

EXCEL Freshman–Sophomore GRANT 2009–2010

The EXCEL Program at CSUEB is proud to announce that it has been selected by the U.S. Department of Education, for the 7th year in a row, to receive the EXCEL Freshman–Sophomore Student Grant (Annual award: \$700 – \$1500 pending Department of Education grant renewal). This grant addresses the important role that financial support plays for low–income, first generation in college, and/or disabled students. The purpose of this grant is to encourage EXCEL Freshman and Sophomore students to pursue their baccalaureate degrees.



A little TRIO History: The Higher Education Act (HEA) of 1965 was a legislative document that was signed into law “to strengthen the educational resources of our colleges and universities and to provide financial assistance for students in postsecondary and higher education” (Pub. L. No. 89–329). The HEA created grants, loans and other programs to help students acquire education beyond secondary school. Today the programs are known as the **Federal TRIO Programs**. One of these programs is Student Support Services (a.k.a. EXCEL Program). These programs were designed to help low–income and first–generation college students and individuals with disabilities graduate from college with baccalaureate degrees. EXCEL participants receive assistance with securing financial aid; personal, academic and career counseling; tutoring; applying to graduate and professional programs; and activities specially designed for students with limited English proficiency. Higher education students are now being served at over 948 colleges and universities nationwide.

An EXCEL Student must meet the following criteria to be considered:

- ◆ Enrolled CSUEB Freshman/Sophomore **EXCEL participant** in Fall 2009
- ◆ Must be a full–time undergraduate student (12 or more units) in Fall 2009
- ◆ Satisfactory academic standing (2.0 or above Overall University GPA)
(First quarter first year students’ High School GPA will be used)
- ◆ Current PELL Grant recipient
- ◆ Expected 2009–2010 Financial Aid Family Contribution (EFC) of \$1500 or less

Application Process:

1. Submit the EXCEL Freshman–Sophomore Student Grant Application
2. Submit a one page personal statement (500 words or less):



Topic Samples:

- ▶ Obstacles you have experienced/overcome.
 - ▶ Current and long term educational, life, and career goals.
 - ▶ Special community service, experience, or activities in which you participated.
3. All documents must be received in the EXCEL Office: Friday, September 4, 2009.

EXCEL STUDENT GRANT

2009/2010

California State University, East Bay



EXCEL Program

Deadline: Friday, September 4, 2009

Must be an EXCEL participant to apply. All information is CONFIDENTIAL.

NAME: _____ NET ID #: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone #: Home: () _____ Phone #: Cell: () _____

E-Mail: _____

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

Academic Major: _____ Current Class Level: _____

Units Currently Enrolled in: _____ Overall University GPA: _____
(First quarter first year student, use High School GPA)

FINANCIAL BACKGROUND:

ARE YOU A FINANCIAL AID RECIPIENT? ____ YES ____ NO

PELL GRANT AWARD \$ AMOUNT: \$ = _____

FAMILY CONTRIBUTION \$ AMOUNT: \$ = _____ (Enter \$ amount from your SAR/FAFSA Report.)

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

Please attach a 500 word personal statement to this application. Refer to information sheet for suggested personal statement topics.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE & DATE:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail or fax completed application to:

CSUEB, EXCEL Program – LI 2450
25800 Carlos Bee Blvd., Hayward, CA 94542-3055
(510) 885-3722 Main Office / (510) 885-2397 FAX