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April 27, 2009

RECEIVED
APR 2 8 2009
COMMISSION ON
STATE MANDATES

Paula Higashi, Executive Director
Commission on State Mandates
U.S. Bank Plaza Building
980 Ninth Street, Suite 300
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Test Claim 02-TC-28
Long Beach Community College District
Proposed Parameters and Guidelines
Cal Grants

Dear Ms. Higashi:

I have received the Commission's Draft Parameters and Guidelines transmitted on April 1, 2009, with the Statement of Decision, to which I respond on behalf of the test claimant.

1. Clarification of Reimbursable Activities (1183.12 (b) (1))

None proposed.

2. Reasonable Methods of Complying (1183.12 (b) (2))

None proposed.

3. Reasonable Reimbursement Method (1183.12 (b) (3))

The test claimant does not believe the costs incurred for the approved activities are sufficiently related to any workload unit that could support a reasonable statewide reimbursement method for a significant part of the mandate.

4. Revenues and Reimbursements (1183.12 (b) (4))

There are no dedicated state or federal funds appropriated for this mandate. There are no known non-local agency funds dedicated to this mandate. There are no college district general purpose funds appropriated for this mandate.

The Proposed Parameters and Guidelines properly identifies line item 6870-101-0001 of the Budget Act as a potential source of reimbursement for the activities of calculating and certifying a grade point average and completing and correcting a grade point average pursuant to the Ortiz-Pacheco-Poochigan-Vasconcellos Cal Grant Program.

5. Offsetting Savings (1183.12 (b) (5))

Offsetting savings are a question of law determined by the test claim adjudication pursuant to Government Code section 17556. The Commission did not identify any offsetting savings for any of the activities approved for reimbursement.

Objections to Content

PART IV. REIMBURSABLE ACTIVITIES

For the record and preservation of appeal rights, the test claimant objects to the boilerplate language regarding source documents, contemporaneous documents and corroborating evidence. It is a standard of general application without independent statutory or regulatory basis. It is a standard that generally exceeds the documentation methods utilized in the usual course of business for local agencies, and that required for substantiation of the use of, or application for, other state funds by local agencies. It is a standard imposed retroactively upon claimants without prior notice. These and other objections have been made before by local agency representatives in previous Commission proceedings. Notwithstanding, the standard has been adopted by the Commission as boilerplate for parameters and guidelines. Unless there is some interest by the Commission to revisit these issues, the parameters and guidelines can proceed since the boilerplate is consistent with past Commission decisions.

PART V. CLAIM PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION

Re: B. Indirect Cost Rates

For the record and preservation of appeal rights, the test claimant objects to the boilerplate language regarding the community college choice of indirect cost rate calculations, specifically, the Controller's FAM-29C methodology. It is a standard of general application without independent statutory or regulatory basis. It is a methodology that excludes other reasonable allocations of direct and indirect costs contrary to other state accounting procedures and generally accepted accounting principles. It is a standard imposed retroactively upon claimants without prior notice.

These and other objections have been made before by local agency representatives in previous Commission proceedings. Notwithstanding, the standard has been adopted by the Commission as boilerplate for parameters and guidelines. Unless there is some interest by the Commission to revisit these issues, the parameters and guidelines can proceed since the boilerplate is consistent with past Commission decisions.

PART VI. RECORD RETENTION

For the record and preservation of appeal rights, the test claimant objects to the language regarding the documentation retention requirements. The Commission requires the claimants, as a condition of reimbursement, to retain claim documentation until the State Controller's statute of limitation for audit expires. Government Code Section 17558.5 provides no specific date for the termination of the documentation requirement. It is conditioned on subsequent independent actions by the state, that is, appropriations for mandate reimbursement, and subsequent independent acts by the Controller, that is, payment of a claim. There is no factual relationship between the content and integrity of the claim and the date of payment. Therefore, at the time the claim is filed, the claimant has no method to determine the documentation retention period, contrary to the purpose of the statute and these parameters and guidelines. It is a standard imposed retroactively upon claimants without prior notice. These and other objections have been made before by local agency representatives in previous Commission proceedings. Notwithstanding, the standard has been adopted by the Commission as boilerplate for parameters and guidelines. Unless there is some interest by the Commission to revisit these issues, the parameters and guidelines can proceed since the boilerplate is consistent with past Commission decisions.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby declare, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California, that the information in this document is true and correct to the best of my own knowledge or information or belief.

Sincerely,

Keith B. Petersen

C: Per COSM Distribution List Attached

DECLARATION OF SERVICE

Re: Test Claim 02-TC-28
Long Beach Community College District
Tuition Fee Waivers

I declare:

I am employed in the office of SixTen and Associates, which is the appointed representative of the above named claimant. I am 18 years of age or older and not a party to the entitled matter. My business address is 3841 North Freeway Blvd, Suite 170, Sacramento, CA 95834.

On the date indicated below, I served the attached letter dated April 27, 2009, to Paula Higashi, Executive Director, Commission on State Mandates, to the Commission mailing list dated 03/27/2009 for this test claim, and to:

Paula Higashi, Executive Director
Commission on State Mandates
980 Ninth Street, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95814

☑ **U.S. MAIL:** I am familiar with the business practice at SixTen and Associates for the collection and processing of correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service. In accordance with that practice, correspondence placed in the internal mail collection system at SixTen and Associates is deposited with the United States Postal Service that same day in the ordinary course of business.

☐ **OTHER SERVICE:** I caused such envelope(s) to be delivered to the office of the addressee(s) listed above by:

____(Describe)_____

☐ **FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION:** On the date below from facsimile machine number (858) 514-8645, I personally transmitted to the above-named person(s) to the facsimile number(s) shown above, pursuant to California Rules of Court 2003-2008. A true copy of the above-described document(s) was(were) transmitted by facsimile transmission and the transmission was reported as complete and without error.

☐ A copy of the transmission report issued by the transmitting machine is attached to this proof of service.

☐ **PERSONAL SERVICE:** By causing a true copy of the above-described document(s) to be hand delivered to the office(s) of the addressee(s).

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on April 27, 2009, 2009, at Sacramento, California.

Kristin M. Smith

Commission on State Mandates

Original List Date:	6/26/2003	Mailing Information: Notice of adopted SOD
Last Updated:	4/26/2007	
List Print Date:	03/27/2009	**Mailing List**
Claim Number:	02-TC-28	
Issue:	Cal Grants	

TO ALL PARTIES AND INTERESTED PARTIES:

Each commission mailing list is continuously updated as requests are received to include or remove any party or person on the mailing list. A current mailing list is provided with commission correspondence, and a copy of the current mailing list is available upon request at any time. Except as provided otherwise by commission rule, when a party or interested party files any written material with the commission concerning a claim, it shall simultaneously serve a copy of the written material on the parties and interested parties to the claim identified on the mailing list provided by the commission. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 1181.2.)

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