



## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: What are the steps to being admitted to the EOPS program?**

A: If a student meets all of the Eligibility requirements, they can submit an application to the EOPS office. A staff member will screen the application and schedule potentially eligible students for an orientation. During orientation, all of the program's services and benefits will be explained. Eligible students who agree to adhere to the program's guidelines will be admitted to the program at this time.

**Q: Why do I have to make three (3) appointments each semester?**

A: EOPS is a state-funded program, and one of the requirements the state has implemented is that EOPS students meet with a counselor a minimum of three (3) times each semester. This is in order to ensure their positive academic progress. Even if a student has no immediate issues that require counseling, they are still required to keep three (3) appointments each semester to be eligible for all EOPS benefits.

**Q: What is Priority Registration?**

A: Priority registration enables EOPS students to be among the first students allowed to register for classes each semester. Using priority registration gives EOPS students a much greater chance of enrolling in all of their desired courses.

**Q: Why do I need to apply for Financial Aid to apply for the EOPS program?**

A: One of the EOPS eligibility requirements is that a student demonstrates financial need. To determine financial need, the state requires that each prospective EOPS student be eligible to receive a Board of Governors Fee Waiver (BOGFW), which they must apply for through Financial Aid. We strongly recommend that a student complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form, which includes the BOGFW, to maximize the amount of financial assistance available to the student.

**Q: Are there any exceptions to the 12 unit requirement?**

A: Yes. Students who have been determined by the Disabled Student Program and Services (DSPS) to be unable to complete a full-time schedule can be admitted to EOPS with less than 12 units. EOPS requires a unit override letter from the DSPS before a student can be admitted.

**Q: Are there any exceptions to the 70 unit limit at the time of application?**

A: No. The state requires that a student has completed less than 70 degree-applicable units in order to be eligible for the EOPS program.

**Q: If I am an EOPS student, but I miss a semester, am I still in the EOPS program?**

A: If an EOPS student does not make contact with the office for one whole semester, that student will need to reapply to the program. This rule applies whether or not the student was enrolled in classes during the semester. The student will have to meet all eligibility requirements again to be readmitted to the program.

**Q: If I am denied a book grant, does it mean I'm no longer in the EOPS program?**

A: No. Being denied a book grant does not automatically disqualify you from the EOPS program. You will only be exited from the program if you exceed 70 degree-applicable units and aren't eligible for an extension, complete your educational goal, participate in EOPS for six (6) consecutive semesters, or are exited by the director for repeated violations of the Mutual Responsibility Contract (MRC).

**Q: What are the three (3) required contacts, and when do I need to schedule them?**

A: EOPS students are required by the state to meet with an EOPS counselor three (3) times each semester. A schedule has been created that EOPS students must follow when making their contacts. The first contact is required before you are awarded a book grant and is used for academic planning and review. The second contact period usually falls between the 5th and 12th weeks of the semester and is for students to turn in progress reports for the current semester. The last contact period usually occurs between the 11th and 15th weeks of the semester and is for assessing a student's current program status and for planning for the following semester. Please consult the 'Latest News' section of this website for the current semester's counseling contact schedule.