The ABCs of Cal Grant

CCCSFAAA Conference
December 10 to 12, 2010

Cal Grant Program Manual
Chapter 3
Agenda

- Resources
- Cal Grant Application
- General Cal Grant Eligibility
- Cal Grant Programs
- Course Requirements
- Award Selection
Resources

• Cal Grant Programs Manual
  – On-line under “Schools” tab, then “Colleges”
• Cal Grant Mini Training Manual
• By E-mail: schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov
• By Phone (888) 294-0153
• CSAC Website: www.csac.ca.gov
Cal Grant Application

• FAFSA by the deadline – March 2
• School Certified GPA by the deadline
• Second award selection for CC students – Send FAFSA and GPA by September 2
What is on-time?

- FAFSA – Submitted on-line by March 2
- GPA submitted or postmarked by March 2
- CC students get a second Sept. 2 deadline
General Cal Grant Eligibility Requirements

- U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen
- Meet Selective Service requirements
- Not owe state or federal grant repayment
- Not in default on a student loan
- Not have earned a BA/BS degree
- Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress
- Not incarcerated
- Be enrolled at least half-time
- Must have a Social Security number
California Residency Requirements

• Public Institutions
  – Public institutions will use the residency dates and regulations approved by their governing boards
Citizenship Requirements

• An eligible non-citizen is:
  
  – a permanent U.S. resident who has an Alien Registration Receipt Card (I-551),
  
  – a conditional permanent resident (I-551C), or
  
  – a noncitizen with a Departure record (I-94)* from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services of the Department of Homeland Security designated as:

*The I-94 confirms paroled for a minimum of one year and status not expired
Attending an Eligible School

• School of attendance must be located in CA
• School must have a valid Institutional Participation Agreement (IPA) with the Commission
• If school loses eligibility, CSAC will notify the students
Cal Grant Programs

Cal Grant A
• Entitlement
• Competitive
• Transfer Entitlement

Cal Grant B
• Entitlement
• Competitive
• Transfer Entitlement

The number of Entitlement award offers is not limited. Competitive awards offers are limited based on the approval of the final state budget.

Cal Grant C
7,761 total awards

Competitive breakdown
11,250  March 2nd
11,250  Sept. 2nd
22,500  total awards
Cal Grant A

• Low to middle income students
  – Below income and asset ceilings
  – Have financial need

• GPA minimum (3.00 H.S. or 2.40 College)

• AA and BA programs only

• Maximum annual award amounts
  – Can be used for tuition and fees only
  – Community Colleges – Not paid, but held in reserve
  – CSU - $4,430 per year*   *Mid-year increase pending
  – UC - $10,302 per year
  – Independent - $9,708 per year
Course Requirements

- **Cal Grant A**

- A student must be enrolled in an instructional program of not less than two academic years.

- This means a program of study that:
  
  - results in the award of an associate or bachelors degree requiring at least 48 semester units or the equivalent,
  
  Or,

  - results in eligibility for transfer from a community college to a bachelors degree granting program.
Cal Grant B

- Very low income students
- Below income and asset ceilings
  - Must have at least $700 in financial need
- AA, BA/BS and Certificate programs
- Can be used for any school expenses including tuition and fees
- Requires minimum 2.00 GPA
Cal Grant B payment

• CC pays $1,551 per year
• Other schools pays $1,551 first year if student is first time freshman
• Then, Cal B pays tuition & fee component plus $1,551 for the $2^{nd}$, $3^{rd}$ and $4^{th}$ years
Course Requirements

• Cal Grant B
• Programs must be one academic year or longer
• The program must
  – result in the award of a certificate, an associate or a bachelors degree
  – require at least 24 semester units or the equivalent, or
  – a program of study that results in eligibility for transfer from a community college to a bachelors degree program.
Cal Grant C

- Low to middle income students
- Can be used for tuition & fees and books & supplies
- AA and Certificate programs
- Maximum annual award amounts
  - Tuition and Fees - $2,592
    - At private vocational schools
  - Books and Supplies - $576
    - At private vocational schools and
    - Community colleges
Course Requirements

• **Cal Grant C**

• The student must be accepted into:
  – a technical/vocational course of study of four months or longer

• Recipients must be enrolled in and pursuing an eligible technical/vocational program.
Award Selection

