



# EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM



## OUR MISSION

We are dedicated to making a positive difference in the lives of students through a broad range of high-quality programs and services that promote access and equity, transition, and educational opportunities in support of student learning and success; thus, empowering them to become educated and engaged citizens who go on to lead productive and meaningful lives.



## OUR HISTORY

EOP emerged from the Civil Rights movement, established in 1969, as a response to the call for access and equity in higher education. As a result of this hard-fought student-led campaign, there is an EOP at every California State University campus to provide support services for its students. At Cal Poly Pomona, EOP continues to operate today as the University's first and most comprehensive postsecondary access and equity program. EOP serves historically low-income California residents who demonstrate the motivation and potential to succeed in college.



## EQUITY & ACCESS

We promote EQUITY by providing students with a range of services throughout their enrollment if they maintain full-time status, make satisfactory academic progress, and fulfill program requirements. Although 99% of EOP students entering Cal Poly Pomona meet the University's regular admission requirements, we provide ACCESS for a limited number of first-time freshmen who do not qualify.



# EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

## APPLICATION & SERVICES

### Who May Apply to EOP?

Undergraduate students who are:

- Eligible based on EOP Income Guidelines
- California residents (in-state tuition status)
- First-time applicant to the CSU System
- First-generation: neither of your natural/adoptive parents received a four-year college degree

*"EOP offers the resources that are essential for students to succeed. It offers you a helping hand as long as you are willing to take its grasps"*

—German Lagunas-Robles, Sociology

*"EOP to me is a head start in life. I've learned many skills that essentially help me throughout my career. I don't know where I would be without the tutoring and advisors. EOP is a great program that is only there to help others!"*

—Carla Vance, Business Administration-MHR

PROUD TO BE  
**EOP**

### SUMMER/TRANSFER BRIDGE

First-year college and transfer EOP students may participate in Summer Bridge or Transfer Bridge. This award-winning program offers academic and support services, workshops, and seminars which build academic skills needed to be successful at Cal Poly Pomona. The program provides a unique opportunity to become acquainted with campus departments and resources, develop friendships, and experience campus life before officially beginning as a Bronco.

### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

EOP students whose expected family contribution (EFC) does not exceed \$1,500 may be eligible to receive an EOP Grant. EOP grants will be awarded to eligible students pending availability of EOP funds. We encourage all students to apply for other grant and scholarship opportunities.

### STUDY ROOM

A dedicated space is available for all EOP students providing a quiet area for focused study within our department.

### ENGAGEMENT

In collaboration with the EOP Student Union, fun events are offered throughout the year, along with college success seminars to foster community.

### EOP LEARNING CENTER

EOP students have unlimited access to the EOP Learning Center. Students can partner with Learning Strategists in 1-to-1 sessions or a study group to go over course content, polish essays and assignments, and learn the skills and strategies necessary for success in their courses.

### ACADEMIC ADVISING

A team of knowledgeable, caring professional academic advisors provide supplemental advisement and success coaching to EOP students. Our advisors use a holistic approach to guide students in the transition to and through the University to achieve their educational and career goals.

## HOW TO APPLY

- 1 Complete the Cal State Apply application between Oct. 1 and Dec. 15. Check "yes" to the question, "Do you wish to apply to the Educational Opportunity Program?"
- 2 Submit the EOP application portion by Jan. 15, it is part of the Supplemental Information tile of your Cal State Apply application.
- 3 Request and confirm via Cal State Apply that two recommendation forms have been completed by your recommenders online by Jan. 31.
- 4 Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or CA Dream Act Application by March 2 (Apply as early as Oct. 1)

## IMPORTANT DEADLINES

DEC  
**15**

CSU  
Application

JAN  
**15**

EOP  
Application

JAN  
**31**

Recommendation  
Forms

MAR  
**2**

FAFSA or CA  
Dream Act App.



# RENAISSANCE SCHOLARS

EMPOWERING FORMER FOSTER YOUTH THROUGH HIGHER EDUCATION

## WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY:

*"I feel like I belong here and can succeed in college. I've also learned that I am not alone, and I have gained a stronger sense of self-confidence and motivation."*  
-1<sup>st</sup> year Renaissance Scholar

*"Renaissance Scholars gave me the support I needed when things were hard going through my transition from community college to university. It also helped me understand how important it is to build a support system at school, and I used those skills to transfer into building relationships outside of the program"*  
-Transfer Renaissance Scholar

*"Renaissance Scholars allowed me to see that I am more than the unfortunate circumstances I was born into, more than my trauma and mental illness. Through my years of being a Renaissance Scholar, I have learned I am worthy of love, a high-quality education, and high-quality care."*  
-Renaissance Scholars Alumni



## WHO WE ARE

Launched in 2002, Renaissance Scholars (RS) is a comprehensive program dedicated to support the success of current and former foster youth attending Cal Poly Pomona to complete a bachelor's degree. This innovative program draws its holistic service model from the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) and the Casey Family Programs' It's My Life Framework for Transitioning Foster Youth. In partnership with EOP, eligible RS participants are also members of the Educational Opportunity Program and have access to EOP services.



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## OUR VALUES

We strive for excellence in everything we do. We emphasize **learning**, demonstrate **resiliency**, encourage and model **wellness**, act with **integrity**, exemplify personal and social **responsibility**, and cherish **relationships** with others.



