

## Financial Aid Opportunities for International Students

International students inquiring about financial aid opportunities at CSUB are advised that most foreign students enrolled at the University have entered the country on either an F-1 (Student Visa) or a J-1 (Exchange Visitor Visa).

The F-1 visa is for full-time students enrolled in an academic or language program. F-1 students may stay in the U.S. for the full length of their academic program plus 60 days. F-1 students must maintain a full-time course load and complete their studies by the expiration date listed on the I-20 form (Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant [F-1] Student Status).

The J-1 visa is issued for students needing practical training that is not available in their home country to complete their academic program. The training must be directly related to the academic program. The J-1 visa obligates the student to return to their home country for a minimum of two years after the end of their studies in the U.S. before being eligible to apply for an immigrant (permanent residence) visa.

To get a F-1 or J-1 visa approved, you will need to demonstrate that you have sufficient funds to pay for the first year of study in this country and that you have resources available to cover the rest of your educational program. Because of this, and the fact that F-1 and J-1 students are neither U.S. citizens nor eligible non-citizens, they are not eligible for federal student aid. As a result, sources of financial aid for international students to study in the U.S. are extremely limited, and at CSUB, primarily consist of academic scholarship support.

It is highly recommend that international students review the section titled "Financial Aid for International Students" in The SmartStudent Guide to Studying in the USA at <http://www.edupass.org/finaid> . This is an excellent resource, and provides a great deal of useful information concerning aid from your home country, aid from international organizations, aid from the U.S. government for students from specific countries, aid from private U.S. organizations and sponsors, and assistance from your family.

International students interested in attending CSUB are also encouraged to review other sections of the CSUB Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships web site for information concerning academic scholarship eligibility and application requirements.

We appreciate your interest in possibly attending CSUB in the future, and hope that this brief overview concerning financial aid opportunities for international students is helpful.

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