



SPECIAL ALERT

STATE OF
CALIFORNIA



Update from the California Student Aid Commission

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GSA 2022-08

TO: Financial Aid Administrators

FROM: Tae Kang *Tae Kang*
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SUBJECT: **Learning-Aligned Employment Program**

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) provides an update on the new Learning-Aligned Employment Program (LAEP) that was established in the 2021-22 State budget. This new program offers eligible students at public colleges and universities the opportunity to earn money to help defray their educational costs, while gaining education-aligned, career-related employment.

Student Eligibility

The LAEP will allow a participating student placement in an educationally beneficial position that relates to the student's area of study, career objective, or the exploration of career objectives. The program will include and emphasize positions for students with employers that are capable of providing them with full-time employment opportunities after graduation, or opportunities to connect with other employers that are capable of providing them with full-time employment opportunities after graduation, within their areas of study.

Eligible students in the following categories will be given priority for available learning-aligned employment opportunities:

- First generation college students
- Current or former foster youth
- Students who are homeless or at risk of being homeless

Further prioritization for available learning-aligned employment opportunities will be given to eligible students meeting these priority criteria who are also majoring in a science, technology, engineering, or mathematics discipline.

LAEP Participation Agreement

Participating institutions must sign an institutional agreement with the Commission before June 30, 2022 with the expectation that the program is implemented in the 2022-23 academic year. Funding allocations will be based on each participating institution's share of students receiving a federal Pell Grant in the most recent prior fiscal year and the total number of participating institutions. Participating institutions will also receive funding for administrative costs of overseeing the LAEP.

LAEP Workgroup

The Commission invites interested staff from the University of California, California State University and California Community College campuses who work in the financial aid, career or student employment, and other departments to participate in LAEP workgroup. This workgroup meets weekly to clarify the program requirements, share best practices, identify potential solutions to any concerns that may arise, and develop the LAEP Participation Agreement. The Commission anticipates providing the Participation Agreement for interested institutions by early March.

If you wish to join this workgroup, please send an email to laep@csac.ca.gov and include:

- Your name, title and contact information
- School and/or segment

The Commission would like to thank the LAEP Workgroup members for providing valuable feedback and sharing their campus expertise. We look forward to the successful implementation of the LAEP that will provide many benefits and opportunities to eligible students attending your campus.

Need to contact us?

- E-mail: laep@csac.ca.gov

Working together to effectively promote education beyond high school!