AP 5150 EXTENDED OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

References:
Education Code, Sections 69640-69656; Title 5, Sections 56200 et seq.

Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) is a state-funded program designed for the recruitment and retention of California residents who are affected by language, social, and economic disadvantages.

EOPS assists students in reaching their educational goals through academic support and financial assistance. EOPS students are generally characterized as full-time, low income, non-traditional students who come to the college environment educationally under-prepared and who may not achieve their fullest academic potential without EOPS intervention.

EOPS offers an array of services to increase student retention and to support completion of students' educational goals. Support services may include, but are not limited to, priority registration assistance, book vouchers, academic, career, and personal counseling, peer advising, tutoring, workshops and special events, Counseling and Guidance (CG) classes, learning community classes, transfer assistance, university application fee waivers, and financial assistance.

Several EOPS retention and persistence programs have been developed that recognize the importance of integrating the student into the social and academic domains of the college: the EOPS Mentor Program, the EOPS Summer Bridge Program, the EOPS Supplemental Instruction (SI) Program, and the Achievement in Math (AIM) Program. These programs stress the importance of students, faculty, and a counselor interacting outside of the classroom.

The CARE Program is part of EOPS. CARE offers additional services to students receiving public assistance by coordinating with local social service agencies and providing career employment services and childcare assistance. Some of the services that are available to students are book vouchers, workshops, personal counseling, car repair services and bus tokens. In addition, CARE students receive meal tickets, school supplies and community referrals. During the participation in the CARE programs students are given the opportunity to take on leadership roles by participating in the Mentor Program and S.P.I.C.E (Single Parents) Club.
To be eligible for EOPS, a student must:

- Be a California resident;
- Be enrolled as a full-time student;
- Have fewer than 70 degree applicable units completed;
- Complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application and qualify to receive a Board of Governors Fee Waiver under Method A or B or have a 0 Expected Family Contribution (EFC);
- Complete an EOPS Application and attend an orientation or information session;
- Meet with the EOPS counselor twice each semester;
- Be admitted into the program and approved for EOPS services; and
- Be educationally disadvantaged, as determined by the EOPS Director or designee.

In making that determination, the EOPS Director shall consider one of the following factors:

1. Not qualified at the college of attendance for enrollment into the minimum level English or mathematics course that is applicable to the associate degree;
2. not have graduated from high school or obtained the General Education Diploma (G.E.D.);
3. graduated from high school with a grade point average below 2.50 on a 4.00 scale;
4. been previously enrolled in remedial education; and/or
5. other factors set forth in the District's plan submitted to the Chancellor's Office pursuant to Title 5, Section 56270.

The only factors approved by the Chancellor's Office for criteria #5 (above) are:

a. The student is a first generation college student (neither parent has successfully attended college); or
b. The student is a member of an underrepresented group targeted by District/College student equity goals; or
c. The student and/or the parents are non-native English speakers; or
d. The student is an emancipated foster youth.

An EOPS applicant needs only to meet one of the five criteria to be considered educationally disadvantaged. “It is the intent and purpose of the Legislature in establishing the California Community College Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) to encourage local community colleges to establish and implement programs directed to identifying those students affected by language, social, and economic handicaps.”

EOPS adheres to the Rules and Regulations set forth by the California Education Code Chapter 2.5 of Division 8, Part VI of Title 5 of the State of California Education Code. Additional program information is contained in the yearly Program Plan for EOPS and the Cerritos College EOPS website.
Delivery of EOPS

Delivery of EOPS and grants is subject to admission into EOPS which is based on a student meeting a number of Title 5 regulations, such as full-time student status, eligibility standards, Financial Aid and EOPS Matriculation Standards, and Grant Provisions. Progress standards must conform to Federal regulations under Section 668. Allowance to cover food and drinks through either meal tickets or food served at EOPS general student functions. EOPS early registration is allowed for EOPS students through Title 5, Section 56232[c].

Program and Services

The EOPS Programs will include but not be limited to the EOPS Summer Bridge Program, college orientation, academic or vocational counseling, registration assistance, EOPS or care grants, and workshops on college survival skills.

Two EOPS retention and persistence programs have been developed that recognize the importance of integrating the student into the social and academic domains of the college: the EOPS mentor program and the EOPS supplemental instruction (SI) program. These two programs stress the importance of students, faculty, and a counselor interacting outside of the classroom.

Office of Primary Responsibility: Vice President, Student Services

Date Approved: May 21, 2007
(Replaces former Cerritos CCD Policies 4702.1 and 4702.2)