
California National Guard Education Assistance Award Program Disbursement Guidelines

The California National Guard Education Assistance Award Program (CNG EAAP) is a state-funded program designed to provide an educational incentive to improve skills, competencies, and abilities for up to 1,000 service members who remain active in the National Guard, the State Military Reserve, or the Naval Militia. This program authorizes the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) to make payments to eligible program participants. Participants can receive up to the amount of the Cal Grant A award for attending the University of California or the California State University, up to the Cal Grant B award for attending a community college, up to the University of California Cal Grant A amount for attending a non-public institution, or up to the Cal Grant A award plus \$500 for books and supplies for graduate studies.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Before a check is disbursed to a student, a financial aid representative at your institution must review the enclosed disbursement roster and verify that the participant is:

- eligible for the amount of the check based on the student's financial need, and
- enrolled in a minimum of three academic units (or equivalent).

Participants are eligible for a full disbursement provided that minimum enrollment is verified.

AWARD VERIFICATION AND FINANCIAL AID PACKAGING

If there is conflicting information contrary to the cost of attendance or the veteran benefits amounts reported on the enclosed disbursement roster, please make the appropriate adjustments.

Financial need for the CNG EAAP is determined by identifying the participant's term-based cost of attendance (COA) and subtracting the participant's term-based veteran's educational benefits (VEB) amount; i.e., $COA - VEB = \text{need}$. The resulting need amount is compared to the appropriate Cal Grant award amount, and the participant is awarded the lesser of the two amounts. If the participant's financial need amount is zero or negative, then the participant is not eligible for an award.

This award is considered an estimated financial assistance (EFA) and may affect a participant's eligibility for other student aid. Please follow the general rule in packaging a participant's total financial aid. The participant's total financial aid and other EFA may not exceed the participant's financial need.

DISBURSEMENT PROCEDURES

If the participant meets the above eligibility requirements and the award and packaging guidelines, please disburse the check directly to the student.

Sign, make a copy, and return the disbursement roster to the Commission at the address listed below.

RETURNING NON-DISBURSED AWARDS

If the student does not meet the criteria, or if the check should be for a lesser amount, the check should not be disbursed. A financial aid representative should:

- indicate on the disbursement roster the reason why the student is not eligible to receive the CNG EAAP award,
- sign the disbursement roster and make a copy for the institution's records, and
- return the roster and the non-disbursed check within 10 days to the Commission at the address listed below.

CONTACT INFORMATION

**California Student Aid Commission
CNG EAAP
PO Box 419029
Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9029
FAX (916) 464-8240**

If you have any questions, please contact Larry Williams, CNG EAAP Analyst at (916) 464-3382 or at lwillia@csac.ca.gov.