Cal Grant Regional Training

CSAC Updates

CALIFORNIA
STUDENT AID
COMMISSION

CSAC Updates & New Programs

- Cal Grant Reform
- The Better FAFSA and CADAA Enhancements
- Chafee EFT Implementation
- WebGrants Grant Application MG-21 screen
- IPA 2023-27
- Middle Class Scholarship 2.0

New Programs that will be discussed in CSAC Program Overview

- Golden State Teacher Grant Program
- Golden State Education and Training Grant Program
- Learning-Aligned Employment Program

2022-23 Competitive Cal Grant Awards

SPECIAL ALERT

Update from the California Student Aid Commission

May 08, 2023 **GSA 2023-21**

TO: Financial Aid Administrators

FROM: Tae Kang
Deputy Director, Program Administration & Services Division

SUBJECT: **2022-23 Competitive Cal Grant Awards – 100% Paid Rate**

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) provides an update on the Competitive Cal Grant A and B awards. As announced in GSA 2023-17, the Commission was very close to reaching a 100% paid rate, and as of May 8, 2023, all 13,000 authorized 2022-23 competitive awards have been paid.

Institutions must refrain from posting payments to new 2022-23 competitive awardees unless a prior payment transaction already exists for the student in the current year. This includes students who currently have other adjustment reason codes posted such as Leave of Absence (LA) or Less than Half-Time Enrollment (LH). These transactions can remain as LA or LH, but schools must refrain from posting payments.

Any unauthorized payments to new 2022-23 competitive students posted from this point forward, will be backed out by the Commission and the Financial Aid Office will be notified accordingly.

Thank you for your support and efforts to maximize the utilization of all available Competitive Cal Grant awards for the 2022-23 academic year.

Need to contact us?

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

Working together to effectively promote education beyond high school!

- As of May 8, 2023, all 13,000 2022-23 Competitive Cal Grant awards have been paid
- Earliest in the academic year that CSAC has reached 100%
- Institutions must refrain from posting payments to new 2022-23 competitive awardees unless a prior payment transaction already exists for the student in the current year.

For more information, please see GSA 2023-21

Cal Grant
Reform

Proposed Cal Grant Program Changes

- Would make an additional 150,000 students eligible for aid starting in 2024-25. This would include about 109,000 community college students who would become newly eligible for awards to cover nontuition expenses like food and housing

- A GPA requirement would no longer be required for community college students

- Cal Grant would consist of just two awards: One for community college students and one for four-year students

- 2022-23 budget would include $500,000 for CSAC to begin implementing the Cal Grant changes

NOTE: Changes will only happen if there is enough revenue in 2024-25 to support the changes

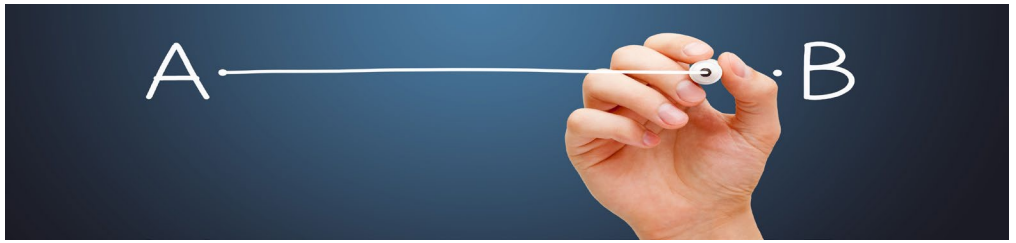
For more information, please see GSA 2022-46

Cal Grant Reform – Fewer Programs

Current Cal Grant (8)

- High School Entitlement CG A
- High School Entitlement CG B
- CC Entitlement CG A
- CC Entitlement CG B
- Transfer Entitlement CG A
- Transfer Entitlement CG B
- Competitive CG A
- Competitive CG B

New Cal Grant (2)



- Cal Grant 2 for Community Colleges
- Cal Grant 4 for four-year colleges and universities

