

Disqualification Fact Sheet

This information sheet explains the reason you were not awarded a Cal Grant. Unfortunately, due to limited funding, the Commission is not able to award every student who applies for a Cal Grant. Remember, just because you are not receiving a Cal Grant does not mean you aren't eligible to receive other financial aid! Please check with your financial aid office at your school if you have questions or concerns regarding financial aid. They may be able to assist you in identifying other sources of financial aid that are available to you, including federal and college grants, scholarships, loans and work-study.

Why didn't I get an award?

Each Cal Grant program has requirements which must be met in order to be awarded a Cal Grant. Please refer to WebGrants for Students for the specific reason you were not awarded. A disqualification reason will be given in WebGrants for Students or in a letter, if you are sent one. A description of what these reasons mean is listed below. Access WebGrants for Students at www.webgrants4students.org.

Your Cal Grant status information **may** read like this:



STATUS	REASON
CAL GRANT A NOT AWARDED	GPA BELOW MINIMUM
CAL GRANT B NOT AWARDED	MINIMUM NEED NOT MET
CAL GRANT C NOT AWARDED	INELIGIBLE COURSE LENGTH

Reason:

School Not Eligible for Cal Grant A, B, or C
 EL Greater than 4 (EL means year in college)
 Ineligible Course of Study or Degree Certificate
 Indication of Prior Bachelor's Degree
 No California School Listed
 State of Legal Residence Not California
 Not a California Resident at Time of Graduation
 Not Pursuing an Undergraduate Degree
 No GPA/Test Scores Provided
 GPA Below Minimum
 Score Below Cutoff
 Minimum Need Not Met
 Reported Income over the Ceiling
 Reported Assets over the Ceiling

What It Means:

-- Not all California schools participate in all Cal Grant programs.
 -- New Cal Grants are not offered to students beyond the college senior level.
 -- Cal Grant C awards are not for students studying for a four-year degree.
 -- Awards are not offered to students who already have a bachelor's degree.
 -- Student must attend a Cal Grant eligible California college or university.
 -- Student must be a California resident.
 -- For some programs, students must be considered a California resident at the time of high school graduation.
 -- Graduate level students are not eligible to receive Cal Grant benefits.
 -- School certified GPA or test score was not submitted by the March 2, 2011 deadline.
 -- A minimum 3.00 high school GPA, or minimum 2.40 college GPA is required for Cal Grant A; a minimum 2.00 GPA is required for Cal Grant B.
 -- Competitive Cal Grant applicants are ranked based on disadvantaged student indicators from the FAFSA that include your family income and household size, parent's education level, student or parent household status and disadvantaged high school experience or re-entry student status, along with your GPA. Your combined score using this information was below the minimum cut-off necessary for an award. Only 11,250 awards are available and all students cannot be offered assistance.
 -- You did not have enough financial need at the first California college you listed on your FAFSA. Financial need is determined by subtracting your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) from the cost of attendance at the school.
 -- Applicants whose family incomes were above the maximum Cal Grant income levels were not selected for a Cal Grant award.
 -- Applicants whose family assets were above the maximum Cal Grant asset levels were not selected for a Cal Grant award.

Can I make corrections?

Only Entitlement Cal Grant applicants may submit corrections after the award selection. Entitlement applicants are those who graduated high school July 1, 2009 or later and who applied using their high school GPA. All others are Competitive Cal Grant applicants and no FAFSA corrections can be accepted.

Entitlement applicants should review their 2011-12 FAFSA information and file any corrections at www.fafsa.ed.gov, including the colleges under consideration. CSAC will receive the corrections. If you feel your GPA was not correctly calculated, you must have a correction filed by the school that submitted the GPA.

What does Cal Grant C “Score Below Cutoff” mean?

Based on the information you listed on your Cal Grant C Supplement, you did not score high enough for a Cal Grant C award. Scoring is based on work experience, educational experience, GPA and vocational/educational recommendations. Your overall score was lower than required to be awarded. CSAC cannot accept any corrections to your application because all available awards have been distributed.

What are the Cal Grant minimum qualifications?

To be eligible for a Cal Grant, a student must: be a U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen; be a California resident; attend a qualifying California college; demonstrate financial need at the college; be in a program leading to an undergraduate degree or certificate; not have a Bachelor's or professional degree before receiving a Cal Grant; not owe a refund on any state or federal educational grant; not be in default on a student loan; meet the GPA requirements; and fall below the income and asset ceilings listed below.

What are the 2011-12 Income Ceilings for the Cal Grant program?

Applicant's family income includes the total taxable and non-taxable income, as reported on the FAFSA. Basic award amounts and eligibility criteria are subject to final authorization and changes in the state budget act.

Cal Grant Income Ceilings

Dependent students and independent students with dependents other than a spouse:

Cal Grant A & C

\$70,200 for a family of two
\$71,900 for a family of three
\$78,100 for a family of four
\$83,800 for a family of five
\$90,300 for a family of six or more

Cal Grant B

\$32,800 for a family of two
\$36,900 for a family of three
\$41,100 for a family of four
\$46,000 for a family of five
\$49,600 for a family of six or more

Independent applicants with no dependents other than a spouse:

Cal Grant A, B & C

\$28,600 for single students
\$32,800 for married students (with no dependents)
Income compared against the ceilings includes taxable and nontaxable income

What are the 2011-12 Asset Ceilings for the Cal Grant program?

For dependent students or independent students with dependents other than a spouse - \$60,500
For single independent students and married students with no dependents - \$28,800

What can I do now?

Be sure to contact your college financial aid office for more financial aid opportunities.

If you plan to attend a California Community College this fall, you have another opportunity to compete for a community college award during the September 2nd award competition. Another 11,250 Cal Grant awards will be available at that time to qualified applicants. Talk to your California Community College about applying for this next opportunity for a Cal Grant!

California Student Aid Commission
Cal Grant Operations Branch
PO Box 419028
Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9028



Web address: www.csac.ca.gov
E-mail: studentsupport@csac.ca.gov
(888) 224-7268