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 the Office of Financial Aid if considering changing majors or taking a Leave of Absence 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.
Expectations & Commitments of Cal Poly Scholars, 2022-23: Year 2 Scholars

By accepting the Cal Poly Scholars’ scholarship award, you commit to completing and adhering to the following expectations for the 2022-23 academic year. Successfully meeting 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.

Workshop & Event Participation
- 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 the Scholars Events webpage
  - Year 2 Scholars are encouraged to participate in workshops focused on career readiness and planning, though attending any of the Cal Poly Scholars workshops and events will fulfill the participation requirement. Some career readiness workshops in the past included:
    - Internship Panel
    - Navigating Your Internship Search for Your Major
    - Resume Makeover
    - Wokeshop: Cultural Capital to Fuel Your Purpose

Residential Learning Community
- Reside in the designated Cal Poly Scholars residential learning community for Year 2 Scholars while enrolled during the academic year

Academic Advising
- Scholars are expected to meet with a Mustang Success Center advisor if their Cal Poly cumulative GPA is between 2.0 and 2.5. The Mustang Success Center will reach out to Scholars via email if you need to fulfill this expectation.
- Scholars on Academic Probation (AP) for any given term must complete an AP support requirement to ensure they have guidance to reach their academic goals. The options for satisfying this requirement vary by college. Scholars will be notified via email after grades post each term about how to meet the conditions of their college and the Cal Poly Scholars program.
  - Being on AP does not impact eligibility to be a Cal Poly Scholar; though depending on Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), scholarship and other financial aid may be affected (see the Academic Achievement section for more details regarding SAP)

Academic Achievement
- Determine and strive for a personal Cal Poly cumulative GPA goal (we recommend at least 2.75)
- Maintain ‘Satisfactory Academic Progress’ (SAP) for financial aid eligibility
  - A general definition of SAP is to maintain a 2.0 minimum cumulative GPA and successfully complete at least 67% of attempted units for financial aid eligibility
  - For more details, please talk with your financial aid counselor and review SAP guidelines on the Office of Financial Aid website
- Communicate regularly with Mustang Success Center advisors or academic advisors in college advising centers for resources and academic support
**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