

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CAL GRANT C

1. Cal Grant C:

- Is a free state grant given to students pursuing a recognized vocational, occupational, or technical program at a Cal Grant eligible institution
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2. Students must meet the following requirements:

- Be U.S. citizens, permanent residents or meet eligibility under California Education Code Section 68130.5 (commonly known as AB540); attend a vocational, occupational, or technical program; meet certain income, asset, and other financial aid standards; maintain satisfactory academic progress; not be in default on a student loan; and must not be incarcerated
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3. Apply by the Cal Grant Deadline:

- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at <https://fafsa.ed.gov/> or the California Dream Act Application (CADAA) at <https://dream.csac.ca.gov/> by March 2nd of the award year. Students that meet AB 540 qualifications, without a Social Security Number (SSN) or have been approved for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), must complete the CADAA.
 - There is no GPA required for a Cal Grant C award
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4. Cal Grant C award amounts are set based on student enrollment and institution of attendance:

- The award covers up to \$547 for books, tools, and equipment at eligible private institutions
 - Up to \$2,462 at a Cal Grant Eligible private for profit or private nonprofit institution for tuition and fees
 - Up to \$1,094 at a California Community College for any school expenses
 - The award is available for up to 2 years
 - Schools determine how your Cal Grant is applied to your financial aid package
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5. If you are preliminarily selected to receive a Cal Grant C award:

- Around April, you will receive an email notification from the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC). You will then be asked to complete the Cal Grant C Supplement Form through your [Web Grants for Students account](#). This form is needed in order to determine your eligibility for the Cal Grant C award
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6. When will the Cal Grant C award money be provided to my college?

- Cal Grant awards are processed by CSAC around August for the fall term, please contact your campus Financial Aid Office near term start date for a payment schedule
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7. Why was I selected for Cal Grant C versus A or B?

- CSAC initially processes students for all award types, including competitive Cal Grant A, B & C at the same time. If you meet the requirements for more than one award type, CSAC will offer you the award that pays the highest amount at your campus. Based on this award consideration, you may not have met the eligibility requirements for Cal Grant A or B, however you did meet the preliminary requirements for a Cal Grant C.
 - Students who do not qualify for a Cal Grant A or B may use a Cal Grant C if enrolled in a vocational, occupational, or technical program. To see why you may not have qualified for a Cal Grant A or B award, please create and/or log in to your account at <https://www.webgrants4students.org>
 - **For Dream Act Students** - Students who apply using the [CA Dream Act Application](#) can only be considered for the Cal Grant A or B awards when they meet the requirements for either the [High School Entitlement Award Program](#) or the [Transfer Entitlement Award Program](#).
 - **For FAFSA Students** - If you do not meet the requirements for either the [High School Entitlement Award Program](#) or the [Transfer Entitlement Award Program](#), then you will be considered for a [Competitive Cal Grant Award](#). Due to the limited number of these competitive awards each year, some students may not be selected for the Cal Grant A or B based on their competitive score. Award selection is determined by your competitive score. Scoring components include: GPA, parent education level, access equalizer, student or parent household status, family income and household size.
 - To see how your Competitive Score is calculated, you may view our [Competitive Scoring Matrix](#). Please note, that once your score has been determined, it cannot be changed. It is very important to make sure your FAFSA and GPA information are correctly reported prior to the March 2nd filing deadline.
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8. Declining the Cal Grant C:

- If you wish to decline the Cal Grant C, please complete the Cal Grant C Supplement form and select the option that states you will not be enrolled in a vocational, occupational, or technical program
 - If you do not complete the Cal Grant C supplement form, the Cal Grant C award will not be activated. In the future you may be considered for a competitive Cal Grant award based on Cal Grant GPA verification, FAFSA or CADAA deadline dates
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9. How do I find out if the field that I'm interested in is on the list of occupational and technical training?

- The occupations on the list are based on at least two of the following criteria: high need, high salary or wage projections, and high growth. To find out more please check out the [2020-21 Cal Grant C Priority Occupational List, as well as the 2020-21 Cal Grant C Occupational List.](#)
 - If your program is not listed, please check that your program meets the eligibility requirements for the Cal Grant C with your Financial Aid Office
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10. Are there any additional resources that can help me figure out what occupations to pursue?

- You can turn to the Employment Development Department and local workforce investment boards. These organizations offer valuable tools to assist you in determining your career goals. Job seekers can take advantage of a variety of comprehensive services and programs at no cost, such as job search and placement services. To find your Local Workforce Development Board, please review the [list](#) of locations on their website. For additional information regarding job seeker information, please visit the [Employment Development Department's](#) information page

There are also many job centers across California that offer comprehensive employment related services. To find your nearest job center, please visit [America's Job Center](#) website.