



# OPERATIONS MEMO

STATE OF CALIFORNIA



## Update from the California Student Aid Commission

July 11, 2024

GOM 2024-29

TO: Financial Aid Administrators

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

SUBJECT: **2024-25 Cal Grant Competitive Awards - UPDATE**

This Operations Memo from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) provides an update on the 2024-25 Cal Grant Competitive Awards. Due to the delay in the schools' ability to submit corrections to FAFSA/CADAA records, which are needed to verify dependency status for students with provisional SAIs, the Commission anticipates processing the 2024-25 Cal Grant Competitive awards on **July 19, 2024**.

### 2024-25 Competitive Scoring Matrix Changes

The Cal Grant Competitive Scoring Matrix required changes to align with the 2024-25 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the California Dream Act Application (CADAA). Parents' Education and Score Per Parent have changed due to the FAFSA question being updated to group parent answers together:

- 100 points changed from "Middle School/Jr High" to "Neither parent attended college"
- 50 points went from "High School" to "One or both parents attended college, but neither parent completed college"
- 0 points went from "College or Beyond" to "One or both parents completed college"
- 50 points went from "Other/Unknown" to "Don't know"

#### Prior

FAFSA VALUE	PARENTS' EDUCATION	SCORE per PARENT **
1	Middle School/Jr High	100
2	High School	50
3	College or Beyond	0
4	Other / Unknown	50
Blank	Blank	0

#### New

FAFSA VALUE	PARENTS' EDUCATION	SCORE
1	Neither parent attended college	100
2	One or both parents attended college, but neither parent completed college	50
3	One or both parents completed college	0
4	Don't know	50
Blank	Blank	0

2. "Scoring for EFC" changed to "Scoring for SAI". Since SAI can be negative, the 250 maximum points will be awarded to students with an SAI from **(-)\$1,500 to \$13**.
3. Scoring for Family / Environment Indicators:

**Changed From:**

Independent Student that answered "Yes" to one or more questions regarding foster care, orphan/ward of the court, or homelessness.

- Unaccompanied Youth determined by school district liaison
- Unaccompanied Youth determined by HUD
- At risk of homelessness
- Orphan, Ward of the Court, or Foster Care

**To:**

Independent Student that answered "Yes" to one or more questions regarding foster care, orphan/ward of the court, or homelessness.

- Orphan, Ward of the Court or Foster Care
- Homeless or self-supporting and at risk of being homeless as determined by any of the following:
  - Director or designee of an emergency or transitional shelter, street outreach program, homeless youth drop-in center or other programs serving those experiencing homelessness.
  - School district homeless liaison or designee
  - Director or designee of a project supported by a federal TRIO or GEAR UP program grant
  - Financial aid administrator (FAA)

The Commission will provide an update once the 2024-25 Cal Grant Competitive awards have been processed.

The [2024-25 Competitive Scoring Matrix](#) is located on the Commission's Website.

**Need to contact us?**

- School Support phone number: (888) 294-0153
- E-mail: [schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov](mailto:schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov)

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