



# SPECIAL ALERT

STATE OF  
CALIFORNIA



## Update from the California Student Aid Commission

October 13, 2021

GSA 2021-47

TO: Financial Aid Administrators

FROM: Tae Kang *Tae Kang*  
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SUBJECT: **California Community College Entitlement Cal Grant Update**

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) provides an update for California Community Colleges (CCC) regarding the new CCC Entitlement Cal Grant. As announced in [GSA 2021-31](#), the 2021-22 State Budget included an expansion to the Cal Grant Program by establishing the CCC Entitlement Cal Grant. The new program establishes Cal Grant A and B entitlement eligibility for students attending a CCC who were not awarded at the time of high school graduation.

### CCC Entitlement Cal Grant Cycle (E3)

With the addition of the CCC Entitlement Cal Grant, there are now three entitlement Cal Grant cycles, which will be run consecutively each year:

- High School Entitlement Cycle (E1)
- Transfer Entitlement Cycle (E2)
- CCC Entitlement Cycle (E3)

Students who have not already been awarded in the E1 or E2 cycles, and who have a CCC listed in any position on their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act Application (CADAA), will receive Cal Grant consideration during the E3 cycle.

The Commission's goal is to maximize the number of students receiving awards in the three entitlement cycles to ensure that limited competitive Cal Grant awards are reserved for students who are not eligible for any of the three entitlement cycles.

### E3 Eligibility & Awarding Process

Students who will be considered for a 2021-22 [Cal Grant CCC Entitlement Cal Grant](#) are those who:

- Did not receive an E1 or E2 award offer.
- Completed a FAFSA or CADAA postmarked or posted online by September 2, 2021.
  - At least one CCC must be listed in any position on their FAFSA or CADAA for the student to be considered.
- Submitted a verified grade point average (GPA) to the Commission for the 2021-22 award year by September 2, 2021. GPA minimum requirements are:
  - HS GPA = 2.00 (Cal Grant B), 3.00 (Cal Grant A)
  - CCC GPA = 2.00 (Cal Grant B), 2.40 (Cal Grant A)
  - Reestablished GPAs = 2.00

- **Preliminary Awarding** – As the Commission is unable to initially determine the CCC enrollment of the applicant, all students that listed a CCC on their FAFSA or CADAA and meet all other program requirements will receive a preliminary award offer and notification. Students with preliminary award status will be placed on hold on the roster.
- **Award Confirmation** - Students will be placed on hold until attendance at a CCC is confirmed through an enrollment file. Once confirmed, the hold will be removed on the roster and the student will receive a California Aid Report (CAR). The Commission will continue to use enrollment file data to award students throughout the award year.

**Award Portability**

Students who receive a Cal Grant under this provision will be permitted to retain their remaining Cal Grant eligibility when transferring to a public university so long as they receive at least one payment at a CCC and continue to meet income and academic requirements.

If a school change is performed under the following scenarios, the award will be withdrawn:

- School change to a CSU or UC campus prior to the student receiving at least one payment at a CCC (exception: Cal Grant A award in CC Reserve)
- School change to a private university or other public institution that is not a CCC, CSU or UC. Withdrawn students in this scenario who applied by the March 2<sup>nd</sup> deadline will receive consideration for a Transfer Entitlement award or a competitive award.

**2021-22 E3 Considerations**

The Commission is approaching the final stages of development for the new E3 cycle. Because the 2021-22 E3 cycle will run later than it would normally, please note the following considerations for the 2021-22 award year:

- New competitive 2021-22 Cal Grant awards for students attending a CCC have been withdrawn in preparation for the upcoming E3 cycle. At this time, these students appear on the Award Summary page with the C/E reason 10: “school code(s) ineligible for all Cal Grants.”

Academic Year ↓	Program Name ↑	Application Status ↑	Award Status ↑	Award Status Date ↑	Award Amount ↑	Cycle ID ↑	School ID ↑	P/E Reason ↑	C/E Reason ↑	CC Reserve ↑
2021-2022	A	CG DISQ ⓘ	C/E DISQ ⓘ	09/09/2021		C1	SCHOOL CODE(S) INELIGIBLE FOR ALL CAL GRANTS.		10 ⓘ	
2021-2022	B	CG DISQ ⓘ	C/E DISQ ⓘ	09/09/2021		C1 ⓘ	00120300 ⓘ		10 ⓘ	
2021-2022	C	CG DISQ ⓘ	C/E DISQ ⓘ	09/09/2021		C1 ⓘ	00120300 ⓘ		10 ⓘ	

- Unawarded students who applied by the September 2<sup>nd</sup> deadline and have a CCC listed in any position on their FAFSA or CADAA will be included in the E3 cycle. Students who are not attending a CCC and who applied by the March 2<sup>nd</sup> deadline may receive 2021-22 competitive Cal Grant consideration after the E3 cycle as 2021-22 competitive awards become available.

We appreciate your patience as the Commission continues to develop the new CCC Entitlement Cal Grant. We will provide another update with more programmatic details as they become available.

**Need to contact us?**

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