

Student Services**AP 5150 EXTENDED OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS AND SERVICES****References:**

Education Code, Sections 69640-69656;
Title 5, Sections 56200 et seq.

Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) is a state-funded program designed for the recruitment and retention of California residents who are affected by language, social, and economic disadvantages.

EOPS assists students in reaching their educational goals through a variety of academic support services, as well as financial assistance. EOPS students are generally characterized as first-generation, low income, non-traditional students who come to the college environment educationally under-prepared and who may not achieve their fullest academic potential without EOPS intervention.

EOPS Eligibility:

To be eligible for EOPS, a student must:

- Be a California resident or AB540 eligible; and
- Complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application or CA Dream Act application, and qualify to receive the California Promise Grant (under Method A or B); and
- Be educationally disadvantaged, as determined by the EOPS Director or designee by considering the following factors:
 1. not qualified at the college of attendance for enrollment into the minimum level English or mathematics course that is applicable to the associate degree;
 2. not have graduated from high school or obtained the General Education Diploma (G.E.D.);
 3. graduated from high school with a grade point average below 2.50 on a 4.00 scale;
 4. been previously enrolled in remedial education; and/or
 5. other factors set forth in the District's plan submitted to the Chancellor's Office pursuant to Title 5, Section 56270.

The only factors approved by the Chancellor's Office for criteria #5 (above) are:

 - a. The student is a first-generation college student (neither parent has successfully attended college); or
 - b. The student is a member of an underrepresented group targeted by District/College student equity goals; or
 - c. The student and/or the parents are non-native English speakers; or
 - d. The student is an emancipated foster youth; and
- Be enrolled as a full-time student during the semester joining EOPS; and

- Completed no more than 40 applicable units from all colleges and universities, or no more than 60 applicable units if a high unit major upon joining the program.

An EOPS applicant needs only to meet one of the five criteria to be considered educationally disadvantaged. It is the intent and purpose of the Legislature in establishing the California Community College Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) to encourage local community colleges to establish and implement programs directed to identifying those students affected by language, social, and economic handicaps.

EOPS adheres to the Rules and Regulations set forth by the California Education Code Chapter 2.5 of Division 8, Part VI of Title 5 of the State of California Education Code. Additional program information is contained in the yearly Program Plan for EOPS and the Cerritos College EOPS website.

Support Services

EOPS offers an array of support services to increase student retention and to support completion of students' educational goals. Support services may include, but are not limited to: priority registration, registration assistance, academic counseling, one-on-one staff support, career employment services, grants, book and school supplies assistance, tutoring, transportation assistance, transfer support, and graduation cap/gown.

CARE Program

The Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education (CARE) program is part of EOPS. CARE offers additional services to disadvantaged, single, head of household (HOH) students that are at least 18 years of age or older and are receiving public assistance via CalWORKs/TANF. CARE provides a variety of supports to improve the students' educational opportunities and seeks to enhance their employability, minimize their welfare dependency, and establish self-sufficiency through enrollment and completion of a degree or job training program. Some of the services that are available to CARE students that are in addition to what they receive as EOPS students are: childcare supplemental grants for study time, transportation assistance, school supplies, community resources and referrals, meal vouchers and snack pantry, special social activities, and workshops geared for single Head of Household (HOH) parenting students.

Office of Primary Responsibility: Vice President, Student Services

Date Approved: May 21, 2007

Dates Revised: February 11, 2019; April 7, 2025