



SPECIAL ALERT

STATE OF
CALIFORNIA



Update from the California Student Aid Commission

February 29, 2016

GSA 2016-07

TO: Financial Aid Administrators

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

SUBJECT: **2015-16 Unpaid Cal Grant Award Status**

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) provides an update on the 2015-16 Competitive Cal Grant Program awards and the next steps Commission staff will take in an effort to increase the participation rate for eligible students.

The Commission will be offering new awards to the next cohorts of eligible applicants. New Competitive award offers will be processed in late March 2016. If you have eligible students on your roster who have not been paid, please make it a priority to pay these students as soon as possible. These students will be notified via email that their awards will be withdrawn if the awards are not paid by **March 11, 2016**.

- There are 25,750 authorized Competitive awards for 2015-16 academic year. To date, 20,028 Competitive awardees have been paid in this academic year, a 77.8% participation rate.
- Over 8,800 eligible students are in deferment status and may not participate this academic year. These students received a communication in November 2015 reminding them that their awards will be withdrawn.
- The Commission will monitor the participation rate to ensure that payments do not exceed the Competitive awards authorized for this academic year.

Thank you in advance for your willingness to partner with us in this effort to better serve our Cal Grant students. If you have any questions, please contact Institutional Support.

Need to contact us?

- Institutional Support phone number: (888) 294-0153
- E-mail: schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov

Working together to effectively promote education beyond high school!