



OPERATIONS MEMO

Update from the California Student Aid Commission

STATE OF
CALIFORNIA



March 26, 2015

GOM 2015-11

TO: Financial Aid Administrators
High School Counselors

FROM: Catalina G. Mistler 
Chief, Program Administration & Services Division

SUBJECT: Late Entitlement Cal Grant GPA Appeals Process

This Operations Memo from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) explains the Cal Grant late grade point average (GPA) appeal process for students who missed the March 2 filing deadline.

- State regulations allow Entitlement Cal Grant applicants to appeal the late submission of their Cal Grant GPA if circumstances beyond their control delayed or prevented them from submitting a verified GPA by the March 2, 2015 filing deadline.
- To receive appeal consideration, applicants must submit an explanation of the circumstances that prevented them from submitting an on-time Cal Grant GPA. The applicants must also have submitted a 2015-16 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or a 2015-16 California Dream Act Application by the March 2 deadline.
- Entitlement Cal Grant applicants whose GPAs were not received, will be notified by the Commission about the appeal process. Schools may also submit late GPAs on behalf of students through the appeal process; it should be clear there were circumstances beyond the student's control preventing the student from meeting the March 2 deadline.
- In order for an appeal to be accepted, it must be received by the Commission no later than May 16, 2015. *Due to May 16, 2015 falling on a Saturday, 2015-16 March 2 Late GPA Appeals will be accepted if received by Monday, May 18, 2015.*
- If the appeal is accepted, the student will be processed for Entitlement Cal Grant award consideration and will receive correspondence from the Commission based on their application status. For appeals that are not accepted, the GPA will be retained for the September 2, 2015 Competitive Cal Grant award selection process.
- To submit a late March 2 GPA, Entitlement applicants may submit:
 - A "Late Cal Grant GPA Verification Form (SSN)" if the student completed the FAFSA.
 - A "Late Cal Grant GPA Verification Form (Non-SSN)" if the student completed the California Dream Act Application.

These forms are available on the Commission's website at <http://www.csac.ca.gov/doc.asp?id=1177>.

- To qualify for a 2015-16 Entitlement Cal Grant, an applicant must have graduated high school or achieved the equivalent on or after July 1, 2013, or must be planning to transfer from a California Community College to a four-year college during the 2015-16 academic year.

Unmatched GPAs

- As previously announced in [GOM 2015-09](#), the Commission continues the matching and editing process for Non-SSN GPA data. School officials can also match Non-SSN GPA data to the student's FASFA or Dream Act Application by using the *Match Non-SSN Record to Financial Application* screen in WebGrants through May 15, 2015.
- Although in some cases the Non-SSN GPA matching process to the student's financial aid application occurs after the March deadline; the student will still be considered an on-time applicant. For students whose GPAs were submitted on time but have not yet been matched, there is no need to submit a late GPA through the appeals process.

If you have any questions regarding the information in this memo, please contact the Commission's Institutional Support at (888) 294-0153 or at schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov.

Need to contact us?

- Institutional Support phone number: (888) 294-0153
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