



SPECIAL ALERT

STATE OF
CALIFORNIA



Update from the California Student Aid Commission

August 4, 2015

GSA 2015-29

TO: Financial Aid Administrators

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

SUBJECT: **2015-16 California Chafee Foster Youth Grant Program**

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) provides an update on the California Chafee Foster Youth Grant Program (Chafee) for the 2015-16 award year.

2015-16 Chafee Grant Awards and Payments

- The 2015-16 Chafee Grant award process and payment process ran on Monday, August 3, 2015.
- All Needs Analysis Reports (NAR) processed up to Monday, August 3, 2015, were considered.
- All available 2015-16 academic year federal and state Chafee Program funds have been offered to eligible new and renewal students.
- Any returned Chafee funds will be used to make new Chafee Grant awards to the next eligible applicants. To make new awards available, it is critical for institutions to immediately return any funds identified for ineligible students.

Distribution of Chafee Funds

- Holding Chafee funds prevents the Commission from making new Chafee Grant awards to eligible applicants. Once the end of the federal fiscal year passes, we are prohibited from recycling those funds.
- If Chafee funds remain at the end of any fiscal year, the upcoming Chafee annual budget is reduced and unfortunately, less funding is available to make additional awards.
- To facilitate the reconciliation and distribution of 2015-16 Chafee payments, please review and update the status of Chafee recipients listed on the WebGrants Payment Roster.

Selection Criteria

There are no changes to the selection criteria for 2015-16. The priority award process continues as follows:

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

2014-15 Year-End Update

- 2014-15 Chafee Grant payments will continue to run thru the end of September 2015, dependent on available funding.
- As of September 30, 2015, the end of the federal fiscal year, the Commission will no longer process 2014-15 Chafee applications. Final awards will be sent to the appropriate institutions.

Need to contact us?

- Institutional Support phone number: (888) 294-0153
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