



CALIFORNIA STUDENT AID COMMISSION
TELECONFERENCE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, December 1, 2022
9:00 am
In-Person/Virtual Meeting
Marlene L. Garcia (Executive Director)

**COMMISSIONERS
PRESENT:**

Catalina Cifuentes (Chair)
Charles Nies (Vice Chair)
Debra Maxie (Secretary)
Patrick Day
Juanita Doplemore
Shannon Gary
Hal Geiogoue
David O'Brien
Alexis Takagi
David Valladolid

ABSENT:

Audrey Dow
Guillermo Mayer
Steve Ngo
Angel Rodriguez

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Catalina Cifuentes called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Roll call was taken, and a quorum was recognized.

2. Public comment on items not on the agenda.

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of the Commission minutes of September 8, 2022 (Action)

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Doplemore **moved to approve** the minutes. **Seconded by** Commissioner Valladolid.

Roll call vote:

In Favor (10): Cifuentes, Nies, Maxie, Day, Doplemore, Gary, Geiogoue, O'Brien, Takagi, Valladolid

Absent (4): Dow, Mayer, Ngo, Rodriguez

Carried (10 to 0)

The Commission **APPROVED** the minutes of September 8, 2022.

4. Chair's oral report on Commission related issues (Information)

Chair Cifuentes thanked everyone for the work in increasing FAFSA/CADAA completion rates.

5. Executive Director's Report (Information)

Executive Director Garcia highlighted the Commission's All In for FAFSA/CADAA Campaign and upcoming programs and events of the Commission.

Executive Director Garcia introduced the Commission's new Executive Fellow, Yessica Mox. Ms. Mox provided a few remarks.

6. Election of Commission Officers (Action)

Chair Cifuentes invited Julia Blair, General Counsel, to present item 6.

The nominees of Commission Officers were announced as follows:

- Commission Chair: Catalina Cifuentes
- Commission Vice Chair: Charles Nies
- Commission Secretary: Debra Maxie

Each nominee provided a few remarks.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner O'Brien **moved to approve** the nominations for the election of Commission Officers. **Seconded by** Commissioner Valladolid.

Roll call vote:

In Favor (10): Cifuentes, Nies, Maxie, Day, Doplemore, Gary, Geiogue, O'Brien, Takagi, Valladolid

Absent (4): Dow, Mayer, Ngo, Rodriguez

Carried (10 to 0)

The Commission **APPROVED** the nominations for the election of Commission Officers as follows: Chair (Catalina Cifuentes), Vice Chair (Charles Nies), and Secretary (Debra Maxie).

7. Consideration of the new proposed 2023 Commission meeting calendar (Action)

Chair Cifuentes invited Catalina Mistler, Chief Deputy Director, to present item 7.

Ms. Mistler presented the proposed dates for the 2023 Commission Meeting calendar.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Doplemore **moved to approve** the proposed dates for the 2023 Commission Meeting Calendar. **Seconded by** Commissioner Valladolid.

Roll call vote:

In Favor (10): Cifuentes, Nies, Maxie, Day, Doplemore, Gary, Geiogue, O'Brien, Takagi, Valladolid

Absent (4): Dow, Mayer, Ngo, Rodriguez

Carried (10 to 0)

The Commission **APPROVED** the proposed dates for the 2023 Commission Meeting Calendar.

8. Ratification of emergency contracts and approval of contracts over \$250,000 (Action)

Chair Cifuentes invited Lilly Myers, Deputy Director of Fiscal and Administrative Services Division, to present item 8.

Ms. Myers presented the emergency contracts and contracts over \$250,000.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Valladolid **moved to approve** the ratification of emergency contracts and contracts over \$250,000. **Seconded by** Commissioner Takagi.

Roll call vote:

In Favor (10): Cifuentes, Nies, Maxie, Day, Doplemore, Gary, Geiogoue, O'Brien, Takagi, Valladolid

Absent (4): Dow, Mayer, Ngo, Rodriguez

Carried (10 to 0)

The Commission **APPROVED** the ratification of emergency contracts and approval of contracts over \$250,000.

9. Outreach contract for the Golden State Education and Training Grant Program (Action)

Chair Cifuentes invited Lilly Myers, Deputy Director of Fiscal and Administrative Services Division, and Jake Brymner, Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs Division and to present item 9.

Ms. Myers and Mr. Brymner provided an overview of the solicitation process for entering contract for outreach for the Golden State Education and Training Grant Program.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Doplemore **moved to approve** staff requests to develop a solicitation(s) and enter into a contract(s) with the auxiliary(ies) of a public segment(s) of higher educations for the Outreach contract for the Golden State Education and Training Grant Program. **Seconded by** Commissioner Valladolid.

