This Operations Memo from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) announces the release of the 2020-21 Student Expense Budgets and Income and Asset Ceilings.

- The statewide Student Expense Budgets were calculated using the prescribed methodology from the 2018-19 Student Expenses and Resources Survey (SEARS). The 2020-21 budgets include standardized allowances for food, housing, books, supplies, transportation, and personal/miscellaneous expenses based on a nine-month academic year.

- Actual campus budget information provided by the institutions on WebGrants, or on a College Cost Estimate form, will be used for Cal Grant awarding.

- The 2020-21 Cal Grant Income and Asset Ceilings were adjusted using the cost of living factor based on the percentage change in California per capita personal income from the prior year.

- California Education Code section 69432.7(k) states that the maximum household Income and Asset Ceilings applicable for a renewing recipient be the higher of:
  1. The adjusted ceilings for the year; or
  2. The ceilings at the time of the renewing recipient’s initial Cal Grant award.

- The 2020-21 Income and Asset Ceilings will be the same for new and renewal Cal Grant students.

- Student Expense Budgets and Income and Asset Ceilings are available at www.csac.ca.gov on the “Colleges” tab menu, under the “Resource Documents” section.

Need to contact us?

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Working together to effectively promote education beyond high school!