



**CALIFORNIA STUDENT AID COMMISSION  
TELECONFERENCE MEETING MINUTES**

**Friday, January 19, 2024  
10:00 a.m.**

**In Person/Virtual Meeting  
Marlene L. Garcia (Executive Director)**

**COMMISSIONERS**

**PRESENT:**

Catalina Cifuentes (Chair)  
Charles Nies (Vice Chair)  
Debra Maxie Secretary)  
Anahi-Marcella Araiza  
Patrick Day  
Juanita Doplemore  
Audrey Dow  
Shannon Gary  
Guillermo Mayer  
David O'Brien  
Angel Rodriguez  
Alexis Takagi  
David Valladolid  
Chao Vang

**COMMISSIONERS**

**ABSENT:**

Eva Robinson

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**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chair Catalina Cifuentes called the meeting to order at 10:02 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 Cifuentes welcomed everyone and emphasized the Commission's support to help the community with navigating the new FAFSA/CADAA applications.

Chair Cifuentes invited Executive Director Marlene L. Garcia to share any additional updates.

Executive Director Marlene L. Garcia noted that the Commission has developed a "S.W.A.T. team" to address issues and concerns with the new FAFSA changes.

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

Chair Cifuentes invited Lilly Myers, Deputy Director of the Fiscal and Administrative Services Division to present item 4.

Ms. Myers presented the following emergency contract over \$250,000 for the Commission's approval:

- TANF contract with Department of Social Services for \$400 million

Commissioner Dow **moved to ratify** the contract. **Seconded** by Commissioner Takagi and Doplemore.

Roll call vote:

**In Favor** (14): Araiza, Cifuentes, Day, Doplemore, Dow, Gary, Maxie, Mayer, Nies, O'Brien, Rodriguez, Takagi, Valladolid, and Vang

**Abstention** (1): Robinson

**CARRIED (14 to 1 Abstention)**

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

**5. Consideration to approve the proposed regulations for the Public Interest Attorney Loan Repayment Program (Education Code Section 69740, et seq.) (Action)**

Chair Cifuentes invited Tae Kang, Deputy Director of Program Administration and Services Division, Edmundo Aguilar, Acting General Counsel, and Libby Rafferty, Specialized Program Manager, to present item 5.

Mr. Kang and Ms. Rafferty provided background information on the program.

Mr. Aguilar presented the following proposed regulation for the Public Interests Attorney Loan Repayment Program with the amendment to remove Section 30929(a)(1) Social Security Number as part of the Application Process and Information. Mr. Aguilar recommended the Commission approve the proposed regulations with the one substantive amendment to remove Section 30929(a)(1) and authorize staff to complete the regulatory process, including opening a 45-day public comment period, preparing, and submitting all required documents to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL), and making all non-substantive changes to the regulations and supporting documentation resulting from public comment or as requested by OAL.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Mayer **moved to approve** the proposed regulations with the amendment to remove Section 30929(a)(1) Social Security Number as part of the Application Process and Information. **Seconded by** Commissioner Day.

Roll call vote:

**In Favor** (14): Araiza, Cifuentes, Day, Doplemore, Dow, Gary, Maxie, Mayer, Nies, O'Brien, Rodriguez, Takagi, Valladolid, and Vang

**Abstention** (1): Robinson

**CARRIED (14 to 1 Abstention)**

The Commission **APPROVED** the proposed regulations with the one substantive amendment to remove Section 30929(a)(1) and authorize staff to complete the regulatory process, including opening a 45-day public comment period, preparing, and submitting all required documents to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL), and making all non-substantive changes to the regulations and supporting documentation resulting from public comment or as requested by OAL.

## **6. Annual Philanthropic Report Out for 2023 (Information)**

Chair Cifuentes invited Executive Director Marlene L. Garcia to present item 6.

Executive Director Garcia provided a brief overview of the Commission's philanthropic funding process. She also highlighted the funds that the Commission received for 2022 and 2023.

There was no public comment.

7. **Update on the Governor's proposed 2024-25 State Budget (Information/Action)**

Chair Cifuentes invited Jake Brymner, Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs Division, and Madison Sheffield, Assistant Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs Division, to present item 7.

Mr. Brymner shared an update on the Governor's proposed 2024-25 State Budget. Ms. Sheffield presented more details on the budget and how it impacts the Commission.

There was no public comment.

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

Chair Cifuentes noted the following items to consider at future meetings:

- Develop strategic plan for philanthropic funding
- Update on FAFSA roll out and uptake

Public comment was taken from Deacon John Wilson III.

9. **Adjournment**

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

Chair Cifuentes adjourned the meeting at 11:24 a.m.

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DEBRA MAXIE  
SECRETARY