



SPECIAL ALERT

STATE OF
CALIFORNIA

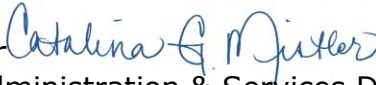


Update from the California Student Aid Commission

May 19, 2016

GSA 2016-16

TO: Financial Aid Administrators

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

SUBJECT: **Final Year Reconciliation Date for 2015-16 Cal Grant and Middle Class Scholarship Programs**

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) provides notification of the **September 9, 2016** final year-end reconciliation date for the 2015-16 Cal Grant and Middle Class Scholarship (MCS) programs.

In order to implement the 2017-18 Early FAFSA changes, the Commission must make adjustments to the current business processes. The first process is closing out the 2015-16 academic year earlier than in previous years so that we can open the 2017-18 FAFSA and California Dream Act Applications on October 1, 2016. At this time, the Grant Delivery System (GDS) does not have the capacity to keep three concurrent academic years open for processing. Therefore, campuses must close out their 2015-16 Cal Grant and MCS accounts by close of business on **September 9, 2016**.

Cal Grant and MCS award processing for the 2015-2016 academic year will continue through June 30, 2016, as well as the following changes below to prepare for the earlier reconciliation and opening of the 2017-18 processing year.

- No new awards will be offered for the 2015-2016 academic year after June 30th and the weekly entitlement award cycle will end.
- Grant record changes (G21 forms) and student or institutional appeals will not be processed after June 30, 2016.
- Cal Grant and MCS withdrawals will be accepted and processed through close of business on September 9, 2016.

We encourage schools to reconcile their payment rosters monthly to effectively complete final year end reconciliation by September 9, 2016. Given the necessity for an earlier reconciliation date and the pilot year of the early FAFSA, the Commission will consider appeals for any post reconciliation issues that arise due to extenuating circumstances. Detailed reconciliation instructions, updated training resources and appeal instructions will be provided in future Commission communications.

Need to contact us?

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