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550 E. Hospitality Ln., Ste 200

San Bernardino, CA 92408

Tel 909.388.6900

[www.sbccd.edu](http://www.sbccd.edu)

March 10, 2023

Ms. Marlene Garcia  
Executive Director  
California Student Aid Commission  
11040 White Rock Rd.  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

**Re: San Bernardino Community College District Request for  
FAFSA/California Dream Act Application Deadline Extension  
(Education Code section 69513.2.)**

Dear Ms. Garcia:

I am writing to request an extension to the FAFSA/California Dream Act Application deadline of March 2, 2023, for students and families served by the San Bernardino Community College District, including Crafton Hills College and San Bernardino Valley College, based on Education Code section 69513.2.

As you may be aware, San Bernardino County has experienced a series of severe winter storms that began in late February and continued into March. These storms caused widespread power outages, road closures, and significant damage to homes and infrastructure. On March 1, Governor Newsom proclaimed a state of emergency in San Bernardino County following the storms, and on March 10, President Joseph R. Biden approved California's emergency declaration.

The adverse effects of these winter storms have significantly impacted the ability of students to submit their financial aid applications by the established deadline. Financial aid support services were interrupted for K-12 and college students and their families served by the San Bernardino Community College District, Cal State University, San Bernardino, San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, Bear Valley Unified School District, Rialto Unified School District, Rim of the World Unified School District, San Bernardino City Unified School District, Yucaipa-Calimesa Joint Unified School District, among others. This interruption has resulted in the cancellation or delay of many financial aid outreach events in the community, including two in-person workshops at Crafton Hills College (February 2 and March 6; *"I've Been Admitted to Transfer to a Four-Year University: What's Next?"*).

Additionally, we have concerns that there has been, or will be, a reduction in the number of students who have completed a financial aid application from the previous year. However, we are currently gathering the necessary data to support this claim.

Given the circumstances, I request that you grant an extension to the FAFSA/California Dream Act Application deadline for students in our region. The extension will give students and their families the time to submit their financial aid applications without fear of missing the established deadline.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Diana Z. Rodriguez', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Diana Z. Rodriguez  
Chancellor