

# Fees & Expenses

[www.fees.calpoly.edu](http://www.fees.calpoly.edu)

The California State University (CSU) makes every effort to keep student costs to a minimum. Fees listed in published schedules or student accounts may need to be increased when public funding is inadequate. Therefore, CSU must reserve the right, even after initial fee payments are made, to increase or modify any listed fees, without notice, until the date when instruction for a particular semester or quarter has begun. All CSU listed fees should be regarded as **estimates** that are subject to change upon approval by the Board of Trustees. Please refer to [www.fees.calpoly.edu](http://www.fees.calpoly.edu) for complete information on fees, including on-campus housing, meal costs, and parking fees.

## Schedule of Fees

All regularly enrolled students, both undergraduate and graduate, pay registration fees determined by the number of units per quarter. Legal residents of California are not charged tuition. In addition to registration fees, nonresident and foreign students pay nonresident tuition. Mandatory systemwide fees are waived for those individuals who qualify for such exemption under the provisions of the California Education Code (see Student Fee Waivers).

## Registration Fees Per Quarter

Registration Fees are the **sum of two types of fees**:

1) **Campus-Wide Fees** that are payable irrespective of college, and 2) **Campus Academic Fees**, which vary by college/academic unit. Campus-wide fees include: State University Fee, Associated Students Fee, Health Facilities Fee, Instructionally Related Activities Fee, Health Services Fee, University Union Fee, and Campus Services Card Fee. Nonresident and foreign students are also charged per unit for nonresident tuition up to a prescribed maximum per year.

Cal Poly registration fees are due at the time of registration, and all prior term balances must be paid in full in order to register. Fees that are not paid by the fifth day following a student's registration become past due, and a registration hold is placed on the account that prevents adding or swapping classes. If registration fees are still past due as of the next published cancellation date, then the student may be canceled from all enrolled classes. Students who have accepted financial aid, have an approved third-party contract on file, or are receiving fee waivers are not subject to financial registration holds or class cancellation. Financial aid students whose awards are insufficient to pay fees in full are billed for the balance, and are unable to register for subsequent quarters until the balance has been paid.

## Refund of Mandatory Fees, Including Nonresident Tuition

Regulations governing the refund of mandatory fees, including nonresident tuition, for students enrolling at the

California State University are included in §41802 of Title 5, *California Code of Regulations*. For purposes of the refund policy, mandatory fees are defined as those system-wide fees and campus fees that are required to be paid in order to enroll in state-supported academic programs at the California State University. Refunds of fees and tuition charges for self-support programs at the California State University (courses offered through extended education) are governed by a separate policy established by the University.

In order to receive a full refund of mandatory fees, including nonresident tuition, a student must cancel registration or drop all courses prior to the first day of instruction for the term. Information on procedures and deadlines for canceling registration and dropping classes is available online at [www.ess.calpoly.edu/\\_records](http://www.ess.calpoly.edu/_records).

For state-supported semesters, quarters, and non-standard terms or courses of four weeks or more, a student who withdraws during the term in accordance with the University's established procedures receives a refund of mandatory fees, including nonresident tuition, based on the portion of the term during which the student was enrolled. No student withdrawing after the 60 percent point in the term is entitled to a refund of any mandatory fees or nonresident tuition.

For state-supported semesters, quarters, and non-standard terms or courses of less than four (4) weeks, no refund of mandatory fees and nonresident tuition is made unless a student cancels registration or drops all classes prior to the first day in accordance with the University's established procedures and deadlines. Students receive a refund of mandatory fees, including nonresident tuition, under the following circumstances:

- The tuition and mandatory fees were assessed or collected in error;
- The course for which the tuition and mandatory fees were assessed or collected was cancelled by the University;
- The University makes a delayed decision that the student was not eligible to enroll in the term for which mandatory fees were assessed and collected and the delayed decision was not due to incomplete or inaccurate information provided by the student; or
- The student was activated for compulsory military service.

Students who are not entitled to a refund as described above may petition the University for a refund demonstrating exceptional circumstances, and the chief financial officer of the University may authorize a refund if he or she determines that the fees and tuition were not earned by the University. Information concerning any aspect of the refund of fees may be obtained from the Student Accounts Office.

