READING, ADVISING, & MENTORING PROGRAM
TRIO STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES
CAL POLY POMONA

2025–26 RAMP GRANT APPLICATION
Deadline: Friday, February 13, 2026 by 4:00 pm

The RAMP Grant is an opportunity for eligible RAMP participants to supplement their Pell Grant. To be eligible to apply, you must meet the following criteria:

- ❑ freshman or sophomore standing
- ❑ receiving a Pell Grant
- ❑ have an unmet financial need of at least $740*
- ❑ enrolled full-time (12 units per semester)
- ❑ good academic standing (by the end of fall 2025 semester)
- ❑ no INC/W/WU in any fall 2025 courses

This year, we intend on awarding the grant to 10 RAMP participants. Depending on the number of applications, it is possible that not all applicants will receive an award. *Please verify that you meet all of the above criteria before you submit your application.** If you would like to discuss your situation or have questions, please meet with a RAMP staff member as soon as possible.

*If you have an unmet need of less than $740, you will need to work with a financial aid counselor to determine if you can adjust your budget or reduce your loan to qualify for the RAMP Grant.

**If you are selected to receive the RAMP Grant and have the Middle Class Scholarship (MCS), the California Student Aid Commission will re-evaluate your MCS, which can result in a reduction in the amount you will receive the MCS.

Carefully read the application instructions. There are several required activities and an essay prompt. **You must complete all requirements by the deadline.**

NAME: _____ **BRONCO ID#**: _____

CPP EMAIL: _____@cpp.edu **CELL #:** _____

REQUIRED ACTIVITIES

10 RAMP Tutorial Sessions *(enter date attended; your RAMP advisor will confirm your attendance)*
Unexcused absences or "no shows" for tutorial sessions will negatively affect your application score.

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10

4 RAMP Events *(enter date attended; your RAMP advisor will confirm your attendance)*
With the exception of peer mentoring, events take place during U-hour; please plan accordingly.

Professional Spotlight	Group Peer Mentoring Session
Oct 9	Sign up with your tutor or email ramp@cpp.edu
First-Gen Crew or Unwritten Rules	**Financial Aid OR Financial Literacy Workshop**
Sept 30, Oct 14, Oct 28; Nov 5	Information on RAMP website under Events; see dates on the following pages

2 RAMP Advisor Meetings *(enter advisor name & date attended; your RAMP advisor will confirm)*

Fall 2025	Spring 2026
Advisor: Date:	Advisor: Date:

ESSAY PROMPT

The Reading, Advising, & Mentoring Program (RAMP) is a TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) program. Research TRIO to learn about the different TRIO programs, their purpose, and their history. Consider the information you find and your own experiences and write an essay explaining the benefits of TRIO to both individual students and society and provide the best reasons, in your opinion, that Congress should continue funding TRIO programs.

ESSAY GUIDELINES

- Meet with a Writing Center or EOP tutor to review a draft of your essay. Obtain a stamp or signature as proof of attending the appointment; submit the draft with your application.
- Revise your essay. Essays that demonstrate substantive revision beyond the first draft and feedback received will receive higher scores.
- Your final essay needs to be 300-500 words, double-spaced, have one-inch margins and 12-point Times New Roman font.

ESSAY SCORING CRITERIA

- Fully addressed the prompt
- Expressed thoughtful, fully developed ideas
- Attended Writing Center or EOP tutoring and demonstrated effort in revision
- Followed the specified format

In addition to your essay, your fall GPA and number of no shows from RAMP tutorial sessions will be factored into your application score.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- ❑ Grant application
  - o Fill out the application completely

- ❑ 10 RAMP Tutorials
  - o RAMP tutorial appointments attended fall and spring prior to the deadline including reading, graduate test prep, graduate school prep, and peer coaching

- ❑ Professional Spotlight (10/09/2025)

- ❑ Group Peer Mentoring Session (offered weeks 8-11 during fall)

- ❑ First-Gen Event (attend at least 1)
  - o Fall First-Gen Crew meeting (9/30, 10/14, or 10/28)
  - o Unwritten Rules: First-Gen's Guide to Success (11/5)

- ❑ Financial Aid, Financial Literacy, or Academic Success Workshop (attend at least 1)

  - o Financial Aid Basics (9/16)

- o Savings & Budget (9/23)
  - o Understanding Your Credit Score (10/7)
  - o Exploring Scholarships (10/21)
  - o Writing Winning Scholarship Essays (10/23)
  - o Applying to Graduate School (11/18)

- ❑ 2 Advisor Meetings
  - o Fall Advisor Meeting
  - o Spring Advisor Meeting

- ❑ Essay (put your name and BID on your draft and final essay)
  - o Address the prompt
  - o Well-developed essay
  - o Draft with Writing Center or EOP feedback and proof of attendance (stamp, screenshot of online appt, or tutor signature)
  - o Demonstrated effort in revising between initial draft and final essay
  - o Double-spaced
  - o 1-inch margins
  - o 12-point, Times New Roman font

Deadline to submit: Friday, February 13, 2026 by 4:00 pm

Submit your completed application, essay, and essay draft (with Writing Center or EOP tutor feedback & proof of attendance) to a RAMP staff member. You will receive an email acknowledging your submission.