Cal Grant Program Manual Chapter 5
High School Entitlement Awards (E1)

- Recent high school graduates or equivalent (GED, CHSPE)
  - 2011-2012 award year: graduated on or after July 1, 2009
- High school GPA required
- Passes minimum GPA, Common, Program and Financial Edits
- Unlimited number of awards
Transfer Entitlement Awards (E2)

- Transfer from a CCC to a bachelors degree granting school during academic year
- Under age 28 by the end of the year for which they are applying
- Minimum GPA of 2.40
  - Earned at California Community College
  - Based on at least 24 semester units
- Enrolled in a bachelors degree program at a school that offers bachelors degrees
Competitive Awards (C1, C2)

- Scores are based on disadvantaged indicators
  - A minimum score is set for each deadline
  - Cutoff scores
    - Mar 2 – 163 (2010-11)
    - Sept 2 – 165 (2010-11)
  - 22,500 potential awards

- Applicants not meeting the Entitlement criteria will be considered
Award Selections
Awarding Sequence

Cal Grant Program Manual
Chapter 5
How are Cal Grants Selected?

• Step 1: Entitlement or Competitive?
• Step 2: Validation
• Step 3: Match GPA/ Test Scores
• Step 4: Non-financial Edits
• Step 5: Program Edits
• Step 6: Scoring and Selection
Step 1: Entitlement or Competitive?

• Is it an Entitlement Application?
  – Based on High School Grad Date taken from the GPA Verification

• Is it a Transfer Entitlement?
  – High School Grad Date, if known
  – Age Proxy
  – Bachelors Degree Granting Institution?
  – CC Enrollment file match
Step 1: Entitlement or Competitive?

- All other applicants are considered for Competitive awards (C1, C2)
  - 22,500 awards are offered
    - 11,250 March 2nd deadline (all schools)
    - 11,250 Sept 2nd deadline (community colleges)
  - Applicants are scored based on disadvantaged indicators
Step 2: Validation

• The Commission will match the new FAFSA record with any existing awards using the Social Security number.

• New records are added if no conflicting record is on file with CSAC.

• Records with mismatched data are held in a pending status for manual review.
Step 3: GPA – Test Scores

- Does the ISIR match with a GPA?
- If no GPA, does it match with a test score?

| 2011-12 Minimum Required Test Scores |
|----------------|----------------|
|                | CG B | CG A |
| GPA            | 2.00 | 3.00 |
| SAT Verbal & Math | 854  | 964  |
| SAT (new)      | 1268 | 1440 |
| ACT            | 16   | 26   |
| GED            | 45   | 63   |

(passing score)

- ISIR records that cannot be matched to a GPA or a test score are set aside
  - No Cal Grant A or B consideration
  - Possible Cal Grant C consideration
Step 4: Non-Financial Edits

• Common Edits (for all applicants)
  – California residency
  – California residency at time of HS graduation (Transfer Entitlement applicants only)
  – Eligible California School listed
  – No bachelor’s degree received
  – Undergraduate student
  – Remaining Cal Grant eligibility
Step 4: Non-Financial Edits

• Program Edits
  – Eligible school (for specific program)
  – GPA
    • 2.00 for Cal Grant B
    • 3.00 HS or 2.40 College (Competitive only) for Cal Grant A
    • 2.40 for Transfer Entitlement A & B
  – Degree objective (for Cal Grant C)
  – Remaining eligibility by program
Step 5: Financial Edits

- Income Ceilings
- Asset Ceilings
- Financial Need/Minimum Need
Income Ceilings

Two different categories of Income and Asset ceilings used based on whether:

• The student is a dependent student, or an independent student with dependents other than a spouse

Or if:

• The student is an independent student without dependents other than a spouse.
Who’s Income?

For dependent students - only parents income is used

For independent students - only student’s (and spouse’s) income is used.

Formula:

\[
\text{Adjusted Gross Income} + \text{Total untaxed income and benefits} - \text{Total additional financial information}
\]

TOTAL INCOME
Which Income?

