#### **Eligibility**

#### 1. How is a "dependent child" defined?

According to Article 9. Awards for Students with Dependent Children, section 69465, in Chapter 1.7 of Part 42 of Division 5 of Title 3 of the Education Code, a "dependent child" or "dependent children" means a child or children, as applicable, under 18 years of age whose parent or legal guardian is the student and if the child or all the children collectively receive more than 50 percent of their support from the student.

A parent is defined as someone who has a biological and/or legally adopted child.

A legal guardian is defined as someone other than the child's biological parent who accepts legal responsibility for the child.

# 2. A student had a child during the 2023-24 academic year, are they eligible for the SWD increase?

No, to qualify for the SWD award in the 2023-24 academic year, the student must have a qualifying dependent child born prior to July 1, 2023. A child born during the 2023-24 academic year will count toward 2024-25 SWD eligibility.

### 3. Will students who complete the CA Dream Act Application also be considered for SWD?

Yes, students who complete the CA Dream Act Application will also be considered for SWD.

# 4. Which Cal ISIR/ISIR transaction will be used to determine initial eligibility?

The most recent, complete Cal ISIR/ISIR (with EFC) will be used to determine initial eligibility.

# 5. Will CSAC reconsider a student for SWD if there are changes that now make the student potentially eligible for SWD?

Yes, if the student has a Cal Grant award, CSAC will reconsider the student for SWD. These changes must be indicated on the FAFSA or CA Dream Act

Application so that the student can be reprocessed using the latest ISIR/Cal ISIR. Once those changes are made, an institution must submit a grant record change (G-21) indicating in the 'REASON' section to reconsider the student using the ISIR that reflects the changes for the student. Also, include whether the school has determined eligibility, i.e., 'the student is eligible for SWD'. Record change requests will be processed bi-weekly, at which time, institutions will be able to process SWD payments.

Students also have the option to submit a Confirmation of Eligibility for Students with Dependents (G-60) form to CSAC to have SWD reinstated. This does not process the student for payment. Reinstatement requests will be processed bi-weekly, at which time, institutions will be able to process SWD payments.

# 6. Can SWD be awarded to students who have the <u>same</u> dependent child/children under the age of 18?

Yes, if both students meet the criteria for Cal Grant eligibility, they will be eligible for the SWD grant if they both have enough unmet need.

#### 7. Does SWD eligibility rollover?

No, SWD eligibility is based on the corresponding Cal Grant award year.

# 8. Once certified, does the SWD certification rollover into the next academic year?

No, the certification is only valid for the current academic year. The student will have to re-certify every year.

### 9. How do we pay SWD awards for students who are not meeting SAP?

Institutions should refer to their SAP policies.

### 10. Which schools are eligible to receive SWD award?

Students attending University of California, California State University, California Community College, or Private Non-Profit institution are eligible.

#### Reporting

#### 1. What is to be reported for students without unmet or limited need?

An adjusted amount based on the student's unmet need should be reported.

# 2. Can institutions report the SWD certified status via Grant Roster Batch Upload?

Institutions **will not** be able to certify the SWD certified status using the Grant Roster Batch Upload process.

### 3. Are California Community Colleges able to pay Cal Grant A access awards?

Yes, if a student is SWD eligible, California Community Colleges can pay Cal Grant A access awards.

# 4. Is the SWD code removed if a student certifies as not having dependent children under the age of 18?

Yes, once a student or institution has certified the student as NOT having dependent children, the system will revert to the base award amounts and remove the SWD system identifier.

# 5. Can institutions view which students have certified "No" to having children under the age of 18, either through a report or a customized roster?

No, there is no mechanism in WebGrants to identify students who have certified 'No' to the SWD question.

#### 6. How do institutions handle conflicting information?

Institutions are required to resolve any conflicting information prior to distributing funds, including SWD increased access portion. If the student is no longer eligible for SWD after having initially been certified by the student/institution, institutions can now use the Grant Application-MG21 screen in WebGrants to have the SWD status flag changed.

