

FAST BLAST



OUR MISSION: "Make education beyond high school financially accessible to all Californians."

DIANA FUENTES-MICHEL, *Executive Director, California Student Aid Commission*

June 11, 2008

Commission Urges Institutions to Nominate APLE and SNAPLE Participants

The Commission has unused 2007-08 Assumption Program of Loans for Education (APLE) and State Nursing Assumption Program of Loans (SNAPLE) allocations that can assist students pursuing a career in teaching and nursing. APLE and SNAPLE provide loan assumption benefits to participants for providing service in designated teacher and nursing shortage areas. For more information on these programs, visit www.csac.ca.gov or e-mail FastBlast@csac.ca.gov.

New High School Confirmation Process

The Commission has recently implemented a new process that will expedite the confirmation of new high school graduation participants for the 2008-09 Entitlement Cal Grant program. Schools may now confirm a student's graduation status on the Cal Grant roster or by uploading a list in WebGrants. Newly awarded Entitlement Cal Grant participants must have their graduation from high school confirmed before receiving grant payments. Additional information on the High School Graduation confirmation process can be located in Grant Operations memo [GOM 2008-10](#).

New Phone Numbers for the Commission

On June 30, 2008, the Commission will convert to a new Centrex based phone system. As a result of this change, Commission employees will be assigned new phone numbers with a 464 prefix. In most instances, the last four digits of employee numbers will remain the same. The current prefix 526 numbers will be forwarded to the new prefix 464 extensions for 6 months. The Commission's toll free number will remain the same.

Cal Grant Awards Update

High School Entitlement Cal Grant Awards

The Commission has offered 2008-09 Entitlement Cal Grant Awards to more than 66,800 students to date. As we update and process the applications, we ask that schools continue to report corrections to students' records.

Additional information about the high school Entitlement Cal Grant process can be found in Grant Operations Memo GOM 2008-03 at www.csac.ca.gov.

California Community College Transfer Entitlement Cal Grant Awards

More than 21,000 Community College Transfer Entitlement applicants were notified of their potential eligibility for a 2008-09 award. To receive further award consideration, potential award recipients must complete and sign the Transfer Entitlement Cal Grant Certification form (G-6).

Additional information on Transfer Entitlement program requirements can be located in Grant Operations Memo GOM 2008-09 at www.csac.ca.gov.

Competitive Cal Grant A and B Awards

The Commission notified all eligible Competitive Cal Grant A and B award applicants of their tentative Competitive Cal Grant awards.

Disqualification letters were not sent to non-awarded applicants. Please advise your students that they may view their eligibility status on WebGrants for Students located at [WebGrants for Students](#).

The Commission will not know the final status of the Competitive Cal Grant program until the 2008-09 budget is passed. The Governor's 2008-09 Budget proposed the discontinuation of the Competitive Cal Grant program for new students. The Governor's revision to the proposed Budget, released on May 14, did not reappropriate funding for the Competitive Cal Grant A and B awards.

We will continue to keep you apprised of any changes in the Budget that may affect the Commission's programs.

Cal Grant C

Cal Grant C Supplements have been mailed to students who may be eligible for a vocational Cal Grant C program award. Vocational students for the 2008-09 school year and students who have been tentatively selected for A or B awards that would meet the Cal Grant C award selection criteria if no Competitive awards are made, are encouraged to complete the supplement. A list of students who were sent Cal Grant C Supplements can be accessed at the WebGrants Report Download screen off of the Data Transfer menu. Supplements must be mailed to the Commission and postmarked no later than June 30, 2008.

Grant Rosters

Rosters displaying all 2008-09 award recipients are now available on WebGrants. Schools may now process school change transactions; however, schools may not report payment transactions for the 2008-09 academic year until the 2008-09 Budget has been passed.

2008-09 Marmaduke Award Winner Announced

Last Friday, Executive Director, Diana-Fuentes Michel presented the "2007-08 Arthur Marmaduke High School Counselor Award" to Ms. Rebecca Jauregui of Lodi High School at the Lodi High School graduation ceremony in Lodi, CA.

Jauregui is a Lodi High School College and Career Center Coordinator who has improved financial aid awareness to more than 500 Lodi students by organizing and hosting Cash for College workshops, serving on scholarship committees, and helping students connect the dots between colleges and funding opportunities. Jauregui was recognized for her excellence in counseling and skill in motivating and helping an exceptional number of graduating high school seniors to receive financial aid for education beyond high school.

Last year, 59 percent of Lodi seniors who submitted a complete application for Cal Grants received an award.

Nearly 150 Lodi High school seniors were offered Cal Grant awards during the last two years.

The Marmaduke Award is given in honor of Arthur Marmaduke who served as the Commission's executive director for 25 years. The award is presented each year by the Commission and EDFUND, its student loan auxiliary, to one financial aid counselor or administrator who has demonstrated superior skills, dedication and commitment in helping students gain access to postsecondary education through the Commission's grant, scholarship and loan assumption programs.

The Commission thanks all of the Marmaduke award nominees for their superior commitment to improving the flow of financial aid information to students.

2007 Report to the Legislature on the Cal Grant T Program Now Available

The [2007 Report to the Legislature on the Cal Grant T Program](#) provides data on the number of awards offered and accepted, participants fulfilling their obligations, and the status of remaining participants who entered the Cal Grant T program in 2001-02 and 2002-03.

The Cal Grant T program was designed to help post-baccalaureate students pursue their initial California teaching credential. Due to budget constraints, funding for the Cal Grant T program was discontinued in 2003-04 and allocations were redirected to the Assumption Program of Loans for Education. The Commission is mandated to track the recipients who were awarded the Cal Grant T in academic years 2001-02 and 2002-03.

This publication, as well as other valuable publications and reports produced by the Commission can be viewed at www.csac.ca.gov. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Ruben Romero, Research Branch Manager, at 916.526.8237 or rromero@csac.ca.gov.

Your ideas and feedback are important to the Commission. Please forward your comments to Fastblast@csac.ca.gov