

July 19, 2021

FROM:

GSA 2021-26

STATE OF

CALIFORNIA

TO: Financial Aid Administrators

Tae Kang Tae Kang

Deputy Director, Program Administration & Services Division

SUBJECT: Update to SB 860

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) provides an update regarding interpretation of <u>California Education Code Section 69433.6.(b)(2)</u>, as amended by Senate Bill (SB) 860.

Section 69433.6. provides that a Cal Grant recipient who is determined to be ineligible for a renewal award due to exceeding the maximum household income or asset amount, is eligible to receive a renewal award in the following award year if the student meets all program eligibility requirements and has remaining renewal award eligibility.

Consistent with prior interpretation of this section of the Education Code, WebGrants will reconsider a student for Cal Grant if the recipient was determined to be ineligible during the preceding year due to exceeding the maximum household income or asset amount. However, if the student is ineligible for two consecutive years, the Cal Grant award will be automatically withdrawn.

In a recent review of Section 69433.6 by current CSAC Legal Counsel, they concluded that a <u>Cal Grant recipient</u> who was financially ineligible for Cal Grant for two or more consecutive years may be eligible to renew their Cal Grant in following years if the student meets all program eligibility requirements and has remaining award eligibility. For example:

- 2018-19: Student was awarded (400%) and paid (-100%) = 300%
- 2019-20: Student was financially ineligible (-100%) = 200%
- 2020-21: Student was financially ineligible (-100%) = 100%
- 2021-22: Student is financially eligible =100% remaining eligibility

In the example above, WebGrants will not automatically reconsider the student for a 2021-22 renewal. Effective with the 2020-21 award year, institutions may request reconsideration for Cal Grant renewal for students in this scenario. Please submit any requests for renewal reconsideration to <u>schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov</u>.

Need to contact us?

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

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