

This information sheet explains the reason you were not awarded a Cal Grant. Unfortunately, due to limited funding, the Commission is not able to award every student who applies for a Cal Grant. Remember, just because you are not receiving a Cal Grant does not mean you are not eligible to receive other financial aid! Please check with your financial aid office at your school if you have questions or concerns regarding financial aid. They may be able to assist you in identifying other sources of financial aid that are available to you, including federal and college grants, scholarships, loans and work-study.

Why didn't I get an award?

Each Cal Grant program has requirements which must be met in order to be awarded a Cal Grant. A description of non-awarded reasons are listed below. However, the most common reason students are disqualified for an award is based on their reported income and assets, see [2019-20 Cal Grant Income and Asset Ceilings](#). Go to [WebGrants for Students](#) to view your reported income and assets ceilings. Your Cal Grant status information in the Student Award Detail screen may read like this:

Award Status Summary	
STATUS	REASON
CAL GRANT A: NOT AWARDED	GPA BELOW MINIMUM
CAL GRANT B: NOT AWARDED	MINIMUM NEED NOT MET
CAL GRANT C: NOT AWARDED	INELIGIBLE COURSE LENGTH

Student Award
Detail Screen in
WG4S

Reason:	What It Means:
School Not Eligible for Cal Grant A, B, or C	-- Not all California schools participate in all Cal Grant programs.
EL Greater than 4 (EL means year in college)	-- New Cal Grants are not offered to students beyond the college senior level.
Ineligible Course of Study or Degree Certificate	-- Cal Grant C awards are not for students studying for a bachelor's degree.
Indication of Prior Bachelor's Degree	-- Awards are not offered to students who already have a bachelor's degree.
No California School Listed	-- Student must attend a Cal Grant eligible California college or university.
State of Legal Residence Not California	-- Student must be a California resident.
Not a California Resident at Time of Graduation	-- For some programs, students must be considered a California resident at the time of high school graduation.
Not Pursuing an Undergraduate Degree	-- Graduate level students are not eligible to receive Cal Grant benefits.
No GPA/Test Scores Provided	-- School certified GPA or test score was not submitted by the March 2nd deadline.
GPA Below Minimum	-- A minimum 3.00 high school GPA, or minimum 2.40 college GPA is required for Cal Grant A; a minimum 2.00 GPA is required for Cal Grant B.
Score Below Cutoff	-- Competitive Cal Grant applicants are ranked based on disadvantaged student indicators from the FAFSA or CADAA that include your family income and household size, parent's education level, student or parent household status and disadvantaged high school experience or re-entry student status, along with your GPA. Your combined score using this information was below the minimum cut-off necessary for an award. Only 12,875 awards are available, and all students cannot be offered assistance.
Minimum Need Not Met	-- You did not have enough financial need at the first California college you Listed on your FAFSA or CADAA. Financial need is determined by subtracting your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) from the cost of attendance at the school.
Reported Income over the Ceiling	-- Applicants whose family incomes were above the maximum Cal Grant income levels were not selected for a Cal Grant award.
Reported Assets over the Ceiling	-- Applicants whose family assets were above the maximum Cal Grant asset levels were not selected for a Cal Grant award.

Can I make corrections?

Only High School Entitlement Cal Grant and Transfer Entitlement applicants may submit corrections after the award selection. High School Entitlement students are those who graduated high school and who applied using their high school GPA. Transfer Entitlement students are those who are transferring directly from a California Community College to a 4-Year University and they are applying for the award. Competitive Cal Grant applicants cannot submit corrections through their FAFSA or California Dream Act Application (CADAA).

Entitlement applicants should review their 2019-20 FAFSA or CADAA information for Cal Grant consideration and file any corrections, including the colleges under consideration. If you feel your GPA was not correctly calculated, you must have a correction filed by the school that submitted the GPA.

What does "Score Below Cutoff" mean?

Based on the information you provided on your application, you did not score high enough for a Competitive Cal Grant award. Scoring is based on GPA, Total Income/Family size, number of years out of High School, College Education level, etc. Your overall score was lower than required to be awarded. CSAC cannot accept any corrections to your application because all available awards have been distributed.

What are the Cal Grant minimum qualifications?

You must be a U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen; be a California resident; attend a qualifying California college; demonstrate financial need at the college; be in a program leading to an undergraduate degree or certificate; not have a Bachelor's or professional degree before receiving a Cal Grant; not owe a refund on any state or federal educational grant; not be in default on a student loan; meet the GPA requirements; and fall below the income and asset ceilings listed below.

What are the 2019-20 Income Ceilings for the Cal Grant program?

Applicant's family income includes the total taxable and non-taxable income, as reported on the FAFSA and California Dream Act Application. Basic award amounts and eligibility criteria are subject to final authorization and changes in the state budget act.

Cal Grant Income Ceilings

Dependent students and independent students with dependents other than spouse:

Cal Grant A & C

\$92,100 for a family of two
\$94,400 for a family of three
\$102,500 for a family of four
\$109,900 for a family of five
\$118,500 for a family of six or more

Cal Grant B

\$43,000 for a family of two
\$48,500 for a family of three
\$53,900 for a family of four
\$60,300 for a family of five
\$65,100 for a family of six or more

Independent applicants with no dependents other than a spouse:

Cal Grant A, B & C

\$37,600 for single students
\$43,000 for married students (with no dependents)
Income compared against the ceilings includes taxable and nontaxable income

What are the 2019-20 Asset Ceilings for the Cal Grant program?

For dependent students or independent students with dependents other than a spouse - \$79,300

For single independent students and married students with no dependents - \$37,700

What can I do now?

Be sure to contact your college financial aid office for more financial aid opportunities.

If you plan to attend a California Community College this fall, you have another opportunity to compete for a community college award during the September 2nd award competition. Another 12,875 Cal Grant awards will be available at that time to qualified applicants. Talk to your California Community College about applying for this next opportunity for a Cal Grant!

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