August 17, 2022   **GSA 2022-57**

TO: Financial Aid Administrators

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

SUBJECT: **2022-23 California Dream Act Service Incentive Grant Program**

The California Student Aid Commission (Commission) announces the opening of the 2022-23 applications for the California Dream Act Service Incentive Grant Program (DSIG). The 2022-23 DSIG program opened on July 1, 2022, and will continue through June 30, 2023. As communicated in GSA 2022-46, the 2022-23 state budget made important amendments to the DISIG program as outlined below:

- Increased the annual award from $3,000 to $4,500

- Removed the proration of awards per part-time enrollment

- Expanded eligibility to include students that are recipients of Cal Grant A award, but that also met the eligibility criteria for a Cal Grant B award (only Cal Grant B recipients were previously eligible)

- Reduced total participants to 1,667 to keep funding at its current level, while increasing award amounts (decrease from 2,500)

- Set the minimum amount of a grant awarded in a semester or quarter at $450

- Required that commencing with the 2021–22 fiscal year and upon order of the Director of Finance, the Commission transfers any unexpended or unencumbered funds appropriated for DSIG, as of June 30 of each fiscal year, to the UC and the CSU to support the California DREAM Loan Program

- Tasked the Commission to provide a report to the Department of Finance (DOF), Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO), and relevant committees of the Legislature on DSIG participation on or before November 1, 2022, that breaks down the total number of recipients and aid by segment, organizations where service was provided, and how much funding was transferred to UC/CSU.

DSIG Program Overview

The DSIG Program encourages California Dream Act Applicants with a Cal Grant A award that met Cal Grant B eligibility or a Cal Grant B award to perform community or volunteer service. The Commission will award up to $4,500 per academic year (up to $2,250 per semester or up to $1,500 per quarter) to 1,667 eligible students. The grant will be available to the student for up to 8 semesters or up to 12 quarters while they have an active Cal Grant A or B award. Students must also meet Satisfactory Academic Progress and complete any necessary verification for their Cal Grant award.

<u>Qualifying Community or Volunteer Service Organization</u>

- A nonprofit as defined in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code

- Any federal, state, or local government entity

- Any school on the Cal Grant Eligible Schools list on the CSAC website

  o Additional registration is not required for on-campus community or volunteer service organizations affiliated with a Cal Grant eligible school, such as outreach, student services, and multi-cultural organizations.

- Established for a minimum of two years before the first date on which a participating student begins performing service hours

How Do Students Apply?

Students will need to complete and submit the 2022-23 Grant Application found on [the DSIG Program website](). Financial Aid Administrators will help students verify their eligibility to participate in the DSIG program by validating the Grant Application and the Payment Request form. Students submit the completed form to [dsig@csac.ca.gov](). Students will need to reapply annually for continued participation in the program.

Overview for Students

Visit the [Overview for Students Webpage]() for information, Frequently Asked Questions, and additional program details.

Overview for Institutions

Visit the [Overview for Institutions Webpage]() for more information, Frequently Asked Questions, and additional program details.

Need to contact us?

➢ E-mail: [dsig@csac.ca.gov]()

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