$100,000 Fund for Diversity Scholarships at CIIS for AY 2018-2019

Purpose
CIIS is a university deeply committed to diversity, inclusion, and advocating for social justice. The university, guided by these principles, is offering twenty $5,000 Diversity Scholarships for the academic year 2018-2019. In line with our institutional mission of embracing traditions that enhance social and political liberation, these scholarships are intended to support the recruitment of a diverse student body, particularly students historically underrepresented in higher education.

Awards
Twenty $5,000 scholarships to be distributed as follows:

Fall 2018
16 scholarships total = $80,000 in Fall 2018

Spring 2018
4 scholarships total = $20,000 in Spring 2019

Deadlines for the Diversity Scholarship Application

Fall 2018
March 15, 2017 for graduate students
May 15, 2017 for undergraduate students

Spring 2019
October 15, 2017 for graduate and undergraduate students (Spring 2019 new students only)

Eligibility
- Students must submit all application materials for their program application and all scholarship application materials by the deadline (see deadlines above).
- The scholarship is open to newly admitted students only, who are starting their degree program at CIIS as full-time* students in Fall 2018 or Spring 2019. The scholarship is not open to readmitted students, or students continuing into their second or later semester of study, or students returning from a leave of absence.
- Students must be degree-seeking and officially admitted to a program at CIIS and notified of their admissions status by the Admissions Office in order to be eligible for the scholarship.
- Students who are provisionally or conditionally admitted are eligible for consideration if admitted with this status, but the scholarship will not be awarded or released to provisionally admitted students until they become fully admitted students. (Conditionally admitted students can have the award released.)
- Students applying for the Diversity Scholarship can also be eligible for the CIIS Opportunity Scholarship, but are not eligible for additional named scholarships. If selected for the Diversity Scholarship and another named scholarship, students need to choose which scholarship to accept.
- Please note that the ICP Diversity Leadership Scholarship is distinct from this award and cannot be combined with this award.

*(ITP students who take a 6-unit course load are considered full-time.)
How to Apply

1. Please submit the completed application and 1 to 2 page statement (typed and double-spaced) responding to the guiding questions by emailing them as Word attachments to admissions@ciis.edu with “Diversity Scholarship” in the subject line by the deadline. Statement should not exceed two typed, double-spaced pages.

2. Students must also submit financial information to the CIIS Financial Aid Office by the scholarship application deadline (see dates above). Domestic students need to submit their FAFSA application by the deadline; international students need to submit an international student aid application by the deadline.

Selection Criteria
Prerequisites for consideration are meeting all eligibility criteria and submitting a complete application by the deadline. This mix of merit- and need-based scholarship is reviewed by the Diversity Scholarship Committee, comprising faculty and staff. Strong consideration is given to students who:

1) Are historically underrepresented in higher education, as indicated on the application form.

2) Demonstrate a commitment to advocating for diversity and inclusion among the campus and larger community, as articulated in the 1 to 2 page statement.

3) Have financial need as determined by the Financial Aid Office and federal guidelines, based on financial information submitted by the student to the Financial Aid Office by the deadline.

Award Notification
Applicants will be notified of the Diversity Scholarship Committee’s selection via email by April 15, 2018 (graduate applicants) and June 15, 2017 (undergraduate applicants) for Fall 2018 consideration, and by November 15, 2018 for Spring 2019 consideration (all divisions).

Award Distribution
This award is a one-time tuition-remission credit, awarded in a student’s first year and is not renewable. The $5,000 award will be distributed over two semesters with $2,500 awarded in Fall, and $2,500 in Spring if student is a Fall 2018 start. $5,000 can be awarded to a Spring 2019 start student, provided their tuition bill exceeds $5,000. (If that is not the case, the award will be distributed as $2,500 in Spring 2019 and $2,500 in their next subsequent semester of enrollment, provided the tuition bill exceeds these amounts.)
To be considered for this $5,000 Diversity Scholarship, new degree-seeking students must:
1) meet the eligibility conditions laid out above
2) be officially accepted into a degree program at CIIS
3) complete and submit this form to admissions@ciis.edu with “Diversity Scholarship” in the subject line
4) respond to the guiding questions on the following page and submit their responses to admissions@ciis.edu with “Diversity Scholarship” in the subject line by the Diversity Scholarship application deadline.

First Name __________________________  Last Name __________________________

ID# __________________________  Degree Program __________________________

Email __________________________

Please indicate how you identify:

Ethnicity/ “Race” ____________________________________________________________

Gender Identity/Expression ____________________________________________________

Sexual Orientation _____________________________________________________________________

Nationality/citizenship:

U.S. Citizen Yes ______ No ______ Prefer Not to State ______

Country of Citizenship _______________________________________________________

Would you like to be considered for this scholarship based on disability status?

Yes ______ No ______

Are you a veteran or active military personnel?

Yes ______ No ______

Are you the first in your family to earn or pursue a bachelor’s degree?

Yes ______ No ______

Date __________________________  Student Signature __________________________
Please submit the completed application and a 1-2 page typed, double-spaced statement (in Word .doc or pdf format) responding to the questions below to admissions@ciis.edu with “Diversity Scholarship” in the subject line by the scholarship application deadline. The statement should not exceed 2 typed, double-spaced pages. Additional pages will not be read.

Questions:
1) Describe your background and how it relates to this scholarship.

2) In what ways have you advocated for and worked towards diversity, social justice, and inclusion in the past?

3) In what ways do you plan to work towards diversity, social justice, and inclusion with your studies at CIIS (i.e., research, on-campus advocacy, community organizing)?

Send complete packet (application form and 1-2 page statement responding to the guiding questions) to admissions@ciis.edu with “Diversity Scholarship” in the subject line by the Diversity Scholarship application deadline. Submit financial information to the Financial Aid Office.