



# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**CONTACT: Carole Solov (916) 526-7991**  
**Jason Warburg (916) 526-7291**

## **Free Workbooks Provide One-Stop Resource for College Financial Aid**

RANCHO CORDOVA, CA— As fall sets in and students and families get serious about exploring college financial aid options, the California Student Aid Commission and EDFUND, its auxiliary, are pleased to announce publication of the latest edition of our annual *Fund Your Future* workbook series.

Available in Spanish as well as English, the *Fund Your Future Financial Aid Workbook 2004-2005* for students provides basic, comprehensive information on major state and federal opportunities for funding a college education. This year's Workbook provides detailed information on the many programs California offers college-bound students -- Cal Grant Entitlement and Competitive programs, Governor's Scholarships, Child Development Teacher Grants, Law Enforcement Personnel Dependents Grants, Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarships, Assumption Program of Loans for Education (APLE), student loan programs and work-study.

"The Workbook provides students with crucial college-funding information," said Commission Executive Director Diana Fuentes-Michel. "Students and their families as well as high school counselors and college financial aid advisors will want to have it available all year as a resource on both California and national programs."

"One of the most important things we can do is help families understand that financial help is available for sending their youths to college," said EDFUND President Becky Stilling. "By covering all kinds of aid, including grants, scholarships, work-study, and loan programs, families learn that a wide range of funding sources is available."

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P.O. Box 419045, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9045

Geared toward high school juniors, seniors and college transfer students, the 40-page Workbook offers:

- 12 tips for completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA
- an at-a-glance schedule of important dates in the financial aid process
- a month-by-month financial aid checklist
- an expanded list of “Web sites that click”
- a worksheet for evaluating financial aid offers
- steps to becoming money-wise

California high schools and colleges will be receiving sample copies of the Workbook by mail this fall, along with the Spanish version and the new 2004-2005 *Fund Your Future Counselors' Guide*. Also available is the *Fund Your Future* brochure, providing a condensed overview of college financial aid programs. The Counselors' Guide and brochure are each produced in Spanish as well as English.

The California *Fund Your Future* publications can be ordered free now. Simply visit EDFUND's Web site at [www.edfund.org](http://www.edfund.org); e-mail orders to [publications@edfund.org](mailto:publications@edfund.org); fax an order form to 916.526.8838; write to the EDFUND Shipping Center at: P.O. Box 419045, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9045; or call the telephone hotline at 916.526.7282 for personal service.

For further information on the many California grant programs available to students, visit the Commission's Web site at [www.csac.ca.gov](http://www.csac.ca.gov) and the new Cal Grant Web site at [www.CalGrant.org](http://www.CalGrant.org)

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*The California Student Aid Commission is the state's principal provider of intersegmental statewide grant aid to postsecondary students. Founded in 1955 as the California State Scholarship Commission, the Commission's primary programmatic responsibilities include operation of the Cal Grant program, which will distribute about \$662 million to California's college students during the 2003-2004 school year, and several targeted state scholarship and loan forgiveness programs. The 15-member Commission oversees the activities of its nonprofit student loan services auxiliary, EDFUND. The Commission is headquartered in Rancho Cordova, California.*

*EDFUND, a nonprofit public benefit corporation, is the nation's second largest provider of student loan guarantee services under the Federal Family Education Loan Program. EDFUND offers students a wide range of financial aid and debt management information, while supporting schools with advanced loan processing solutions and default prevention techniques. Operating as an auxiliary corporation of the California Student Aid Commission, EDFUND processes more than \$5.5 billion in student loans annually (including consolidation loans) and manages a portfolio of outstanding loans valued at \$21 billion. EDFUND is headquartered in Rancho Cordova, California with regional offices located throughout the nation.*

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