



SPECIAL ALERT

STATE OF
CALIFORNIA



Update from the California Student Aid Commission

July 20, 2021

GSA 2021-27

TO: Financial Aid Administrators

FROM: Tae Kang *Tae Kang*
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SUBJECT: **2021-22 Updates to Selective Service and Verification Requirements - REVISED**

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) provides an update regarding changes to the Cal Grant and Middle Class Scholarship administration for the 2021-22 award year in light of recent announcements from the US Department of Education (USDE).

U. S. Selective Service Registration

- The USDE recently [announced](#) that failing to register with the U.S. Selective Service will not impact a student's Title IV aid eligibility for the 2021-22 award year.
- Pursuant to [California Education Code Section 69400 and 69433.9.\(b\)](#), Cal Grant and Middle Class Scholarship offered awardees that meet the Selective Service criteria are required to register before they are eligible to receive the award.
- The Commission does not have the authority to revise or waive the Selective Service requirements outlined in the Education Code cited above, but will be engaging policymakers around this issue moving forward to seek alignment of state law with this new federal policy. Meanwhile, state law still requires that specified students meet the Selective Service criteria outlined in the Education Code cited above.

Verification of Income and Assets

- The USDE also [announced](#) temporary changes to the federal aid verification process for the 2021-22 award year. Verification of most Free Application for Federal Student Aid information has been waived for the 2021-22 award year.
- The Commission will follow the same V1 verification waiver for 2021-22 FAFSA and CADAA applicants.
- Institutions do not need to check off the "Verification Required" box on the CADAA for students selected for verification.
- Rules surrounding conflicting information have not changed and institutions must resolve any conflicting information per the 2017-23 Cal Grant Institutional Participation Agreement.

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