



SPECIAL ALERT

STATE OF
CALIFORNIA



Update from the California Student Aid Commission

April 6, 2022

GSA 2022-23

TO: Financial Aid Administrators
Career Center and Workforce Development Administrators

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

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) provides an update on the Learning-Aligned Employment Program (LAEP). 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. To participate, public postsecondary institutions should submit a Learning-Aligned Employment Program Agreement (LAEPA) no later than **June 30, 2022**.

LAEP Agreement

Participating public postsecondary 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. Signed agreements may be sent via email to laep@csac.ca.gov.

[Learning-Aligned Employment Program Agreement \(LAEPA\)](#)

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 may apply up to five percent of allocated funding to the administrative costs of the program.

LAEP Employer Eligibility

The following entities may employ students:

- **Nonprofit and for-profit employers:** Nonsectarian, nonpolitical organizations capable of providing full-time employment after graduation or connection to another employer able to provide full-time employment after graduation.
- **Public colleges and universities:** Research centers and institutions operated by public postsecondary educational institutions, if their learning-aligned employment opportunities provide participating students with direct opportunities to participate in the research that is undertaken by the respective research centers and institutions.
- **Public schools:** Public schools operated by school districts, county superintendents of schools, the Department of the Youth Authority, or the Department of Education.

Student Eligibility

A participating student will be employed 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.

A student from an underrepresented background satisfying all of the following criteria is eligible to participate in the program:

- Half-time enrollment
- CA resident classification
- Maintenance of satisfactory academic progress
- Demonstrated financial need
- Eligibility to work in the U.S.

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 (STEM) discipline.

LAEP Webinar

Interested in learning more about LAEP? The interactive webinar below will provide a LAEP overview, including eligibility requirements for institutions, students and employers.

- Monday, April 18th 2-3 p.m. [Register for this webinar](#)

Need to contact us?

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

Enclosure: Learning-Aligned Employment Program Agreement (LAEPA)

Working together to effectively promote education beyond high school!