

# ASUC BY-LAWS

## Title XXIII

### ASUC Removing Impediments to Students/ Education (RISE) Scholarship

#### ARTICLE I - NAME AND PURPOSE

##### 1.1 Name and Purpose

The ASUC Removing Impediments to Students' Education (RISE) scholarship program shall provide scholarships to UC Berkeley students who have lost their federal financial aid eligibility due to an affirmative answer to the Aid Elimination Provision on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in order to encourage these students to continue their quest for higher education, as well as to impress upon society the ASUC's commitment to supporting access to public education for all people.

##### 1.2 Administration

The Academic Affairs Vice President shall administer the ASUC Removing Impediments to Students' Education (RISE) Scholarship Program. The Academic Affairs Vice President shall coordinate with the University Office of Financial Aid and the University Office of the Registrar to advertise the program to the largest number of eligible students possible.

##### 1.3 Number of Scholarships

The ASUC shall award no less than one (1) scholarship each year, contingent upon the annual demand for the scholarship.

##### 1.4 Amount of Scholarships

Each ASUC Removing Impediments to Students' Education (RISE) Scholarship shall be for the amount of \$400.

#### ARTICLE II - ELIGIBILITY

##### 2.1 Eligibility for New Scholarships

Any UC Berkeley or UC Berkeley Extension Student shall be eligible to receive an ASUC Removing Impediments to Students' Education (RISE) Scholarship, provided that the student meets the following requirements:

1. The student has been declared ineligible for federal financial aid, based upon their affirmative answer to the Aid Elimination Provision on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), by the University Office of Financial Aid
2. The student is a registered UC Berkeley Student in good standing;
3. The student maintains a UC Grade Point Average of 2.5 or above;
4. The student contributes a minimum of 20 hours during the Academic Year of community service, to be approved by the ASUC Academic Affairs Vice President;

5. The student uses the Scholarship funds only to pay for UC Berkeley tuition or fees, housing costs, or textbooks or other course materials purchased at the ASUC Store.

## **2.2 Verification of Eligibility**

The Academic Affairs Vice President shall arrange for verification of the eligibility requirements. For use of funds, the Academic Affairs Vice President may arrange for the direct payment to the University of tuition or fees, for vouchers redeemable at the ASUC Student Store, or for the reimbursement of approved receipts, as defined in 2.1.6.

## **2.3 Moral Obligation**

Recipients of ASUC Removing Impediments to Students' Education (RISE) Scholarship shall have the moral obligation to contribute to the ASUC Removing Impediments to Students' Education (RISE) Scholarship program after graduation once they find themselves in the financial position to be of assistance to the program.

## **2.4 Additional Eligibility Requirements**

Students may only receive this scholarship once during their education at UC Berkeley.

# **ARTICLE III - CRITERIA FOR AWARDS**

## **3.1 General Criteria**

ASUC Removing Impediments to Students' Education (RISE) Scholarship shall be awarded to eligible students (as stated in Article 2.1) based upon the following criteria:

1. Academic Achievement (50%)
2. Community service, leadership, and personal history, which can include financial need (50%)

## **3.2 Calculations of Academic Achievement**

An applicant's Academic Achievement shall be based on their GPA. The academic achievement criteria shall also consider letters of recommendation pertaining to academic achievement, any classes and results from outside academic course work, such as community college or high school work.

## **3.3 Calculation of Financial Need**

An applicant's Financial Need shall be based on the Financial Need determined for that student by the University Office of Financial Aid, that results from the filing of a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or other forms required by the Financial Aid Office.

## **3.4 Calculation of Community Service and Leadership and Personal History**

The Applicant's community service and leadership shall be based on an assessment of the applicant's resume, information supplied on the application, and a Personal Statement.

# **ARTICLE IV - APPLICATION**

## **4.1 Form of Application**

The application for the ASUC Removing Impediments to Students' Education (RISE) Scholarship shall be developed by the Academic Affairs Vice President in conjunction with the Evaluation Committee. The Application shall include;

1. A Personal Statement or Essay. The Academic Affairs Vice President in conjunction with the Evaluation Committee may determine a subject to be addressed or may leave the statement to the Applicants discretion. The Academic Affairs Vice President in conjunction with the Evaluation Committee shall determine the length of the statement;
2. A statement authorizing the release of academic, biographical, or financial information from the applicant's University of California Application for admission, for the sole use of the Evaluation Committee, as is determined necessary by the Academic Affairs Vice President, in conjunction with the Evaluation Committee.
3. A statement acknowledging the terms of the ASUC Removing Impediments to Students' Education (RISE) Scholarship, and acknowledging the recipients moral obligation to contribute to the program after graduation.
4. The Applicant must indicate on his/her University of California Admissions Application his/her authorization to release academic, biographical, or financial information to outside agencies and his/her authorization to biographical information to recognized University Student Organizations.

#### **4.2 Timeline**

1. The Academic Affairs Vice President shall make applications for Removing Impediments to Students' Education (RISE) Scholarship available at the beginning of each Academic Year.
2. Final Decisions of ASUC Removing Impediments to Students' Education (RISE) Scholarship recipients may be made at any time during the Academic Year.

### **ARTICLE V - EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

#### **5.1 Composition**

1. The Evaluation Committee shall consist of four (4) ASUC Senators and the Academic Affairs Vice President.
2. Four Senators shall be selected for the Evaluation Committee at the first regular Senate meeting of the Fall Senate Session.

#### **5.2 Purpose**

1. The Evaluation Committee shall select the new recipients of the ASUC Removing Impediments to Students' Education (RISE) Scholarship in accordance with the criteria stated in Article 2.1.
2. The Senators on the Evaluation Committee shall give advice on the direction of the ASUC Removing Impediments to Students' Education (RISE) Scholarship program to the Academic Affairs Vice President and the ASUC Senate.

### **ARTICLE VI - FUNDING**

#### **6.1 ASUC Funding**

1. The ASUC Senate shall allocate funds from the ASUC Carry Forward Account to the ASUC Removing Impediments to Students' Education (RISE) Scholarship Program. Each year, the ASUC Removing Impediments to Students' Education (RISE) Scholarship Program account shall hold no less than \$400.
2. The ASUC Senate shall have final discretion regarding the source of funding for the ASUC Removing Impediments to Students' Education (RISE) Scholarship Program. The purpose of this subsection is to ensure adequate funding for the ASUC Removing Impediments to Students' Education (RISE) Scholarship Program.

## **6.2 Private Funding**

The Academic Affairs Vice President shall seek out private sources of funding from alumni, students, and University benefactors to augment the ASUC funding.

## **6.3 Endowment**

The ASUC shall seek, through ASUC and private funding, to establish an endowment from which ASUC Removing Impediments to Students' Education (RISE) Scholarships shall be awarded.

## **6.4 Funding Roll Over**

Funds allocated to the ASUC Removing Impediments to Students' Education (RISE) Scholarship Program by the ASUC, or donated through private funding, that have not been spent by the end of the fiscal year shall be exempt from Title III, Article 6.2 of the ASUC By-Laws (Funding Roll Over). Funds that have not been spent during a single academic year shall roll over into the following academic year's ASUC Removing Impediments to Students' Education (RISE) Scholarship Program Budget, and may be added to the established Annuity.

## **6.5 Termination of Program**

If the Aid Elimination Provision to the Higher Education Act of 1965 is repealed, or if the University of California decides to institute a program of aid replacement, the ASUC Senate shall consider the necessity of this program.

Updated: June 18, 2007 – Jillian E. Hagan

Verified: June 19, 2007 - Rosezetta E. Upshaw