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Code: AA-2006-08

TO: CSU Deans of Education
CSU Teacher Recruitment Project Directors

DATE: March 29, 2006

FROM: Beverly L. Young *B. Y.*
Assistant Vice Chancellor

SUBJECT: Assumption Program of Loans for Education --Urgent Notice

The purpose of this memo is to request your immediate assistance in ensuring that all California State University (CSU) students who are eligible for the Assumption Program of Loans for Education (APLE) are aware of available 2005-2006 APLE allocations.

APLE is a state program that assumes payment of up to \$11,000 in outstanding educational loans to students who teach in one of several teacher shortage fields or at high need schools. APLE assumes payment of additional amounts of student loans up to a total of \$19,000 for individuals who teach in mathematics, science, or special education in schools that are in the bottom 20 percentile of the Academic Performance Index (API) rankings. There are approximately 4,000 APLE allocations remaining for the 2005-2006 academic year. Applications will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis. CSU students who are planning to teach are eligible if they are enrolled in an undergraduate program leading to a teaching credential or in a post-baccalaureate credential program and have not yet completed their initial teaching credential. The guidelines for the APLE program and the names of campus coordinators are on the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) Web site at: <http://www.csac.ca.gov/doc.asp?id=111>.

It has come to our attention that a very large number of APLE awards that have been set aside for CSU credential students have not been applied for as yet in the current year. I will be sending a separate email with the campus-specific data provided by CSAC, providing the number of campus allocations and applications received to date. As you will see by looking at these numbers, at most campuses this is a great potential financial aid resource for CSU teacher candidates that is being critically underutilized.

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CSAC has requested that, in order to facilitate utilization of remaining allocations, campuses submit lists of eligible students and applications on a rolling basis. In addition, CSAC has asked that campuses make every effort to submit as many additional applicants as possible by April 15, 2006 in order that allocations can be made to these students and the number of remaining allocations can be determined. To assist campuses, we have worked with CSAC in preparing the enclosed sample letter that can be e-mailed to all potentially eligible students. It can be sent to Liberal Studies, blended program, other pre-credential, and enrolled teacher credential students, and a copy should also be provided to faculty. If students are completing their credential in 2006, they should apply now in order to be eligible for APLE before receiving their credential. We urge you to work with the financial aid directors and others on your campus to communicate information about the program to students immediately.

Thank you for your immediate and ongoing attention to this significant opportunity for our students. We want particularly to note that students planning to teach mathematics and science are eligible for APLE and that this will continue to be an important resource as we seek to double production of new teachers in these fields.

BLY/ssg

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Charles Reed
Dr. Gary Reichard
Dr. Keith Boyum

Dr. Joan Bissell
Mr. Allison Jones
Ms. Mary Robinson

CSU Academic Council
CSU Financial Aid Directors
CSU APLE Campus Coordinators

Information for Notifying Students of APLE Program

It is important that all California State University (CSU) students considering teaching careers know about the *Assumption Program of Loans for Education* (APLE), a state program designed for students who are entering the teaching profession. The APLE program enables students who are enrolled in a program leading to an initial teaching credential to have their educational loans assumed.

The basic APLE program assumes up to \$11,000 in educational loans in association with four consecutive years of full-time teaching in a designated teacher shortage field or eligible California K-12 public school. To be eligible to participate in the APLE program, an individual is required to teach in any one of the following:

- A designated teacher shortage field, which includes mathematics, science, reading and language arts specialists, foreign language, music, and special education;
- A school serving a large population of students from low-income families;
- A low-performing school, defined as one in the bottom 50 percentile of the Academic Performance Index (API);
- A school having a high percentage of teachers holding emergency permits;
- A school serving a rural area,
- A state-designated "Special School."

APLE participants who teach in mathematics, science, or special education may receive both the basic \$11,000 and up to \$1,000 of additional loan assumption during each of four years. Another \$1,000 of benefits may be received in each of the four years by individuals teaching mathematics, science, or special education in a school ranked in the lowest 20 percentile of the state's API ranking, resulting in a maximum of \$19,000 in loan assumption benefits.

The APLE program will assume educational loans that were incurred to meet the costs associated with obtaining a baccalaureate degree or an initial teaching credential through (a) one or more of the primary federal student loan programs or (b) institutional educational loans.

If you have taken an educational loan and plan to teach in a shortage field and/or in a school that qualifies as a result of serving high need populations, we encourage you to apply. It is prudent to submit your application no later than **April 15, 2006**, in order to ensure that it can be processed. There are a substantial number of APLE allocations available, and if you are eligible you will have a good chance of obtaining one. The application and instructions are on the web at:

<http://www.csac.ca.gov/doc.asp?id=685>

The application should be submitted to the APLE coordinator on your campus. Campus coordinators are listed on the APLE website, which is located at:

<http://www.csac.ca.gov/doc.asp?id=111>

If you wish further information, you may request it from this individual. In addition, the APLE website includes a set of answers to frequently asked questions about the program. If, after reading this information, you think that you are eligible, you are encouraged to submit your application to the campus APLE coordinator immediately.