Roll call vote:

In Favor (9): Cifuentes, Nies, Maxie, Day, Doplemore, Gary, Geiogoue, O'Brien, Takagi, Valladolid

Abstain (1): O'Brien

Absent (4): Dow, Mayer, Ngo, Rodriguez

Carried (9 to 0)

The Commission **APPROVED** staff's request to develop a solicitation(s) and enter into a contract(s) with the auxiliary(ies) of a public segment(s) of higher educations for the Outreach Contract for the Golden State Education and Training Grant Program.

10. Consideration of Proposed Policy for Requesting Increases to Executive Director's Salary (Action)

Chair Cifuentes invited Commissioner Patrick Day, to present item 10.

Commissioner Day presented the proposed Policy for Requesting Increases to Executive Director's Salary.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Geiogoue **moved to approve** the proposed Policy for Requesting Increases to Executive Director's Salary. **Seconded by** Commissioner Maxie.

Roll call vote:

In Favor (10): Cifuentes, Nies, Maxie, Day, Doplemore, Gary, Geiogoue, O'Brien, Takagi, Valladolid

Absent (4): Dow, Mayer, Ngo, Rodriguez

Carried (10 to 0)

The Commission **APPROVED** the proposed Policy for Requesting Increases to Executive Director's Salary.

11. Consideration to approve amendments to the emergency regulations for the Golden State Teacher Grant Program (Action)

Chair Cifuentes invited Julia Blair, General Counsel, Tae Kang, Deputy Director of Program Administration and Services Division, and Alessandra Morrison, Assistant Deputy Director of Program Administration and Services Division, to present item 11.

Ms. Blair and Mr. Kang provided an overview of the proposed amendments to the emergency regulations.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Maxie **moved to approve** the proposed amendments to the emergency regulations and authorized staff to prepare and submit all required documents to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) and to make any non-substantive changes to the regulations and supporting documentation as requested by the OAL. **Seconded by** Commissioner O'Brien.

Roll call vote:

In Favor (10): Cifuentes, Nies, Maxie, Day, Doplemore, Gary, Geiogoue, O'Brien, Takagi, Valladolid

Absent (4): Dow, Mayer, Ngo, Rodriguez

Carried (10 to 0)

The Commission **APPROVED** the proposed amendments to the emergency regulations and authorized staff to prepare and submit all

required documents to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) and to make any non-substantive changes to the regulations and supporting documentation as requested by the OAL.

12. Consideration to approve modification to proposed amendments to the California Community College Expanded Entitlement Program, Section 30023 and 30026 of Title 5 of the CCR (Action)

Chair Cifuentes invited Julia Blair, General Counsel, Tae Kang, Deputy Director of Program Administration and Services Division, and Terry Artica, Assistant Deputy Director of Customer Relations Services Branch to present to present item 12.

Ms. Blair and Mr. Kang provided an overview of the proposed modified regulations.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner O'Brien **moved to approve** adopt the proposed modified regulations and authorized staff to complete the regulatory process. **Seconded by** Commissioner Doplemore.

Roll call vote:

In Favor (10): Cifuentes, Nies, Maxie, Day, Doplemore, Gary, Geiogoue, O'Brien, Takagi, Valladolid

Absent (4): Dow, Mayer, Ngo, Rodriguez

Carried (10 to 0)

The Commission **APPROVED** to adopt the proposed modified regulations and authorized staff to complete the regulatory process.

13. Approval of the 2023-27 Cal Grant Institutional Participation Agreement (IPA) (Action)

Chair Cifuentes invited Tae Kang, Deputy Director of Program Administration and Services Division and Alessandra Morrison, Associate Deputy Director, Program Administration and Services to present item 13.

Mr. Kang and Ms. Morrison presented the 2023-2027 Cal Grant IPA for the period beginning July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2027.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Valladolid **moved to approve** the 2023-2027 Cal Grant IPA. **Seconded by** Commissioner Gary.

Roll call vote:

In Favor (10): Cifuentes, Nies, Maxie, Day, Doplemore, Gary, Geiogoue, O'Brien, Takagi, Valladolid

Absent (4): Dow, Mayer, Ngo, Rodriguez

Carried (10 to 0)

The Commission **APPROVED** the 2023-2027 Cal Grant IPA for the period beginning July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2027.

The Commission **RECESSED** at 10:21 a.m.

