



THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

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

Code: AA-2003-05
January 24, 2003

To: CSU Directors of Financial Aid
From: Allison G. Jones *A Jones*
Subject: Financial Aid – 2003-04 Cost of Attendance Allowances

At its November 21-22, 2002 meeting, the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) adopted student expense budgets for use by the Commission for 2003-04 Cal Grant programs. Attachment A reflects the Commission's student expense budgets for 2003-04. The budget allowances are based on statewide averages from the 2000-01 Student Expenses and Resources Survey (SEARS) data and adjusted to 2003-04 with the forecasted changes in the California Consumer Price Index (CPI) produced by the Department of Finance.

Attachment B reflects the recommended 2003-04 Recommended Standard Student Budget Ranges for the California State University. These cost of attendance allowance ranges were calculated using the 2000-01 SEARS data for CSU campuses and adjusting to 2003-04 based on the California CPI changes from 2000-01 through 2003-04. Additional information on the expenses reported by CSU students in the 2000-01 SEARS has been provided to campus financial aid directors under separate cover.

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. 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 2003-04 costs of attendance (with updated 2003-04 campus fee detail) to Mary L. Robinson, Associate Director, Academic Affairs, Student Academic Support, by February 25, 2003. Questions or comments may be directed to Ms. Robinson at (562) 951-4737 or mlrobinson@calstate.edu.

AGJ:MLR

Attachments (2)

cc: Dr. David S. Spence
Dr. Gary A. Hammerstrom
Presidents
Provosts/Vice Presidents, Academic Affairs
Vice Presidents, Administration and Finance
Vice Presidents/Deans, Student Affairs

CSU Directors of Financial Aid
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bcc: Dr. Charles B. Reed

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TABLE 3
CALIFORNIA STUDENT AID COMMISSION
Nine-Month Student Expense Budgets
2003-2004 Academic Year

ALLOWANCE	WITH PARENTS	ON CAMPUS HOUSING	OFF CAMPUS HOUSING
TUITION AND FEES¹	ACTUAL INSTITUTIONAL CHARGES		
BOOKS AND SUPPLIES²	\$1,224 PER ACADEMIC YEAR		
FOOD³ Per Month: Per Year:	\$ 352 / MO \$ 3,168 / YR	ACTUAL INSTITUTIONAL CHARGES ⁴	\$ 266 / MO \$ 2,394 / YR
HOUSING⁵ Per Month: Per Year:	INCLUDED IN ABOVE		\$ 642 / MO \$ 5,778 / YR
TRANSPORTATION⁶ Per Month: Per Year:	\$ 92 / MO \$ 828 / YR	\$ 66 / MO \$ 594 / YR	\$ 104 / MO \$ 936 / YR
PERSONAL / MISC⁷ Per Month: Per Year:	\$ 254 / MO \$ 2,286 / YR	\$ 208 / MO \$ 1,872 / YR	\$ 254 / MO \$ 2,286 / 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:	\$ 834 / MO \$ 7,506 / YR	\$ 410 / MO \$ 3,690 / YR	\$ 1,402 / MO \$ 12,618 / YR

¹ Includes all mandatory fees.

² The breakdown for this category is as follows: books (\$702), educational supplies (\$180), course material fees (\$90), and computer-related expenses (\$234), 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 2000-2001 Student Expenses and Resources Survey (SEARS), adjusted for three years of inflation.

THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
2003-04 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)									
(Housing)									
Food and Housing	\$3,168	\$3,168 -	\$3,168 ⁽¹⁾				(2,394)	(1,890) -	(2,772)
Transportation	823	594 -	1,134 ⁽⁴⁾	594	216 -	774 ⁽⁵⁾	(5,778)	(4,302) -	(6,084)
Miscellaneous Personal	2,286	1,764 -	2,250	1,872	810 -	1,854	\$8,172	\$6,192 -	\$8,856 ⁽³⁾
Books and Supplies	1,224	918 -	1,224	1,224	918 -	1,224	936	648 -	1,116 ⁽⁵⁾
Fees			Actual Amount				2,286	1,440 -	2,250
Dependent/Child Care Allowance			Reasonable expenses with adequate documentation based on the number and ages of student's dependents.				1,224	918 -	1,224
									Actual Amount
MONTHLY SUBSISTENCE									
(Food)									
(Housing)									
Food and Housing	\$352	\$352 -	\$352				(266)	(210) -	(308)
Transportation (4)	91	66 -	126	66	24 -	68	(642)	(478) -	(676)
Miscellaneous Personal	254	196 -	250	208	90 -	206	\$908	\$688 -	\$984
Total Per Month	\$697	\$614 -	\$728	\$274	\$114 -	\$274	104	72 -	124
							254	160 -	250
							\$1,266	\$920 -	\$1,358

- (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 \$352 per month (the monthly equivalent of the food and housing allowance for students living at home), 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 2000-01 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.