SPECIAL ALERT

Update from the California Student Aid Commission

October 13, 2017   **GSA 2017-35**

TO: High School Counselors

FROM: Catalina G. Mistler
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SUBJECT: **The 2018-19 Race to Submit Campaign**

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) invites every high school and school district in California to join the statewide **Race to Submit** campaign that encourages students to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act Application (CADAA) for the 2018-19 academic year.

- The campaign was launched on **October 4, 2017,** at Rancho Verde High School in Moreno Valley, California, where actress Gabrielle Union made a special appearance to personally encourage students to apply for financial aid.

- The Race to Submit Online Dashboard Tool tracks the number of FAFSAs and CADAAs completed by the senior class at the high school, district, county and state level from October 1, 2017 to the March 2, 2018 Cal Grant deadline.

- The Dashboard can be easily accessed through the Commission's homepage and schools are encouraged to utilize its various reporting features to monitor the number of submitted and completed applications, along with the amount of Cal Grant award offers reached by their students. The Dashboard also offers the ability to compare the current year with 2017-18 data.

- The Race to Submit Online Dashboard Tool provides progress updates of the following data on a weekly basis:

    ✓ FAFSA/CADAA completion and submission rates
    ✓ Number of Cal Grant applications submitted and completed
    ✓ Number of Cal Grant eligible students
    ✓ Number of Cal Grant award offers

- The Race to Submit campaign is also hosting a friendly competition between California public high schools to see who can submit the most FAFSAs/CADAAs through the Race to Submit Leaderboard Dashboard (Leaderboard).

    o The Leaderboard displays schools' placements based on school size and can be accessed at https://webutil.csac.ca.gov/Dashboard/.

Need to contact us?

➢ Institutional Support phone number: (888) 294-0153
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Working together to effectively promote education beyond high school!

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