Purpose of this Agreement
This document outlines the commitments, expectations, and benefits of the Cal Poly Scholars community and financial award. While this is not a binding contract, failure to uphold these expectations may lead to additional interventions or loss of program benefits.

About the Cal Poly Scholars Program
The Cal Poly Scholars program seeks to support and retain high-achieving students from California schools, who come from low-income backgrounds by providing financial, academic, and community resources.

As a university-wide program, the Cal Poly Scholars program brings together a network of services including the Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships, Mustang Success Center, all six academic colleges, Career Services, University Housing, Student Academic Services and other campus collaborators.

Financial Assistance
Cal Poly Scholars receive a renewable, annual scholarship award. Scholarship renewal is dependent on financial eligibility, academic standing/status and completion of program requirements.

A Scholar’s financial award is unique and may contain a funding source with additional parameters, opportunities and benefits. Therefore, Scholars should contact a Cal Poly Scholars program coordinator and the Office of Financial Aid if considering changing majors, taking a Leave of Absence or needing to stay at the university beyond five years (or 15 terms) of enrollment to learn more about how these actions may affect their financial award.

Academic Support
Working closely with the Mustang Success Center and all academic colleges, proactive and intentional academic advising is provided to all Cal Poly Scholars during their first two years of enrollment. Scholars in their third year and beyond are strongly encouraged to meet regularly with their respective college academic advising center.

Community Engagement
Cal Poly Scholars are required to reside on campus in designated Cal Poly Scholars’ residential learning communities during the first two years of enrollment. Supplemental social gatherings hosted by through the program and with scholar mentors will be offered through the program to encourage meaningful interactions among all Scholar cohorts.

Personal & Professional Development
Developmental workshops, signature events, and socials are offered throughout the academic year to strengthen the Scholars community, build connections with campus resources, and develop personal and professional skills for a lifetime of success. It is required that Scholars participate in workshops or events offered by the Cal Poly Scholars program each academic year.

Additionally, it is highly recommended that Cal Poly Scholars meet with a career counselor in Career Services and/or attend a Career Services’ workshop or panel every year.
Requirements & Expectations of Cal Poly Scholars, 2020-21: Year 2 Scholars

By accepting the Cal Poly Scholars’ scholarship award, you agree to the following requirements and expectations for the 2020-21 academic year. Successfully fulfilling the expectations will result in continued program support and a renewable scholarship award while an undergraduate at Cal Poly. Not meeting the expectations may result in additional / make-up requirements or the loss of program affiliation, support and scholarship award.

Program Participation
- Participate in three (min.) workshops / events hosted by the Cal Poly Scholars program*
  - Scholars are encouraged to participate in a range of career, social and academic offerings
  *Note: approved workshops, events and other engagement opportunities are indicated in publicity as to how they count toward participation requirements

Academic Advising
- Engage in one (min.) 1:1 academic advising meeting with assigned Mustang Success Center advisor
  - Scholars may be referred to college academic advisors when appropriate

Residential Learning Community
- Reside in the designated Cal Poly Scholars residential learning community for Year 2 Scholars while enrolled during the academic year.
- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Year 2 Scholars have the option to reside at their permanent residence during fall and/or throughout the academic year. Please refer to University Housing’s Fall Housing Updates page for policies, options and guidelines that all apply to all continuing students.

Academic Achievement
- Maintain ‘Satisfactory Academic Progress’ (SAP) for financial aid eligibility
  - SAP guidelines can be found on the Office of Financial Aid website
- Maintain ‘Expected Academic Progress’ (EAP) for appropriate degree progress
  - EAP guidelines can be found on the Cal Poly Catalog website
- Set a personal goal of 2.75 GPA or higher, and maintain a 2.0 minimum cumulative GPA
  - Scholars are expected to reach out to advisors for resources and academic support
  - Scholars with a cumulative GPA of ≤ 2.5 and/or on AP/DQ (Academic Probation/Disqualification) will have additional advising and/or participation requirements from the program, University and/or academic colleges

Personal Responsibility & Conduct
- Abide by all University Policies and expectations, and demonstrate personal responsibility and conduct consistent with the ideals of a Scholar; including, but not limited to:
  - Cal Poly’s commitment to Diversity & Inclusion including the Commitment to Community
  - The tenants and expectations of the Mustang Way
  - University Housing Resident Handbook and Community Standards Guidelines
  - Office of Financial Aid policies and eligibility requirements (i.e. completing FAFSA/CA Dream Act paperwork by March 2, in order to assess eligibility status for scholarship renewal)
  - Additional policies or procedures outlined by the respective academic colleges