



OPERATIONS MEMO

STATE OF
CALIFORNIA



Update from the California Student Aid Commission

April 29, 2024

GOM 2024-17

TO: Financial Aid Administrators

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

SUBJECT: **2024-25 MCS Awards - Update**

This Operations Memo from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) communicates updates on the 2024-25 Middle Class Scholarship (MCS) awards for students attending a California State University (CSU), a University of California (UC), or a California Community College Baccalaureate program.

2024-25 MCS Phase-in Factor Updated

Based on the latest projections for the 2024-25 academic year, the Commission has updated the phase-in factor previously communicated in [GOM 2024-09](#) to **26%**. This phase-in factor is still subject to change until the final MCS appropriation is confirmed with the 2024-25 state budget.

2024-25 Enrollment and Payment Roster File Layouts

- The Enrollment File Layout has been finalized and is posted on the Commission's [website](#) under File Layouts. Changes are identified in blue font.
- An initial draft of the Payment-Roster File Layout is also available on the Commission's [website](#). Proposed changes are identified in blue font.

Total Income Calculation

MCS awards will use the total income values from the following fields:

- Independent students: ISIR Field #944 / Cal ISIR Field #582
- Dependent students: ISIR Field #945 / Cal ISIR Field #583
- In the scenario where an ISIR contains both manually entered values and FTI values for the same item, the Commission will use the manually entered values.
- If the total income field has a null value, the Commission will mirror federal methodology to calculate the Total Income using the Student (and Spouse) / Parent Income Additions and Offsets as outlined in the [2024-25 Student Aid Index \(SAI\) and Pell Grant Eligibility Guide](#) pages 6 and 8.

2024-25 MCS Award Calculation

As communicated in [GOM 2024-09](#), 2024-25 MCS awards will be based on the difference between the student's cost of attendance and the sum of the following amounts:

1. Other federal, state, institutionally administered scholarships, grants, and fee waivers awarded to the student;
 - a. as well as any private scholarships and **institutionally administered non-need-based scholarships** and institutionally awarded emergency housing funds or other basic needs emergency assistance awarded to the student, including emergency assistance awarded by an institution-based foster youth support program, that are in excess of the sum of items 2 and 3.
2. **\$8,154** dollars reflecting an expected student contribution toward cost of attendance from work earnings or other resources.
3. 33% of the parents' contribution for dependent students with an annual household income exceeding \$100,000.

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