

OPERATIONS MEMO



STATE OF

Update from the California Student Aid Commission

January 14, 2021 GOM 2021-01

TO: Financial Aid Administrators

High School Counselors

FROM: Tae Kang Tae Kang

Deputy Director, Program Administration & Services Division

SUBJECT: March 2 Cal Grant Deadline Reminder

This Operations Memo from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) reminds high schools and colleges of the upcoming **March 2, 2021 Cal Grant filing deadline** for the 2021-22 academic year.

- Students applying for a 2021-22 Cal Grant must file a 2021-22 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or a 2021-22 California Dream Act Application (CADAA) by March 2, 2021.
- In addition to the FAFSA or the CADAA, the Commission must also receive a school certified Cal Grant Grade Point Average (GPA) by the **same** deadline. GPA records can be uploaded into WebGrants in batches or keyed individually.
- Once the GPA records are successfully received by the Commission, a confirmation of the GPA submission is provided by the system.
- We encourage all high school and college administrators to use the WebGrants reports
 to help students complete their applications to meet the Cal Grant deadline. For NONSSN GPA uploads, use the NON-SSN GPA Status Report to see a comprehensive list
 of your students and their application status.

The Race to Submit Dashboard

- High schools are encouraged to use the <u>Race to Submit Online Dashboard Tool</u> (Dashboard) to track the number of FAFSAs and CADAAs completed by their senior class between October 1, 2020, and the March 2, 2021 Cal Grant deadline.
- Current enrollment numbers are from October 2019. The Commission anticipates receiving October 2020 senior enrollment data from the California Department of Education in March and updating the Dashboard prior to finalizing the ranking of the schools.
- For more details on the Race to Submit campaign, please refer to GSA 2020-39.

If your students need help with completing their financial aid application, they can register for <u>CSAC Statewide Cash for College Webinars</u>, or find remaining Cash for College workshops at https://cash4college.csac.ca.gov/.

Need to contact us?

> Institutional Support phone number: (888) 294-0153

> E-mail: schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov

Working together to effectively promote education beyond high school!