

February 15, 2017

GSA 2017-08

TO: Financial Aid Administrators High School Counselors

FROM: Catalina G. Mistler Utalina G. Mistler Deputy Director, Program Administration & Services Division

SUBJECT: Chafee Foster Youth Grant Program Workgroup

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) requests your participation in the reestablished Commission workgroup to focus on the awarding of the Chafee Foster Youth Grant Program (Chafee Program) grants. In an effort to ensure that all eligible students are benefiting from the Chafee Program, the Commission is reviewing various proposals to improve some of the administrative processes of this program.

The Chafee Workgroup's objective is to:

- Increase outreach efforts to reach all qualified students.
- Evaluate and make awarding and payment processes more efficient.
- Review options for processing payments to campuses/students.
- Modify Chafee awarding and payment processes in response to AB 2506.

We encourage participation in this workgroup from all segments, community organizations, individuals who work with foster youth students and any other interested groups or individuals. Our goal is to ensure that students are aware of the Chafee program and that our processes consider all eligible applicants for these award offers. We plan to hold a series of workgroup meetings beginning with our first meeting scheduled for:

Tuesday, February 28, 2017 from 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

If you are interested in participating in the workgroup you can join:

- Via an online webinar
 - Call in to: 1-800-832-0736
 - LOGIN: <u>https://csac.adobeconnect.com/chafee_workgroup/</u>
 - Meeting Room/Access code: 7024222
- In person (at the Commission's headquarters, 11040 White Rock Road, Rancho Cordova)
 - Please RSVP to Kurt Zimmer at (916) 464-3025 or at <u>kzimmer@csac.ca.gov</u>

Please extend this invitation to others who may wish to participate. If you have any questions, please contact Kurt Zimmer, see above contact information.

Working together to effectively promote education beyond high school!