

## SPECIAL ALERT





## **Update from the California Student Aid Commission**

GSA 2022-51 August 2, 2022

TO: Financial Aid Administrators

Chafee Coordinators

FROM:

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Deputy Director, Program Administration & Services Division

SUBJECT: Update to the 2021-22 Supplemental Chafee Foster Youth Grant

**Program Funding - Additional Cohort** 

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) provides an update regarding the disbursement of the 2021-22 Supplemental Chafee Foster Youth Grant Program Funding previously announced in GSA 2022-41. The Commission announced the following augmentations from the federal COVID relief package (HR 133, P.L. 116-260).

An additional cohort of eligible students of the 2021-22 Supplemental Chafee Foster Youth Grant Program Funding have been identified. New supplemental checks will be arriving at your institution. Further verification of these students is **not required**.

Financial Aid officers **do not** need to take extra steps to request this funding. The Commission realizes that these funds are coming late in the academic year. Please work with the student in getting them this additional funding. If payments are mailed to the student, the Commission recommends sending the payment via certified mail.

## Disbursement of Supplemental Funds (June 24 Cohort and Additional Cohort)

The Supplemental Chafee Foster Youth Grant funds are not considered financial aid. While state law requires students to meet the income and asset qualification for financial aid, as specified by the United States Department of Education, the grant is not counted as income for calculating a family's Expected Family Contribution (EFC) under the Federal Methodology or as estimated financial assistance for packaging purposes. The supplemental Chafee Grant funds are considered a disaster relief payment and will not be treated as income for the purposes of federal taxation. While CSAC does not believe these payments are income subject to federal taxation, institutions should consult with their own counsel to confirm.

As a reminder, the following guidelines and resources are available:

- Work Your Payment Roster-the Commission is asking that you review your Payment Roster on WebGrants to certify and request payments for all awarded students.
- Recycling Awards Timeline-to maximize the number of students who are awarded, the Commission will recycle awards 30 days from the date of offer.

Students who lose their award due to the recycle process can be considered again if the Financial Aid Officer updates the payment roster.

 Non-Disbursed Chafee Checks-All non-disbursed checks must be returned to the Commission within 30 business days of receipt. This will allow the Commission to maximize the funds. Complete the form attached to the check and do <u>not</u> void the check. Return both to:

> California Student Aid Commission PO BOX 419027 Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9027

## Need to contact us?

- The Commission's Chafee team is available if you need assistance or have questions:
  - > Institutional Support phone number: (888) 294-0153, option 2
  - > E-mail: <a href="mailto:chafee@csac.ca.gov">chafee@csac.ca.gov</a>

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