



SPECIAL ALERT

STATE OF CALIFORNIA



Update from the California Student Aid Commission

March 4, 2021

GSA 2021-07

TO: High School Counselors
FROM: Tae Kang *Tae Kang*
Deputy Director, Program Administration & Services Division

SUBJECT: **GPA Matching for Class of 2021**

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) reminds high schools to continue matching GPAs in WebGrants. High schools can continue matching GPAs until **September 30, 2021**.

It is important to note that unmatched GPAs will not be processed for Cal Grant consideration. Therefore, high schools should review the GPA reports in WebGrants to identify unmatched GPAs and proceed to manually match any GPA records that WebGrants has not automatically matched. Please refer to the [GPA Matching and Editing Reference Guide](#) and consider signing up for an [online webinar](#) for additional assistance.

Matching GPAs will also help your school increase your numbers on the [Race to Submit Dashboard](#). Winners of the Race to Submit Dashboard are determined based on the percentage (%) of matched GPAs for your senior class – shown as “*Completed with GPA*” on the dashboard. Example shown below - In this example the % of matched GPAs = 61.56%

■ Completed: with GPA 378	High School Senior Enrollment*: 614
---------------------------	-------------------------------------

The Commission has updated the dashboard with the certified October 2020 senior enrollment data from the California Department of Education. Winners of the Race to Submit dashboard will be based off the final matching numbers on **May 1, 2021**.

Things to Consider

In preparation for GPA uploads for the class of 2022 and to increase the chances that GPAs are matched to financial aid applications, high schools can begin collecting student demographic information for their junior class and updating their Student Information Systems. Although an optional step, this is considered a best practice to ensure students get timely consideration for Cal Grant awards. Schools may utilize their own form or may opt to use the [Demographic Verification Form](#) to collect updated demographic information for their students.

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!