California Coast Noyce Scholars
Scholarship Information

California Coast Noyce Scholars (CCNS) Partnership at Humboldt State University (HSU), CSU Channel Islands (CSUCI), and CSU Monterey Bay (CSUMB) aims to encourage talented Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) majors and professionals to enter into the teaching profession and teach high school mathematics. Through this partnership, undergraduate Noyce Scholars are able to complete a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) degree at any of the three campuses, transfer seamlessly to one of the other partner campuses for their teaching credential in math, and continue as a Noyce Scholar during their post-baccalaureate teacher certification (credential) program. The partnership also provides scholarships to STEM professional career changers seeking math teaching certification.

Each Noyce Scholar may receive up to three years of funding with stipends of $10,000 per year. In return for funding, scholars agree to teach two years in a “high needs” school district for each full year of support.

The CCNS partnership is closely tied to the mathematics and education programs on each campus and includes a significant program of pre-professional support for Scholars. This pre-professional development program includes opportunities for continuous interaction with other scholars in an on-line Noyce Scholars Teaching Commons. In addition, the campuses host an annual conference for the Noyce Scholars to share ideas and practices, and to form an educational community that will continue to provide support through the early years of teaching.

Noyce Scholars will be selected by consideration of academic achievement and commitment to teaching mathematics in a high needs school. Additional factors influencing the applicant’s academic performance may be considered. Scholarships will be awarded on a competitive basis.

Eligibility Requirements

- Junior or senior standing at HSU, CSUCI, or CSUMB in a Mathematics Major or in a STEM Major with a course plan that allows for the completion of a single-subject credential in mathematics; or a credential candidate at HSU, CSUCI, or CSUMB leading to a single-subject credential in Mathematics; or a STEM Professional admitted to a credential program at HSU, CSUCI, or CSUMB in single subject Mathematics.
- Minimum 3.0 GPA in the last 60 semester units of coursework.
- 2.75 GPA overall in most recent 30 units of college classes.
- U.S. Citizen, U.S. National or U.S. Permanent Resident Alien.
- Commitment to Teach Mathematics in a “High Needs” School District

Scholarship Maintenance Requirements

- Maintain at least a 2.75 grade point average
- Participate in monthly cohort meetings
- Meet regularly with the campus Noyce advisor
- Teach mathematics for two years for each year of Noyce Scholars support—fulfilling the teaching commitment in a high needs school district within eight years, or repaying the scholarship.
Scholarships for the 2009-2010 academic year.

Two to four $10,000 Scholarships will be awarded for the 2009-2010 academic year. The priorities for the scholarships are to provide transitional support for prospective teachers from an undergraduate program into a credential program, or from a credential program into the classroom. Thus, the following groups are encouraged to apply: Students who are currently members of the HSU credential program in Mathematics and Science, and who expect to earn a single-subject credential in mathematics; Students finishing their undergraduate preparation in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) discipline who are applying to a credential program (at Humboldt State, CSU Monterey Bay, or CSU Channel Islands) with the intent of earning a single-subject credential in mathematics.

Applications for the 2009-2010 academic year scholarships are due by December 15, 2009. Award decisions will be made by December 22, 2009. Click here to access application materials.

Scholarships for the 2010-2011 academic year.

Three to five $10,000 scholarships will be awarded for the 2010-2011 academic year. In addition to the priorities listed for the 2009-2010 awards, students who are entering the final year of their undergraduate program in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) discipline and whose preparation in mathematics is sufficient to earn a single subject credential in mathematics are encouraged to apply. Applications for the 2010-2011 academic year scholarships are due by April 15, 2010. Award decisions will be made by April 30, 2010. Click here to access application materials.

Frequently Asked Questions (Under Construction)

1. What if does it mean to teach in a “High Needs School District”?

   It means that you commit to teaching in a school district that includes at least one elementary or secondary school that meets one of the following criteria:

   (a) The school serves a high percentage of individuals from families with incomes below the poverty line.
   (b) The school has a high percentage of secondary school teachers not teaching in the content area in which the teachers were trained to teach.
   (c) The school has a high teacher turnover rate.

   Many, many districts in California meet criterion (a), so it will be very easy to find eligible school districts.

2. Will the CCNS program place me in a job in a high needs school district?

   No. Noyce scholars are responsible for finding their own job once they have their credential. However, job prospects continue to look very positive for teaching mathematics. Even in this time of economic downturn when there seem to be no shortages of teachers looking for work, mathematics is the one area in which the demand for teachers outstrips the supply. Candidates will have a high probability of securing a teaching job once they earn their single subject credential in Mathematics.

3. Do I still qualify even though my major is not in Mathematics?

   Yes. We expect that success in your discipline has required you to build a strong quantitative base that not only prepares you to pass the CSET but also provides you with a broad understanding of mathematics for teaching. If you are unsure, please contact either Professor Dale Oliver (Mathematics) or Professor Jeffery White (Biology). If necessary, we will advise you on how to strengthen your mathematics for teaching, perhaps including
additional math, statistics, or math education courses in the final year of your undergraduate degree program or your credential program.

4. What if I opt not to teach mathematics, or I don’t find a job teaching mathematics?

If for whatever reason you do not complete 2 years of teaching mathematics in a high needs school district within 8 years of receiving the scholarship, the scholarship will become like a student load that must be repaid to the Federal Government. Terms of the repayment will be similar to that for a Federal Student loan. Generally speaking, these will be very favorable terms. Details will be available prior to your acceptance of the scholarship.

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