



## **Chafee Grant Program**

---

The California Chafee Grant Program is for students who were in foster care and have financial need and is administered by the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC). Students may qualify for up to \$5000.00 per year for career and technical training or college.

To qualify, students must be a current or former foster youth and not have reached their 22nd birthday as of July 1 of the award year. The court must have established student's dependency when they were between the ages of 16 and 18. (KinGap youth, adopted youth, guardian placement, and voluntary placement may not be eligible for the Chafee Grant, unless court dependence was established, at anytime, between the ages of 16 and 18). The California Department of Social Services will verify student's foster youth eligibility status.

The Chafee Educational and Training Voucher (ETV) is federal and state funded with a current minimum amount of \$5,000 per academic year; not to exceed cost of attendance. The final award amount will be determined based on the college of attendance and enrollment status.

You may click [this link](#) for additional information regarding Chafee Grant.

### **Chafee Grant Application & Eligibility Requirements**

---

In addition to the California Department of Social Services verification of qualifying foster status, the following must also be submitted:

1. Chafee Grant Application must be completed – This can be done online on the [Chafee](#) Website.
2. Free Application for Federal Financial Aid (FAFSA) must be completed – This can be done online on the [FAFSA](#) website.
3. Chafee Need Analysis Report (NAR) – to be submitted by Santiago Canyon College upon completion of the students financial aid file.

Additional Requirements for Chafee Grant students must:

- be enrolled in at least half-time (6+ Units) status,
- be making Financial Aid [Satisfactory Academic Progress](#) (SAP),
- demonstrate financial need.

AB 540 California Dream Act for Chafee Grant – Effective 12/13 students who meet the AB 540 criteria may apply on line at [www.caldreamact.org](http://www.caldreamact.org)

### **California Student Aid Commission's (CSAC) Selection Criteria and Priority Order**

---

Student's completed applications are sorted by application date, and awards are offered based in order of priority. Selection Criteria for Chafee Grant awards are as follows (*determined by the Chafee Program at the CSAC*):

**Priority 1:** \*\*Paid renewal students who have not reached their 23rd birthday as of July 1st of the award year.

**Priority 2:** New and \*\*\*non-paid renewal students who will be 22 years old as of July 1st of the award year.

**Priority 3:** New and non-paid renewal students who have dependents.

**Priority 4:** New and non-paid renewal students who have an unmet need of \$5,000 or more.

**Priority 5:** New and non-paid renewal students who have an unmet need of less than \$5,000.

\*\* Students who have received a Chafee payment.

\*\*\* Students who have not received a Chafee payment.

## **Santiago Canyon College's Process for Awarding Chafee Grant Awards**

---

In order for the Santiago Canyon College Financial Aid Office (SCCFAO) to submit the Financial Aid Need Analysis (FNAR) to CSAC and include the Chafee Grant as part of the student's financial aid package, the student's current year financial aid file must be complete.

- If the student was selected for verification by the Department of Education the student must submit all of the required documents in order for the SCCFAO to complete the verification process.
- If the student was not selected for verification by the Department of Education and the SCCFAO has determined that there are no additional documents required, the file status will be considered complete and automatically awarded.
- AB540 Cal Grant Students verification status will be determined by the California Student Aid Commission.

Students may check to see if any documents are required, check their SAP Status, and check the status of their Financial Aid File by logging on to [Web Advisor](#) under the Financial Aid Menu.

Once the student's financial aid file is complete and the FNAR has been submitted to CSAC, the SCCFAO will add the Chafee Award as "Estimated" and mail a revised award letter to the student. The award will remain estimated until the SCCFAO receives notification from CSAC that the student's Chafee Grant was funded. Once the Chafee Award has been funded by CSAC, the SCCFAO will notify the student regarding the disbursement process as long as the student has remained eligible. (See eligibility requirements as describe above)

Please be advised that not all students who apply for the Chafee Grant are guaranteed to receive payment during the academic year for which the award has been "estimated." The funds will be distributed by CSAC in the priority order as described above. Students are encouraged to renew their FAFSA early each academic year, in order to be considered for the award until they age out of the program. The FAFSA is available after January 1, for each academic year.