



OPERATIONS MEMO

Update from the California Student Aid Commission

STATE OF
CALIFORNIA



November 15, 2021

GOM 2021-34

TO: Financial Aid Administrators

FROM: Tae Kang *Tae Kang*
Deputy Director, Program Administration & Services Division

SUBJECT: **2021-22 Cal Grant California Community College Entitlement Award Offers**

The California Student Aid Commission (Commission) is pleased to announce the initial 2021-22 Cal Grant selection process for the California Community College (CCC) Entitlement award cycle (E3). As communicated in [GSA 2021-31](#), the 2021-22 State Budget included an expansion to the Cal Grant Program by establishing the CCC Entitlement Cal Grant. The new program establishes Cal Grant A and B entitlement eligibility for students attending a CCC who were not awarded at the time of high school graduation.

2021-22 Preliminary E3 Award Offers

The Commission implemented Phase I of the E3 award cycle on November 12, 2021.

- **139,902** CCC Entitlement Cal Grant awards were offered to current CCC students. **2,947** of the awards were offered to California Dream Act applicants.
- **45,543** preliminary awards were offered to students who listed a CCC on their financial aid applications, but whose attendance at a CCC has not been confirmed. Please see "Award Confirmation" below.

School Changes

In Phase I, school changes for E3 students to schools in segments other than CCCs are not available. Full school change functionality will be available in Phase II of the E3 award cycle. The Commission will provide additional information about Phase II in a later communication.

E3 Eligibility & Awarding Process

Students considered for a 2021-22 [Cal Grant CCC Entitlement Cal Grant](#) are those who:

- Did not receive a High School Entitlement or Transfer Entitlement award offer
- Completed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act Application (CADAA) postmarked or posted online by September 2, 2021.
 - At least one CCC must be listed in any position on their FAFSA or CADAA for the student to be considered.
- Submitted a verified grade point average (GPA) to the Commission for the 2021-22 award year by September 2, 2021. GPA minimum requirements are:
 - HS GPA = 2.00 (Cal Grant B), 3.00 (Cal Grant A)
 - CCC GPA = 2.00 (Cal Grant B), 2.40 (Cal Grant A)
 - Reestablished GPAs = 2.00 (Cal Grant B)

- **Preliminary Awarding** – As the Commission is unable to initially determine the CCC enrollment of the applicant, all students that listed a CCC on their FAFSA or CADAA and meet all other program requirements receive a preliminary award offer and notification. Students with preliminary award status are placed on hold on the roster.
- **Award Confirmation** - Students are placed on hold until attendance at a CCC is confirmed through an enrollment file or manually through the online roster. Once confirmed, the hold is removed on the roster and the student receives a California Aid Report (CAR). The Commission will continue to use enrollment file data to award students throughout the award year.

E3 Enrollment Verification Required

Please verify enrollment:

Term

----Select----

----Select----

Student IS Enrolled

Award Portability

Students who receive a Cal Grant under this provision are permitted to retain their remaining Cal Grant eligibility when transferring to a CSU or UC campus so long as they receive at least one payment at a CCC and continue to meet income and academic requirements.

If a school change is performed under the following scenarios (after deployment of Phase II), the award will be withdrawn:

- School change to a CSU or UC campus prior to the student receiving at least one payment at a CCC (exception: Cal Grant A award in CC Reserve)
- School change to a private university or other public institution that is not a CCC, CSU or UC. Withdrawn students in this scenario who applied by the March 2nd deadline will receive consideration for a Transfer Entitlement award or a Competitive award.

We appreciate your patience as the Commission continues to develop the new CCC Entitlement Cal Grant. We will provide another update upon deployment of Phase II.

Training

A training webinar for the CCC Entitlement Award is scheduled for November 18 at 2:00 pm. [Register here](#) to take advantage of this live webinar.

Cal Grant awards should be disbursed in accordance with the guidelines in [GOM 2021-31](#) and institutional disbursement policy. Students with Dependent Children (SWD) eligibility and disbursement FAQs can be found on the [SWD page](#) of the Commission's website, [csac.ca.gov](#).

Need to contact us?

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