

**CALIFORNIA EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY (CEFA)  
Academic Assistance Grant Program**

**PROPOSED REGULATIONS**

**Resolution No. 2005-05  
May 26, 2005**

**Background:** In September 2002, the California Educational Facilities Authority Act (Act) was amended by Senate Bill No. 1624 authorizing up to \$2,000,000 of its fund balance to provide one-time grants to private colleges for a program of academic assistance to high school students. CEFA is responsible for the development and implementation of the Academic Assistance Grant Program (Program). The objective of the Program is to expand opportunities for low and very low-income students for post secondary education.

After surveying, gathering information, and meeting with eligible colleges in 2004, staff has developed draft regulations, an application, and application overview/instructions (see tabs A-E). CEFA is currently seeking public comment on each of the documents. Once all comments have been received from the public, in-house legal counsel, Attorney General's Office. CEFA staff will present a final version of the regulations to the Authority at its August 2005 meeting. See pages 3 and 4 for an expected timeline implementing the Program.

**What Does the Act Require?**

The Act requires CEFA to develop criteria and a process for the awarding of grants in consultation with representatives of private colleges, qualified schools and other appropriate parties. The maximum amount of a grant is \$250,000 per applicant. The criteria includes the following:

1. The extent to which a program provides academic assistance, guidance in college admissions, or expands postsecondary opportunities for low and very-low income students.
2. The extent to which an existing program has been successful, or the extent to which a new program is feasible, ready, and well structured.
3. The extent to which the program will serve areas not currently being served.
4. The extent of applicant's commitment to providing need-based financial assistance to its students and the extent to which the applicant has committed its own funds, or funds obtained from other sources, to the Program.

Once grants are awarded, the Act requires funded programs to be implemented within a reasonable time, as determined by CEFA. CEFA is required to annually report to the

Joint Legislative Budget Committee as to how the money was spent, the total amount of each grant, and the purpose for which each grant was awarded.

The documents attached are as follows:

Tab A: Draft Regulation Text.

Tab B: Draft Application.

Tab C: Draft Application Overview and Instructions, incorporated by reference in proposed draft regulations.

Tab D: California Educational Facilities Authority Act (Section 94100 of the Education Code)

Tab E: Resolution 2005-05.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the Authority approve Resolution 2005-05 for the proposed CEFA Academic Assistance Grant Program draft regulations, draft application and draft application overview and instructions for submission to the Office of Administrative Law.

**California Educational Facilities Authority  
Academic Assistance Grant Program**

**IMPORTANT DATES**

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Tuesday, March 16, 2004      | Meeting with Jonathan Brown, President of the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities.                    |
| Monday, March 22, 2004       | Complete distribution list comprised of eligible colleges and universities for survey mailing.                                    |
| Wednesday, July 28, 2004     | Mail survey to distribution list.   |
| Wednesday, August 18, 2004   | Deadline to receive surveys.  |
| Wednesday, September 1, 2004 | Complete survey review and compile information.   |
| September – December 2004    | Visit schools with programs in place.<br>Develop program application/evaluation process.<br>Write regulations for program.        |
| Thursday, May 26, 2005       | Recommend proposed regulations to CEFA Board.   |
| Friday, May 27, 2005         | File Notice of Publication with the Office of Administrative Law (OAL).   |
| Thursday, June 2, 2005       | Mail Notice of Proposed Regulatory Action.  |
| Friday, June 10, 2005        | OAL publication date.   |
| Monday, July 25, 2005        | Public comment period regarding proposed regulations ends.  |
| Thursday, August 25, 2005    | Results of public hearing requests, if any, presented to CEFA Authority. Present permanent regulations to Authority for adoption. |
| Friday, August 26, 2005      | Deliver permanent regulation package to OAL.  |
| Monday, September 26, 2005   | OAL issues Approval of Certificate of Compliance.   |

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| Friday, September 30, 2005 | Applications available for outreach program.                                  |
| Tuesday, October 18, 2005  | Complete informational/technical assistance seminars.                         |
| Friday, October 28, 2005   | Applications due.   |
| Tuesday, December 20, 2005 | Complete application review and announce proposed awards.                     |
| Friday, December 30, 2005  | Appeals due to Authority  |
| Monday, January 9, 2006    | Staff review of appeals and decisions due to appellants.                      |
| Monday, January 16, 2006   | Deadline for appellants to request Authority review.                          |
| Thursday, January 26, 2006 | Consideration of appeals by Authority and approval of staff recommendation.   |
| January/February 2006      | CEFA Outreach Program funds available to awardees meeting program conditions. |