



SPECIAL ALERT

STATE OF
CALIFORNIA



Update from the California Student Aid Commission

February 27, 2020

GSA 2020-09

TO: Financial Aid Administrators

FROM: Catalina G. Mistler 
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SUBJECT: **Cal Grant Awards for Students with Dependent Children – Update**

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) provides an update on the Cal Grant Awards for Students With Dependent Children (SWD), as previously communicated in [GSA 2019-40](#).

Unconfirmed SWD Students

- To allow institutions to post eligible payments and reconcile Cal Grant funds in a timely manner, the Commission will be reprocessing all non-certified SWD students to their base Cal Grant award amount on **March 10, 2020**. This process will remove the current payment hold and the SWD system identifier.
- If you later determine that a student in this scenario meets the eligibility criteria for the increased access award, please submit a Grant Record Change (G-21 form) to the Commission to have the student's award recalculated. In the Reason section, please include *SWD status change: student is eligible for the increased award, please reprocess with ISIR number*.
- The Commission has sent numerous weekly email notifications to non-certified SWD students with the steps they need to take to certify their eligibility through their WebGrants for Students account; and will continue to do so until students are reprocessed to their base Cal Grant award.

School Change Functionality

- The school change process has been updated for SWD students. Students and schools can now make school changes and the SWD system identifier and corresponding award amounts should display accordingly.

Institutions are encouraged to review the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for additional guidance.

Need to contact us?

- Institutional Support phone number: (888) 294-0153
- E-mail: schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov

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