Cal Grant Reform – Priority deadlines

Current Cal Grant

- March 2nd Priority deadline
  - HS Entitlement
  - Transfer Entitlement
  - Competitive
- September 2nd Priority deadline
  - CC Entitlement

New Cal Grant

- March 2nd Priority deadline
  - Cal Grant 4
- September 2nd Priority deadline
  - Cal Grant 2

Cal Grant Reform – Removing Barriers

Current Cal Grant

1. Different GPA requirements
2. Time out of high school
3. Transfer Restrictions
4. Award Portability
5. CC Reserve
6. Competitive Awards

New Cal Grant

Grade Point Average

- Cal Grant 2 – None
- Cal Grant 4 – 2.00

Cal Grant Reform – Financial Eligibility

Current Cal Grant

- Income ceilings for A & B
  - Dependent & Independent
- Asset ceilings for A & B
  - Dependent & Independent
- Minimum financial need

New Cal Grant

Alignment to the new federal aid methodology by:

- Proportion of Federal Poverty Line by household type
- Align to the new minimum Pell eligibility cut-offs
- Minimum financial need using the Student Aid Index

The Better FAFSA and CADAA Enhancements for 2024-25 Applications

What to expect for the 2024-25 FAFSA:

- Is expected to be released December 2023
- 108 questions reduced to 36 questions
- Will be available in the 11 most common languages spoken in the U.S.
- Will allow up to 20 colleges to be listed on the form, up from 10
- Gender and Race questions have been removed
- The FSA ID will be required, with a mechanism for parents who do not have a Social Security Number

What to expect for the 2024-25 CADAA:

- Is expected to be released December 2023, if not earlier
- Will not be reduced to 36 questions because application does not have access to automatically transfer data from the IRS
- Enhancements based on the recommendations from CADAA Workgroup

- Chafee EFT went live on May 2, 2023
- Institutions are reminded to update their payment policy to include how Chafee EFT funds will be handled internally

CSAC CALIFORNIA STUDENT AID COMMISSION

SPECIAL ALERT

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Update from the California Student Aid Commission

May 4, 2023 **GSA 2023-20**

TO: Financial Aid Administrators
Chafee Program Coordinators

FROM: Tae Kang *Tae Kang*
Deputy Director, Program Administration & Services Division

SUBJECT: **California Chafee Grant for Foster Youth – EFT Now Live**

The California Student Aid Commission (Commission) is pleased to announce the launch of Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) for the California Chafee Grant for Foster Youth (Chafee), as outlined in GSA 2023-03.

Official Launch Date

Chafee EFT went live on Tuesday, May 2, 2023. Any payment requests after this date will be delivered electronically to the institutions that opted-in to receive Chafee EFT.

As a reminder, institutions should update their cash management policy to include how Chafee EFT funds will be handled internally since the institutional office that receives Chafee funds may change.

