About the Center for Educational Opportunity (CeO) Program

Program Overview

The Center for Educational Opportunity (CeO) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison has established a foundation and a community of support by serving a diverse group of campus-wide undergraduates who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents, first-generation college students, students with disabilities, and/or whose families meet federal income guidelines. CeO provides a welcoming environment focusing on the individual CeO Scholar needs.

Since 1993, the primary goal has been to increase the retention and graduation rates of participants. CeO seeks to ensure equal access/opportunity, support socio-economic mobility, improve financial literacy, and foster a supportive institutional climate. The CeO staff creates a high-impact learning community that both nurtures and challenges, while helping CeO Scholars acclimate and connect to resources and campus life.

CeO offers an inclusive and holistic student-centered approach by providing comprehensive services to support academic success and empower CeO Scholars to navigate their campus experience. While developing intercultural communities and relationships, CeO Scholars are encouraged to explore and discover themselves and the world. Aligned with the university vision, CeO promotes academic rigor and prepares graduates to succeed as influential leaders and global citizens.

Services, Programs and Opportunities

- Academic, Study Abroad, Career and Internship Advising
- Academic Coaching (tutors)
- Structured First and Second-Year Programs
- Guiding Peers to Success (GPS) Mentoring Program
- Supplemental Study Skills, Math and Writing Assistance
- Computer Labs and Printing
- Specialized Courses, and Reserved Seats in Campus Courses
- Priority Course Registration
- Liaison with Financial Aid, Housing, and other University Services
- Support for Students with Disabilities
- Cultural and Social Events and Activities
- Educational Programs and Workshops
- Graduate and Professional School Advising and Workshops
- Overall Personal Support

Application Checklist

☐ Complete the current CeO application

☐ Include a written essay, up to two pages, that discusses why you are interested in the program and how you feel it will help you.

☐ Submit a copy of your federal tax form, and the federal tax form of your parent(s)/guardian(s) from last year. If they were not required to file a tax return, please contact the CeO office as soon as possible at: 608-265-5106.

☐ If you are a first-generation college student, remember to include the signed statement.

Where to find out more:
Monday - Friday between 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM Phone: 608-265-5106 Fax: 608-263-1039
1155 Observatory Drive, Room 16 Ingraham Hall, Madison, WI 53706
Email: ceo@cedo.wisc.edu Web: www.ceo.wisc.edu