

THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

BAKERSFIELD

September 1, 2005

CHANNEL ISLANDS

CHICO

MEMORANDUM

DOMINGUEZ HILLS

TO: CSU Presidents

EAST BAY

FROM: Charles B. Reed
Chancellor

FRESNO

FULLERTON

SUBJECT: CSU Assistance to Students Affected by Hurricane Katrina

HUMBOLDT

Although communication is still very difficult, many Gulf Coast colleges and universities in Louisiana, Mississippi, or Alabama will not be in operation for some time. The California State University must do its part to assist students whose academic careers might otherwise be put on hold by the multiple crises that have resulted from Hurricane Katrina.

LONG BEACH

LOS ANGELES

MARITIME ACADEMY

In an effort to assist students from Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama who have been affected by Hurricane Katrina as well as students from California who have planned to attend a college in the Gulf Coast region, the California State University is implementing the following actions effectively immediately. These actions will not displace any California residents since we have accommodated all fully eligible California residents seeking admission to CSU.

MONTEREY BAY

NORTHRIDGE

POMONA

Accommodating Students from the Gulf Area Affected by Hurricane Katrina

SACRAMENTO

Students from the Gulf Coast areas of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama affected by Hurricane Katrina, even those who lack proper academic documents, may be admitted conditionally for the Fall 2005 term. Their enrollment status for subsequent terms will depend upon the as-yet-unknown ability of schools, colleges, and universities in the Gulf region to provide transcripts and other documentation.

SAN BERNARDINO

SAN DIEGO

SAN FRANCISCO

As reported by their presidents, seven CSU campuses have some spaces available in their fall classes.

SAN JOSÉ

- Bakersfield
- Chico
- Dominguez Hills
- East Bay
- Humboldt
- Los Angeles
- Sacramento

SAN LUIS OBISPO

SAN MARCOS

SONOMA

STANISLAUS

Three of those campuses use quarter calendars, i.e. classes have yet to begin:

- Bakersfield – classes begin 9/13
- East Bay – classes begin 9/22
- Los Angeles – classes begin 9/22

Four of those campuses are on a semester calendar with class start dates as indicated below. Note that many campuses able to accommodate additional enrollment will admit students up to census dates. Therefore, even though classes may have begun, some of these campuses may be able to accommodate students:

- Chico – classes began 8/22
- Dominguez Hills – classes began 8/29
- Humboldt – classes began 8/22
- Sacramento – classes began 8/29

Enrollment by Katrina-affected students at the other sixteen CSU campuses will be at the option of those campuses on a case-by-case basis.

Since we cannot yet communicate effectively with the schools, colleges, and universities in the affected area, no documentation of previous credits will be required for Fall 2005 enrollment in classes for which vacancies still exist.

To facilitate enrollment of Katrina-affected students at these campuses, CSU will implement the following procedures:

Admission and Enrollment

- Suspend temporarily Executive Order 336 (September 17, 1980) for students from Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. This executive order establishes a policy for the granting of conditional admission and registration to late applicants conditioned on receipt of partial or unofficial records that indicate a high probability that the applicant will ultimately qualify for regular admission which must be achieved by census date. The requirement in EO 336 for complete admission files by census date will be suspended.
- Suspend the requirement to document completion of A-G requirements for first-time freshmen from Louisiana, Mississippi, or Alabama (missing courses would have to be completed at CSU).
- Suspend the requirement to document completion of Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning, English Composition, Oral Communication, and Critical Thinking for transfers from Louisiana, Mississippi, or Alabama (missing courses would have to be completed at CSU).
- Waive the normal English and mathematics placement test requirements (EO 665) for students from Louisiana, Mississippi, or Alabama impacted by Hurricane Katrina. Campuses are authorized to use their academic judgment in placing these students in appropriate remedial or baccalaureate-level English and mathematics classes.

Admission Priority for Katrina-affected students will be accorded as follows:

- 1) California residents, who had previously planned to attend institutions in the Gulf regions of Louisiana, Alabama, and Mississippi.
- 2) Students from the hurricane-affected areas previously offered CSU admission for the Fall 2005 term.
- 3) Former CSU students enrolled or planning to enroll Fall 2005 at a Katrina-affected college or university in Louisiana, Mississippi, or Alabama.
- 4) Students who can document Fall 2005 admission to or recent attendance at any regionally accredited college in the areas of Louisiana, Mississippi, or Alabama impacted by Hurricane Katrina.

State University Fee, Campus Fees, Housing Fees, and Other Charges Billed Directly to the Student

Katrina-affected students from Louisiana, Mississippi, or Alabama will be billed for the State University Fee, all campus fees, housing fees (if residing on campus), and other appropriate fees required of enrolled students. However, CSU campuses will provide flexible deferred payment plans and account receivables as appropriate.

Non-Resident Tuition

Students who are residents of the Katrina-affected areas of Louisiana, Mississippi, or Alabama will be exempt from payment of non-resident tuition.

Housing

Campuses providing access to students from the Katrina-affected areas of the states of Mississippi, Louisiana, and Alabama will either provide on-campus housing or assist the student in securing housing off-campus.

Financial Aid

CSU personnel and others in Washington, D.C. are exploring the possibility of special provisions for federal financial aid programs and regulatory relief to students unable to attend college in Louisiana, Mississippi, or Alabama due to the hurricane. Our Washington, D.C. Office of Federal Relations has contacted the U.S. Department of Education as well as appropriate House and Senate Committee staff regarding the question of disbursement of federal financial aid. It is clear that they are already looking at many of these issues. As we learn more from the U.S. Department of Education, we will update this information. In the meantime, campuses should be prepared to establish account receivables for financial aid recipients to whom financial aid disbursements may not be made until the student is officially admitted, i.e., moved from conditionally admitted to regularly admitted.

Additional Actions

- 1) CSU campuses that are members of the National Student Exchange (NSE) are encouraged to use the established networks of that organization to facilitate the enrollment of students whose academic plans have been interrupted by Katrina.
- 2) CSU campuses that are affiliated with the National Association of College Admission Counseling (NACAC) are encouraged to use that organization's network to communicate the university's proactive steps to be of assistance to students, schools, and families from the hurricane-affected areas.
- 3) CSU campuses are urged to use other professional networks to make known the CSU's willingness to be of assistance to students unable to attend Gulf coast institutions in Louisiana, Mississippi, or Alabama.

Additional Information

Questions about these admission, enrollment, registration, financial aid, and student accounts procedures may be addressed to the following:

Admission, Enrollment, Registration, and Financial Aid

Allison G. Jones, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs, Student Academic Support, at ajones@calstate.edu or 562.951.4744

Admission, Enrollment, and Registration

James Blackburn, Associate Director of Enrollment Management and Academic Outreach, at jblackburn@calstate.edu or 562.951.4726

Financial Aid

Mary Robinson, Associate Director of Financial Aid, at mlrobinson@calstate.edu or 562.951.4737

Accounting

George Ashkar, Senior Director, Financial Services-Accounts, at gashkar@calstate.edu or 562.951.4671

CBR:jd

cc: Provosts
Vice Presidents of Student Affairs
Chief Financial Officers
Directors of Admissions and Records
Directors of Outreach and Recruitment
Directors of Financial Aid