## Fees and Debts Owed to the University

Should a student or former student fail to pay a fee or a debt owed to the institution, the institution may "withhold permission to register, to use facilities for which a fee is

authorized to be charged, to receive services, materials, food or merchandise, or any combination of the above from any person owing a debt" until the debt is paid (see Title 5, *California Code of Regulations*, Sections 42380 and 42381).

Prospective students who register for courses offered by the University are obligated for the payment of fees associated with registration for those courses. Failure to cancel registration in any course for an academic term prior to the first day of the academic term gives rise to an obligation to pay student fees including any tuition for the reservation of space in the course.

The institution may withhold permission to register or to receive official transcripts of grades or other services offered by the institution from anyone owing fees or another debt to the institution. The institution may also report the debt to a credit bureau, offset the amount due against any future state tax refunds due the student, refer the debt to an outside collection agency and/or charge the student actual and reasonable collection costs, including reasonable attorney fees if litigation is necessary, in collecting any amount not paid when due. If a person believes he or she does not owe all or part of an asserted unpaid obligation, that person may contact the campus business office. The business office, or another office on campus to which the business office may refer the person, will review all pertinent information provided by the person and available to the campus and will advise the person of its conclusions. (Updated 12/07/09)

### Credit Cards

Master Card, Discover Card, and American Express may be used for payment of registration fees, nonresident tuition, housing and certain other University fees using the web credit card system. The University also accepts electronic check payments, known as eCheck or ACH, using the web on-line payment systems. Details concerning the use of electronic checks and credit cards for fee payments may be obtained from the University website under [www.fees.calpoly.edu](http://www.fees.calpoly.edu). Credit cards may be used for the purchase of dining plans from the Cal Poly Corporation, theatre tickets from the Cal Poly Theatre Box Office, tickets for sports events from the Athletics Department, health services from the University Health Center, Bookstore purchases, payment of parking citations with University Police, and for Continuing Education program fees. Contact the individual service center for specific credit card information.

### Student Fee Waivers

The California Education Code includes provisions for the mandatory waiver of systemwide fees as follows:

- § 66025.3 – Qualifying children, spouses/registered domestic partners, or unmarried surviving spouses/registered domestic partners of a war period veteran of the U.S. military who is totally service-connected disabled or who died as a result of service-related causes; children of any veteran of the U.S. military who has a service-connected disability, was killed in action, or died of

a service-connected disability and meets specified income provisions; any dependents or surviving spouse/registered domestic partner who has not remarried of a member of the California National Guard who in the line of duty and in active service of the state was killed or became permanently disabled or died of a disability as a result of an event while in active service of the state; and undergraduate students who are the recipient of or the child of a recipient of a Congressional Medal of Honor and meet certain age and income restrictions;

- § 68075 (a) – An undergraduate student who is a member of the Armed Forces of the United States stationed in this state on active duty, except a member of the Armed Forces assigned for educational purposes to a state-supported institution of higher education, is entitled to resident classification only for the purpose of determining the amount of tuition and fees;
  - (b) A student seeking a graduate degree who is a member of the Armed Forces of the United States stationed in this state on active duty, except a member of the Armed Forces assigned for educational purposes to a state-supported institution of higher education, shall be entitled to resident classification only for the purpose of determining the amount of tuition and fees for more than two academic years, and shall thereafter be subject to Article 5 (commencing with Section 68060); (Updated 12/07/09)
- § 68120 – Children and surviving spouses/registered domestic partners of deceased public law enforcement or fire suppression employees who were California residents and who were killed in the course of active law enforcement or fire suppression duties (referred to as Alan Pattee Scholarships); and
- § 68121 – Students enrolled in an undergraduate program who are the surviving dependent of any individual killed in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City, the Pentagon building in Washington, D.C., or the crash of United Airlines Flight 93 in southwestern Pennsylvania, if the student meets the financial need requirements set forth in Section 69432.7 for the Cal Grant A Program and either the surviving dependent or the individual killed in the attacks was a resident of California on September 11, 2001.

Students who may qualify for these benefits should contact the Admissions Office for further information and/or an eligibility determination.

