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MEMORANDUM

Code: AA-2010-30

Date: December 21, 2010

To: CSU Directors of Financial Aid

Response Requested By
January 14, 2011

From: James C. Blackburn 
Assistant Vice Chancellor, Interim
Student Academic Support

Subject: Financial Aid – 2011-12 Cost of Attendance Allowances

The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) has adopted student expense budgets, Attachment A, for use by the Commission for 2011-12 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 2011-12 with the forecasted changes in the California Consumer Price Index (CPI) produced by the Department of Finance.

Attachment B reflects the 2011-12 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 2011-12 based on the California CPI changes from 2006-07 through 2011-12 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 2011-12 costs of attendance (with updated 2011-12 campus fee detail) to Chau Dao, Associate Director of Student Financial Aid Programs and Services, Academic Affairs, Student Academic Support, by January 14, 2011. Questions or comments may be directed to Ms. Dao at (562) 951-4730 or cdao@calstate.edu.

JCB/mdk

Attachments (2)

cc: Presidents
Provosts/Vice Presidents, Academic Affairs
Vice Presidents, Administration
Vice Presidents/Deans, Student Affairs
Dr. Ephraim P. Smith, Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer

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
2011-12 Student Expense Budgets

ALLOWANCE	WITH PARENTS	ON CAMPUS HOUSING	OFF CAMPUS HOUSING
TUITION AND FEES¹	ACTUAL INSTITUTIONAL CHARGES		
BOOKS AND SUPPLIES²	\$1,656 PER ACADEMIC YEAR		
FOOD³ Per Month: Per Year:	\$ 483 / MO \$ 4,347 / YR	ACTUAL INSTITUTIONAL CHARGES ⁴	\$ 389 / MO \$ 3,501 / YR
HOUSING⁵ Per Month: Per Year:	INCLUDED IN ABOVE		\$ 818 / MO \$ 7,362 / YR
TRANSPORTATION⁶ Per Month: Per Year:	\$ 119 / MO \$ 1,071 / YR	\$ 91 / MO \$ 819 / YR	\$ 134 / MO \$ 1,206 / YR
PERSONAL / MISC⁷ Per Month: Per Year:	\$ 346 / MO \$ 3,114 / YR	\$ 253 / MO \$ 2,277 / YR	\$ 317 / MO \$ 2,853 / 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:	\$ 1,132 / MO \$ 10,188 / YR	\$ 528 / MO \$ 4,752 / YR	\$ 1,842 / MO \$ 16,578 / YR

¹ Includes all mandatory fees.

² The breakdown for this category is as follows: books (\$909), educational supplies (\$234), course material fees (\$135), and computer-related expenses (\$378), 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 \$389/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, California independent institutions, and California Community Colleges in the 2006-07 Student Expenses and Resources Survey (SEARS), adjusted for four years of inflation or deflation. Private career college data are from the 2003-04 SEARS, adjusted for eight years of inflation or deflation.

THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

2011-2012 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)							(3,501)	(3,318) -	(3,840)	
(Housing)							(7,362)	(6,732) -	(8,436)	
Food and Housing	\$4,347	\$4,347 -	\$4,347 ⁽¹⁾		Actual Amount ⁽²⁾		\$10,863	\$10,050 -	\$12,276 ⁽³⁾	
Transportation	1,071	594 -	1,362 ⁽⁴⁾	819	540 -	1,266 ⁽⁵⁾	1,206	672 -	1,326 ⁽⁵⁾	
Miscellaneous Personal	3,114	1,572 -	3,288	2,277	1,308 -	3,096	2,853	1,464 -	3,054	
Books and Supplies	1,656	1,230 -	1,746	1,656	1,230 -	1,746	1,656	1,230 -	1,746	
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)							(389)	(369) -	(427)	
(Housing)							(818)	(748) -	(937)	
Food and Housing	\$483	\$483 -	\$483		Actual Amount ⁽²⁾		\$1,207	\$1,117 -	\$1,364	
Transportation (4)	119	66 -	151	91	60 -	141	134	75 -	147	
Miscellaneous Personal	346	175 -	365	253	145 -	344	317	163 -	339	
Total Per Month	\$948	\$724 -	\$1,000	\$344	\$205 -	\$485	\$1,658	\$1,354 -	\$1,851	

(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 \$483 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.