



OPERATIONS MEMO

Update from the California Student Aid Commission

STATE OF
CALIFORNIA



August 12, 2021

GOM 2021-23

TO: Financial Aid Administrators

FROM: Tae Kang *Tae Kang*
Deputy Director, Program Administration & Services Division

SUBJECT: **2021-22 Cal Grant Rosters and Operational Updates**

This Operations Memo from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) announces the opening of the 2021-22 Cal Grant rosters on Monday, August 16, 2021, and provides operational updates related to the state budget changes announced in [GSA 2021-31](#).

Cal Grant Competitive Awards

- The 2021-22 Cal Grant March 2 Competitive Awards offered on June 1, 2021, as referenced in [GOM-2021-12](#) were withdrawn on August 7, 2021. We also shared this information through the listserv message on Monday, August 9, 2021. The competitive awards were withdrawn in order to allow institutions to have access to the Cal Grant rosters on August 16 and while the Commission works on updating its Grant Delivery System with the expanded Cal Grant entitlement eligibility criteria and new competitive parameters. The Commission expects that the withdrawn students will be reprocessed under the New Community College Entitlement Program and New Competitive Cal Grant program.
- Under the new Competitive Cal Grant program, the number of paid Competitive Cal Grant awards was reduced from 41,000 to 13,000. The Commission is authorized to make up to 16,000 Competitive Cal Grant award offers.
- Beginning with the 2021-22 award year, the Commission will no longer process September 2 competitive awards for community college students.

New Community College Entitlement Program

- Expands Cal Grant A and B entitlement eligibility for students attending a California Community College (CCC), despite not having been awarded at the time of their high school graduation.
- To be considered under the new CCC entitlement program, students must have submitted a 2021-22 FAFSA or California Dream Act Application and have a verified Cal Grant GPA on file with the Commission by September 2.
- Eligible students will be permitted to retain their remaining Cal Grant eligibility when transferring to a UC or CSU campus as long as they continue to meet all eligibility requirements.

- As stated above in the Cal Grant Competitive Award section, the Commission will no longer process September 2 competitive awards for community college students. However, the Commission will still require Community College campuses to submit enrollment files for both the existing Transfer Entitlement Program and the New Community College Entitlement Program. More details on the process will follow in a future Grant Operations Memo.

2021-22 Cal Grant Rosters

- Following the release of the fall advance, full access to the Cal Grant rosters through WebGrants is anticipated on Monday, August 16, 2021, for the following students:
 - New high school entitlement students
 - New transfer entitlement students
 - Renewal students, including renewal competitive students
- The rosters will also reflect the following changes per the 2021-22 state budget:
 - An increase in the maximum Cal Grant A and B tuition award for new and renewal Cal Grant recipients at private non-profit institutions from \$9,084 to **\$9,220**.
 - A decrease in the Cal Grant B Access award due to a decrease in available funds from the College Access Tax Credit Fund. The access award is reduced from \$1,656 to **\$1,648** and from \$6,008 to **\$6,000** for students with dependent children.

The Commission is currently working on updating its Grant Delivery System to reflect the new Community College entitlement program, increased access award for foster youth students at public institutions and the new parameters for the Cal Grant competitive program and will provide further operational updates as they become available.

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