### Procedure for the Establishment or Abolishment of a Student Body Fee

The law governing the California State University provides that fees defined as mandatory, such as a *student body association fee* and a *student body center fee*, may be established. A *student body association fee* must be established upon a favorable vote of two-thirds of the students voting in an election held for this purpose (Ed. Code § 89300). A *student body center fee* may be established only after a fee referendum is held which approves by a two-thirds favorable vote the establishment of the fee (Ed. Code § 89304). The campus President may adjust the *student body association fee* only after the fee adjustment has been approved by a majority of students voting in a referendum established for that purpose (Ed. Code § 89300). The required fee shall be subject to referendum at any time upon the presentation of a petition to the campus President containing the signatures of 10 percent of the regularly enrolled students at the University. Once bonds are issued,

authority to set and adjust *student body center fees* is governed by provisions of the State University Revenue Bond Act of 1947, including, but not limited to, Ed. Code Sections 90012, 90027, and 90068. *Student body association fees* support a variety of cultural and recreational programs, child care centers, and special student support programs.

The process to establish and adjust other campus-based mandatory fees requires consideration by the campus fee advisory committee and a student referendum. The campus President may use alternative consultation mechanisms if he/she determines that a referendum is not the best mechanism to achieve appropriate and meaningful consultation. Results of the referendum and the fee committee review are advisory to the campus President. The President may adjust campus-based mandatory fees, but must request the Chancellor establish a new mandatory fee.

For more information or questions, please contact the Financial Manager, Financing and Treasury in the CSU Chancellor's Office, at (562) 951-4570.

# Financial Aid

## Financial Aid Office

Administration Bldg. (01), Room 212

(805) 756-2927; Fax (805) 756-7243

<http://www.ess.calpoly.edu/finaid>

The University has a variety of scholarships, grants, part-time employment opportunities and loans designed to assist students financially. Additional current information may be obtained by accessing the Financial Aid Office website.

The application for Financial Aid is called the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA is available on the Web at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) or may be obtained from any university or college financial aid office or most high schools. Those who file the FAFSA by March 2 receive priority in the allocation of funds. All students are encouraged to file the FAFSA and qualified students are considered for scholarships.

## Typical Student Expenses

Following are the average expenses per quarter for the 2008-09 academic year for the California resident student attending Cal Poly. Charges for room and board are payable in advance or in quarterly installments. Nonresident students should be prepared to pay additional tuition and fees. For the 2008-09 school year nonresident tuition was an extra \$226 per unit. Please see the "Fees and Expenses" section for more information. All State fees are subject to change upon approval by the Board of Trustees of the California State University.

## University Estimated Expenses per Quarter

Registration fees .....	1,681
Room and board .....	3,123
Books and supplies .....	522
Personal and transportation .....	1,049
Estimated total per quarter .....	\$6,375

## Cancellation of Registration or Withdrawal from the Institution and Financial Aid

Students who find it necessary to cancel their registration or to withdraw from all classes after enrolling for any academic term *are required* to follow the University's official withdrawal procedures. Failure to follow formal University procedures may result in an obligation to pay fees, the assignment of failing grades in all courses and the need to apply for readmission before being permitted to enroll in another academic term. Information on canceling registration and withdrawal procedures is available from the Office of Academic Records, Administration Building, Room 222, 805-756-2531.

Students who receive financial aid funds *must consult* with the Financial Aid and Student Accounts Offices prior to withdrawing from the University regarding any refunds or

repayments of grant or loan assistance received for that academic term or payment period. If a recipient of student financial aid funds withdraws from the institution during an academic term or a payment period, the amount of grant or loan assistance received may be subject to federal, state and/or institutional return provisions.

## UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS

### General Information

Scholarships are awarded each year. Criteria include financial need, scholastic achievement, participation in school activities, community service, honors and organizational affiliations, and educational objectives. Some scholarships have additional requirements which relate to a concentration or field of study, geographic origin, class level, and project or design portfolios.

There are numerous scholarships available due to the generous support of individuals and corporations. Please refer to the Financial Aid web site for detailed information.

Generally, a student must have at least a 3.0 grade point average. Both undergraduate and graduate students enrolled full time in the spring term are considered for scholarships.

