

**ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**  
**STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES PROGRAM**  
**F.A.Q.**

**Q: *WHAT IS AEP?***

**A:** The Academic Excellence Program (AEP) is designed to support scholars in realizing their fullest academic potential. Our goal is to help students overcome barriers, maximize strengths, successfully navigate their way through undergraduate education and continue on to graduate school and/or a career. Mostly, AEP is a fun and helpful community where people really care!

**Q: *WHAT DOES AEP OFFER ITS SCHOLARS?***

**A:** AEP offers a community of support at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Types of support include but are not limited to general academic advising, career exploration, financial counseling, peer and faculty mentoring, advocacy, midterm evaluation, workshops, study skills, life skills, time management, test-taking strategies, writing assistance, group and individual tutoring, and TRiO Advanced Study Community (graduate studies exploration).

In addition, AEP can be your campus “home” where someone is always willing to lend an ear. We are also well connected on campus and offer resources and referrals to other departments and agencies that provide services not available at AEP.

**Q: *HOW DO I BECOME A PARTICIPANT OF AEP?***

**A:** The first step is to talk to someone in the AEP office. They will ask you to fill out the AEP application and complete an intake interview, which takes approximately 30 minutes. You may be asked to provide additional financial information along with your application. The AEP Director will review your application, and then you will be notified if you have or have not been accepted.

Once you have been accepted into the program, come into the AEP office right away to complete a LASSI, learning style inventory and have your photograph taken.

**Q: *WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO BE A PARTICIPANT OF AEP?***

**A:** We offer services to undergraduate scholars from low-income, first generation backgrounds. Low-income status is determined by your household taxable income, and first generation means that neither of your parents received a degree from a four-year institution. We also serve scholars with documented disabilities.

If you have special circumstances or other questions about eligibility, please feel free to talk to an AEP counselor.

**Q: *WHERE DOES AEP GET ITS FUNDING?***

**A:** AEP is fully funded by a federal U.S. Department of Education grant in the amount of \$286,664. AEP is one of the federal TRIO programs known nation-wide as Student Support Services. You may be aware of other TRIO programs such as Upward Bound, Talent Search, McNair Scholars, etc. TRIO programs exist in schools and universities all across the nation.