



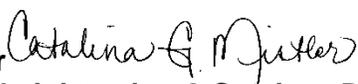
SPECIAL ALERT

Update of the California Student Aid Commission

December 5, 2013

GSA 2013-37

TO: Financial Aid Administrators
High School Counselors

FROM: Catalina G. Mistler 
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SUBJECT: Participate in Cal Grant Program Advisory Committees

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) requests your participation in one or more advisory committees being established for the improvement and utilization of Cal Grant C awards, the disbursement of financial aid to students through debit/prepaid/preloaded cards, and the review of the Competitive Program leave of absence process.

To participate in one of these new committees, please contact the designated staff below by December 18, and you will receive information on upcoming teleconference meetings. Due to the coming holidays, the initial meetings will be scheduled for early January 2014.

The **Cal Grant C Advisory Committee** will look at scoring, recent and upcoming statutory changes to selection criteria, and improving award utilization.

Contact Lori Nezhura at L.Nezhura@csac.ca.gov.

The **Financial Aid Debit Card Advisory Committee** will look at the use of debit cards, the impact to students, and the best practices for campuses using debit cards.

Contact Bryan Dickason at BryanD@csac.ca.gov.

The **Competitive Program Leave of Absence Advisory Committee** will review the current leave of absence process to determine whether or not to continue deferral of payments to increase the number of paid Competitive Cal Grant recipients.

Contact Jeana Maduli at JMaduli@csac.ca.gov.

Competitive Cal Grant Program Advisory Committee

The advisory committee established to review the Competitive Cal Grant Program has created three different workgroups to explore improvements in



communications to and the utilization rate of Competitive Cal Grant recipients. If you would like to join one of these workgroups, contact the designated staff below:

- 1) Competitive Cal Grant Communication Workgroup:
Contact Linda Brown at LBrown@csac.ca.gov
- 2) WebGrants Adjustment Reason Codes Workgroup:
Contact Jeana Maduli at JMaduli@csac.ca.gov
- 3) Competitive Cal Grant Scoring Matrix Workgroup:
Contact Cheryl Phelps at CPhelps@csac.ca.gov

We encourage and invite broad participation from all segments, student organizations, and student service groups. You are not limited to one committee, so if you have already joined one of the other workgroups and you would like to join one or more of these new committees, you are welcome to do so.

Thank you in advance for your willingness to provide your expertise to better serve our Cal Grant offered awardees. Please extend this invitation to any other interested individuals who may wish to participate in these committees/workgroups. Your participation and input are necessary for the success of these programs and to better serve students.

If you have any questions regarding this Special Alert, please contact the Commission's School Support Services staff at (888) 294-0153 or via e-mail at schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov.

Working together to effectively promote education beyond high school!