

# SPECIAL ALERT





## **Update from the California Student Aid Commission**

October 15, 2019 GSA 2019-34

TO:

Financial Aid Administrators

FROM:

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Deputy Director, Program Administration & Services Division

SUBJECT: 2019-20 Cal Grant Awards for Students with Dependent Children

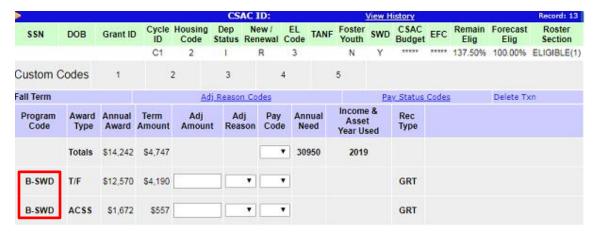
This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) provides an update to <u>GSA 2019-23</u> regarding the Cal Grant awards for students with dependent children per the 2019-20 State Budget.

#### **Cal Grant Access Awards for Students with Dependent Children**

- Cal Grant students with dependent children attending a University of California, California State University, or California Community College campus may be eligible for an access award of up to \$6,000 for qualifying Cal Grant A and B recipients and up to \$4,000 for eligible Cal Grant C recipients.
  - Dependent children must be under 18 years of age and receive more than 50 percent of their support from the student. The Commission will be implementing a self-certification process for the students.
  - Institutions are required to resolve any conflicting information regarding student eligibility prior to disbursing payments.

### **Current Grant Delivery System Functionality**

 The online display roster currently provides a program identifier (SWD) based on the students' self-reported information on their 2019 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act Application (CADAA) as shown below:



- Based on the current system functionality in WebGrants, institutions can report the following payments for their Cal Grant students with dependent children:
  - Tuition and fees for Cal Grant A and B recipients.
  - Cal Grant Access Awards up to \$1,672 for their Cal Grant B recipients which includes \$24 from the College Access Tax Credit Fund.
  - o Books and Supplies Awards up to \$1,094 for their Cal Grant C recipients.

#### **Upcoming Grant Delivery System Functionality**

- Based on preliminary business requirements, the system will display:
  - An Access Award field for Cal Grant A eligible students with an award amount of up to \$6,000 (similar to the current Cal Grant B access award.)
  - An increased Access Award amount for eligible Cal Grant B recipients of up to \$6,024 (the \$24 from the College Access Tax Credit Fund will be in addition of the maximum \$6,000.)
  - An increased Books and Supplies Award amount for eligible Cal Grant C recipients of up to \$4,000.
- These award amounts will need to be prorated to be consistent with the students' enrollment status in WebGrants: full-time, three-quarter-time, half-time.
- Institutions will have the ability to confirm changes in the students' eligibility through the Grant Record Change process (G-21).

Updated award amounts and WebGrants system changes are currently anticipated to be completed by early December 2019. Further details will be communicated as implementation progresses.

#### **Communication to Students**

• The Commission is currently sending the enclosed communication to potentially eligible students.

#### Need to contact us?

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

> E-mail: <a href="mailto:schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov">schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov</a>

Enclosure: Communication to Cal Grant Students with Dependent Children

Working together to effectively promote education beyond high school!