California Student Aid Commission
CSAC Executive Director’s Update

2010 CCCSFAAA Conference
December 13, 2010
Let's Talk About

- Financial Aid Challenges
- CSAC Today
- Cal Grant News
- Specialized Programs Update
- WebGrants for Students
- New Opportunities with ECMC
- On the Horizon
- Questions & Answers
CSAC Today

- Budget impact on CSAC administration
- Loss of expertise in critical areas
- Staff reductions
- Electronic communications to reduce paper processes for students
- Partnerships necessary to maintain services and launch new programs
- Continuing to enhance WebGrants system to streamline for users
- Increased phone hours during peak periods
Financial Aid Challenges

- State Controller’s cash management delaying prior academic year and current year payments
- Current economic climate – Affordability and Access Barriers for CA students
- Unemployment and loss of income resulting in a rise in enrollment at Community Colleges
- Enrollment reductions
- Budget cuts to public segments
- Higher student fees
- Continuing budget deficits
18% increase in number of FAFSAs filed for 2010-11
9% increase in Cal Grant Entitlement offers from 2009
30% increase in Cal Grant Transfer Entitlement (E2) offers
Continued increase in number of Cal Grant Competitive applications
2% more Cal Grant renewal awards from 2009
Cal Grant News

- GPA Pilot project with LA Unified to upload GPAs without SSNs
- Changes to handling Veteran Education Benefits (VEB)
- Program Integrity Issues Negotiated Rulemaking impact on Cal Grants
- High School Initiatives – “HS Shout Out” monthly communication
- On-line training opportunities
Amidst severe budget cuts Commission continues partnerships with other State agencies to launch new financial aid programs

12 Specialized Programs with and over 40,000 participants

California National Guard Education Assistance Award Program (CNG EAAP) implemented in spring 2010
Specialized Programs News

- Chafee Grant Program awarded over 1,000 new awards and renewed over 1,500 for 2010-11
- Implementing electronic Chafee payments with State Controller’s Office for 2011-12
- Implemented APLE for Credentialed Teachers for 2010-11
- In partnership with CA Emergency Management Authority to implement the John R. Justice Gant Program
WebGrants for Students

- WebGrants for Students (WGS) is providing service to more than 400,000 active users
- Implemented an improved and simplified password reset for expired accounts
- Critical and time sensitive message
- Schools can check if their student’s created an account
- More enhancements coming
New Opportunities with ECMC

- Elimination of FFEL Program
- Conversion of loans to ECMC
- Communications to borrowers and industry partners
- Continue to provide services that support student-focused outreach
- Provide guarantor services
- Partnership with CSAC to serve CA students, borrowers and other constituencies
New Opportunities with ECMC

- ECMC will help direct assistance to provide CSAC:
  - IT Help Desk tier on support for student and school calls
  - Mail/print/copy support for Cal Grant letters
  - Interactive Voice Response System
  - Document imaging system
  - Cash for College Workshops and Scholarships
  - Fund Your Future and other publications
  - College Cash Box
  - Training and Outreach
  - SEARS Survey
On the Horizon

- January 2011 - New Governor and changes in administration; Governor’s Proposed Budget
- March 2011 - CASFAA/CCCSFAA Day at the Capitol - Messaging for Cal Grant support
- May 2011 – Governor’s Budget Revision
Let Us Hear from You

- Questions from you
- What would you like to see from CSAC?
- How can we improve our services to you?
- How can we improve our services to students?
- Wish list???? Doesn’t hurt to ask.