

The California State University Employee Update
Monday, September 27, 2010

CSU Will Admit New Students for Winter and Spring 2011 Terms

While the state budget continues to be negotiated and the associated state general fund support has not been finalized, the California State University will admit up to 30,000 qualified applicants for the winter and spring 2011 terms. Campuses will begin mailing out letters of acceptance this week.

"The mission of the CSU is to educate California's students and despite the uncertainty surrounding the budget, we need to provide service as best we can," said CSU Chancellor Charles B. Reed. "We remain optimistic that the legislature is committed to higher education and that the final budget will restore the necessary funding to the CSU. The restoration of funding is vital to allow us to serve these students."

Despite the lack of a budget, the CSU opened up the spring 2011 application cycle on August 1 and extended the August 31 deadline to September 27 while waiting to see the level of state support the university would receive. On September 16, the CSU announced that a final round of one-time federal stimulus funding would allow the university to admit a limited number of qualified applicants as well as restore some services that had been scaled back due to budget cuts.

At the end of the spring application period the CSU expects to have received about 50,000 applications and would expect to accept as many as 30,000 new students.

The CSU has seen massive cuts in state support over the last two years and was forced to address the reduction in funding through the use of employee furloughs and workforce reductions, enrollment cuts and increased student fees. The reduction in state support forced the CSU to close last year's spring application cycle, which in turn forced qualified students to apply for admission in the subsequent fall term. This resulted in a record number of applications and unprecedented demand for admission for fall 2010.

To effectively serve both new and continuing students, the CSU awaits a proposed state budget that includes a \$305 million restoration of state funding to the CSU—the first since 2007--and an additional \$60.6 million to fund enrollment expansion.