**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. Additionally, there is a one-time $900 credit at the Cal Poly University Store that may be applied toward the purchase of a laptop or tablet during the first year enrolled at Cal Poly (beginning fall 2019 for incoming cohorts).

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.

All incoming Scholars are block enrolled in a UNIV 100 course to help integrate them into the Scholars community, learn about campus resources, and develop skills for college success.

**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, 2021-22: Year 1 Scholars

By accepting the Cal Poly Scholars’ scholarship award, you agree to the following requirements and expectations for the 2021-22 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

- Choose one of the following two options to fulfill this requirement:
  1. Join and participate in the Scholar Mentorship Program and engage in a minimum of three (3) individual or group events with your Scholar Mentor. (Details regarding sign-up will be shared this summer).
  2. Engage in a minimum of three (3) workshops / events hosted by the Cal Poly Scholars program. Approved workshops, events and other engagement opportunities are indicated accordingly via publicity and the Scholars Events webpage.

Academic Advising

- Engage in one (min.) 1:1 academic advising interaction with assigned Mustang Success Center advisor
  - Scholars may be referred to college academic advisors when appropriate
- Participate in SLO Days during one of the session dates listed for Cal Poly Scholars, and attend the ‘Academic Toolkit’ session with the Mustang Success Center

Residential Learning Community

- Reside in the designated Cal Poly Scholars residential learning community for Year 1 Scholars while enrolled during the academic year
  - Year 1 Scholars who are also part of the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) are likely to be placed into the EOP Community, as space allows. Year 2 Scholars, including those who are also participating in EOP, are expected to reside in the Year 2+ Scholars Community.
- Complete the housing application for the Year 2+ Scholar Community during the specified timeframe (typically early winter quarter)

University 100: First Year Seminar for Cal Poly Scholars

- Enroll in, participate in, and pass the UNIV 100 course during fall 2020* (all Year 1 Scholars are block enrolled into UNIV 100)
  *Note: if you are not in attendance at the ‘Academic Planning’ class session, you will be required to meet with your Mustang Success Center advisor or attend a make-up workshop covering the same information

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. At a minimum, maintain a 2.0 minimum cumulative CPSLO GPA and pass 75% of attempted units each academic year for financial aid eligibility
  - Scholars are expected to communicate regularly with their MSC advisors for resources and academic support
  - Scholars with a cumulative CPSLO 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