

CalFresh Outreach Student Eligibility Overview

CDSS Prime Contractor Training

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CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO



Presentation Overview

- Messaging
- Eligibility Basics
- Student Eligibility
- Application Tips
- Approval Tips



Messaging

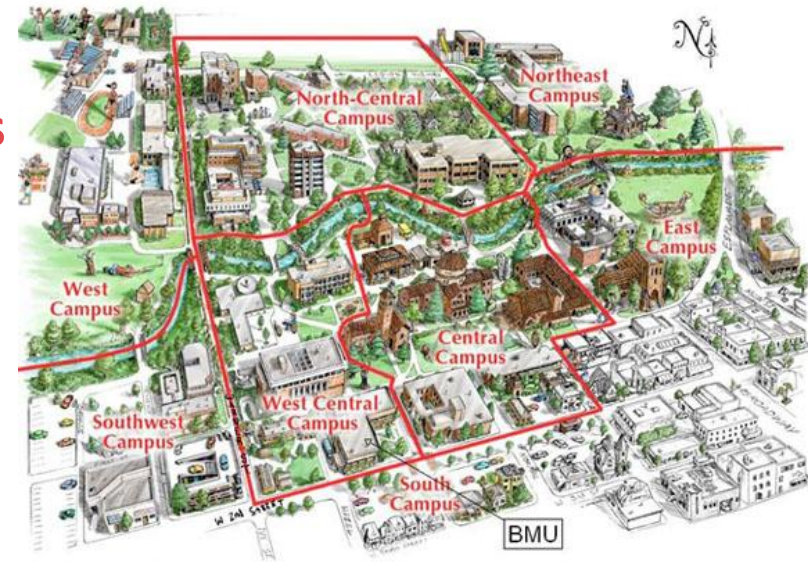


- Food resource to go grocery shopping
- Most students receive \$150/month
- Financial Aid AND Food Aid
- Use CalFresh EBT at most farmers' markets!
- Know the campus data - 24% of students are food insecure
- Reach out to students, parents, staff, faculty at all levels



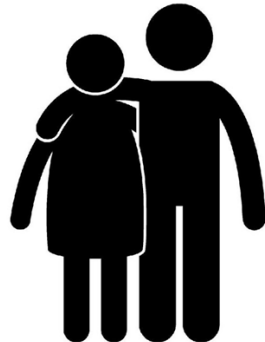
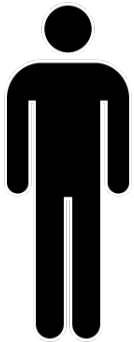
Economic Effect

- Financial aid office estimated last year that there were 4,000 students in the highest need
 - We enrolled 1200 students last year and had a 50% approval rate
 - On average students receive \$150/month for food
 - 600 students * \$150 * 8 months = \$720,000 per year
 - If all students eligible participated, students would receive an additional
 - = \$4.8 million annually in federal funds**
 - And the \$1.79 multiplier effect
 - = \$8.6 million in economic activity**
- = CSU Chico is missing out!**



Eligibility Basics

- **Households;** defined as an individual, couple, or family that buy and prepare food together, meet certain income guidelines, and reside in California legally.
- How does this apply to students?



Income Guidelines

For most people to receive CalFresh they must simply meet income eligibility

MONTHLY INCOME LIMITS	
NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN HOUSEHOLD	GROSS MONTHLY INCOME
1	\$1,980
2	\$2,670
3	\$3,360
4	\$4,050
5	\$4,740
6	\$5,430

MAXIMUM MONTHLY ALLOTMENT	
NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN HOUSEHOLD	MAXIMUM CALFRESH ALLOTMENT
1	\$194
2	\$357
3	\$511
4	\$649
Each additional member	+\$142

*** Resources and belongings do not count as monthly income



What counts as income?

- Public forms of student financial aid are excluded as income
 - Below are just a few of those not counted as income:
 - Pell Grants (also known as Basic Education Opportunity Grants or BEOG)
 - Federal and state college work study
 - Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG)
- Other educational assistance in the form of deferred payment loans, private grants, or private scholarship are counted but allowable educational expenses are subtracted
- If parents pay student directly for expenses it's counted as income
- CalFresh is not considered income and does not effect taxes



Screening Student's

If you are a student between the ages of 18 and 49, enrolled in at least 5 units, and are physically/mentally fit you must also meet any one of the following:

