



# SPECIAL ALERT

STATE OF CALIFORNIA



## Update from the California Student Aid Commission

April 16, 2019

GSA 2019-12

TO: Financial Aid Administrators  
High School Counselors

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

SUBJECT: **Cal Grant B Eligibility Expansion for Foster Youth**

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) provides an update to the Cal Grant B lifetime eligibility expansion for current and former foster youth students.

### Lifetime Eligibility Expansion for Cal Grant B Foster Youth Recipients

- The 2018-19 Budget Act increased the Cal Grant B lifetime eligibility for current and former foster youth. Foster youth students may renew their Cal Grant B awards for a total of the equivalent of eight years of full-time attendance in an undergraduate program, provided that minimum financial need continues to exist.
- Current or former foster youth for this program means a person whose dependency was established or continued by the court on or after the date on which the person reached 13 years of age.
- The Commission will be implementing the needed Grant Delivery System changes in phases. The initial phase extends eligible foster youth student's Cal Grant B lifetime eligibility for students who renewed their award during the 2018-19 academic year. Cal Grant B renewal students (entitlement and competitive) who met the criteria have been implemented in this initial phase.
- Institutions are able to identify these students on the online display roster with a **B-FY** program identifier as shown below:

Program Code	Award Type	Annual Award	Term Amount	Adj Amount	Adj Reason	Pay Code	Annual Need	Income & Asset Year Used	Rec Type
Totals		\$7,414	\$3,707				23568	2018	
B-FY	T/F	\$5,742	\$2,871	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value=""/>	RP			PAY
B-FY	ACSS	\$1,672	\$836	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value=""/>	RP			PAY
Spring Term					<a href="#">Adj Reason Codes</a>		<a href="#">Pay Status Codes</a>		<a href="#">Delete Txn</a>

### **Foster Youth Cal Grant B High School Entitlement Eligibility Expansion**

- Current or former foster youth students are eligible to receive Cal Grant B High School Entitlement Award consideration as long as they have not yet reached 26 years of age as of July 1 of the initial award year.
  - 2018-19 and 2019-20 students who meet this eligibility criteria will be part of the next phase of implementation.
- Current or former foster youth students attending a California Community College are eligible to receive Cal Grant B High School Entitlement Award consideration as long as they apply no later than September 2 of the academic year for which funds will be applied.
  - Students in this category must appear on a California Community College enrollment file for the corresponding academic year in order to receive award consideration.
  - 2018-19 and 2019-20 students who meet this eligibility criteria will be part of the next phase of implementation.

Commission staff will continue working to update the Grant Delivery System to automate these award changes. Further details will be communicated as implementation progresses.

#### **Need to contact us?**

- Institutional Support phone number: (888) 294-0153
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