BREAK

The Commission **RECONVENED** at 10:36 a.m.

Chair Cifuentes announced that items would be taken out of order due to timing and proceeded to item 16.

16. Report on and consideration of the November 30, 2022, Legislative, Audit and Budget Committee meeting (Information/Action)

Chair Cifuentes invited Committee Chair Nies and Jake Brymner, Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs Division, to present item 14.

Committee Chair Nies provided a report from the Legislative, Audit and Budget Committee meeting on November 30, 2022.

Committee Chair Nies and Mr. Brymner presented the proposed 2023-24 Statement of Policy Priorities with two amendments discussed at the November 30, 2022, LAB Committee. The two amendments were to add "and to reduce barriers to the programs" to the introductory paragraph, and to add "identify and" in the Advance Awareness section.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Day **moved to approve** the proposed 2023-24 Statement of Policy Priorities with two amended languages to introductory paragraph to add "and to reduce barriers to the programs" and Advance Awareness Section to add "identity and". **Seconded by** Commissioner Valladolid.

Roll call vote:

In Favor (10): Cifuentes, Nies, Maxie, Day, Doplemore, Gary, Geiogoue, O'Brien, Takagi, Valladolid

Absent (4): Dow, Mayer, Ngo, Rodriguez

Carried (10 to 0)

The Commission **APPROVED** proposed amended 2023-24 Statement of Policy Priorities.

17. Report on and consideration of the November 30, 2022, Student Impact, Outreach and Communications Committee meeting (Information/Action)

Committee Vice Chair Valladolid provided report from Student Impact, Outreach and Communications Committee meeting on November 30, 2022.

There was no public comment.

18. Report on and consideration of the November 30, 2022, Data, Research, and Strategic Planning Committee meeting (Information/Action)

Committee Chair Maxie provided a report from Data, Research, and Strategic Planning Committee meeting on November 30, 2022.

There was no public comment.

15. Update on federal student loan forgiveness (Information)

Chair Cifuentes invited Patrick Perry, Deputy Director of Data, Analysis and Research Team, and Celina Damian, Student Loan Servicing Ombudsperson at the California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation to present item 17.

Ms. Damian presented on Student Loan Forgiveness and tools offered to California loan borrowers.

There was no public comment.

19. Commission Closed Session (information/Action)

Chair Cifuentes invited Julia Blair, General Counsel, to announce closed session. Ms. Blair announced that the full Commission would meet in Closed Session to discuss and may take action on personnel matters pursuant to California Government Code, Section 11126(a).

The Commission went into Closed Session at 11:48 a.m.

RECONVENED OPEN SESSION

Chair Cifuentes reconvened Open Session at 1:21 p.m. and announced that there is nothing to report from Closed Session

Chair Cifuentes announced Commissioners attendance in the meeting remains the same.

14. Update on Undocumented Student Affordability Workgroup (Information)

Chair Cifuentes invited Jake Brymner, Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs Division, Laura Arciniega, Principal at The Raben Group, and Anthony Perez, Principal at The Raben Group to present item 19.

Ms. Arciniega and Mr. Perez provided background information on CADAA application process and shared college affordability challenges among undocumented college students.

There was no public comment.

20. **Consideration of Executive Director's Salary (Action)**

Chair Cifuentes invited Commissioner Patrick Day to present item 20.

Commissioner Day presented the request to increase the Executive Director's salary in accordance with the Commission's Policy on Requesting Increases to Executive Director's Salary.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Day **moved to approve** the consideration of a request for a 10% of the Executive Director's Salary. **Seconded by** Commissioner Geiogoue.

Roll call vote:

In Favor (10): Cifuentes, Nies, Maxie, Day, Doplemore, Gary, Geiogoue, O'Brien, Takagi, Valladolid

Absent (4): Dow, Mayer, Ngo, Rodriguez

Carried (10 to 0)

The Commission **APPROVED** to request a 10% increase to the Executive Director's salary.

21. **New business to be considered at future meetings (Information/Action)**

Chair Cifuentes requested the following:

- Update on CA Dream Act.
- Update on area of focus, especially on Black and male students. Black Students Outreach efforts.
- Update on CalFresh/SNAP legislation, monitoring, and implementation.
- Follow up on the three Community College Financial Aid Programs.
- Update on CalSoap.
- Update on the Undocumented workgroup and action plan for the Commission.

There was no public comment.

22. Adjournment

Chair Cifuentes adjourned the meeting at 2:22 p.m.

CATALINA CIFUENTES
CHAIR