



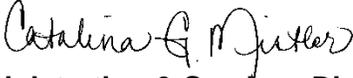
# OPERATIONS MEMO

Update of the California Student Aid Commission

February 14, 2014

GOM 2014-07

**TO:** Financial Aid Administrators  
High School Counselors

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**SUBJECT:** 2014-15 High School Entitlement Cal Grant Update

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The California Student Aid Commission (Commission) is pleased to announce the completion of the initial 2014-15 Cal Grant selection process for the High School Entitlement (E1) award cycle. This Operations Memo provides details on the E1 preliminary award offers to-date, California Dream Act Application processing and AB540 holds, award amounts, ineligible institutions, asset holds, and School of Origin report for high schools.

## 2014-15 Preliminary High School Entitlement Award Offers

This first award cycle offered nearly 42,000 preliminary awards to graduating high school seniors and one-year-out high school graduates. Within the 42,000 preliminary High School Entitlement awards, about 1,000 are offered to California Dream Act students.

The 2014-15 selected students are available for viewing on the WebGrants Display Roster screen in a non-payable status. The selected E1 students received e-mail notifications to create a WebGrants for Students (WGS) account and view their California Aid Report (CAR) online. The CAR provides instructions to manage their WGS account, process a school change, and read the "Understanding My Cal Grant" fact sheet. Students who do not have an e-mail address or who have an undeliverable e-mail address will receive a paper CAR.

Students receiving the "Application on Hold" notification are directed to the WGS Cal Grant Application Correction page. Those students who receive the "Cal Grant Disqualification" notification are directed to the "Disqualification Fact Sheet" also available in WGS.

Students who have not yet received an electronic CAR should establish a WGS account and check their status online at [www.webgrants4students.org](http://www.webgrants4students.org). The Commission will continue to process students in the weekly award cycle and will provide electronic or paper CARs to the eligible applicants.



**2014-15 Award Amounts at Private Institutions**

The 2012-13 State Budget changed the award amounts for new recipients at Cal Grant eligible private non-profit and for-profit institutions for future years (refer to GSA 2012-24). The award amount changes below are reflected on the WebGrants rosters, CARs and in WGS.

- Maximum Cal Grant award amounts for new students attending private non-profit institutions have been reduced to \$8,056 in 2014-15.
- Maximum Cal Grant award amounts for students attending for-profit institutions remains at \$4,000 for 2014-15.

Please note the following EXCEPTION to the award amounts for students attending for-profit institutions: Students attending eligible for-profit institutions that are accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges will have the same maximum Cal Grant award amount as new students attending private non-profit institutions.

**Ineligible Institutions**

If a student lists an ineligible institution as their first choice on their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the system will default to the next available institution for Cal Grant consideration. Students who only list ineligible institutions on their FAFSA will receive an "Application on Hold" notification requesting them to select an eligible institution on the application correction screen in WGS. Once the student selects an eligible institution, they will be reprocessed. The California Dream Act Application does not allow students to select an ineligible institution.

**Asset Holds**

For the 2014-15 academic year, the U.S. Department of Education lowered the maximum asset protection allowance for parents (married, not single) of dependent students to \$52,600. Since the 2014-15 Cal Grant asset ceiling for dependent students is \$67,600 and the maximum asset protection of \$52,600 falls below this ceiling, the Commission will not place asset holds for dependent students. However, independent students with an asset protection allowance above the 2014-15 asset ceiling of \$32,200 will continue to receive the asset hold.

**School of Origin Report for High Schools**

The Commission produces a WebGrants School of Origin Report for high schools that lists all Cal Grant Entitlement recipients based on the high school that certified their Cal Grant GPA. Your students that do not appear on the report may have an incomplete financial aid application or other issues preventing them from being considered for the Cal Grant award. We encourage you to use this report to assist students in completing the necessary forms to qualify for a Cal Grant.

The School of Origin Report is available in WebGrants under the Data Transfer menu. To obtain WebGrants access, schools should contact the Commission's Information Technology Help Desk at (888) 294-0148 or e-mail [csachelpdesk@csac.ca.gov](mailto:csachelpdesk@csac.ca.gov).

If you have any questions regarding the information in this memo, please contact the Commission's School Support Services staff at (888) 294-0153 or via e-mail at [schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov](mailto:schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov).

*Working together to effectively promote education beyond high school!*