



P. O. Box 419026 Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9026 (916) 464-8043 www.csac.ca.gov

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CONTACT: CSAC MEDIA RELATIONS 916-464-8043

Email: CSACmediarelations@csac.ca.gov

Local College Savings Incentive Program Launched

California Student Aid Commission to administer grants to support children's college savings programs

Sacramento, CA (2019) –The California Student Aid Commission (Commission) will provide grants for programs that encourage families with children to open and maintain college savings accounts. Grant applications are being accepted from California local government and other agencies for the Every Kid Counts (EKC) College Savings Program.

“Recent pilot programs in California and throughout the nation have proven that families at all income levels can save for college,” said Lande Ajose, California Student Aid Commission Chair. “Every Kid Counts supports reaching students and their families early with information and mechanisms to make a college education obtainable.”

Passed by the California Legislature in 2017, The EKC grants are intended to support and evaluate programs operated at the local level that provide incentives for low-income families to begin saving for their children's higher education. The Commission will administer \$2,910,000 allocated by the EKC Act to local organizations. The amount of each grant distributed under the program will be no less than \$100,000 and will be awarded based on the number of children that each organization intends to serve and the percentage of low-income families residing in the community served by the organization, among other factors.

The goal of the grant is to provide local and regional organizations with funds for purposes such as matching investment in or incentives for individual family college savings accounts; establishing outreach efforts to educate families about local college savings accounts; and supporting development of best practices of short- and long-term college savings programs.

Find more information here: <https://www.csac.ca.gov/everykidcounts>

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The California Student Aid Commission is the state's policy leader in the administration of financial aid for higher education, making education beyond high school financially accessible to all Californians. California Student Aid Commission serves the needs of not only today's college students but tomorrow's students, guiding them through the application process. Information and tools are available online for the parents of tomorrow's college and career technical students, a fully staffed call center answers questions and the California Student Aid Commission provides workshops and funds grants to organizations that provide access opportunities for students who are first in their family to attend institutions of higher education. For more information on how the California Student Aid Commission serves to educate, inform, and support students, their educational institutions, and the professionals who assist them please visit our website at <https://www.csac.ca.gov> or follow us on [Twitter @castudentaid](https://twitter.com/castudentaid) and [Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/CSAC.StudentAidCommission/>](https://www.facebook.com/CSAC.StudentAidCommission/).