

Summer Bridge

Project Personnel

Total Award Amount \$ 60,000

Project Director

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Title: Executive Director
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Co-Project Director

Name:
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Project Description

The Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) serves low income, first generation college students, and former foster youth. The Summer Bridge program prepares entering EOP and Renaissance Scholars (RS) students socially, emotionally, and academically for the obstacles of transitioning from high school to a four-year university as first generation college students. The program provides academic workshops and seminars which help build the academic and critical thinking skills needed to be successful at Cal Poly Pomona.

The program also offers the unique opportunity for the participants to get a head start in getting acquainted with campus departments and resources, developing friendships, and experiencing campus life. Academic support, tutoring, and workshops in study skills, financial literacy, university academic policies and requirements, and more help bridge the transition from high school to university life.

Each year approximately 300 low income first time freshmen and transfer students enter the university as EOP students, including the Renaissance Scholars. Unfortunately only 50 of those students were invited in Summer 2010 to participate in a one week Summer Bridge, due to limited resources for the program.

Offering a five week program that can serve large numbers of students requires resources that have not been available for several years at Cal Poly Pomona. With the support of the Kellogg Legacy grant the Summer Bridge program can become a five week program, serve 100-200 EOP and RS students, assist students with summer course enrollment costs, support the successful completion of summer coursework, and aid in a successful transition.

Enhancing the Summer Bridge program to provide summer courses along with high quality support will assist some of the university's most underprivileged students as they transition to the university and prepare for success. Beginning Summer 2011 EO 1048 will require students to begin developmental courses, for those who test under college level math and English. Approximately 50% of incoming EOP and 80% of incoming RS students will be required to enroll in developmental coursework. By offering the opportunity to begin developmental coursework, while participating in Summer Bridge, students with the highest need for in and outside of classroom help will receive quality support.

The Kellogg Legacy Grant can help enhance a long standing student support program grow to larger numbers of students, as well as provide the opportunity for every participant to enroll in either a developmental course or a General Education course.

The students will receive academic support, be monitored closely, and receive assistance in becoming academically, socially, and emotionally prepared to university life at Cal Poly Pomona.