*Annual Deadline Date to Apply  
(Complete the FAFSA)  
for the following academic year:  
March 2*

### How to Apply

The Financial Aid Office website offers the latest information at [www.ess.calpoly.edu/finaid](http://www.ess.calpoly.edu/finaid). For need-based scholarships, completing the FAFSA is required. For priority consideration for financial aid programs *and* Cal Poly scholarships, complete the FAFSA by **March 2**.

### Scholarship Notifications

Scholarships are normally awarded during the spring and summer for the following academic year. During that time award offer notices are sent which include scholarship amount, disbursement and donor information. Awardees must accept on-line scholarship offers acknowledging program responsibilities and requirements. Recipients must be in good academic standing and maintain full-time enrollment while receiving a scholarship (continuing education and Open University units are excluded). Some scholarships require recipients to have earned at least one-half the value of the scholarship during the previous year.

Scholarships are awarded for an academic year and are typically disbursed in quarterly increments. Non-attendance results in cancellation or a prorated amount.

### Athletic Program Grants-In-Aid

Cal Poly athletic grants-in-aid are offered to selected students participating in intercollegiate athletics. Grants are renewable on a quarterly basis, the requisites for renewal being at the discretion of the University.

The grant-in-aid is subject to the financial limitations imposed by the National Collegiate Athletic Association and any conference of which the University is a member. Financial aid, scholarships, specific outside resources and employment are considered in determining compliance with these limitations. Additional information can be provided by the Athletic Department.

### Other Scholarships

In addition to University scholarships, awards from various private donors and organizations are available to assist students with University expenses. Interested students should make inquiries for such awards directly to sponsoring organizations. Currently, Cal Poly students are beneficiaries of several million dollars of outside scholarship assistance each year. Students should exercise caution in using scholarship search services; many sell information that is readily available at no cost. Other sources of scholarship funding may be available from:

- community organizations
- employers
- professional, career and trade associations

For valuable links visit the scholarship website at [www.ess.calpoly.edu/finaid/types\\_aid/scholarships.htm](http://www.ess.calpoly.edu/finaid/types_aid/scholarships.htm).

## GRANTS

**Federal Pell Grants** are designed to help undergraduates and teaching credential candidates pay for their education. The Pell Grant amount is determined by the Expected Family Contribution, the cost of education, full-time or part-time enrollment and terms of enrollment. To apply, complete the FAFSA by **March 2** for the upcoming year.

**Academic Competitiveness Grants (ACG)** are available to assist first and second year undergraduate students who show financial need and have completed a rigorous high school program. Students must be enrolled full-time, a U.S. Citizen, a Pell Grant recipient, and for second year recipients, have a GPA from their first year of at least 3.0. To apply, complete the FAFSA by **March 2** for the upcoming year.

### National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain

**Talent (SMART) Grants** are available to assist third and fourth year undergraduates pursuing a major in science (including physical, life, and computer sciences), mathematics, technology, engineering, or a critical foreign language, such as Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Japanese and Russian. Students must also be enrolled full-time, a U.S. Citizen, have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 and eligible for a Federal Pell Grant. To apply, complete the FAFSA by **March 2** for the upcoming year.

**Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG)** is designed to assist undergraduate students who have substantial financial need. To apply, complete the FAFSA by **March 2** for the upcoming school year.

## CAL GRANTS

The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) awards entitlement and competitive Cal Grants. To qualify, students

must be California residents. If applying for a Cal Grant for the first time, students must complete the FAFSA and a Cal Grant GPA verification form. Request the GPA Verification Form from your high school or college. To apply, complete the FAFSA and mail the GPA Verification Form to CSAC by **March 2**.

For the latest information on the Cal Grant program, visit the CSAC website at [www.csac.ca.gov](http://www.csac.ca.gov).

**Cal Grant A** is awarded to middle- and low-income undergraduates. New awards are limited to students who are freshmen, sophomores or juniors. Cal Grant A covers a portion of student registration fees and eligibility is tied to the cost of attendance. Cal Grant A may be renewed until completion of four years of college attendance. Recipients must continue to meet eligibility standards. Students may be eligible for an additional year of Cal Grant A at Cal Poly if enrolled in a designated five-year program or the teaching credential program.

