



CALIFORNIA STUDENT AID COMMISSION

TELECONFERENCE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, May 25, 2023

9:00 am

Virtual Meeting

Marlene L. Garcia (Executive Director)

COMMISSIONERS

PRESENT:

Catalina Cifuentes (Chair)
Charles Nies (Vice Chair)
Debra Maxie Secretary
Patrick Day, *joined 9:15 a.m.*
Juanita Doplemore
Audrey Dow, *departed 9:35 a.m.*
Shannon Gary
Hal Geiogque
Guillermo Mayer
David O'Brien
Angel Rodriguez
Alexis Takagi
David Valladolid

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Catalina Cifuentes called the meeting to order at 9:03 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. Chair's oral report on Commission related issues (Information)

Chair Catalina Cifuentes welcomed everyone and congratulated the class of 2023.

4. Executive Director's oral report (Information)

Executive Director Marlene L. Garcia welcomed everyone and congratulated the class of 2023. She briefly summarized the items to be discussed during the meeting.

Executive Director Garcia also highlighted some important trends in the number of financial aid applications for the 2023-24 year. She also noted that the financial aid application for all students (FAFSA) will not be available until December and the Commission is working on clarifying communications around this.

5. Ratification of emergency contract(s) and approval of contract(s) over \$250,000 (Action)

Chair Cifuentes invited Catalina Mistler, Chief Deputy Director, to present item 5.

Ms. Mistler presented the proposed contracts of over \$250,000.

Commissioner Doplemore **moved to approve** ratification of the proposed contract. **Seconded** by Commissioner Maxie.

There was no public comment.

Roll call vote:

In Favor (12): Cifuentes, Doplemore, Dow, Gary, Geiogoue, Maxie, Mayer, Nies, O'Brien, Rodriguez, Takagi, and Valladolid

Absent (1): Day

Carried (12 to 0)

The Commission **APPROVED** ratification of the contracts described in the proposed new contracts over \$250,000.

6. Update on the Governor's May Revision to the 2023-24 State Budget (Information/Action)

Chair Cifuentes invited Jake Brymner, Deputy Director of the Policy and Public Affairs Division to present item 6.

Mr. Brymner presented revisions to the Governor's budget for 2023-24.

Chair Cifuentes asked if counselors qualify for the Golden State Teacher grant program. Mr. Brymner confirmed that counselors are part of the educator group that qualifies.

7. **Consideration of California Student Opportunity and Access Program (Cal-SOAP) grant proposal template for 2023-24 fiscal year (Action)**

Chair Cifuentes invited Jake Brymner, Deputy Director of the Policy and Public Affairs Division, Michael Lemus, Outreach and Marketing Manager, and Komal Singh, Cal-SOAP Coordinator to present item 7.

Ms. Singh provided an overview of the Cal-SOAP program. Mr. Lemus presented the grant proposal process and how it would improve the program effectiveness to align with new legislation (AB 549).

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Doplemore **moved to approve** staff recommendation. **Seconded** by Commissioner Takagi.

Roll call vote:

In Favor (12): Cifuentes, Day, Doplemore, Gary, Geiogoue, Maxie, Mayer, Nies, O'Brien, Rodriguez, Takagi, and Valladolid

Absent (1): Dow

Carried (12 to 0)

The Commission **APPROVED** staff recommendation to adopt the new Cal-SOAP grant proposal template.

8. **Consideration of proposed fiscal year 2023-24 California Student Opportunity and Access Program (Cal-SOAP) consortia allocations (Action)**

Due to possibility of conflict of interest, Vice Chair Nies led this agenda item and invited Jake Brymner, Deputy Director of the Policy and Public Affairs Division, Michael Lemus, Outreach and Marketing Manager, and Komal Singh, Cal-SOAP Coordinator to present item 8.

Commissioner Valladolid **moved to approve** staff recommendation. **Seconded** by Commissioner Maxie.

There was no public comment.

Roll call vote:

In Favor (11): Day, Doplemore, Gary, Geiogoue, Maxie, Mayer, Nies, O'Brien, Rodriguez, Takagi, and Valladolid

Abstention (1): Cifuentes

Absent (1): Dow

Carried (11 to 0 and 1 Abstention)

The Commission APPROVED staff recommendations for the fiscal year 2023-24 funding allocations and delegates Executive Director flexibility to reallocate fiscal year 2023-2024 funds equitably if a project cannot utilize all its allocated funds, or if the final 2023-2024 Budget Act allocates amends the total proposed appropriation.

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

There was no new business to consider.

10. **Adjournment**

Commissioner Valladolid **moved to adjourn** the meeting. **Seconded** by Commissioner Takagi.

Chair Cifuentes adjourned the meeting at 10:37 a.m.

DEBRA MAXIE
SECRETARY