# 7. How can institutions customize their roster to view which students have (or have NOT) certified their SWD eligibility?

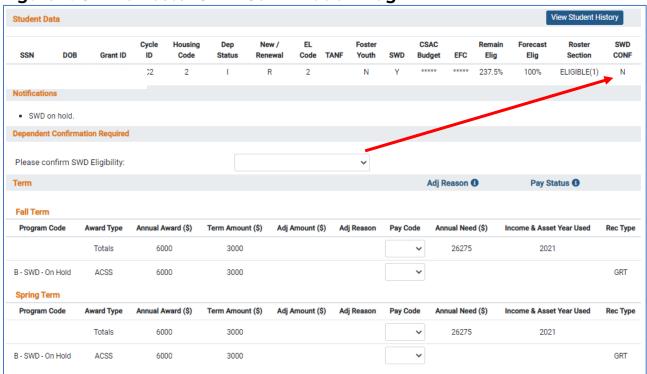
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The "Customize Roster" screen in WebGrants (WebGrants > Roster/Reconciliation > Customize Roster) includes a flag which provides the status of the student's SWD certification. A value of 'Y' indicates that the SWD eligibility has been confirmed and the payment hold has been released. A value of 'N' indicates that the certification is still pending, and the award is still on hold (see Figure 2). Rosters can now be customized in WebGrants based on this flag to allow users to view students who have (or have NOT) confirmed their SWD status (see Figure 3 and Figure 4).

Figure 1: 2023-2024 SWD Award Amounts by Enrollment Status

Enrollment	Eligibility Used	SWD Award
Status		Amount (\$6,000)
FT – Semester	50%	\$3,000
FT – Quarter	33.33%	\$2,000
TT – Semester	37.50%	\$2,250
TT – Quarter	25%	\$1,500
HT – Semester	25%	\$1,500
HT – Quarter	16.67%	\$1,000

Figure 2: Online Roster SWD Confirmation Flag



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#### Figure 3: Customize Roster - Add New Data Element

From the "Data Elements Available" field, select "SWD CONF", then select the "Add" button. Then once added, you may move to the next section of the Customize Roster Screen or save Roster Format on the bottom.

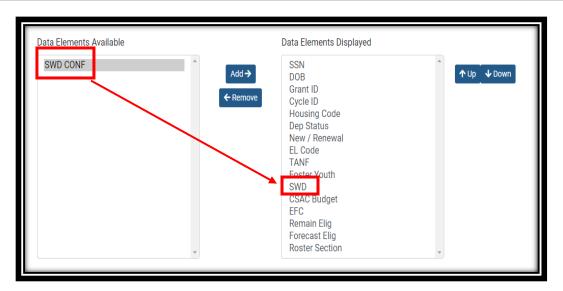
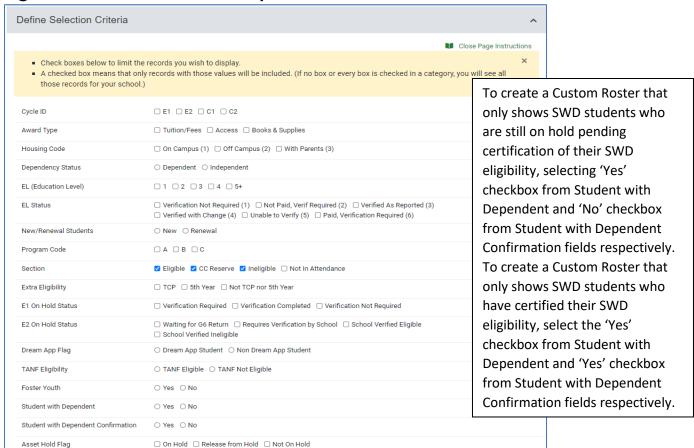


Figure 4: Customize Roster - Updated Selection Criteria



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