**Cal Grant B** is awarded to low-income undergraduate students. First year recipients receive stipend only. Cal Grant B renewal recipients receive stipend plus a portion of registration fees. Eligibility is tied to the cost of attendance. Cal Grant B may be renewed until completion of four years of college attendance and students must meet eligibility standards. Students may be eligible for an additional year of Cal Grant B at Cal Poly if enrolled in a designated five-year program or the teaching credential program.

**State Educational Opportunity Program Grant (SEOP)** assists undergraduate students who have been admitted to the University through the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP). To apply, complete the FAFSA by **March 2** for the upcoming school year.

**State University Grant (SUG)** covers a portion of student registration fees. SUG is available to undergraduate and graduate students who are California residents and show financial need. To apply, complete the FAFSA by **March 2** for the upcoming year.

## EMPLOYMENT

**Federal Work-Study (FWS)** is a need-based program which provides part-time employment for students. Work-Study jobs assist students financially and may provide career related work experience. FWS positions are either on- or off-campus with approved departments/ organizations. Pay rates vary depending on job requirements and student skills. To receive priority consideration, complete the FAFSA by **March 2** for the upcoming school year.

## LOANS

Loans are for educational purposes only, with specific provisions for repayment. There are four types: Federal Perkins Loans, Federal Direct Student Loans (FDSL), Federal Parent Loans (PLUS), and Cal Poly Long-Term Educational Loans. Also available are small, short-term emergency loans.

**Federal Perkins Loan** is a five percent interest loan available to both undergraduate and graduate students. Annual amounts are based on students' need as determined by the FAFSA data. Repayment begins nine months after the student leaves school or ceases to be enrolled at least half-time. The government pays the interest while the student is in school and during the grace period. There are cancellation and deferment provisions. To apply, complete the FAFSA by **March 2** for the upcoming school year.

**Federal Subsidized Direct Loans** are available to students through the U.S. Department of Education. Annual amounts are based on the students' need as determined by the FAFSA and federal limits. The federal government pays the interest on the loan while the student is in school and there are deferment provisions. To apply, complete the FAFSA by **March 2** for the upcoming year.

**Federal Unsubsidized Direct Loans** are available for students who are ineligible for some or all of a subsidized Federal Direct Loan. With the exception of demonstrated financial need, borrowers must meet all eligibility criteria under the Federal Direct Loan program. Interest payments begin immediately after the loan is disbursed or the borrower may elect to defer payment and add the interest to the amount owed. An additional amount of Unsubsidized Direct Loan, above the Federal Subsidized Direct limit, may be available to independent students and to dependent students whose parents are denied a PLUS Loan.

**Federal Parent Loans (PLUS)** enable borrowers to obtain low interest loans for educational costs through the U.S. Department of Education. PLUS loan repayment begins when the loan is disbursed. To apply, complete the FAFSA.

**University Long-Term Educational Loans** are available to students who demonstrate long-term financial need. Some require written application, recommendations and interviews. The interest rate is four percent on the unpaid balance during repayment. Typically, interest accrues after the specified due date, graduation or withdrawal from the University. A one percent service charge is deducted from each loan disbursement.

**University Short-Term Emergency Loans** are designed to help students cope with unanticipated, educationally-related financial emergencies. Registration fees, rent, or utility bills are expenses that students should plan and are not considered emergencies as defined under this program. Full-time enrollment and a minimum 2.0 GPA are required. Each application is reviewed on a case-by-case basis. For further information, visit the Financial Aid Office website at [www.ess.calpoly.edu/finaid/types\\_aid/special\\_programs](http://www.ess.calpoly.edu/finaid/types_aid/special_programs), or stop by the office.

### **University Educational and Emergency Student Loans**

There are numerous loans available due to the generous support of individuals and corporations. Please refer to the Financial Aid web site for detailed information.

**Alternative or Private Loans** are offered by the private sector for the purpose of covering educational expenses and do not require students to demonstrate "financial need." Careful review of the interest rates, repayment options and qualification standards helps students determine which is the best loan suited for their needs. This type of loan is meant to be used **after** traditional financial aid eligibility has been exhausted or for students who do not qualify for traditional need based aid programs. Visit the Financial Aid Office website or stop by the office for more information.