

Record turnout for CSU schools

■ Cal State Hayward expects 10 percent increase as applications pour in to system

By Michelle Maitre

STAFF WRITER

People are asking to get into California State University in such record numbers that some campuses are reporting they have more applications than they do students.

San Diego State University — home to nearly 33,000 students — received 48,722 undergraduate applications for fall 2005, a 14.7 percent increase over last year and a campus record. The campus will enroll only about 7,600 new students in the fall.

San Francisco State, which enrolled 28,806 students this fall, has received about 30,000 applications so far — a 22 percent increase.

Applications continue to arrive at the rate of about 500 per week, prompting SFSU officials last week to set Jan. 14 as the last day prospective freshman can apply for the fall semester. Transfer students and those seeking second baccalaureate degrees have until Feb. 28 to apply.

The early deadlines will ensure the campus doesn't admit more students than it has room to serve, said Jo Volkert, SFSU's associate vice president for enrollment planning and services.

"We need to take steps to limit the number of admissions so that we can provide enough classes for those who are admitted and choose to enroll here," Volkert said in a statement.

Cal State Hayward has received 5,914 applications so far

CSUH expects record number of applicants

► **CSU**, from News 1

from prospective freshmen, closing in on the 6,000 applications the campus received last year, said Jeff Cook, executive director of enrollment services. Cook anticipates the campus will top last year's freshman applications by about 10 percent when it stops accepting applications on April 30.

"That has been the situation with Hayward now for a couple of years," Cook said. "We're telling our story better than we've ever told it before, and I think word about all Cal State Hayward has to offer is getting out. The students are responding."

The application crunch is a factor of the state's demographics, Volkert said. The number of students graduating from high

school continues to increase every year and is projected to keep growing through 2008.

Students, though, also are applying earlier — a remnant perhaps of widely publicized admissions turmoil this year that led both CSU and the University of California to restrict enrollments. A last-minute budget deal restored some enrollment money and will allow CSU and UC to admit thousands more students midyear, but next year's crop of incoming freshmen could be more aggressive in securing a spot for the fall.

While both systems expect to receive additional funding for enrollment growth in 2005-06, CSU has nonetheless urged students to apply early if they want to secure a place in the fall at the campus of their choice. CSU serves about 409,000 students a year at 23 campuses.

The number of applications filed during CSU's priority enrollment period from Oct. 1 to Nov. 30 jumped 22 percent this year, a system record and one that marks the eighth straight year of growth for online applications filed during the priority period.

Some 418,611 prospective students applied online during the priority period, including 110,770 who applied in the final two days alone.

Nov. 30 was the freshman application deadline for several of CSU's most impacted campuses, including San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Pomona, San Marcos, Chico, Sonoma and Long Beach. Other campuses are continuing to accept applications, and deadlines vary by campus. Visit www.csumentor.edu for more information on which campuses are still accepting applications.