

ESLEI 24-29 | Via Email

- **TO:** Extended Opportunities Programs and Services Directors and Coordinators Chief Student Services Officers California Community Colleges School Financial Aid Administrators Association
 FROM: Mia Keeley, Dean of Educational Services
 - Equitable Student Learning, Experience and Impact Office
- **RE:** Extended Opportunities Programs and Services Financial Aid Eligibility

This guidance memo contains information regarding the financial aid eligibility requirements for students receiving services from the Extended Opportunities Programs and Services (EOPS) program.

Background

Eligibility requirements for EOPS students are highlighted in Title 5 Sections <u>56220</u>, <u>56222</u>, and <u>56224</u>. This memo focuses on Title 5 Section 56222, which outlines the student's responsibility *to remain eligible* to receive services from the EOPS program.

Title 5 Section 56222

Based on Title 5 Section 56222, *to remain eligible* to receive programs and services, students shall:

a) apply for state and/or federal financial aid pursuant to the applicable rules and procedures of the college of attendance.

b) maintain academic progress towards a certificate, associate degree, or transfer goal pursuant to the academic standards established by the college of attendance applicable to all credit enrolled students.

c) file an initial EOPS application and complete and adhere to a student educational plan and an EOPS mutual responsibility contract for programs and services.

d) Within two months of acceptance into the EOPS program, provide income documentation from state or federal income tax forms, or public assistance documentation pursuant to Section 58620 (2) of this part, or other documentation as required for financial aid by the college of attendance.

Required Action

It is an institutional responsibility to make sure that students receiving EOPS services are eligible, and remain eligible, for the EOPS program. Since students must apply for financial aid each year to maintain their eligibility per Section 56222 (a), colleges must

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also check for financial aid eligibility for EOPS students each academic year. Financial aid eligibility must be checked at the time a student is admitted to the EOPS program and it must be checked for a continuing student *to remain eligible* for the EOPS program.

Questions

You may send additional questions to the EOPS/CARE Specialist, Rubindar Kaur, at <u>RKaur@CCCCO.edu.</u>

cc: Rebecca Ruan-O'Shaughnessy, Vice Chancellor