programs have no funding source to assist students in the purchase of textbooks. For both of these programs this award will assist in meeting the required institutional support component of Federal and State grants.