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## **California Student Aid Commission Chair Ajose Appointed Governor's Senior Policy Advisor**

Sacramento, CA (2019) – Dr. Lande Ajose, Chair of the California Student Aid Commission was appointed Senior Policy Advisor for Higher Education in the Office of the Governor on January 11, 2019.

Dr. Ajose has been executive director of California Competes, which develops and advocates for bold yet pragmatic policies to boost California's postsecondary degree attainment. Her background in higher education spans college admissions at Vassar College, education and workforce development at the James Irvine Foundation, and research and evaluation at MDRC, where she managed a comprehensive evaluation of the Achieving the Dream initiative.

In 2014 and again in 2018, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. appointed her to the California Student Aid Commission, where she currently serves as Chair, and in 2016 Governor Brown appointed her to the Committee on Awards for Innovation in Higher Education. She serves on several boards and commissions, including the WASC Senior College and University Commission, the Institute for Higher Education Policy, and on the advisory committee of the Higher Education Policy Center at the Public Policy Institute of California. She earned a Master of Arts degree in urban planning from the University of California, Los Angeles School of Public Affairs and a Doctor of Philosophy degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

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*The California Student Aid Commission is the state's policy leader in the administration of financial aid for higher education, making education beyond high school financially accessible to all Californians. California Student Aid Commission serves the needs of not only today's college students but tomorrow's students, guiding them through the application process. Information and tools are available online for the parents of tomorrow's college and career technical students, a fully staffed call center answers questions and the California Student Aid Commission provides workshops and funds grants to organizations that provide access opportunities for students who are first in their family to attend institutions of higher education. For more information on how the California Student Aid Commission serves to educate, inform, and support students, their educational institutions, and the professionals who assist them please visit our website at <https://www.csac.ca.gov> or follow us on [Twitter @castudentaid](https://twitter.com/castudentaid) and [Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/CSAC.StudentAidCommission/>](https://www.facebook.com/CSAC.StudentAidCommission/).*