Welcome to Funding Your Graduate Education

The Session Will Begin Shortly
Funding Your Graduate Education

April Lane, MPH, CHES
alane@csusb.edu
Graduate Student Resource Specialist
CSUSB, Office of Graduate Studies
Overview of Today’s Workshop

I’ll provide a brief overview of the following funding opportunities:

- Graduate Equity Fellowship
- Chancellor’s Doctoral Incentive Program
- California Pre Doctoral Program
- The Merit-Based Presidential Scholarship
- FAFSA
- State University Grant
- Grants, Loans & Scholarships
- Megan’s Writing Tips
- Over 60 Program
- Office of Student Research
- Internships
- Teaching Assistantships
- Other Helpful Resources
The Graduate Equity Fellowship

Seeks to increase the diversity of students completing graduate degree programs at the CSU, encourages continuation toward doctoral programs, and promotes consideration of university faculty careers. It provides fellowships for economically disadvantaged CSU students who have had success in overcoming educational disadvantages and promotes faculty mentoring and research opportunities.

• Award amounts $500 - $4,500
• Apply through the CSUSB Scholarship portal, October 1st – March 2nd, for the next academic year.*
• More information at: [Graduate Studies Graduate Equity Fellowship](#)

*You may apply for the Graduate Equity Fellowship prior to notification of admission. If selected, your award will be contingent on your acceptance to your graduate program. You need a Coyote ID number to access the scholarship portal so apply early!
The California Pre-Doctoral Program (Pre-Doc)

Details

- Travel Funds
- Development Funds (GRE prep, professional memberships, application and test fees, etc.)
- A Summer Research Experience

Application Checklist

- Personal Information
- Educational Information
- Three Essays
- Faculty Mentor Letter of Recommendation
- Student Budget Plan
- Transcripts

Eligibility

- Applicants must be upper-division or master's degree students who are enrolled at a CSU institution
- All CSU students may apply. Current or previous Pre-Doctoral Scholars are not eligible to re-apply.
- Each applicant must have a faculty sponsor
- Ineligible students include: international students and students interested in obtaining professional masters or doctoral degrees.

[California Pre-Doctoral Program website]
Chancellor’s Doctoral Incentive Program (CDIP)

Details

- Loans of up to $10,000 per year over five years, up to a maximum amount of $30,000
- Loans are repayable over a 15-year period
- Full-time & Partial-time teaching in the CSU are considered for loan forgiveness

Eligibility

- Full-time students who are, or will be in doctoral programs at accredited universities across the US
- Lecturers are encouraged to apply
- Enrollment or employment in the CSU is not required for loan approval
- Applicants must be eligible to work in the United States
- Additional Information can be found on the Chancellor’s Doctoral Incentive Program website

Application Checklist

- Completed application form (available online)
- A current curriculum vitae
- Statement of qualifications and motivation
- CSU Collaborative Plan of Support
- Three professional letters of recommendation
- A recent CSU faculty position announcement
The Merit-Based Presidential Scholarship

Details

- For new non-resident students
- Graduate Student Award Amount - $4,000/year
- Two years maximum award duration

Eligibility

- Must be admitted to CSUSB
- Must be a degree-seeking, non-resident student
- Must be enrolled in no fewer than 9 units per term
- Must have a grade point average (GPA) of 3.5 in the last 60 semester/90 quarter units attempted.

Contact CSUSB’s International Admissions at internation@csusb.edu or call (909) 537-5288 for more information and to apply.
Financial aid is split up into two categories based on the reason the money is awarded:

- Achievement-based aid is awarded to students who have a special characteristic, skill, talent, or ability. Typically, achievement-based aid is in the form of scholarships.

- Need-based aid is provided to students who demonstrate financial need. Most financial aid, particularly public-funded aid, is awarded on the basis of financial need determined through the application process and in accordance with a prescribed federal formula.

How Aid Works

Financial aid programs provide support for students to help meet the costs of obtaining a college education. Funding for such programs is provided by the federal and state governments, the individual colleges and universities, and a variety of other public and private sources.

