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September 22, 2017

CODED MEMORANDUM

ASA-2017-22

**Response Requested
By October 6, 2017**

TO: CSU Directors of Financial Aid

FROM: Eric G. Forbes 
Assistant Vice Chancellor

SUBJECT: Financial Aid – 2018-19 Cost of Attendance Allowances

The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) has adopted student expense budgets, Attachment A, for use by the Commission for 2018-19 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 2018-19 with the forecasted changes in the California Consumer Price Index (CPI) produced by the Department of Finance.

Attachment B reflects the 2018-19 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 2018-19 based on the California CPI changes from 2006-07 through 2018-19 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. 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 (including on-campus housing) should be retained in files for potential review by auditors and program reviewers. Each campus is also encouraged to consider information required to be posted under Section 66014.2 of California Education Code, which was recently enacted under Assembly Bill 990 (attached).

Please forward a copy of your campus 2018-19 costs of attendance (with updated 2018-19 campus fee detail) to Wendy Ortega-Garrett, Associate Director of Student Financial Aid Programs and Services, Student Academic Services, by October 6, 2017. Questions or comments may also be directed to Ms. Ortega-Garrett at (562) 951-4730 or wortega@calstate.edu.

Attachments (3)

c: Presidents
Provosts/Vice Presidents, Academic Affairs
Vice Presidents, Administration
Vice Presidents/Deans, Student Affairs
Dr. Loren J. Blanchard, 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
2018-19 Student Expense Budgets

ALLOWANCE	WITH PARENTS	ON CAMPUS HOUSING	OFF CAMPUS HOUSING
TUITION AND FEES¹	ACTUAL INSTITUTIONAL CHARGES		
BOOKS AND SUPPLIES²	\$1,917 PER ACADEMIC YEAR		
FOOD³ Per Month: Per Year:	\$ 602 / MO \$ 5,418 / YR	ACTUAL INSTITUTIONAL CHARGES	\$ 451 / MO \$ 4,059 / YR
HOUSING⁴ Per Month: Per Year:	INCLUDED IN ABOVE		\$ 1,080 / MO \$ 9,720 / YR
TRANSPORTATION⁵ Per Month: Per Year:	\$ 123 / MO \$ 1,107 / YR	\$ 94 / MO \$ 846 / YR	\$ 139 / MO \$ 1,251 / YR
PERSONAL / MISC⁶ Per Month: Per Year:	\$ 362 / MO \$ 3,258 / YR	\$ 266 / MO \$ 2,394 / YR	\$ 333 / MO \$ 2,997 / 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		
TOTAL , Excluding Allowances based on actual institutional charges Per Month: Per Year:	\$ 1,300 / MO \$ 11,700 / YR	\$ 573 / MO \$ 5,157 / YR	\$ 2,216 / MO \$ 19,944 / YR

¹ Includes all mandatory fees.

² The breakdown for this category is as follows: books (\$1,053), educational supplies (\$270), course material fees (\$153), and computer-related expenses (\$441), excluding the costs associated with the purchase of a personal computer.

³ Includes food, snacks, meals on campus, household supplies.

⁴ Includes dorm charges, rent, and utilities.

⁵ Includes travel to and from parent's residence and transportation costs to and from classes and work. (e.g., bus fare, gasoline, tolls, parking.)

⁶ 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 12 years of inflation or deflation. Private career college data are from the 2003-04 SEARS, adjusted for 15 years of inflation or deflation.

THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
2018-2019 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)							(4,059)	(3,900) -	(4,515)	
(Housing)							(9,720)	(8,490) -	(10,636)	
Food and Housing	\$5,418	\$5,418 -	\$5,418 ⁽¹⁾		Actual Amount ⁽²⁾		\$13,779	\$12,390 -	\$15,151 ⁽³⁾	
Transportation	1,107	692 -	1,587 ⁽⁴⁾	846	629 -	1,473 ⁽⁵⁾	1,251	784 -	1,545 ⁽⁵⁾	
Miscellaneous Personal	3,258	1,480 -	1,480	2,394	1,480 -	1,480	2,997	1,480 -	1,480	
Books and Supplies	1,917	1,412 -	2,002	1,917	1,412 -	2,002	1,917	1,412 -	2,002	
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)							(451)	(433) -	(502)	
(Housing)							(1,080)	(943) -	(1,182)	
Food and Housing	\$602	\$602 -	\$602		Actual Amount ⁽²⁾		\$1,531	\$1,377 -	\$1,683	
Transportation (4)	123	77 -	176	94	70 -	164	139	87 -	172	
Miscellaneous Personal	362	164 -	164	266	164 -	164	333	164 -	164	
Total Per Month	\$1,087	\$843 -	\$943	\$360	\$234 -	\$328	\$2,003	\$1,628 -	\$2,020	

- (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 \$602 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.

Assembly Bill No. 990

CHAPTER 170

An act to add Section 66014.2 to the Education Code, relating to public postsecondary education.

[Approved by Governor August 7, 2017. Filed with
Secretary of State August 7, 2017.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 990, Rodriguez. Public postsecondary education: California State University: University of California: estimates of off-campus housing costs.

Existing law establishes the California State University, under the administration of the Trustees of the California State University, and the University of California, under the administration of the Regents of the University of California, as 2 of the segments of public postsecondary education in this state. The California State University comprises 23 institutions of higher education, and the University of California comprises 10 institutions of higher education, and these institutions are located throughout the state.

This bill would express legislative findings and declarations relating to the reporting of estimates of off-campus housing costs to students. The bill would require each campus of the California State University, and request each campus of the University of California, to post on its Internet Web site, on or before February 1, 2018, and on or before February 1 of each year thereafter, information about the market cost of a one-bedroom apartment in the areas surrounding that campus where its students commonly reside. The bill would require or request the campuses, in reporting information pursuant to this bill, to exercise due diligence and consult bona fide and reliable sources of current information about local housing market costs, as specified.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(1) There is no uniformity or clarity in the reporting of the costs of off-campus housing by campuses of the California State University (CSU) and the University of California (UC).

(2) Some campuses report an estimated housing budget for a calendar year, others for an academic year, and still others do not specify.

(3) There is no clear indication of how the cost estimates were conceived, and no information about what type of off-campus housing is being discussed.

(4) Campuses located in the same geographic areas report varying housing costs. For example, UCLA reports estimated housing costs of \$10,653 for an academic year, while CSU Los Angeles reports housing costs of \$13,434. UC Irvine estimates \$9,803, while nearby CSU Fullerton estimates \$13,882.

(5) Housing cost estimates often do not seem to reflect current market costs: for example, UC Berkeley estimates \$7,546 in living costs for a year, which appears to be below market value for that area, and the CSU system lists housing costs in San Luis Obispo (\$12,009) as being less than costs in Bakersfield (\$13,780).

(6) There is a vital need for accurate information in this regard because estimated housing costs are an important part of the calculation of a student's need for financial aid.

(b) Therefore, it is the intent of the Legislature, in enacting this act, to ensure that each campus of the California State University, and to request that each campus of the University of California, provides the timely and accurate estimates of housing costs that its students need to plan for their educational futures.

SEC. 2. Section 66014.2 is added to the Education Code, to read:

66014.2. Each campus of the California State University shall, and each campus of the University of California is requested to, post on its Internet Web site, on or before February 1, 2018, and on or before February 1 each year thereafter, information about the market cost of a one-bedroom apartment in the areas surrounding that campus where its students commonly reside. In reporting this information, the campus shall exercise due diligence, and shall consult bona fide and reliable sources of current information about local housing market costs, including, but not necessarily limited to, information received from students of that campus, local newspapers and bulletin boards, and Internet Web sites on which notices regarding local rental vacancies are posted. The information posted pursuant to this section shall be posted in the same location on the campus Internet Web site where the housing cost estimates for off-campus students are posted.