3375 Camino del Rio South San Diego, California 92108-3883 619-388-6500

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Educational Services

Date: November 3, 2022

To: Student Services Council

Subject: Potential New Student Expense Budget Source

The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) annually provides one estimated student expense budget for the entire state. The institution uses portions of these numbers as their cost of attendance estimates to analyze a student's aid eligibility. There is concern regarding the high cost of living in our area and the ability to use another data source to calculate our budget and cost of attendance. Using the CSAC estimated expense budget has impacted our student's ability to maximize their Financial Aid bookstore accounts and their award eligibility. The Self-Sufficiency Standard was brought forward as a better option (https://selfsufficiencystandard.org/calculator/). The Standard defines the income working families need to meet a minimum yet adequate level that can be filtered for a specific county. Using numbers that are more relevant to our district's high-cost area, we can increase our CCPG numbers.