



OPERATIONS MEMO

Update from the California Student Aid Commission

STATE OF
CALIFORNIA



June 27, 2014

GOM 2014-21

TO: Financial Aid Administrators
High School Counselors

FROM: Catalina G. Mistler *Catalina G. Mistler*
Chief, Program Administration & Services Division

SUBJECT: **California Dream Act Application Update**

This Operations Memo from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) updates institutions on the processing of the 2013-14 and 2014-15 California Dream Act Applications (CA Dream Application).

2013-14 CA Dream Applications

- Must be submitted on or before the June 30, 2014 closing deadline.
- Paper applications must be **received** by the Commission on or before June 30.
- Institutions have until August 31, 2014 to make corrections.

2014-15 CA Dream Applications

Cal ISIRs

- Approximately 26,682 on-time 2014-15 Cal ISIRs have been processed and available in WebGrants.
- The CA Dream Application is used for various types of state financial aid, so not all applicants are eligible for a Cal Grant award.
- To be offered Cal Grant awards, applicants had to meet the deadline and other requirements for the High School Entitlement, Community College Transfer Entitlement, or Cal Grant C programs.
 - Over 6,000 e-mails were sent to CA Dream Act applicants who had started but not submitted an application, reminding them of the March 2 deadline.
 - To date, 6,281 CA Dream applicants have been offered High School Entitlement awards.
 - 1,431 Dreamers have been offered Community College Transfer Entitlement awards.
 - Entitlement awards will continue to be processed weekly.
 - Cal Grant C award selections will be processed mid-July. The Cal Grant C Supplemental form is available in the awardees section of WebGrants for Students.

Dream Act Applications Not Processed

- Students with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status should use the CA Dream Application rather than the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

If you have students who filled out the wrong application, please contact the Commission's Institutional Support unit for assistance.

- The Commission identified 4,107 applicants who did not have an Expected Family Contribution (EFC).

Identified students were emailed notifications on May 5, 2014, encouraging them to amend their applications.

- There are still students whose CA Dream Applications have not been matched to non-SSN GPA records.

A new WebGrants screen is available for high school administrators to match the submitted non-SSN GPA to the CA Dream Application.

Training and Resources

Webinars

- On the CalGrants.org website is a recorded webinar titled, "For CA Dream Act Filers: I've Applied for a Cal Grant – What's Next?"
- Commission staff continue to provide [free educational webinars](#) regarding the CA Dream Application for institutions.

Webinar participants are able to ask questions and receive answers during these live sessions via the chat feature.

Tip Sheet for Students

- Available on the Commission's website is a one-page tip sheet for CA Dreamers titled, "[I got a Cal Grant – So What's Next?](#)".

Need to contact us?

- Institutional Support phone number: (888) 294-0153
- E-mail: schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov

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