- For dependent students, only parent’s income is compared against the ceiling.
- For independent students, only the student’s income is checked.
# 2011-12 Income Ceilings

By program for dependent students and independent students with dependents other than a spouse. Based on family size.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Size</th>
<th>CG A &amp; C</th>
<th>CG B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Six or more</td>
<td>$90,300</td>
<td>$49,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Five</td>
<td>$83,800</td>
<td>$46,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Four</td>
<td>$78,100</td>
<td>$41,100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three</td>
<td>$71,900</td>
<td>$36,900</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two</td>
<td>$70,200</td>
<td>$32,800</td>
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</table>
2011-12 Income Ceilings

Income ceilings for independent students without dependents other than a spouse:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>CG A &amp; C</th>
<th>CG B</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single, no deps</td>
<td>$28,600</td>
<td>$28,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
<td>$32,800</td>
<td>$32,800</td>
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</table>
2011-12 Asset Ceilings

- Assets will be taken from FAFSA responses which should not include home equity or retirement assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>CG A &amp; C</th>
<th>CGB</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dependent</td>
<td>$60,500</td>
<td>$60,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>$28,800</td>
<td>$28,600</td>
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</table>
Step 6: Entitlement Selection

- On-time applicants meeting the criteria will be offered an award
- Placed in Cal Grant A or B based on their GPA and income
- Eligible for both?
  - Awarded program most beneficial at listed school
  - Students may switch award type with consent from their school FAO prior to initial payment
- Proof of eligibility may take place well after other Entitlement awards are offered.
Step 6: Competitive Scoring and Selection

• Competitive applicants are scored based on disadvantaged indicators and GPA.

• Only those scoring highest receive an award.

• Placed in Cal Grant A or B based on their GPA and income.

• Eligible for both?
  – Awarded program most beneficial at listed school
  – Students may switch award type with consent from their school FAO prior to payment during first year
A & B Competitive Scoring

• Grade Point Average 70
• Parents’ Educational Level 18
• Student/Parent Household Marital Status 18
• Family Income/Household size 76
• Access Equalizer* 18
• TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS 200

* Includes factors such as how long the student has been out of high school, whether or not the high school was considered “disadvantaged,” etc.
A & B Competitive Scoring

COMPETITIVE CAL GRANT A AND B PROGRAM
SCORING SUMMARY FOR 2008-09

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELEMENTS</th>
<th>MAXIMUM POINTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARENT EDUCATIONAL LEVEL (Mother and Father)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCESS EQUALIZER</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STUDENT OR PARENT HOUSEHOLD STATUS</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAMILY INCOME and HOUSEHOLD SIZE</td>
<td>10</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GPA</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
<th>FAFSA VALUE</th>
<th>PARENTS' EDUCATION</th>
<th>SCORE per PARENT</th>
<th>DEPENDENT STUDENT PARENT HOUSEHOLD</th>
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<tr>
<td>4.00 - 4.00</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Married</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.50 - 3.99</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Unmarried</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.00 - 3.49</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Separated / Divorced</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.50 - 2.99</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Widowed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Award Detail Screen

OR

INDEPENDENT STUDENT: IF STUDENT IS AN ORPHAN OR AWARD OF THE COURT
Married: 0
Single, no dependents: 0
Single, with dependents: 10

INDEPENDENT STUDENT: IF STUDENT IS AN ORPHAN OR AWARD OF THE COURT
Married: 0
Single, no dependents: 0
Single, with dependents: 10

Note: Single, no dependents can receive a maximum of 72 points on income and family size. To ensure that these students can earn the maximum 72 points, they receive 1 additional point per point for household size.
Step 6: Cal C Scoring and Selection

- Cal C applicants are scored based on responses on the Cal C Supplement and GPA (if submitted)
- Once submitted, no changes are allowed on Supplement
- Only those scoring highest receive award
- Cutoff for 2010-11 was 29 (varies each year depending upon applicant pool)
Cal Grant C Competitive Scoring

• Work History 25
• Educational History 25
• Grade Point Average 15

• TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS 65
WebGrants

You need Access
http://webgrants.csac.ca.gov

California Student Aid Commission
WebGrants System

Welcome!

Please sign in
Please enter your user name, password.

Authorized Use Only

User Name [ ]
Password [ ]

Sign in

Need to create an account?

