



# SPECIAL ALERT

STATE OF  
CALIFORNIA



## Update from the California Student Aid Commission

**August 16, 2019**

**GSA 2019-24**

TO: Financial Aid Administrators

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

SUBJECT: **2019-20 September 2 Competitive Cal Grant Update**

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This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) provides an update to [GOM 2019-22](#) regarding the 2019-20 September 2 enrollment submission and Grade Point Average (GPA) processes for the Competitive Cal Grant A and B programs.

To be considered in the 2019-20 September 2 Cal Grant competition students must:

- Have completed a 2019-20 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act Application (CADAA) postmarked or posted online by September 3\*, 2019.
- Have submitted a verified GPA to the Commission for the 2019-20 award year by September 3\*, 2019.
- Be listed on a 2019-20 CCC enrollment file.

Per the 2019-20 State Budget, Cal Grant competitive awarding priority for FAFSA applicants has been removed from statute. As such, California Community Colleges (CCC) are asked to:

- Ensure they submit enrollment data to the Commission for all CADAA applicants as well as FAFSA applicants who are enrolled for Fall 2019, regardless of the number of units in which the student is enrolled.
  - Please use the student's Dream Act ID to submit enrollment data for CADAA applicants.
- Submit verified GPAs for FAFSA and CADAA applicants by the September 3\*, 2019 application deadline.
  - GPAs for CADAA applicants can be submitted through the SSN GPA upload option using the student's Dream Act ID, or through the Non-SSN GPA upload process.
  - CCC re-established GPAs should be identified by choosing the re-established check box before uploading (only available in the SSN GPA upload option at this time). When uploading both regular and re-established GPAs, each requires a separate data file upload.

As announced in [GSA 2019-23](#), the number of paid Competitive Cal Grant awards has increased to **41,000** and the Commission is authorized to make up to 51,000 Competitive Cal Grant award offers.

*\* Due to September 2, 2019, falling on the Labor Day holiday, FAFSA applications submitted through September 3, 2019, will be considered as on-time. Likewise, 2019-20 Cal Grant GPA paper verification forms will be accepted if postmarked no later than September 3, 2019.*

**Need to contact us?**

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