



## Cal-Bridge CSU Scholar Contract

Please initial each statement below, to show that you understand the expectations of becoming a Cal-Bridge scholar. Throughout this contract, “the program” refers to “the Cal-Bridge undergraduate program” and “mentors” refers to Cal-Bridge Faculty Mentors. Words and phrases marked with † are further defined in the Contract Glossary.

- \_\_\_ I will maintain good academic standing at my university for the duration of my time in the program.
- \_\_\_ I authorize Cal-Bridge to verify and monitor my major, enrollment status, and campus academic standing. I agree to notify the program immediately of any changes in these statuses.
- \_\_\_ I agree to provide the program with a copy of my transcript at the end of each academic term and upon request.
- \_\_\_ I authorize my instructors to share, during the semester, information about my grades and performance in their class with my mentors and program steering committees.
- \_\_\_ I will meet with my two mentors at least twice a month to assess my academic progress and evaluate my progress toward matriculation† to a PhD program. I am responsible for making sure these meetings take place and will notify the program if I have difficulty contacting or scheduling meetings with my mentors.
- \_\_\_ I will provide my two mentors with copies of my academic plan at our first meeting, showing my proposed path to graduation in the timeframe required by the program.
- \_\_\_ I will complete the FAFSA (or DREAM Act) form as early as possible and submit it to my university financial aid office for each year I am in the program. I understand that failure to complete the FAFSA (or DREAM Act) in a timely way may delay and even imperil my financial aid award, including my Cal-Bridge financial support.
- \_\_\_ I give the program permission to receive financial aid information from my university financial aid office for each year I am in the program, to allow the program to determine my need-based† Cal-Bridge scholarship.
- \_\_\_ If my financial status or university financial aid package changes at any time, or if I receive or lose any aid from any source, I will immediately inform my mentors and the program† so that they can review my Cal-Bridge scholarship and adjust it if necessary. I will also inform the program of any change in my cost of attendance (COA) for the same purpose.
- \_\_\_ I will contact the program immediately if I make any decisions that affect my academic status† and financial aid eligibility.
- \_\_\_ I will maintain an average GPA of 3.0 or greater in each term and receive no less than a B- (B for Masters scholars) in any required or elective courses in my major (including all courses required for your major) while a Cal-Bridge scholar, or I will be placed on **academic notice**.† Once on notice, I understand that if I do not improve my academic performance in the next term to meet the above criteria, I may be asked to leave the program, at the discretion of the relevant steering committee.
- \_\_\_ I understand that attendance at mandatory Cal-Bridge workshops is critical to my success as a Cal-Bridge Scholar, and that mandatory attendance is required for all Cal-Bridge workshops.
- \_\_\_ I understand that there are additional optional workshops, events, resources, etc. (e.g., the Peer Mentoring Program), that the program may notify me about. Not attending these additional events will not affect my status in the program but attending them may assist me in reaching my goals.
- \_\_\_ I will not work more than 10 hours per week in paid employment during the academic term while a Cal-Bridge Scholar, in order to focus my energies on excelling academically, unless my exception request, endorsed by my mentors, is approved by the program.
- \_\_\_ I will check my email at least once a day and respond in a timely manner†, including submitting any document or information requested by the program or my mentors in a timely manner†.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that if I do not consistently fulfill the non-academic requirements of the program, I may be placed on **non-academic notice**<sup>†</sup> and can be asked to leave the program at the discretion of the program. Examples include: unexcused absence from mentorship meetings and/or workshops; failure to follow program policies and guidelines; or not responding to program-related correspondence in a timely manner<sup>†</sup>. I understand that to be removed from non-academic notice, I must correct the behavior that caused me to be placed on notice to the satisfaction of the program leadership.

\_\_\_\_\_ If I withdraw from my four-year university or if I become ineligible for financial aid during a term in which I am receiving a scholarship, I understand that I will fully repay any scholarship funds from said term, if requested.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will apply to summer research programs for the summer between my two undergraduate years in Cal-Bridge. I will apply to at least 4 summer research programs, including the Cal-Bridge Summer program.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will take the general GRE in time to submit my scores for PhD applications, as necessary.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will begin to consult with my Cal-Bridge mentors in the spring of my next-to-last year at my university to discuss the PhD programs to which I will apply.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will contact the graduate division at each PhD program where I apply to request fee application waivers at least two months before any application deadline.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will apply to PhD programs in the fall of the year I will graduate from my university. I will apply to at least 10 PhD programs, including at least 4 UCs, unless recommended otherwise by my mentors, and the requested exception is approved by the program.

