

SPECIAL ALERT





Update from the California Student Aid Commission

February 16, 2018

GSA 2018-10

TO:

High School Counselors

FROM:

Catalina G. Mistler (Latelina)

Deputy Director, Program Administration & Services Division

SUBJECT: Update on the Race to Submit Statewide Campaign

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) provides an update on the Race to Submit Statewide Campaign and encourages every California public high school and school district to use the Race to Submit Online Dashboard Tool to track the number of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and California Dream Act Application (CADAA) completed by the current high school senior class.

To help boost your senior class FAFSA and CADAA submissions the Commission has developed a <u>Race to Submit Resource Guide</u>. The guide provides information on the following:

- Overview of the Race to Submit Dashboard features
- Strategies to set goals, track data, host events, promote FAFSA/CADAA completion and educate students and families on the financial aid process
- General financial aid information, training for counselors and information on how to work with unique populations

All California high schools are encouraged to join the Race to Submit. The Race to Submit Campaign is hosting a friendly competition between California Public High Schools to see who can submit the most FAFSA and CADAA through March 2nd. Schools can track their progress on the Race to Submit Leaderboard (Leaderboard). The Leaderboard displays school's placements based on school size and is divided into 6 levels. The Commission will recognize the top schools at each level that have made significant strides in FAFSA and CADAA completion.

On a weekly basis, the Race to Submit Online Dashboard Tool provides application progress updates for the senior class of 2018. As of February 13, 2018, the Commission has offered preliminary Cal Grant Awards to 84,182 students. For more information on statewide progress such as FAFSA/CADAA rates and the number of Cal Grant applications visit the Race to Submit Online Dashboard Tool.

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!