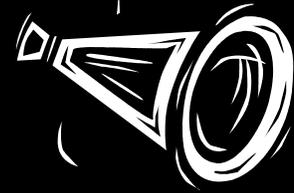


High School Shout Out!



News and Updates for High School Counselors from
The California Student Aid Commission

RANCHO CORDOVA, CA

NOVEMBER 2011



A MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DIANA FUENTES-MICHEL

As we noted in the previous edition of Shout Out, The California Dream Act, AB 130, granted privately funded financial aid to California's public colleges and was signed into law in July. This bill allows eligible AB 540

students to be able to receive private scholarships at California public colleges and universities. The second part of this historic legislation, AB 131, signed on October 8, established the California Dream Act of 2011, which allows students at the public higher education institutions who are exempt from paying non-resident tuition in accordance with AB 540 law (Firebaugh, Chapter 814, Statutes of 2001) to apply for public institutional financial aid, California Community Colleges Board of Governor's fee waivers, and all state financial aid programs as allowed by federal law.

Beginning January 1, 2013, the CSU, CCC, and CSAC are required, and UC is requested, to establish forms and procedures to allow AB 540 students to apply for the specified financial aid. AB 540 students applying for Cal Grants will be able to do so beginning in the January 1-March 2, 2013 application period for use in the 2013-14 academic year. These students will be required to meet the same academic and financial eligibility requirements for Cal Grants currently required by law for all other applicants. Commission staff is meeting with segmental representatives and initiating the application design process for final implementation next year. We will continue to keep you updated as we move through these steps.

The final piece in the Commission's signature **Fund Your Future** series, the Spanish workbook, will be available to order on November 16. Once again, we would like to acknowledge the efforts of our partner, ECMC, for their contribution to this valuable resource. These publications are designed to make your task of communicating financial aid information to your students more accurate and efficient. I would like to extend an invitation to our external associates to provide any suggestions to enhance future editions and ensure they are relevant to your needs.

Enjoy your Thanksgiving holiday!

Diana Fuentes-Michel
1975-1979 Cal Grant B Recipient

fund your future



The complimentary Fund Your Future (FYF) financial aid publications provide valuable information for administrators, parents and students. These products are produced in a brochure format and in a more comprehensive workbook in both English and Spanish and provide extensive information designed to encourage California students to seek financial aid and assistance, including:

- *Basic financial aid information*
- *Guidelines on how to apply for Cal Grants and other forms of financial aid*
- *A practical timeline and checklist*
- *Website addresses to access colleges, scholarships and additional resources*
- *Ways to reduce college costs*
- *Federal student loan information*

Place orders at:

https://www.edfund.org/pubs_order/publications.cfm



Fund Your Future Counselors Guide

Do you need help creating a presentation for students and parents about financial aid opportunities? [The 2012-13 Fund Your Future Counselors Guide \(FYF CG\)](#) is that resource! The FYF CG provides a template for high school counselors, financial aid administrators and other outreach personnel to customize an instructive and up to date PowerPoint presentation on financial aid that is specific to your students and community.

News from Feria Educativa!



Saturday October 1, California State University San Bernardino, in collaboration with Telemundo, hosted over 5,000 parents, children and educators at the Latino Education and Advocacy Days (LEAD) College and Career Fair, or "**Feria Educativa**"

The large turnout for the inaugural event signaled the importance that Latino parents attach to their children's education, and a hunger to find out how best to guide their kids toward college, said Dr. Enrique Murillo, the Executive Director of the conference and a California Student Aid Commissioner.

The fair featured Spanish, English and bilingual workshops on college-entrance requirements, parental involvement and financial aid opportunities. In addition to participation from Cash for College, more than a dozen colleges, universities and educational non profit organizations staffed booths with materials.

During the event, California Student Aid Commission Supervisor Araceli Aguirre participated in a segment of Telemundo's week of education programming with a panel of financial aid experts.

This special edition of "Enfoque", with Jose Diaz-Balart and Ana Patricia Candiani from Telemundo, can be accessed by [clicking here to view and listen to the presentation in Spanish!](#)



CASH FOR C//LLEGE

2011 – A Great Year!

Thanks to your efforts, last year more than **30,000** students were assisted at Cash for College workshops. Nine out of ten students submitted a FAFSA by the March 2 Cal Grant deadline. Eight out of ten applied for a Cal Grant on-time. Cash for College students qualified for over \$137 million in state and federal financial aid!

Registration is open for 2012 Cash for College workshops!