For a School Administrator Account:
Please call 1-916-526-8989 or 1-888-294-0148
or E-mail: CSAC Support

For a User Account:
Contact your School Administrator

For Browser Versions or Monitor Screen Area Settings:
Help With Your Account

Apple/Mac Computers:
Results may be unpredictable

UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS TO THIS STATE OF CALIFORNIA COMPUTER SYSTEM AND SOFTWARE IS PROHIBITED BY CALIFORNIA PENAL CODE 502 AND PUBLIC LAW 99-474, TITLE 18, UNITED STATES CODE.

This system is to be accessed by authorized users only. If you, any individual or any automated program, use this computer system without authority or in excess of your authority, you are subject to disciplinary action. The Commission may monitor any activity or communication on the system and retrieve any information stored within the system. By accessing and using this computer, you are consenting to such monitoring and information retrieval for law enforcement and other purposes.
Welcome! SA9BKD
To the WebGrants Menu

The last time you logged on to this system was: 12/08/2010 01:09:52 pm
Number of failed attempts since your last login: 1

Please contact your School's System Administrator if you need access to additional screens.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WebGrants Menu</th>
<th>Account Information</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enrollment</td>
<td>View Your Account Details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GPA</td>
<td>Help With Your Account</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Info</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>School Info</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roster/Reconciliation</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Data Transfer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chafee Grant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Online Roster for SACRAMENTO CITY COLLEGE - 00123300 / Acad Year 2010 - 2011

Updated On 12/08/2010

Be sure to save all entries before exiting the Roster or changes will be lost.

Search Roster: Last Name

Total number of records: 2647 Total number of pages: 530

Verify ELs as reported

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CSAC ID:</th>
<th>View History</th>
<th>Record: 11</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SSN</td>
<td>DOB</td>
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<tr>
<td>01/20/92</td>
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</table>

Custom Codes 1 2 3 4 5

High School Grad. Date Verification Status: Verified by STDT Verify As: Yes - Graduated on 06/2010 New Grad Date: Jan 2010

Education Level (EL) Verification Request By: Student High School College

Reported EL 1 Verified EL 1 -- Verification Not Required

Fall Term

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award Type</th>
<th>Annual Award</th>
<th>Term Amount</th>
<th>Adj Amount</th>
<th>Adj Reason</th>
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<tr>
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<td>$775</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10860</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
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<td>$1,551</td>
<td>$775</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>GRT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Student Notifications

• Most notifications are via e-mail
  – WebGrants for Students website
    • User friendly website
    • Students view their status, update file information, access program related forms and materials.
  • Webgrants4students.org
Mark these as “safe.”

- To make sure e-mail from the Student Aid Commission does not go into the “trash”
  - calgrantoffice@csac.ca.gov
  - studentsupport@csac.ca.gov

- Mark these addresses as Safe
Award Notification

- Electronic California Aid Report (ECAR)
  - E-mailed as soon as student eligibility is determined
  - May be sent as early as January
The Electronic California Aid Report (ECAR) provides the type of grant and estimated amount for up to three CA schools listed on FAFSA. Notice the statement in the first paragraph...

"The final amount of your financial aid package, including the Cal Grant, will be determined by your school."

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**Cal Grant Program Award Notification**

California Aid Report (CAR)

Congratulations! The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) has offered you an estimated Entitlement Cal Grant award. This CAR contains important information about your Cal Grant. Please note that the information provided below is based on the information you provided on your FAFSA and is considered an estimated award. Please be aware that this award offer may be withdrawn or reduced pending approval of the final state budget.

- Date: 02/15/08
- Grant ID Number: E08
- CSAC ID Number: 1003
- Academic Year: 2008-09

**Award Information**

School Choice, as listed on your FAFSA:  
EL CAMINO COLLEGE  
Cal Grant A: SEE CODE #1A  
Cal Grant B: $1,551

Award amounts listed above designate the type and estimated amount of your Cal Grant award for the first three qualifying schools that you listed on your FAFSA and indicate the amount you may receive for one academic year of full-time attendance. (See codes on back of CAR.)

How to activate your Cal Grant award:

1. Log on to [https://mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov](https://mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov) and create your WebGrants for Students account. You can use this site to view the status of your Cal Grant, make changes to your information and request a leave of absence.

2. If the first school listed above is not the school you plan to attend, log on to your WebGrants for Students account and change your school of attendance.
QUESTIONS?