



P. O. Box 419026 Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9026 (916) 464-8043 www.csac.ca.gov

FOR RELEASE SEPTEMBER 19, 2018

CONTACT: CSAC MEDIA RELATIONS 916-464-8043

Email: CSACmediarelations@csac.ca.gov

Governor Signs Legislation Expanding Information about Financial Aid

Schools must provide students with information about applying for financial aid

Sacramento, CA (2018) – The California Student Aid Commission applauds Governor Jerry Brown for signing legislation that will ensure that high school students throughout California receive critical information about how to obtain financial aid to afford a college education.

The California Student Aid Commission co-sponsored Assembly Member Eloise Gomez Reyes' bill (AB 2015) that requires California schools to provide information to students about how to complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), or the California Dream Act Application (CADAA) prior to their senior year in high school.

"Applying for financial aid is such an important step in helping students realize their dreams of a higher education," said Dr. Lande Ajoose, Chair of the California Student Aid Commission. "By getting information about financial aid to students *early* – before they begin applying to college – this bill will reach many students who might not otherwise apply, because they may not think they can afford it."

Lupita Cortez Alcalá, Executive Director of the Commission, noted that, according to the National College Access Network, 90% of high school seniors who completed financial aid applications attended college after graduation, compared to just 55% of high school seniors who did not. "This is a huge step in the right direction," Ms. Alcalá said. We are so grateful to Assemblymember Reyes, her staff, and our coalition of college affordability advocates who helped move this bill forward on behalf of California students."

The information provided by schools will complement the more than 1,000 Cash for College workshops the Commission offers each year, at which students receive in-person assistance completing financial aid applications. More information on Cash for College workshops, including events being held in your area, can be found at the Commission's website for [Cash For College](#).

The enactment of this law coincides with the Commission's celebration of this year's winners of the annual "Race to Submit" campaign, in which high schools throughout the state participate in a friendly competition to increase their students' financial aid application completion rates. The Commission will be honoring 35 high schools throughout California that posted the best application rates in 2018 at a celebratory event in the Governor's Council Room in Sacramento on October 4, 2018; media wishing to attend or cover this event should contact the CSACMediaRelations@csac.ca.gov or call (916) 464-8043.

###

The California Student Aid Commission is the state's policy leader in the administration of financial aid for higher education, making education beyond high school financially accessible to all Californians. California Student Aid Commission serves the needs of not only today's college students but tomorrow's students, guiding them through the application process. Information and tools are available online for the parents of tomorrow's college and career technical students, a fully staffed call center answers questions and the California Student Aid Commission provides workshops and funds grants to organizations that provide access opportunities for students who are first in their family to attend institutions of higher education. For more information on how the California Student Aid Commission serves to educate, inform, and support students, their educational institutions, and the professionals who assist them please visit our website at <https://www.csac.ca.gov> or follow us on [Twitter](#) (@castudentaid) and Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/CSAC.StudentAidCommission/>.

Media Contact:

Media Relations Office

(916) 464-8043

CSACMediaRelations@csac.ca.gov