



THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

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ALLISON G. JONES
Assistant Vice Chancellor
Academic Affairs – Student Academic Support

Code: AA-2005-03

January 20, 2005

To: CSU Directors of Financial Aid

From: Allison G. Jones *Ames*

Subject: Financial Aid – 2005-06 Cost of Attendance Allowances

At its November 9, 2004 meeting, the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) adopted student expense budgets for use by the Commission for 2005-06 Cal Grant programs. Subsequently, some calculations were corrected resulting in modifications to the allowances that are reflected on Attachment A, the Commission's student expense budgets for 2005-06. The budget allowances are based on statewide averages from the 2003-04 Student Expenses and Resources Survey (SEARS) data and adjusted to 2005-06 with the forecasted changes in the California Consumer Price Index (CPI) produced by the Department of Finance.

Attachment B reflects the 2005-06 Recommended Standard Student Budget Ranges for the California State University. These ranges were calculated using the 2003-04 SEARS data for CSU campuses and adjusted to 2005-06 based on the California CPI changes from 2003-04 through 2005-06 projections.

In order to determine the appropriate cost of attendance allowances for its students, each campus is encouraged to conduct regular assessments of expenses reasonably incurred by students in its immediate geographic area. The information reported in SEARS may also assist campuses in reviewing expenses for their students. Campus directors of financial aid have also been provided, under separate cover, with additional data related to student expenses reported in the 2003-04 Student Expenses and Resources Survey. Campuses may also consider consulting with neighboring postsecondary institutions to develop comparable budget standards. A copy of appropriate documentation regarding development of student cost of attendance allowances should be retained in files for potential review by auditors and program reviewers.

Please forward a copy of your campus 2005-06 costs of attendance (with updated 2005-06 campus fee detail) to Mary L. Robinson, Associate Director, Academic Affairs, Student Academic Support, by February 21, 2005. Questions or comments may be directed to Ms. Robinson at (562) 951-4737 or mlobinson@calstate.edu.

AGJ:MLR

Attachments (2)

cc: Dr. David S. Spence
Presidents
Provosts/Vice Presidents, Academic Affairs
Vice Presidents, Administration
Vice Presidents/Deans, Student Affairs

CALIFORNIA STUDENT AID COMMISSION
Nine-Month Student Expense Budgets
2005-2006 Academic Year

| ALLOWANCE | WITH PARENTS | ON CAMPUS HOUSING | OFF CAMPUS HOUSING |
|--|--|---|---------------------------------|
| TUITION AND FEES¹ | ACTUAL INSTITUTIONAL CHARGES | | |
| BOOKS AND SUPPLIES² | \$1,242 PER ACADEMIC YEAR | | |
| FOOD³ Per Month: Per Year: | \$ 358 / MO \$ 3,222 / YR | ACTUAL INSTITUTIONAL CHARGES ⁴ | \$ 294 / MO |
| | | | \$ 2,646 / YR |
| HOUSING⁵ Per Month: Per Year: | INCLUDED IN ABOVE | | \$ 658 / MO \$ 5,922 / YR |
| TRANSPORTATION⁶ Per Month: Per Year: | \$ 100 / MO \$ 900 / YR | \$ 82 / MO \$ 738 / YR | \$ 112 / MO \$ 1,008 / YR |
| PERSONAL / MISC⁷ Per Month: Per Year: | \$ 300 / MO \$ 2,700 / YR | \$ 220 / MO \$ 1,980 / YR | \$ 260 / MO \$ 2,340 / YR |
| CHILD / DEPENDENT CARE | REASONABLE EXPENSES WITH ADEQUATE DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED BY THE STUDENT, DEPENDING UPON AGE AND NUMBER OF CHILDREN | | |
| LOAN FEES | FOR STUDENT LOAN BORROWERS, ACTUAL OR AVERAGE LOAN ORIGATION AND INSURANCE FEES | | |
| TOTAL , Excluding Allowances based on actual institutional charges Per Month: Per Year: | \$ 896 / MO \$ 8,064 / YR | \$ 440 / MO \$ 3,960 / YR | \$ 1,462 / MO \$ 13,158 / YR |

¹ Includes all mandatory fees.

