

## SPECIAL ALERT



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

August 1, 2016 GSA 2016-27

TO: Financial Aid Administrators

High School Counselors

FROM: Catalina G. Mistler Catalina G. Mistler

Chief, Program Administration & Services Division

**SUBJECT: Webinars - Chafee Foster Youth Grant Program Enhancements** 

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) invites you to participate in the upcoming webinar sessions to discuss the recent changes and enhancements to the Chafee Foster Youth Grant Program (Chafee Program). On July 19, 2016, the Commission released <a href="GOM 2016-21">GOM 2016-21</a> announcing changes to the Chafee Program and updated Coordinator's Guide.

Benefits of the new Chafee Roster/Payment Screens:

- Imports student's financial information obtained from the FAFSA or California
  Dream Act Application to allow awards to be offered much earlier
- o Roster provides a summary of awarded students prior to payment
- o Roster provides a clear and concise view of all Chafee students
- Reduced number of required fields to update when submitting new financial information
- Greatly reduces the number of returned/reissued warrants, since Institutions are now required to requests payments per term

To ensure that former foster youth receive Chafee Program support, institutions will need to understand the new procedures to confirm student eligibility.

The Commission will provide training on the new Chafee Program enhancements and encourages institutions to register and participate in one of the webinars listed below. For your convenience, the webinars will be offered six times during the month of August.

Thursday, August 4, 2016 (10 a.m. or 2 p.m.)

Thursday, August 11, 2016 (10 a.m. or 2 p.m.)

Wednesday, August 17, 2016 (9 a.m. or 2 p.m.)

To register for the Chafee Program webinars, please respond to Minna Tran at <a href="minna.tran@csac.ca.gov">minna.tran@csac.ca.gov</a> and include the date and time of the webinar that you would like to participate in. A confirmation email with login instructions and teleconference information will be sent to all those who register for the webinar. If you have any questions prior to the webinar, please contact Kurt Zimmer at <a href="mailto:kzimmer@csac.ca.gov">kzimmer@csac.ca.gov</a>.

## Need to contact us?

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

E-mail: <u>schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov</u>

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