We are providing a 2-month workshop registration window until Wednesday, December 21, 2011. All workshops must be requested by this date in order to plan and coordinate our efforts.

Log In Now....

To get started with registration, you'll need your e-mail address and password. Don't worry if you've forgotten the password, it will be resent to your e-mail address. Just click below to Log in or create a new account and begin Workshop Registration:

<http://www.calgrants.org/applications/workshops>

Order pages have been redesigned to include images....

Free flyers, posters, and take-away flyers are provided again this year. Check out our new pre-workshop item on Cal Grant and Pell Grant maximum aid. You can order materials after registration and they will be shipped 6- 8 weeks before your first workshop.

\$1,000 Incentive Scholarships....

Through the Commission's partnership with ECMC, we are once again offering the \$1,000 Cash for College incentive scholarship. The scholarship program will continue to ask high school seniors to attend a CFC workshop, complete an exit survey, and submit the FAFSA and a verified Cal Grant GPA by the March 2 deadline. The scholarship is for use in Fall 2012 at an accredited 2 or 4 year degree-granting institution in the nation. For a fourth year, AB 540 high school seniors attending workshops are also eligible to participate in the scholarship program, but they do **not** need to apply for state or federal aid as a condition to participate.

"Cash for College California" is on Facebook....

Become a fan of Cash for College on Facebook and help connect your seniors to information about Cash for College workshops. We will offer you an easy, step by step guide to:

* Add the official Facebook link to Cash for College to your school or organization's website

* Add the Facebook link and a message to your school or organization's current Facebook page

* Add the Facebook link to all local outreach and posters possible

New to Organizing a Cash for College Workshop?

Click here to access our

[Frequently Asked Questions and Answers page](#)

Questions?

If you have any questions, please email us at cashforcollege@csac.ca.gov

Non-SSN GPA Submission

The California Student Aid Commission's (Commission) non-SSN GPA submission protocol allows schools, school districts or private school central offices to submit Entitlement Cal Grant GPAs for students without including a Social Security number. Instead of the student's SSN, other demographic information is included to facilitate matching the GPA to the student's FAFSA. The Commission can currently accept Cal Grant GPAs in electronic file format. No individual submission is available at this time.

The non-SSN submission capability was created to allow districts and schools that do not collect SSNs to create an electronic file to deliver their GPAs to the Commission, thus saving counselors the work of certifying paper GPAs or keying in the GPAs on WebGrants. In a pilot testing program with the Los Angeles Unified School District, the LAUSD was able to deliver 89% more GPAs than the prior year, contributing to a \$2 million increase in Cal Grant award offers for district students.

Questions on the non-SSN GPA upload process should be directed to Adrian Felix at AFelix@csac.ca.gov or 916. 464. 3464.



November "To Do List" For Students

- Students should plan visits to their top school choices. School tours are helpful, but appointments with faculty, staff, and current students can provide personal insight into what the student can expect if they attend.
- This is the season for financial aid information nights and college fairs. Students should include their parents!
- Local scholarships have varying submission deadlines. Students should check with their college advising office or counselor to determine the application process and complete applications for scholarships for which they may be eligible.
- Students should meet with guidance counselors to develop college admissions and financial aid application plans.
- Create a folder or electronic record for each potential college.
- The student should contact the college financial aid offices to determine which forms they require. Some schools may require special forms or have financial aid and scholarship deadlines different than for federal and state assistance.
- For colleges and majors requiring evidence of talent, now is the time to finalize portfolios, audition tapes and writing samples.

High School Counselor Workshops

In October and November, the California Student Aid Commission, the California Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (CASFAA) and new partner ECMC have been conducting the annual high school counselor workshops at nineteen sites around California.

These in-person workshops are designed to answer questions on federal and state financial aid for high school counselors and persons serving high school seniors transitioning to college for the 2012-13 school year.

Registration for these events is available at:

<http://www.csac.ca.gov/hstemplatereg.asp>.



Commission staff member Adrian Felix and a counselor from the Los Angeles Unified School District share ideas at a Southern California high school workshop.



COMMISSION CONTACT INFORMATION

Tabitha Frost: (916) 464.2113
or at tfrost@csac.ca.gov

Justin Watkins: (916) 464.6425
or at jwatkins@csac.ca.gov

Janice Wright: (916) 464.6420
or at jwright@csac.ca.gov

www.csac.ca.gov
www.webgrants4students.org
www.calgrants.org

Or, call toll-free at (888) 294.0153

