



Update from the California Student Aid Commission

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GSA 2024-06

TO: Financial Aid Administrators

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SUBJECT: **Summary of 2023 Chaptered Legislation**

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) provides a summary of the 2023 Chaptered Legislation.

Integration of AB 540 Form into the CA Dream Act Application

[Assembly Bill 1540](#) amends Education Code Section 68130.5 and requires the California State University (CSU) and the CA Community Colleges (while requesting the University of California (UC) and independent institutions) to accept a students' AB 540 affidavit provided by the Commission on the students' behalf through the submission of their California Dream Act application: effectively embedding the AB 540 affidavit into the CADAA.

Grants for California Community College Students Transferring to HBCUs

[Assembly Bill 1400](#) added Article 16 commencing with Section 69840 of the Education Code stating that beginning with the 2024-25 award year, the Commission is authorized to make one-time awards for eligible California Community College students transferring to partnered Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) using College Access Tax Credit (CATC) funds.

Satisfactory Academic Program Standards for Cal Grant Institutions

[Assembly Bill 789](#) amends Education Code Section 69432.7 to require Cal Grant participating institutions to develop and implement policies that define Satisfactory Academic Program (SAP) in a manner consistent with the federal standards published in Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations starting in the 2024-25 academic year.

Expanded Options for Obtaining a Pupil Personnel Services Credential

[Senate Bill 223](#) amends Education Code Section 44266 and authorizes the Commission on Teaching Credentialing (CTC) to approve a program of professional preparation for a services credential with a specialization in Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) in Child Welfare and Attendance (CWA) offered by a local educational agency if the program meets the same quality and effectiveness program standards adopted by the CTC.

California DREAM Grants

[Senate Bill 633](#) added Education Code Section 70035.5 to establish the DREAM Grant Program. Starting with the 2024-25 academic year, participating CSU and UC campuses that offer DREAM Loans, may utilize unawarded funds in the institution's DREAM revolving fund from the previous academic year and award DREAM Grants to eligible students.

Regional Coordinating Organizations and Mandated Reports

[Senate Bill 886](#) – Higher Education Omnibus Bill:

- Amends Education Code Section 69551 and clarifies that organizations that are not part of a regional coordinating organization (RCO), including high schools and community-based organizations, but who have a written partnership agreement with the Commission or an RCO, may offer free local and regional Cash for College workshops.
- Amends Education Code Section 66022 to eliminate the requirement that the Commission give notice to all institutions of when an individual is in default on a Federal Family Education Loan(s).

Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act: Teleconferencing

[Senate Bill 544](#) added Government Code Section 11123.2 outlining the requirements that state bodies must follow to hold open or closed meetings by teleconference until January 1, 2026, including:

- Members must visibly appear on camera during the open portion of a meeting. This can be exempted only when the technologically impracticable but must announce the reason for their nonappearance when they turn off their camera.
- If the meeting is to be reconvened on the same day, further notice must be provided by an automated message on a telephone line posted on the state body's agenda, website, or via a similar means, that will communicate when the state body intends to reconvene the meeting and how a member of the public may hear audio or observe the meeting.

The Commission will provide additional information on some of these changes in future communications.

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