Basic Types of Financial Aid Available

- FAFSA
- State University Grant
- Grants
- Loans
- Scholarships
Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships

- **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**
  - Free and easy to apply
  - If you don’t fill it out, you may miss out
    - Apply early
    - Apply yearly
  - Federal Work Study

- **Scholarships**
  - On Campus
  - Department fellowships
  - Off Campus Scholarship Search Engines
    - FastWEB
    - iGrad Scholarship Search engine
    - Scholarships.com

- **State University Grant (SUG)**
  - The maximum annual SUG award is up to the tuition/fee
  - SUG does not cover additional campus charges
  - *SUG funding is limited and based on availability of funding at time of review of a student’s financial aid record.*
  - You may not receive a SUG if you are receiving another type of aid that pays your tuition fee costs.
Megan’s Writing Tips for Grants and Scholarships

- Develop a format based on the given prompt to organize your thoughts and ideas. *Remember, you are telling a story through your Personal Statement, and a concise narrative for your reader to follow will be crucial.*
- Be sure to make it your own, try to avoid cliché and boilerplate language. Use your own experiences to make the statement more personalized to you, this will help it stand out more!
- Address all questions stated in the given prompt.
- Always proofread your statement before you submit it. Reading it aloud can help catch errors, as well as asking a 3rd party to review it.
- Take your time! Give yourself about a week to work on a Personal Statement, don't rush it.
Over 60 Program

Allows a limited number of California residents, sixty years of age or older to enroll in regular session courses without payment of certain specified fees.

- Open to California residents, as defined by the Education Code
- 60 years of age or older
- Eligible for admission to the university – All regular admission requirements must be met

- Excludes books, parking, and lab/supply fees
- Additional information about the program, including required forms, can be found at:
  - [Office of the Registrar Over 60 Program](#)
Office of Student Research

The OSR to facilitate the engagement of students in scholarly and creative activities related to their disciplines by providing resources that support both student scholars and their faculty mentors. Funding opportunities include:

- **Student Research and Travel**: Funding to conduct research for an independent study, an academic course, honor’s project, or master’s thesis project, to present at a conference or attend a conference.

- **SSI Graduate Student Culminating Project Fund**: Designed for graduate students completing a thesis, project, or dissertation. Funds from the Graduate Scholars Grant Writing Program, if awarded, must be used to support recipients’ thesis, project, or dissertation research or professional development activities.

- **Graduate Extended Reality Research Scholarship**: Offered by the Extended Reality for Learning Lab at CSUSB (xREAL) is designed to provide support for graduate students interested in conducting research in the general area of immersive reality use (augmented reality, mixed reality, virtual reality) or the intersection between immersive reality and machine learning.

- **In addition, there are many resources available to graduate students, as well as opportunity to showcase their scholarly work.**
  - CSUSB Student Research Competition
  - Palm Desert Taste of Research
  - Meeting of the Minds Research Symposium
  - Off-campus research & funding opportunities
  - Resources for student considering applying to graduate school
  - Many, many other resources and opportunities
Internships

- Many graduate programs have internship requirements as part of the program.
- If not, look for opportunities to find an internship.
  - Start early and be mindful of deadlines
  - Identify your broad career interest
  - Network
  - Online resources
  - Attend career fairs
  - Contact employers
Other Graduate Education Funding Options

- **Graduate Teaching Assistantships**
  - As a graduate student you may have the opportunity to teach undergraduate classes.
  - You will earn a stipend which can help pay your tuition.
  - Also, it’s great for your resume and particularly valuable if you’re interested in becoming a professor.

- **Employee Fee Waiver Program**
  - May be available at your place of employment.
  - Check with your Human Resources Department.

