

Information/Action Item

GRANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Update on Status of Commission Research Projects

Commission staff will provide an update about the following ongoing and possible research projects:

- Students with FAFSA Submittals but with No GPA Submittals
- What happens to Students with Cal Grant Offers?
- Analysis of Cal Grant Competitive Program Eligible “Non-Recipients”

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Update on Status of Commission Research Projects

- **Students with FAFSA Submittals but with No GPA Submittals**

Additional analysis is being done on the number and characteristics of FAFSA filers who do not submit verified high school GPAs. The focus is on those who meet the age and income requirements for the High School Entitlement program but whose eligibility cannot be determined without the required high school GPA.

- **What happens to Students with Cal Grant Offers?**

At the March meeting of the GAC Research and Analysis Work Group, research staff outlined the dimensions of its project to determine what happens to those offered new Cal Grant awards, including such questions as: How many of them enroll and are paid at their first choice institution? How many enroll and are paid at a different institution or segment? What are the characteristics of those who do not use their award? How many of those who are not paid are enrolled out-of-state or at non-Cal Grant eligible institutions in California? Research staff has been working on this issue and an update will be provided on its progress to date.

- **Analysis of Cal Grant Competitive Program Eligible Non-Recipients**

Major questions exist about the Competitive Cal Grant program in terms of its size and effectiveness. Among the most pressing are what is the utilization rate among those offered March and September Competitive awards? What are the renewal rates in the program and why do they differ from those in other Cal Grant programs? What are the characteristics of recipients and of those eligible applicants who do not receive an award? What happens to eligible non-recipients? Do they enroll in college anyway? Where do they enroll? What other types of financial aid do they receive? Answers to many of these questions are not available currently, but research staff wants to discuss a potential collaborate research strategy that could provide answers in the future.