

The Chancellor's Doctoral Incentive Program (CDIP)

California Pre-Doctoral Program: <https://www.calstate.edu/csu-system/faculty-staff/cdip>

The California State University (CSU) announces its Chancellor's Doctoral Incentive Program (CDIP) for the 25/26 academic year. It aims to increase the number of promising doctoral students seeking future CSU instructional faculty positions by offering them assistance in the form of a financial loan, grant opportunities, and mentorship by CSU faculty. Established in 1987, the CSU CDIP is the largest program of its kind in the United States. Since 1987, CDIP has loaned \$49 million to 2,081 doctoral students. More than half of CDIP scholars have obtained faculty positions at a CSU campus.

The program provides financial aid in the form of loans to doctoral students who have the motivation, skills and experience needed to teach the diverse student body of the CSU. The monies may be used for any purpose to support the recipient's doctoral studies.

Financial loan:

The CDIP offers loans up to \$10,000 per year over five years, with a maximum amount of \$30,000. The loans are:

- Repayable over a 15-year period commencing one year after completion of, or withdrawal from, full-time doctoral study;
- Forgivable at the rate of 20% for each year of full-time postdoctoral teaching employment in the CSU or 10% for each year of half-time postdoctoral teaching employment in the CSU.

Further details about the loan program can be found on our website,
<https://www2.calstate.edu/csu-system/faculty-staff/cdip>

Mentorship support:

The CDIP also ensures the success of the doctoral students by combining the loan program with a mentorship component. Through collaborative teaching, research and service activities, faculty mentors will:

- Support the CDIP fellows' successful completion of their doctoral studies;
- Develop the CDIP fellows' potential for employment in an instructional faculty position at a CSU.

More information about the CDIP faculty mentor's role can be found on our website, under Mentorship.

Professional Development & Grants:

Through CDIP grants, we aim to support the collaborative activities of CDIP fellows and their faculty members. Fellows will have the opportunity to use grant funds to further their doctoral training and to attend professional conferences and workshops.

- Mini-Grant Program funds fellows up to \$2,500 for collaborative activities and research-dissertation activities, including: research supplies, small equipment, computer programs, software, books, journal subscriptions and research related travel.
- Travel Grant Program funds fellows and mentors up to \$1,500 for travel to participate in professional meetings, conferences and workshops.
- Dissertation Fellowship funds fellows up to \$5,000 to support completion of doctoral studies in the final year of the dissertation.

Other provisions of the program:

- Receipt of a loan through this program and completion of the doctorate does not in any way guarantee employment as a faculty member at a CSU campus or obligate the recipient to accept such employment, if applied for and offered.
- Individual CSU academic departments may have faculty recruitment and appointment requirements in addition to an earned doctorate (e.g., possession of a teaching credential, a Ph.D. instead of a professional doctorate in a specific subdiscipline). It is the applicant's responsibility to be aware of such requirements.
- Funds for the CDIP are contingent on the California State University Board of Trustees' approval each year of the lottery revenue budget.

Applying for CDIP:

- The following must be turned into Graduate Excellence and Engagement Program at geep@csus.edu by **11:59 p.m. on Friday, January 16th, 2026.**
 - A current curriculum vitae (CV); and
 - A collaborative plan of support.
- Your application materials will be reviewed by the Graduate Diversity Awards Committee.
- You will need to upload the following materials for the Chancellor's Office:
 - A current curriculum vitae (CV);
 - A collaborative plan of support; and
 - A letter of recommendation from your CSU faculty mentor.
- For more information on application materials and samples, please use the following link: <https://www.calstate.edu/csu-system/faculty-staff/cdip/Pages/application-guidelines.aspx>