- **Student Assistant Positions**
  - Most departments on campus rely on student assistants to help with administrative and technical tasks to support staff.
  - This is a great opportunity to not only gain work experience, but also earn money to help pay for graduate school.
Other Graduate Education Resources

Professional Resource Engagement Program (PREP)

- Professional Resource and Engagement Program (PREP) is a space for you as a CSUSB graduate student to take advantage of free workshops to develop professionally and personally.
- PREP prepares you to articulate how your academic expertise aligns with your personal and professional development. Your academic journey is a personal one as is your professional persona.
- PREP offers you a selection of seven categories (Communication and Writing, Innovation, Financial Well-Being, Leadership & Career Development, Research, Teaching and Mentorship, and Wellness).
- You also have free access to CSUSB’ e-portfolio platform, Portfolium, to highlight your accomplishments and growth as a graduate student at CSUSB.
Other Graduate Education Resources

- **Career Center**
  - The Career Center at CSUSB offers premier programs, workshops, and services at the San Bernardino & Palm Desert campus. They partner with local and national industry leaders to offer specialized programming, distinctive resources, and tailored events for over 20,000 current students as well as countless alumni across the Inland Empire and beyond.
  - The Career Clothing Closet provides current students access to business attire for professional interviews and presentations at no cost. If you would like to visit the closet to shop for professional clothing, please visit the Career Center in UH 329 during business hours (8:00-5:00). No appointment necessary for a clothing consultation or to shop.
  - Handshake is a platform that connects talented Coyotes with internships, jobs and career opportunities. Use Handshake to find workshops, events and other career development programs hosted by the CSUSB Career Center.
Funding Resources

- **Graduate Equity Fellowship:** [https://www.csusb.edu/graduate-studies/financial-support/graduate-equity-fellowship](https://www.csusb.edu/graduate-studies/financial-support/graduate-equity-fellowship)
- **California Pre-Doctoral Program:** [https://www.csusb.edu/graduate-studies/financial-support/california-pre-doctoral-program](https://www.csusb.edu/graduate-studies/financial-support/california-pre-doctoral-program)
- **Chancellor’s Doctoral Incentive Program:** [https://www.csusb.edu/graduate-studies/financial-support/chancellors-doctoral-incentive-program](https://www.csusb.edu/graduate-studies/financial-support/chancellors-doctoral-incentive-program)
- **The Merit-Based Presidential Scholarship:** [https://www.csusb.edu/sites/default/files/CEGE%20Presidential%20Merit-Based%20Scholarship%20Award%20Guide%20to%20Students%2020210607%20with%20hyperlink.pdf](https://www.csusb.edu/sites/default/files/CEGE%20Presidential%20Merit-Based%20Scholarship%20Award%20Guide%20to%20Students%2020210607%20with%20hyperlink.pdf)
- **Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships:** [https://www.csusb.edu/financial-aid](https://www.csusb.edu/financial-aid)
- **Fastweb:** [https://www.fastweb.com/](https://www.fastweb.com/)
- **iGrad:** [https://www.igrad.com/tools](https://www.igrad.com/tools)
- **Scholarships.com:** [https://www.scholarships.com/](https://www.scholarships.com/)
- **Over 60 Program:** [https://www.csusb.edu/registrar/over-60-program](https://www.csusb.edu/registrar/over-60-program)
- **Office of Student Research –**
  - **Student Research and Travel:** [https://www.csusb.edu/student-research/students/student-research-and-travel](https://www.csusb.edu/student-research/students/student-research-and-travel)
  - **SSI Graduate Student Culminating Project Fund:** [https://www.csusb.edu/student-research/students/ssi-graduate-student-culminating-project-fund](https://www.csusb.edu/student-research/students/ssi-graduate-student-culminating-project-fund)
  - **Graduate Extended Reality Research Scholarship:** [https://www.csusb.edu/student-research/students/graduate-extended-reality-research-scholarship](https://www.csusb.edu/student-research/students/graduate-extended-reality-research-scholarship)
Additional Resources

- Professional Resource Engagement Program: https://www.csusb.edu/graduate-studies/prep-program
- Graduate Studies Financial Support Page: https://www.csusb.edu/graduate-studies/financial-support
- Federal Student Aid Page: https://studentaid.gov/
- The CSUSB Career Center: https://www.csusb.edu/career-center
Questions?