



# SPECIAL ALERT

STATE OF  
CALIFORNIA



## Update from the California Student Aid Commission

April 22, 2020

GSA 2020-15

TO: Financial Aid Administrators  
High School Counselors

FROM: Steve Caldwell   
Interim Deputy Director, Program Administration & Services Division

**SUBJECT: COVID-19 Impact on Training and Outreach Events-Update**

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) provides updated information from [GSA 2020-10](#), regarding COVID-19 and its impact on services, training, and outreach.

The Director of Public Health and the Governor of the State of California enacted a shelter-in-place order for all non-essential employees to preserve the health and safety of all Californians. The Commission's Training and Outreach Unit is following state guidelines for this order. We are currently transitioning training and outreach workshops and events to a virtual format to continue serving the needs of our partners at high schools, colleges, and advocacy groups.

While we are hopeful that these important workshops can take place in person by the fall, we will continue to develop a contingency plan. This includes transitioning to an all-virtual format if needed, adding additional online training materials, and creating supplemental training videos. As we move closer to summer, we will continue to evaluate the viability of all off-site training events in accordance to the on-going guidelines provided by the State of California.

Until the shelter-in-place order is lifted and it is safe to resume travel, we will be administering the following in a virtual format:

- Regional Trainings
- Statewide Financial Aid Workshops
- Cash 4 College workshops
- Ad Hoc events

The Commission's Training and Outreach Unit will continue to schedule events for the 2020 Annual Statewide Financial Aid Workshops, tentatively slated to begin in mid-August, in anticipation that the shelter-in-place order is rescinded, and it is once again safe to resume travel and gathering. We ask that host sites and potential host sites,

work with the Commission's Training and Outreach Unit to make the corresponding arrangements to host all scheduled workshops. In 2020, we anticipate holding 45 to 50 events across the state, including several new locations.

Additional information on the date and time of these trainings will be released as they are scheduled. We appreciate your patience as we all work together to continue to support California's students and each other.

**Need to contact us?**

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

***Working together to effectively promote education beyond high school!***