\_\_\_\_\_ I grant permission to the Cal-Bridge program and all UC and Partner PhD programs to share information with each other about my application and admissions status for my benefit and that of the program.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will apply for an NSF graduate research fellowship, if eligible, in the fall of the year I will graduate, with the help of my mentors. If my mentors and I determine that applying for an NSF fellowship would be detrimental to my academic progress or well-being, I may ask for an exception to this requirement.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that it is critical for the Cal-Bridge program to be able to report on the outcomes of the program to funders, so I will continue to communicate regularly with Cal-Bridge after I leave the program and assist them to track my progress in my professional career.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that I may request, after consultation with my mentors, exceptions to the above agreements given my personal situation. I will submit any exception requests in a timely manner<sup>†</sup> so that the program can evaluate the request and provide recommendations and/or exceptions. I only need to reveal personal details to the extent that I am comfortable sharing with the program.

\_\_\_\_\_ I hereby grant the Cal-Bridge program permission to use my story, photographs, and/or video recordings of me on program and other websites, social media platforms (including but not limited to Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram) and in publications, promotional flyers, educational materials, derivative works, or for any other similar purpose without compensation to me, in perpetuity. I may request to be exempted from social media postings by informing the program of my wishes.

\_\_\_\_\_ FERPA waiver: I hereby grant faculty and staff at my university permission to share with the program and my Cal-Bridge mentors, information on my academic status and progress, including information about grades and performance in my classes, in order to allow the Cal-Bridge program to provide support for my academic progress and to evaluate my status in and eligibility for the Cal-Bridge undergraduate program.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have read and agree to the terms and conditions stated in the [Cal-Bridge Code of Conduct](#)

\_\_\_\_\_ I have read and agree to the terms and conditions stated in the [Cal-Bridge Travel and Events policy](#)

#### **REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL CAL-BRIDGE UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARS**

*I understand that this contract outlines the requirements I must fulfill as a Cal-Bridge undergraduate scholar. I understand that to remain eligible for the program, I must continue to satisfy all academic eligibility requirements including a minimum GPA, and completion of enough units each term (quarter or semester) to graduate within two years of entering the Cal-Bridge program.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Cal-Bridge Scholar Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cal-Bridge Scholar Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# Cal–Bridge Scholar Acceptance Contract Glossary

**Academic status** refers to your campus’s probationary status requirements.

**Need–Based** financial aid is determined to provide for any unmet need after other grants and scholarships are accounted for up to \$10,000 per year. Unmet need is determined based on information provided by your campus’s financial aid office.

**Unmet need** is the Cost of Attendance (COA) minus any Expected Family Contribution (EFC) and any other grants and scholarships (e.g., Cal-Grant) are accounted for. Loans do not count as grants or scholarships.

**Cost of Attendance (COA)** is the total cost of attending school, including tuition, fees, and living expenses. This amount is determined by your campus financial aid office, accounting for your living arrangements.

**Expected Family Contribution (EFC)** is the amount which you or your family is expected to contribute to your education, as determined from your FAFSA form.

**Academic Notice** is the term applied when your grades fall below the specified requirements of the program. Achieving grades that meet these requirements the next academic term leads to the removal of this notice. In the event that those grades are not achieved two academic terms in a row, you *may* be asked to leave the program at the discretion of the program leadership.

**Non–academic Notice** is the term applied when you are consistently not fulfilling the requirements of the program. Examples include: unexcused absence from mentorship meetings and/or workshops; failure to follow program policies and guidelines; or not responding to program–related correspondence in a timely manner.

**Matriculation** to a PhD program refers to being accepted and enrolling in such a program.

**Academic Plan** refers to the plan submitted during the application process and updated, with the help of your mentors throughout your time in the program.

**Responding in a Timely Manner** is typically considered replying within 24-48 hours or by a specified deadline. If you are unable to respond to a request in that time frame, you must respond to explain why.

**Inform the Program** by filling out an exemption form at [www.calbridge.org](http://www.calbridge.org) and/or emailing [UGProgram@calbridge.org](mailto:UGProgram@calbridge.org).