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CHARLES B. REED
CHANCELLOR

DATE: January 26, 2000

TO: CSU Presidents

FROM: Charles B. Reed
Chancellor

SUBJECT: Cal Veteran Fee Waivers

SB 251, Chapter 689 of the 1999 Statutes, which amends Education Code §32320 effective January 1, 2000, was approved by the governor on October 6, 1999 and contains several new provisions that affect CSU fee waivers for dependents of deceased or disabled California veterans. Prior to amendment, the law prohibited any state-owned college, university, community college, or other school from charging certain fees to dependents or survivors of veterans, including any child of any veteran of the United States military who has a service-connected disability, has been killed in service, or has died of a service-connected disability, where the annual income of the child, including the value of any support received from a parent, does not exceed \$7,000.

The new law now provides that the maximum income of a child who would not be charged mandatory systemwide fees under this provision would be the national poverty level, as defined, as most recently calculated by the Bureau of the Census of the United States Department of Commerce, rather than \$7,000.

Also, the new law provides for the waiver of mandatory systemwide fees only for each academic year during which a student applies for the waiver, and would not apply for a prior academic year during which a student did not apply for a waiver. The bill would also provide that the waiver of mandatory systemwide fees under these provisions would apply only to a person who is determined, pursuant to existing law, to be a resident of California. Thus, under the new law, for new students campus mandatory fees that are not systemwide are not waived.

One aspect of these new provisions requires further clarification. CSU agreed to grandfather current recipients of Cal Veteran waivers who continue to be eligible as determined by the Department of Veterans Affairs and who had all of their mandatory fees waived under the previous waiver statute. In implementing the new waiver provisions included in SB 251, campus presidents are requested to honor CSU's commitment to current Cal Veteran waiver recipients who continue to be eligible and reduce to \$0 their campus mandatory student fees. All of the provisions of Education Code §32320 as amended will apply to all new Cal Veteran fee waiver applicants

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effective academic year 2000/01 who are determined to be eligible for fee waiver by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Students approved to receive Cal Veteran systemwide and campus mandatory fee waivers in academic year 1999/2000 and prior academic years during which they were enrolled at CSU should continue to receive reduced campus mandatory fees as long as they qualify as eligible by the Department of Veteran Affairs and are continuously enrolled at CSU.

In addition to the systemwide mandatory fees (State University Fee and Application Fee) that will continue to be waived for all Cal Veteran approved applicants, the campus mandatory fees that should be reduced for approved Cal Veteran waiver recipients who are grandfathered are the following:

Health Facilities Fee
Health Services Fee
Instructionally Related Activities Fee
Materials, Services and Facilities Fee
Student Body Center Fee

Executive Order 661 (fee policy) has delegated to campus presidents the authority to adjust (reduce) these fees. Therefore, please take action to reduce to \$0 the campus mandatory fees listed above for Cal Veteran recipients approved in academic year 1999/2000 or prior years who continue their enrollment and who continue to be eligible for waivers as determined by the Department of Veteran Affairs. For this purpose, consultation will be satisfied by Campus Fee Advisory Committee review.

If you have questions regarding implementation of this waiver policy, please contact Richard P. West, Executive Vice Chancellor, Chief Financial Officer.

cc: Richard P. West
Christine Helwick
Chief Financial Officers

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bcc: Campus Financial Managers
Campus Budget Officers
Campus Accounting Officers
Budget Team