Launched in 2002, Cal Poly Pomona’s Renaissance Scholars (RS) seeks to empower foster youth through higher education. RS is a holistic program offering these students academic, financial, wellness, leadership, life skills and mentoring resources and services in a supportive environment. Promoting access and equity, RS helps foster youth complete their bachelor’s degree and go on to live a productive and meaningful life. Students must qualify for and apply to be a Renaissance Scholar. Eligible participants are also members of CPP’s Educational Opportunity Program, which provides additional support services.

FACTS AND FIGURES

62 ACTIVE RENAISSANCE SCHOLARS

66% FIRST GENERATION IN FAMILY TO ATTEND

20 EARNED 3.0 GPA +

82% RECEIVE PELL GRANTS (AWARDED TO STUDENTS WITH A LOW INCOME BACKGROUND)

5 PARENTS

13 WORK ON CAMPUS

30% PROGRAM ALUMNI COMPLETED/PURSUING ADVANCED DEGREE

22 AVERAGE AGE

SCHOLAR DIVERSITY

Hispanic/Latino/a/x 60%
Black/African American 21%
White 8%
Two or More Races 7%
Asian 2%
Non-Resident 2%
Unknown 2%

GENDER

66% Female
32% Male
2% Non-binary

Source: Renaissance Scholars Program, 2022-23
PROGRAM BENEFITS

Academic advising
Academic skills development and tutorial services
Financial assistance (scholarship, emergency funding)
Access to on-campus housing (year-round)
Peer mentoring
Basic health care services and education
Mental health counseling services
Renaissance Scholars Success Seminars (life skills and transition)
Leadership development, community service and financial literacy workshops
Summer Bridge and Transfer Bridge programs
Priority registration
Student engagement activities (retreats, Celebration of Excellence)

“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 AlUM

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