OPERATIONS MEMO
Update from the California Student Aid Commission

December 16, 2015

TO: Financial Aid Administrators
High School Counselors

FROM: Catalina G. Mistler
Chief, Program Administration & Services Division

SUBJECT: CA Chafee Foster Youth Grant Program Update – Elimination of Need Analysis Report Beginning in 2016-17

This Operations Memo from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) announces changes to the California Chafee Foster Youth Grant Program (Chafee Program). In an effort to streamline the awarding process of the Chafee Program, as noted in GSA 2015-20, the Need Analysis Report (NAR) is eliminated, starting in the 2016-17 academic year.

Commission staff have identified the following issues associated with the NAR:

- Missing, incomplete or inaccurate submissions by schools, delay or prevent an applicant from being considered for an award.
- Students have no control over the submission of the NAR.

2016-17 Academic Year

- Beginning January 1, 2016, institutions will no longer submit NARs in WebGrants or by paper.
- Information contained within the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)/California Dream Act Application (CADA) and cost of attendance information will replace the NAR process to determine the student’s unmet financial need.
- The Commission anticipates running the initial award cycle in early July of 2016.

2015-16 Academic Year

- Accessibility to the 2015-16 NAR will still be available in WebGrants for students attending institutions during the 2015-16 academic year.
- Institutions without access to WebGrants may submit a paper NAR.

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- E-mail: schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov

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