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MEMORANDUM

Code: AA-2008-08

Date: January 30, 2008

To: CSU Directors of Financial Aid

From: Allison G. Jones

Response Requested By February 22, 2008
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Subject: Financial Aid – 2008-09 Cost of Attendance Allowances

At its November 29, 2007 meeting, the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) adopted student expense budgets, Attachment A, for use by the Commission for 2008-09 Cal Grant programs. The budget allowances are based on statewide averages from the 2006-07 Student Expenses and Resources Survey (SEARS) data and adjusted to 2008-09 with the forecasted changes in the California Consumer Price Index (CPI) produced by the Department of Finance.

Attachment B reflects the 2008-09 Recommended Standard Student Budget Ranges for the California State University. These ranges were calculated using the 2006-07 SEARS data for CSU campuses and adjusting to 2008-09 based on the California CPI changes from 2006-07 through 2008-09 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. 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 2008-09 costs of attendance (with updated 2008-09 campus fee detail) to Simon Jaud, Assistant Director of Student Financial Aid Programs and Services, Academic Affairs, Student Academic Support, by February 22, 2008. Questions or comments may be directed to Mr. Jaud at (562) 951-4730 or sjaud@calstate.edu.

AGJ:rw

Attachments (2)

cc: Presidents
Provosts/Vice Presidents, Academic Affairs
Vice Presidents, Administration
Vice Presidents for Student Affairs
Dr. Gary Reichard

CSU Campuses

Bakersfield • Channel Islands • Chico • Dominguez Hills • East Bay • Fresno • Fullerton • Humboldt • Long Beach • Los Angeles • Maritime Academy • Monterey Bay
Northridge • Pomona • Sacramento • San Bernardino • San Diego • San Francisco • San José • San Luis Obispo • San Marcos • Sonoma • Stanislaus

CALIFORNIA STUDENT AID COMMISSION
2008-09 Student Expense Budgets

ALLOWANCE	WITH PARENTS	ON CAMPUS HOUSING	OFF CAMPUS HOUSING
TUITION AND FEES¹	ACTUAL INSTITUTIONAL CHARGES		
BOOKS AND SUPPLIES²	\$1,566 PER ACADEMIC YEAR		
FOOD³ Per Month: Per Year:	\$ 450 / MO \$ 4,050 / YR	ACTUAL INSTITUTIONAL CHARGES ⁴	\$ 358 / MO \$ 3,222 / YR
HOUSING⁵ Per Month: Per Year:	INCLUDED IN ABOVE		\$ 770 / MO \$ 6,930 / YR
TRANSPORTATION⁶ Per Month: Per Year:	\$ 110 / MO \$ 990 / YR	\$ 84 / MO \$ 756 / YR	\$ 124 / MO \$ 1,116 / YR
PERSONAL / MISC⁷ Per Month: Per Year:	\$ 336 / MO \$ 3,024 / YR	\$ 246 / MO \$ 2,214 / YR	\$ 306 / MO \$ 2,754 / 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:	\$ 1,070 / MO \$ 9,630 / YR	\$ 504 / MO \$ 4,536 / YR	\$ 1,732 / MO \$ 15,588 / YR

¹ Includes all mandatory fees.

² The breakdown for this category is as follows: books (\$864), educational supplies (\$216), course material fees (\$126), and computer-related expenses (\$360), 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 \$358/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 in the Student Expenses and Resources Survey (SEARS), adjusted for two years of inflation. Private career college data are from the 2003-04 SEARS, adjusted for five years of inflation.

THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
2008-2009 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)							(3,222)	(3,054) -	(3,534)
(Housing)							(6,930)	(6,336) -	(7,938)
Food and Housing	\$4,050	\$4,050 -	\$4,050 ⁽¹⁾		Actual Amount ⁽²⁾		\$10,152	\$9,390 -	\$11,472 ⁽³⁾
Transportation	990	546 -	1,254 ⁽⁴⁾	756	498 -	1,164 ⁽⁵⁾	1,116	618 -	1,218 ⁽⁵⁾
Miscellaneous Personal	3,024	1,434 -	3,006	2,214	1,194 -	2,826	2,754	1,338 -	2,790
Books and Supplies	1,566	1,170 -	1,656	1,566	1,170 -	1,656	1,566	1,170 -	1,656
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)							(358)	(339) -	(393)
(Housing)							(770)	(704) -	(882)
Food and Housing	\$450	\$450 -	\$450		Actual Amount ⁽²⁾		\$1,128	\$1,043 -	\$1,275
Transportation (4)	110	61 -	139	84	55 -	129	124	69 -	135
Miscellaneous Personal	336	159 -	334	246	133 -	314	306	149 -	310
Total Per Month	\$896	\$670 -	\$923	\$330	\$188 -	\$443	\$1,558	\$1,261 -	\$1,720

(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 \$450 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 2006-2007 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.