- Working and getting paid for an average of 20 hours per week OR a total of 80 hours a month
- Approved for federal or state work study and anticipating working during the school term (can still be eligible even if not working a work study job)
- Be enrolled in EOPS or WIOA programs
- Be exerting parental control over a dependent household member under the age of 6
- Be exerting parental control over a dependent household member between the age of 6 and 12 with no adequate childcare (as determined by the county on a case-by-case basis)
- Be a single parent of a dependent household member under the age of 12 AND enrolled full-time (at least 12 units)
- Participating in the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) or a Food Stamp Employment or Training Program (FSET)
- Be a recipient of CalWorks or AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children)

Other things to consider:

- Unpaid internships or volunteer work do not count towards the work requirement
- Students who live with their parents must be 23 years of age or older to apply as an individual household
- Students who are on meal plans that provide less than half (<50%) of their meals may still be eligible
- International students are not eligible, even with a work VISA/SSN



Reminders

- Student populations that only need to meet basic eligibility:
 - *Students with a disability*
 - *Students 17 years of age or under*
 - *Students 50 years of age or over*
 - *Students who are taking 5 units or less*



Citizenship/Immigration Status

- Certain non-citizens such as those admitted for humanitarian reasons and those admitted for permanent residence may be eligible for CalFresh benefits. Eligible household members can get CalFresh benefits even if other members of the household are not eligible.

In general, CalFresh eligibility is available to most lawfully-present immigrants who:

- Have lived in the country (in a qualified status) for five (5) years, or
- Are receiving disability- related assistance or benefits, regardless of entry date, or
- Are children under 18 years of age who are qualified and lawfully- admitted for permanent residence under the Immigration and Nationalization Act.



California Food Assistance Program

California also has a program for immigrants who have not lived here for five years, but have a lawful permanent resident (LPR) status or “qualified” immigration status and meet all other program eligibility criteria. This CalFresh Program is known as the California Food Assistance Program (CFAP).

Non-citizens that are in the U.S. temporarily, such as students or tourists are not eligible just as undocumented individuals are not eligible.



Qualified Immigrants

Qualified immigrants are:

- Lawful permanent residents (LPRs), including Amerasian immigrants; or
- Refugees, asylees, persons granted withholding of deportation, conditional entry (prior to April 1, 1980), or paroled for at least one year; or
- Cuban/Haitian entrants; or
- Adults or minors subject to severe trafficking, or their spouse/parents/children; or
- Certain battered spouses and children.
- This is not a comprehensive list, for a complete listing see the federal regulations. [8 U.S.C. §[1641\(b\), \(c\)](#); 7 C.F.R. §[273.4\(a\)\(6\)\(i\)](#).]



Application Tips for Students

- Many students are eligible for expedited services, income Q's important
- Students will need to list roommates even if they do not buy and prepare food together
- There is not a place for certain student exemptions – need to let student to tell county staff during interview



30-Day Application Process

- Application received by county → starts 30-day time clock
- Intake interview → by phone (blocked number) or in person
- Verifications → packet received, needed verifications to be submitted before end of 30-day time clock



Getting those Apps Approved

- Follow-ups; texting, emailing, calling
- How to reschedule
- How to collect verifications
- Faxing verifications



Typical Verifications

- Proof of Identification
- Pay stubs
- Residency
- PG&E
- Financial Aid/Work Study
- Units enrolled in
- Meal plan
- Enrollment in EOPS



Students who are Homeless

- DMV is now required to help those who are homeless get ID's for FREE <http://www.housingca.org/photo-id-how-to-sps>
- Birth certificates for FREE too <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/birthdeathmar/Documents/AffidavitforFreeCertifiedCopyofBirthCertificate-8-15.pdf>
- Also general delivery at any post office can be for as long as needed...the PO will only hold things for 30 days...but they can have general delivery for years http://about.usps.com/postal-bulletin/2013/pb22375/html/updt_006.htm and they can find post offices here: <http://postofficefinder.org>



Campus Partners

- Financial Aid Office, Career Center
- AS Elected Student Officers
- Parent Advisory Committee
- Student Life & Leadership, University 101
- REACH, EOP, CCLC, Foster Youth, TriO
- Nutrition/Social Work/Health Departments
- Student Associations/Clubs
- Food Pantry, Campus gardens, Dining Services
- 10 other CSU Campuses to join our efforts



Outreach in Action



What can you do?

- Share what you've heard today to other students, parents, staff, faculty, and community members
- Spread the importance messaging of financial aid AND food aid
- Be sure to have other student food assistance resources available for students who do not meet eligibility



Questions?

Contact Information

CSU, Chico, Center for Healthy Communities (CHC)

<http://www.csuchico.edu/chc/>

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