The Achievement Award Program
Funding Overview

Where the funds come from
The Achievement Award Program (TAAP) Alumni Scholarship is possible because of generous donors who have either established endowments or have donated to the TAAP annual fund. Endowments are large funds ($50,000 or greater) that earn interest each year; the interest is then used to fund annual scholarships and pay for the cost of running the program. Annual funds are like a checking account and the entire gift can be used to support students. Some scholarships are funded by endowments and some by annual gifts, or even a combination of both.

Where the funds go
UC Berkeley’s Office of Financial Aid in conjunction with the Campus Accounts Receivable System (CARS) disburses all TAAP funds paid to a scholar.

Each scholar receives up to $6,000 per year. The scholarship does not affect federal, state or university grants or parental contribution toward the entire student budget. Incoming freshman can receive eight semesters of awards and incoming junior transfer students can receive four semesters of awards. These semesters do not need to be consecutive.

Scholars may use their scholarship funds when studying abroad via the UC Berkeley Education Abroad Program (EAP) or when attending a school with a consortium agreement with the UC Berkeley Office of Financial Aid (OFA).

Funding eligibility
TAAP scholarships are renewable each year, provided that scholars meet the following minimum requirements*:

- A 2.0 GPA or higher
- Financial need
- All prior program requirements satisfied (service hours, meetings, etc)

*Note: Please read over the Scholar Mutual Agreement for all program requirements to satisfy funding eligibility.

If you have questions about your TAAP award...

- Call the Program Manager at 510.642.2949
- Call CARS about any billing related issues at 510.642.3190
- Call the Financial Aid Office for all questions regarding your financial aid package (award amounts and types of awards) at 510.642.6442
The Achievement Award Program
Frequently Asked Questions

How much is The Achievement Award Program (TAAP) Alumni Scholarship?
Scholars receive up to $6000 per academic year; up to $3000 in the Fall and up to $3000 in the Spring. Incoming freshman will receive eight semesters of awards, and incoming junior transfer students will receive four semesters of awards (as long as requirements of the scholarship continue to be met).

What about summer? Or if it takes me longer then 8 semesters (or 4 for transfer students) to graduate from Cal?
Due to budgetary constraints, summer funding and extra semester funding are not available at this time.

What does “up to $6000” really mean?
The exact amount of your scholarship is determined by the Office of Financial Aid. TAAP is a financial need-based scholarship, and they look at the “self-help” portion of the student budget to determine the award amount. The scholarship will replace up to $3000 per semester of direct loans and work-study monies – it will not replace other grant monies or scholarships.

If I’m not awarded the full $6000, does that mean I can use the leftover money for something else?
No – there aren’t any “leftover” monies. You are only awarded up to your financial need and no more or less than that. Scholars are not guaranteed $6000 per year, only up to and including that amount as their financial need dictates.

How do I get paid?
TAAP scholarship monies are distributed through the Campus Accounts Receivable System (CARS). Fall awards are typically disbursed in mid-August, and Spring monies are disbursed typically in mid-December.