



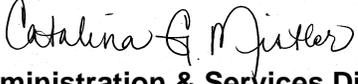
SPECIAL ALERT

Update of the California Student Aid Commission

July 8, 2010

GSA 2010-24

TO: Financial Aid Administrators

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SUBJECT: California Chafee Foster Youth Grant Program Update

This Special Alert updates the California Chafee Foster Youth Grant Program (Chafee) for the 2009-10 and 2010-11 academic years.

Program Background

Through an interagency agreement with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) is now in its eighth year administering Chafee.

Chafee awards California youth aging out of foster care with financial assistance to attend a Title IV postsecondary institution. Students may be eligible to receive up to \$5,000 per year.

2009-10 Payment Status

The 2009-10 checks not disbursed by September 10, 2010 must be returned by the institutions. Funds returned for ineligible students may be reconciled and potentially distributed as new Chafee awards through September 30, 2010.

2010-11 Awards and Payments

Although Chafee payments will be processed after the State budget is approved, preliminary award letters for the 2010-11 academic year will be mailed to eligible Chafee recipients by July 13, 2010.

No changes have been made to the selection criteria. Refer to Grant Operations Memo (GOM) 2006-03 and GOM 2006-29 for more information regarding the program. The following lists the priority award process:

- Priority 1: Renewal students who have received a payment in a prior year
- Priority 2: Students who are aging out of the program
- Priority 3: Students with dependents
- Priority 4: Students who had an unmet need of \$5,000 or higher
- Priority 5: Submission date of completed application



State of California
Arnold Schwarzenegger
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Renewal Applicants

If their Chafee application is received prior to the close of the 2010-11 academic year, Chafee participants who are age eligible are automatically renewed. Completion of the 2010-11 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and Need Analysis Report (NAR) are still required.

In June 2010, the Commission notified renewal applicants of their status. Institutions can identify students with missing documents on WebGrants at *Chafee Status Roster by School*, which is under "Report Download". Please assist the Commission in contacting students so they can complete the application requirement.

Need Analysis Report (NAR)

Institutions are responsible to ensure all NARs are timely submitted. To identify students who are missing the 2010-11 NAR, check the *Chafee Need Analysis Roster* on WebGrants at "Report Download". The NAR report is updated weekly. Institutions are encouraged to submit the need analysis data on WebGrants. This process immediately confirms that the NAR was accepted and it also allows students to immediately view their NAR through "WebGrants for Students". Institutions without access to WebGrants may continue to submit the paper NAR.

Due to the substantial number of new applicants and the limited amount of funding, students with a completed NAR will receive priority consideration in the award process.

Contacting the Commission

For assistance, contact the Specialized Programs Operations Branch at (888) 294-0153, option 2. Students may contact Student Support Services at (888) 224-7268 or visit www.chafee.csac.ca.gov.

Enclosures: GZ0016 2010-11 Award Announcement
GZ0012 2010 Renewal Letter

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