² The breakdown for this category is as follows: books (\$729), educational supplies (\$171), course material fees (\$162), and computer-related expenses (\$180), excluding the costs associated with the purchase of a personal computer.

³ Includes food, snacks, meals on campus, household supplies.

⁴ If contract is for less than nine months, adjustments may be made at the rate of \$276/month or fraction thereof.

⁵ Includes dorm charges, rent, and utilities.

⁶ Includes travel to and from parent's residence and transportation costs to and from classes and work. (e.g., bus fare, gasoline, tolls, parking.)

⁷ Includes clothing, laundry and dry-cleaning, personal care, gifts, recreation, medical etc.

NOTE: The expense budgets shown on this table are based upon average expenses reported by students at the University of California, California State University, and California independent institutions, California Community Colleges, and private career schools in the 2003-2004 Student Expenses and Resources Survey (SEARS), adjusted for two years of inflation.

THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
2005-2006 Recommended Standard Student Budget Ranges

| STANDARD STUDENT BUDGET RANGES | With Parents | | | On-Campus Housing | | | Off-Campus Housing | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|----------------|------------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------------|--|
| | CSAC Standard | CSU Minimum | CSU Maximum | CSAC Standard | CSU Minimum | CSU Maximum | CSAC Standard | CSU Minimum | CSU Maximum | |
| NINE MONTHS (Academic Year) | | | | | | | | | | |
| (Food) | | | | | | | (2,646) | (2,466) - | (3,096) | |
| (Housing) | | | | | | | (5,922) | (5,094) - | (6,804) | |
| Food and Housing | \$3,222 | \$3,222 - | \$3,222 ⁽¹⁾ | | Actual Amount | ⁽²⁾ | \$8,568 | \$7,560 - | \$9,900 ⁽³⁾ | |
| Transportation | 900 | 612 - | 1,134 ⁽⁴⁾ | 738 | 486 - | 1,062 ⁽⁵⁾ | 1,008 | 522 - | 1,116 ⁽⁵⁾ | |
| Miscellaneous Personal | 2,700 | 1,152 - | 2,520 | 1,980 | 810 - | 2,340 | 2,340 | 1,062 - | 2,394 | |
| Books and Supplies | 1,242 | 972 - | 1,242 | 1,242 | 972 - | 1,242 | 1,242 | 972 - | 1,242 | |
| Fees | | Actual Amount | | | Actual Amount | | | Actual Amount | | |
| Dependent/Child Care Allowance | Reasonable expenses with adequate documentation based on the number and ages of student's dependents. | | | | | | | | | |
| MONTHLY SUBSISTENCE | | | | | | | | | | |
| (Food) | | | | | | | (294) | (274) - | (344) | |
| (Housing) | | | | | | | (658) | (566) - | (756) | |
| Food and Housing | \$358 | \$358 - | \$358 | | Actual Amount | ⁽²⁾ | \$952 | \$840 - | \$1,100 | |
| Transportation (4) | 100 | 68 - | 126 | 82 | 54 - | 68 | 112 | 58 - | 124 | |
| Miscellaneous Personal | 300 | 128 - | 280 | 220 | 90 - | 260 | 260 | 118 - | 266 | |
| Total Per Month | \$758 | \$554 - | \$764 | \$302 | \$144 - | \$328 | \$1,324 | \$1,016 - | \$1,490 | |

- (1) Represents cost of meals and basic expenses which the parents continue to provide while the student lives at home with parents and the student's expenses for meals away from home.
- (2) The contract cost should be adjusted to a 21-meal per week basis. If less than a nine-month contract, an adjustment of up to \$358 or a fraction thereof may be made for dependent students.
An adjustment up to the standard off-campus allowance per month or a fraction thereof may be made for independent students.
- (3) Based on 2003-2004 SEARS data separate allowances for food and housing (adjusted for inflation) are shown in parentheses.
- (4) Represents allowance for student's transportation to and from classes and work (bus fare, gasoline, tolls, parking, etc.) Does not include vehicle payments, insurance, repairs, or license fees.
- (5) Represents allowance for student's transportation to and from classes and work (bus fare, gasoline, tolls, parking, etc.) and transportation between residence while at college and parents' permanent residence. Does not include vehicle payments, insurance, repairs, or license fees.