

FAST BLAST



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

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

September 13, 2010

Message from Executive Director, Diana Fuentes-Michel

The absence of a 2010-11 Budget is having a direct impact on California college students. As a result of the impasse, the Commission remains without appropriation for 2010 Fall Cal Grants and Specialized programs, affecting students' ability to meet the full cost of their education. More than \$405 million in Cal Grant Fall term advance payments are being withheld. Although the University of California and the California State University have indicated they will advance institutional funds to Cal Grant recipients, many of the California Community Colleges, private independent and for-profit institutions face funding restrictions which limit what they can do for students at their campuses. The Commission is prepared to begin processing the Cal Grant advance payments as soon as the 2010 budget is signed.

On July 30, the U.S. Department of Education announced it will terminate its loan guaranty agreement with the Commission and EdFund on October 31, 2010. A Minnesota firm, ECMC, was selected by the U.S. Department of Education to take over the loan guaranty.

We will continue to keep you informed of news on the transition and the 2010-11 Budget through our Special Alerts and Grant Operations Memos.

2010-11 Chafee News

To date, the Commission has awarded approximately \$12 million to Chafee program new and renewal applicants for the 2010-11 academic year. All qualifying Chafee awardees have been sent preliminary award offers and have been informed that funds will not be disbursed until the state budget is signed by the Governor. We encourage schools to update the Need Analysis Report (NAR) for any students who are not eligible so that funds will be released and become available to make new award offers to other eligible students.

Chafee applicants with missing information on their application were sent letters and encouraged to submit complete documentation. In addition, students who are no longer eligible for Chafee were withdrawn and notified of their ineligibility.

Chafee PowerPoint Presentation

A Chafee PowerPoint presentation is now available for schools. Located at www.csac.ca.gov, this useful tool provides information on the program requirements and guidelines.

Program Enhancements

Chafee program enhancements which will improve payment tracking are currently being reviewed and tested. These new enhancements will improve the processing and delivery of student payments to schools. Schools will be notified when enhancements are completed.

Call Center Phone Hours Extended

The Call Center hours for students and their parents have been extended due to higher call volume. The new hours are Monday – Friday (excluding the 2nd, 3rd and 4th furlough Fridays of the month) from 10:00 a.m. - 4:45 p.m. through October 15, 2010.

Competitive Cal Grant Community College Enrollment

Students who did not receive a Cal Grant award from the March 2 application process, or who applied after March 2 but by September 2, 2010, may be eligible for the 2010-11 Community College award competition. The Commission anticipates processing the second round of Cal Grant awards in late September.

Students who are offered an award must enroll in and attend a California Community College for the 2010-11 fall term to receive payment.

2011-12 GPA Uploads

The Commission is pleased to announce the opening of the 2011-12 March 2 GPA process in early September 2010. This is the earliest processing time to date.

Deadline Extended for 2009-10 Applications for the SNAPLE NSF and SNAPLE NF

The application deadline for the State Nursing Assumption Program Loans for Education for Nurses in State Facilities (SNAPLE NSF) and the State Nursing Assumption Program of Loans for Education for Nursing Faculty (SNAPLE NF) for the 2009-10 academic year has been extended.

The Commission was authorized to distribute 100 awards each for the SNAPLE NSF and SNAPLE NF for the 2009-10 academic year. However, only a small number of applications have been received. The Commission has the authority to continue accepting applications for eligible applicants who were enrolled during the 2009-10 academic year until all authorized allocations are achieved.

The Commission is also accepting applications for the 2010-2011 academic year. We encourage schools to nominate eligible applicants to meet the 100 authorized allocations for both the 2009-10 and 2010-11 academic years. We will notify institutions when the maximum allocations have been met.

Visit the Commission’s Website at www.csac.ca.gov for additional information about SNAPLE programs and application packets.

California National Guard Education Assistance Award Program 45-day Proposed Regulations Public Comment Period

The public comment period for the California National Guard Assistance Award Program (CNG EAAP) proposed amended regulations began August 20, 2010 and will end on October 4, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.

The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is located in the Commission’s Special Alert [GSA 2010-28](#) and contains information on the regulatory process, instructions on how to submit comments, and whom to contact at the Commission.

2010 California High School Counselor Workshops – Save These Dates

The Commission, in partnership with the California Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, will offer the Fall 2010 High School Counselor Workshop series. Half-day workshops scheduled from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM will provide high school counselors and school site staff an in-person opportunity to learn about new changes to the 2011-12 FAFSA, detailed information on federal programs, Cal Grants, the Chafee Grant, in-state tuition assistance (AB 540), and the Cash for College workshop series. Workshop registration for the High School Counselor Workshops will be launched October 1, 2010, at www.csac.ca.gov.

2010 High School Counselor Workshops – Save These Dates

DATE	REGION	CITY	SITE
26-Oct	No Cal	Fairfield	Solano Community College
27-Oct	No Cal	Sacramento	Sacramento State University
27-Oct	No Cal	San Jose	CET – Center for Employment Training
28-Oct	No Cal	East Bay	CSU East Bay
29-Oct	No Cal	Redding	National University
3-Nov	No Cal	San Mateo	San Mateo Community College District
TBA	No Cal	Fresno	UC Merced, Fresno Center
5-Nov	No Cal	Bakersfield	UC Merced, Bakersfield Center
22-Oct	So Cal	Los Angeles	LA Pierce College
26-Oct	So Cal	Fullerton	Fullerton College
27-Oct	So Cal	Los Angeles	Occidental College
28-Oct	So Cal	San Luis Obispo	Cuesta College
29-Oct	So Cal	Riverside	UC Riverside
3-Nov	So Cal	Santa Barbara	Westmont College
4-Nov	So Cal	Palm Desert	Xavier College Prep High School
5-Nov	So Cal	Norwalk	Cerritos College
9-Nov	So Cal	Claremont	Pitzer College
18-Nov	So Cal	San Diego	Scottish Rite Center
19-Nov	So Cal	San Diego	Scottish Rite Center

California Student Aid Commission Addresses

Our mailing address:

California Student Aid Commission
 Attn: (Insert Name of Branch)
 P.O. Box 419026
 Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9026

For UPS or overnight delivery only:

California Student Aid Commission
 Attn: (Insert Name of Branch)
 10834 International Drive, Suite 100
 Rancho Cordova, CA 95670



***Please direct mail to one of the following branches:**

- *Executive Office*
- *Administration & External Affairs*
- *Program Administration & Services*
- *Information Technology Services*
- *Federal Policy & Programs*
- *Legal & Audit Services*