



SPECIAL ALERT

STATE OF
CALIFORNIA



Update from the California Student Aid Commission

April 24, 2023

GSA 2023-18

TO: County and District Superintendents
High School Counselors

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SUBJECT: 2023-24 Race to Submit Update – March 2nd Winners

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) provides an update on the 2023-24 Race to Submit campaign.

- The Commission has received the October 2022 certified census enrollment counts from the California Department of Education and the [Race to Submit Dashboard](#) rankings have been updated with this data.
- The Race to Submit Dashboard tracked submissions of Grade Point Averages (GPAs) and completion rates of FAFSA/CADAA applications for the class of 2023.
- As announced on [GSA 2022-76](#), the 2023-24 Race to Submit Campaign will display the top schools across 8 levels (based on enrollment), split into two leaderboard categories:
 - **Top 10:** schools with the highest percentage of completed FAFSA/CADAAAs that are matched to GPAs.
 - **Most Improved:** recognizing schools with the highest growth percentage of completed FAFSA/CADAAAs that are matched to GPAs from the prior year.

March 2nd: Race to Submit Winners

- Final numbers for the March 2nd competition have been determined.
- Winners represent the Top 3 high schools from each leaderboard category, across eight levels (based on enrollment). See the accompanying enclosure for the list of winners.
- The top 3 schools in each category will be recognized at the 2023 California Affordability Summit to be held in December 2023. Additional information will be provided later once details have been finalized.

June 30th Dashboard

- New this year, the Race to Submit will continue to track FAFSA/CADAA submissions through the end of the school year (June 30th). The Commission is currently working on this enhancement and will communicate more information about this new June 30th competition when the dashboard updates are live.
- Schools and school districts should continue working with any high school seniors that have not yet completed their 2023-24 financial aid application as required by [California Education Code Section 51225.7](#). Please remind students that it's not too late to apply for financial aid. Students who plan to attend a California Community College have until September 2nd to apply.
- For additional resources, please visit the [All In for FAFSA/CA Dream Act](#) webpage.

Important Reminders

- Schools should continue reviewing their WebGrants reports to resolve any financial aid application issues and match GPAs. The Commission continues to process students for high school entitlement awards on a weekly basis – students must have a valid financial aid application on file, including a corresponding matched GPA to be considered for a Cal Grant award.
- Schools can utilize the “Financial Aid Application Status Report” to track their student’s financial aid application status, GPA submission and Cal Grant awarding. Please see [GSA 2022-70](#) or watch a [short video](#) to learn more about this report.
- For additional assistance in GPA Matching and Editing, please refer to the [GPA Matching and Editing Reference Guide](#) or consider attending a [training webinar](#).

Need to contact us?

- School Support phone number: (888) 294-0153
- E-mail: schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov

Enclosure: 2023-24 March 2 Race to Submit Winners

Working together to effectively promote education beyond high school!