



SPECIAL ALERT

Update from the California Student Aid Commission

December 6, 2019

GSA 2019-38

TO: Financial Aid Administrators
High School Counselors

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

SUBJECT: **New WebGrants For Students - Informational Materials Available**

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) announces the availability of informational materials in preparation for the release of the Commission's New **WebGrants For Students (WGS)** portal. These materials include the following; and, are now accessible through the [CSAC website](#).

- Step-by-Step Guide to Using the New WGS (YouTube video)
- The New WGS informational brochure
- Slides from a New WGS PowerPoint presentation

The brochure and PowerPoint presentation provide more detail on the new look, features, and benefits of the system; and the video provides detailed instructions on registering/logging-in to the new system, navigation, and accessing information.

New Features and Benefits

- The new site will be accessible in most devices (cell phone, tablet, desktop, laptop), operating systems (including MAC), and web browsers – making information available anytime and anywhere.
- Site navigation will be user-friendly and intuitive, with on-screen tips and self-service capabilities so students and parents can be better served.
- Students will be able to access their grant information and perform other tasks to manage their award and contact information from the "Student Landing Page," which will include:
 - A personalized welcome and summary profile pane that can be expanded for more details and used by students to update their contact information
 - Clearly-marked sections (called "panels") for Cal Grant, Middle Class Scholarship, and Chafee
 - Convenient "info cards" containing summary information about Application Status, School of Attendance, Award Amount, and Remaining Eligibility (%) – with the ability to view details for each card

We encourage you to review these informational materials to become familiar with the new portal and its functionality so that you can be better prepared to assist your students.

The Commission is currently working on the final testing of the new WGS portal and will provide more information prior to the "Go Live."

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!