

Cal Grant C Awards

Award Description:

- Assist students with tuition/fee and training costs for occupational or vocational programs.
- Awards are for vocationally oriented students from low- and middle-income families.
- Recipients are selected based on financial need and vocational aptitude and must be enrolled in a vocational program at a California Community College, independent college, or vocational school, in a course of study lasting from four months to two years.
- The number of new Cal Grant C awards to be issued each year is 7,761.

General Cal Grant Eligibility Requirements:

All Cal Grant applicants must:

- Be California residents
- Be U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens
- Meet U.S. Selective Service requirements
- Attend an eligible California qualifying postsecondary institution
- Be enrolled at least half-time
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress as defined at school of attendance
- Have family income and assets below the established ceilings
- **Not** be in default on any student loan
- **Not** owe any federal or state grant refund

Who can apply:

To be eligible for a 2001-02 Cal Grant C Award, applicants must:

- Meet the Cal Grant Program general eligibility requirements
- Submit a completed application and verified grade point average (GPA) by March 2, 2001*
- Demonstrate financial need equivalent to a maximum award plus \$1,500
- Enroll in an occupational or technical training program of not less than four months at qualifying postsecondary institution
- Submit a completed Cal Grant C Supplement upon request by the stated deadline

*A verified GPA is optional for Cal Grant C, but is encouraged for all applicants. Submission of a GPA can improve an applicant's chances of receiving an award.

How to apply:

- **All Applicants Must File a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**

The FAFSA is the same application that is used nationwide for federal aid and other state and campus-based aid. The application has both a paper and electronic version and can be filed beginning January 1, 2001. The deadline for filing a FAFSA application for these awards is March 2, 2001.

For the purpose of applying to the Cal Grant Program, we would encourage all applicants to file an electronic application through *FAFSA on the Web* at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Paper versions of the FAFSA are available at high schools, career centers, libraries, and college financial aid offices. Copies can also be obtained from the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-800-433-3243.

- **All Applicants Are Encouraged to File a Cal Grant GPA Verification Form**

While the Cal Grant GPA Verification Form is not required for Cal Grant C applicants, all applicants are encouraged to file this form. Applicants who submit a GPA Verification form can enhance their chances of receiving an award.

Applicants may obtain a 2001-02 Cal Grant GPA Verification Form from high schools, and college financial aid offices. Applicants may also obtain this form by calling the California Student Aid Commission at (916) 526-7590. Forms are generally made available by late Fall.

All GPA Verification Forms must be filed by the March 2, 2001 deadline.

When Will I Be Told Whether I Have Received an Award?

Applicants who filed a completed FAFSA and GPA Verification Form will be informed of their award status beginning in May of 2001.

This document provides general guidelines for the new programs. For detailed legal descriptions, please refer to the California Education Code.