



SPECIAL ALERT

Update of the California Student Aid Commission

October 14, 2010

GSA 2010-32

TO: Financial Aid Administrators
High School Counselors

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SUBJECT: 2010-11 State Budget Signed October 8, 2010

Governor Schwarzenegger signed the 2010-2011 Budget Act on Friday, October 8, 2010. The California Student Aid Commission (Commission) is pleased to announce that there were no changes or reductions in funding to the Cal Grant and Specialized Programs. Students who were notified that their award offers were pending approval of the final State budget can now be assured that their grants will be awarded for the 2010-11 academic year.

The budget includes the following:

- Continues to fund the Cal Grant tuition and fee award for all new and renewal recipients at the systemwide levels noted below:
 - \$4,429 or whatever lesser or greater amount is approved for mandatory systemwide fees by the Trustees of the California State University (CSU).
 - \$10,302 or whatever lesser or greater amount is approved for mandatory systemwide fees by the Regents of the University of California (UC).
- Maintains the maximum Cal Grant tuition and fee award of \$9,708 for all new recipients attending private and independent institutions.
- Maintains the Cal Grant B access awards at \$1,551.
- Maintains all eligible High School Entitlement and California Community College Transfer Entitlement awards.
- Maintains the 22,500 new Competitive Cal Grant awards.
- Maintains the 7,761 new Cal Grant C awards and award amounts.

The final budget also:

- Sets the number of new Assumption Program of Loans for Education (APLE) allocations at 7,200 and maintains funding for the APLE by shifting partial funding to the federal College Access Challenge Grant (Challenge Grant).



State of California
Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

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- Authorizes 100 agreements each for the two State Nursing APLE programs: the State Nursing Assumption Programs of Loans for Education for Nursing Faculty and Nurses in State Facilities.
- Funds the California Student Opportunity and Access program (Cal-SOAP) at \$7.35 million from the Challenge Grant. One million dollars of the funding is identified for Career Technical Education (CTE) awareness.
- Funds the Cash for College (CFC) program for \$463,000 from the Challenge Grant.
- Funds the National Guard Education Assistance Award Program for \$3 million.
- Allocates \$100 million from surplus loan operating funds to help fund Cal Grants.
- Allocates \$1.2 million to fund essential Cal Grant support services formerly provided by the Commission's auxiliary, EdFund.

Disbursement of 2010-11 Cal Grant Funds and AB 1624

The Commission has processed the 2010-11 fall term Cal Grant advance payments to institutions. These payments will be available to campuses during the week of October 18. The payment rosters in WebGrants are now available to post payments.

Assembly Bill (AB) 1624 enacts a cash management plan to authorize the State Controller, State Treasurer, and Director of Finance to defer General Fund payment for up to 60 or 90 days beginning July 2010. This bill authorizes the deferral of 2010-11 fall term Cal Grant payments to the UC and CSU segments. Cal Grant payments to the UC shall be paid no later than December 10, 2010. Cal Grant payments to the CSU shall be paid no later than December 3, 2010.

The Commission has modified its grant delivery system to defer the 2010-11 fall term payments for the UC and CSU, and their rosters are not available for payment processing. The Commission will notify the UC and CSU segments once we have authority to release payments.

If you have any questions, please contact the Commission at (888) 294-0153 or via e-mail at schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov.

Working together to effectively promote education beyond high school!