



SPECIAL ALERT

Update from the California Student Aid Commission

January 10, 2020

GSA 2020-02

TO: Financial Aid Administrators
Chafee Coordinators

FROM: Catalina G. Mistler 
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SUBJECT: **Chafee Update – Senate Bill (SB) 150**

On October 4, 2019, Governor Gavin Newsom signed SB 150 (Beall, Chapter 525, Statutes of 2019) into law. This Special Alert announces the following updates related to the administration of the Chafee Educational Training Voucher (Chafee Grant) program. Bills signed during the legislative session, unless otherwise specified, take effect beginning January 1 of the next year.

Among other provisions, SB 150 relaxes the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements for foster youth who qualify for Chafee Grants. Below is a brief summary of the changes to Chafee administration included in SB 150. For additional detail, please see the full text of [SB 150](#).

Campuses with Chafee Grant recipients will be required to implement the requirements in SB 150 that are related to SAP. The process to request awards and to certify eligibility will remain unchanged.

Beginning January 1, 2020, SB 150 requires public colleges and universities to make the following changes to the Chafee Grant Program:

- Imposes certain requirements on a student who fails to demonstrate SAP as defined by the institution where the student is enrolled, to maintain Chafee grant eligibility.
- Takes away Chafee Grant eligibility from students who fail to demonstrate SAP as specified.
- Requires public institutions to provide an appeal process in writing and reinstate the student's Chafee Grant when certain conditions are met.
- Requires that a student who loses Chafee eligibility and subsequently is not enrolled for one or more terms shall regain eligibility upon reenrollment.
- Requires the California Community Colleges (CCC) and the California State University (CSU), and requests the University of California (UC), to provide all Chafee grant recipients, upon release of the first payment, with information regarding available support services on campus and the process for completing an educational plan. The notification must strongly encourage Chafee grant recipients to utilize those services.

- Consistent with federal law; limits Chafee award eligibility to 5 years, which are not required to be consecutive.
- Prohibits institutions from requiring any other eligibility criteria for a Chafee grant than those described in this bill and in specified federal law.

Need to contact us?

- Student Support phone number: (888) 224-7268, option 3
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