WHAT IS FINANCIAL AID?
The primary purpose of financial aid is to remove the cost barriers that may prevent students from pursuing their educational goals. Assistance is available from a variety of programs funded by federal, state, university and private sources including grants, scholarships, loans and employment opportunities. The basic financial aid package is a combination of self-help (loans/work study) and gift aid (grants/scholarships).

ELIGIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL AID
In order to receive financial aid from CSULB, you must:
- Be accepted for admission.
- Not be in default on any federal loan or owe a refund on any federal grant.
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress.
- Be enrolled in an eligible program.

Additional Criteria for Federal Aid (FAFSA) Applicants:
- You must be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen.
- Meet federal financial aid eligibility requirements.

Additional Criteria for AB540 (DREAM) Applicants:
- You must qualify for AB540 status.
- Must have registered with Selective Service (all males age 18–26 are required to register).

Financial need is considered to be the difference between a family's ability to pay and the cost of education. The family contribution is determined by evaluating several factors, including your income and assets (and those of your parents, if applicable), your family size and the number of people in your family attending college.

CALIFORNIA DREAM ACT - AB540 STUDENTS
AB540 students who do not meet the eligibility requirements for federal financial aid may qualify for state and university aid under the California Dream Act. Undocumented students who qualify are allowed to pay in-state tuition, instead of out-of-state tuition at the university.

APPLICATIONS & DEADLINES
The first step in applying for financial aid is to complete the appropriate aid application by the deadline:
- FAFSA Applicants: www.fafsa.gov.
- DREAM Applicants: dream.csac.ca.gov.

The FAFSA and DREAM Applications must be completed each year and are available beginning October 1st for the upcoming academic year.

CSULB priority filing deadline: March 2nd

The CSULB school code is 001139.

NOTE: California residents applying for a Cal Grant must also submit a California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) GPA Verification form to CSAC by March 2nd. GPA Verification Forms are available at www.csac.ca.gov. Check with your high school or college to determine if you are responsible for submitting this form or if your school will submit on your behalf.

APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID EARLY
Do not wait until you are admitted to the university to apply for financial aid. Students who file during the October–March 2nd time period and who demonstrate the highest need will be given priority consideration for financial aid funding. Students filing after March 2nd will have their awards based on remaining funds available.

AFTER APPLYING
After completing your application, you will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR). Be sure to review your SAR for any errors.
  - In April, Financial Aid begins sending emails acknowledging receipt of your application.
  - If no additional documents are required, you will receive an email indicating that your official award offer is available to view using MyCSULB.
  - If additional documents are required, you will be notified and provided with instructions for obtaining any necessary forms. Files are reviewed after all documents have been submitted to CSULB.

COSTS OF CSULB
There are three standard nine-month budgets used to calculate the cost of attending CSULB. Each budget varies according to the student's living situation. The following fees are based on the 2019-2020 academic year for undergraduate students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Commuter</th>
<th>On-Campus Housing</th>
<th>Off-Campus Housing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fees*</td>
<td>$6,834.00</td>
<td>$6,834.00</td>
<td>$6,834.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing (Room &amp; Food)</td>
<td>$6,096.00</td>
<td>$13,158.00</td>
<td>$15,056.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books</td>
<td>$2,058.00</td>
<td>$2,058.00</td>
<td>$2,058.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>$1,620.00</td>
<td>$1,504.00</td>
<td>$1,504.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>$1,774.00</td>
<td>$1,774.00</td>
<td>$1,774.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$18,382.00</td>
<td>$25,328.00</td>
<td>$27,226.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*California Resident fees. Non-residents add an additional $396 per unit. Credential fees are $7,716. Graduate/Post baccalaureate fees are $8,232. Information is subject to change.
GRANTS
Grants are based on financial need and are either federally or state funded. Grants do not need to be repaid.

Cal Grants – Cal Grant A eligibility is based on academic achievement and financial need. This grant is to be used for registration fees, but might not cover total fees. Cal Grant B eligibility is based on demonstration of substantial financial need. This grant consists of a stipend, and for renewal recipients, an award may be used for registration fees. Eligible students must meet California residency requirements for Cal Grants.

Educational Opportunity Grants – These grants may be awarded to students who are admitted to CSULB through the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) and demonstrate financial need. Eligible students must meet California residency requirements.

Federal Pell Grants – These grants are for students who demonstrate exceptional need. All students applying for financial aid at CSULB who are U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens will be considered for a Pell Grant.

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG) – CSULB awards FSEOG to undergraduate students with the highest need.

State University Grants – provides need-based awards to cover a portion of the State Tuition Fee for eligible undergraduate, graduate, and postbaccalaureate students who are California residents or are otherwise determined as eligible.

SCHOLARSHIPS
Scholarships are private funds that are made available to students through a separate application process for each scholarship. Scholarship awards do not require repayment. Students are encouraged to utilize the Financial Aid website, which assists students in finding and applying to hundreds of internal and external scholarships, via www.csulb.edu/scholarships.

Department scholarships – Donations are sometimes made directly to specific departments. Some examples include athletic, engineering and fine arts scholarships. Contact the department of your major for information and applications.

Private scholarships – The qualifications for these scholarships depend on donor requirements. Some donors are interested in awarding students with a certain major, GPA or a specific educational goal. Others ask for more general qualifications, such as participation in civic or school affairs.

LOANS
Loans are based on financial need and are federally or privately funded. Students are required to repay loans. Federal student loans may be available to FAFSA applicants; they are not available for DREAM applicants.

Direct PLUS – PLUS loans are long-term, low-interest loans available through participating lending agencies based on credit approval. Under PLUS, parents and eligible graduate students may borrow only up to the cost of education minus other financial aid awarded.

Direct Student Loan – Subsidized or unsubsidized Direct Student Loans are federally sponsored, long-term, low-interest loans awarded based on financial need. For subsidized loans, the interest accrued on the loan while the student is in school is paid by the government. Unsubsidized loans are for students who do not qualify, in whole or in part, for a subsidized loan. The repayment terms for the unsubsidized loan are the same as the terms of the subsidized loan except the government does not pay the interest on the borrower’s behalf and the interest rate may vary.

NOTE: Federal student loans are available to most eligible FAFSA applicants, regardless of income. Federal loans provide a range of repayment options, including income-based repayment plans and loan forgiveness benefits that may not be provided by other education loans.

Private Education Loan – A private education loan may reduce eligibility for free or lower-cost federal, state or institutional student financial aid. Comparisons of federal versus private loans are available from the Department of Education at www.studentaid.gov.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES
Federal Work Study – FWS is a federally funded program that provides employment opportunities to students with financial need.

Student Assistant & Off-Campus Employment – Information about employment opportunities both on and off-campus is available from the Career Development Center at CSULB located in Brotman Hall, Room 250.

QUESTIONS
Financial Aid Office
Brotman Hall (BH), Room 101
(562) 985-8403
www.csulb.edu/financial-aid

General Campus Information
www.csulb.edu