



SPECIAL ALERT

STATE OF
CALIFORNIA



Update from the California Student Aid Commission

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GSA 2021-13

TO: High School Counselors
Financial Aid Administrators

FROM: Tae Kang *Tae Kang*
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SUBJECT: **Virtual Training Webinars Available**

The California Student Aid Commission (Commission) is pleased to announce the availability of new training webinars and virtual workshops. The Commission offers different trainings for high school staff, college financial aid professionals, Cash 4 College organizers and hosts, as well as students and parents.

Training for High school Staff

Register for webinars here: <https://www.csac.ca.gov/trainings>

Different webinar topics are offered seasonally, including:

- **GPA Reports and Matching:** 2021-22 GPA matching continues well after the March 2nd Cal Grant priority deadline. This webinar demonstrates how to link unmatched GPAs to the corresponding FAFSA/CA Dream Act Application.
- **Cal Grant 101:** Provides a broad overview of the various Cal Grant eligibility requirements and program types: A, B and C; including the Cal Grant B expansion for Foster Youth, and Students with Dependent Children.
- **Programs for Foster Youth:** This presentation provides an overview of the Cal Grant B for Foster Youth and the Chafee Grant Programs.

Annual Statewide Financial Aid Workshops: This workshop is free to high school counselors, student advocates, outreach specialists and other community education partners. Workshop topics include updates to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and California Dream Act Application (CADAA), as well as a broad overview of state financial aid programs. New virtual trainings will begin in August 2021! A listserv will be released once the online registration opens.

Training for College Financial Aid Administrators

Register for webinars here: <https://www.csac.ca.gov/college-trainings>

Different webinar topics are offered seasonally, including:

- **Education Level (EL) Verification:** This webinar explains how EL is tied to Cal Grant lifetime eligibility and provides methods to identify and verify students who are flagged for EL Verification.
- **Cal Grant Payment Codes and Scenarios:** Explains the different Cal Grant payment codes; and covers various disbursement scenarios.

- **Transfer Entitlement Program:** Discusses eligibility requirements of the Transfer Entitlement Cal Grant, including the awarding process, transfer scenarios, and how to identify and clear AB 840 verification flags in WebGrants.
- **Cal Grant 101:** Provides a broad overview of the various Cal Grant eligibility requirements and program types: A, B and C; including the Cal Grant B expansion for Foster Youth, and Students with Dependents.
- **Reports, Tools, & Customizing Your Roster:** Reviews the most common Cal Grant reports. Attendees will also learn how to customize rosters to display specific indicators, such as foster youth, E2 verification flags, CA Dream Act applicants, unpaid competitive awardees, and more.
- **Programs for Foster Youth:** Provides an overview of the Cal Grant B for Foster Youth and the Chafee Grant Programs; and shows how to report term-level vs. annual-level ineligibility on the roster, as well as how to reconcile payments.

Regional Training: This 3-part series is designed to assist financial aid administrators who need updated Cal Grant instruction, new program information and help to better navigate the WebGrants system. Follow this link to register: <https://www.csac.ca.gov/csac-regional-training>

Training for the General Public

Cash for College Workshops- for Students and Parents: Although the March 2nd Cal Grant priority deadline has passed, it is not too late for students to fill out a financial aid application. Other types of aid are still available! This is crucial information, given the decline in college enrollment as a result of COVID-19, so the Commission is hosting monthly English and bi-monthly English/Spanish bilingual statewide Cash for College workshops from April through August to assist students and families with completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act Application (CADAA), and Chafee Grant for Foster Youth applications.

Train the Trainer Workshops- for Cash for College Hosts: The Commission is partnering with the Community College Chancellor's Office to offer "Train- the-Trainer" workshops to increase the number of community-based organizations conducting Cash for College workshops across the state. These sessions are designed to give campus financial aid administrators and community partner hosts all the tools they need to host their own Cash for College workshops. Host sites may earn a stipend for hosting.

Please note: All training presentations will be updated to reflect the new WebGrants system screens after the next phase of implementation, currently projected for the end of April, 2021. For more information, please visit: <https://www.csac.ca.gov/grant-delivery-system-modernization-gdsm-project>

Need to contact us?

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