# RENAISSANCE SCHOLARS

## PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

Applicants interested in being considered for Renaissance Scholars must meet **all the following criteria:**

- Must be a current or former foster youth (must have been in foster care on or after your 13th birthday)
- (Adoption and reunification cases will be reviewed for consideration on a case-by-case basis)
- Must qualify as an "Independent" student under federal financial aid guidelines
- Must be a California resident or an AB 540/2000 nonresident tuition exemption student

## HOW TO APPLY

- 1 Apply for undergraduate admissions to Cal Poly Pomona through [Cal State Apply](#) between October 1st - December 15th
- 2 Within Cal State Apply, complete the [Educational Opportunity Program \(EOP\)](#) application by January 15th, and submit the two online recommendation forms by the January 31st deadline.
- 3 Apply to the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#) or [California Dream Act Application \(CADAA\)](#) between October 1st - March 2nd
- 4 Complete the online [Renaissance Scholars \(RS\)](#) application by the January 15th deadline.
- 5 All eligible applicants will be invited to a program interview as a final step in the application process. (Interviews: February - March)

## IMPORTANT DEADLINES



CSU Application



EOP Application



RS Application



Recommendation Forms



FAFSA or CA Dream Act App.

**PROGRAM BENEFITS** Renaissance Scholars provides current and former foster youth students with critical educational resources and a supportive environment that are key in assisting students to obtain their bachelor's degree. The program provides the following:



Financial Assistance (Scholarship & Emergency Funding)



Access to On-Campus Housing (Year-Round)



Priority Registration



Summer Bridge/Transfer Bridge



Renaissance Scholars Success Seminars (Life-skills and Transition)



Academic Advising



Peer Mentoring



Academic Skills Development and Tutorial Services



Mental Health Counseling Services



Basic Health Care Services & Education



Student Engagement Activities (Fall Kick-Off Retreat, Winter Retreat, Celebration of Excellence)



Leadership Development and Educational Enrichment Opportunities (Community Service & Financial Literacy Workshops)



## Mission Statement

The Bronco Dreamers Resource Center supports the holistic success (academic, personal, professional) of undocumented students at Cal Poly Pomona. Its purpose is to educate about current issues and to convene campus allies in dialogue of undocumented relations and support. The USS is a safe space where undocumented students can access resources and build connections with one another.



## Programs

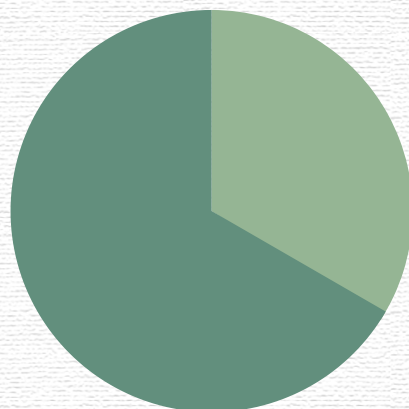
**UndocuGraduation:** Established in 2017, this community event celebrates the strength of undocumented students and allies on campus through a graduation ceremony and an acknowledgment of students' community cultural wealth.

**Dreamers Ally Training:** A training that educates the campus community about the experiences of undocumented students and how to support the success of undocumented students. Participants can pledge to become an ally after completing the training.

**Ambassadors Program 2021:** Students will have the opportunity to become mentored by current students

**STEAM2 Dream:** As a STEAM driven campus, many of our undocumented students study within the science, technology, engineering, agriculture, mathematics, and medical fields. STEAM2Dream is an on-campus peer mentorship program that focuses on providing one-on-one mentoring to undocumented students in these STEAM fields. Ambassadors Program 2021: Students will have the opportunity to become mentored by current students

Mentees  
66.7%



Mentors  
33.3%

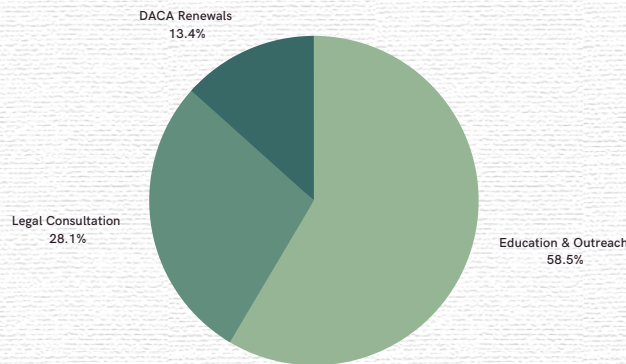
## Services Provided

**Resource Center:** The BDRC provides a safe space for all students to study, hang out, and build community with one another. The BDRC provides free printing, microwave, fridge, and a space for hosting events and meetings.

**Career Center Liaison:** Meet with our Liaison and Career Center staff for options around professional development including internships and job opportunities.

**Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Liaison:** CAPS staff provide support of well-being and drop-in groups for our students.

**CARECEN Legal Services:** Direct immigration legal services are available free of charge to CSU students and employees. Attorneys and paralegals are available to assist students with general consultations, DACA renewals, and general assistance in filling out forms such as family-based petitions. Priority will be given to undocumented students, staff, and faculty



**Case Management:** The office provides support to very specific cases. Some of these areas include financial aid, residency, mental health, career development, and others. Please note the office also serves Temporary Protection Status (TPS), Refugee, Asylum seekers, and Mixed status families with