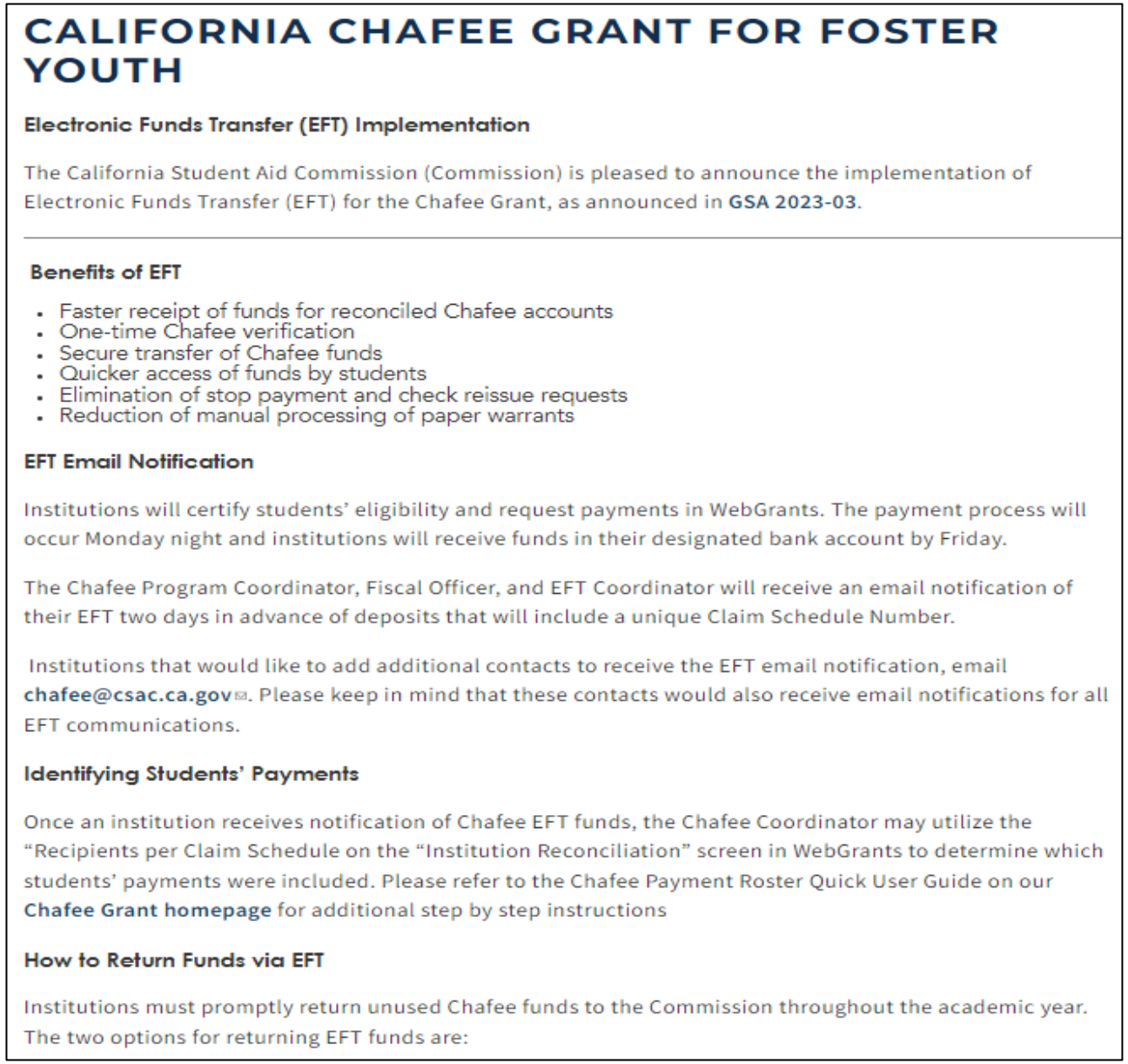
Institutions who opted-out of Chafee EFT will continue to receive paper warrants by mail.

Update EFT Preference

Institutions who are not yet participating in Chafee EFT may opt-in at any time by emailing chafee@csac.ca.gov.

Updated Chafee Website

An updated Chafee Coordinator's Guide, Payment Roster User Guide, and Institution FAQ are available on the Chafee website: www.csac.ca.gov/colleges/chafee



CALIFORNIA CHAFEE GRANT FOR FOSTER YOUTH

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) Implementation

The California Student Aid Commission (Commission) is pleased to announce the implementation of Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) for the Chafee Grant, as announced in **GSA 2023-03**.

Benefits of EFT

- Faster receipt of funds for reconciled Chafee accounts
- One-time Chafee verification
- Secure transfer of Chafee funds
- Quicker access of funds by students
- Elimination of stop payment and check reissue requests
- Reduction of manual processing of paper warrants

EFT Email Notification

Institutions will certify students' eligibility and request payments in WebGrants. The payment process will occur Monday night and institutions will receive funds in their designated bank account by Friday.

The Chafee Program Coordinator, Fiscal Officer, and EFT Coordinator will receive an email notification of their EFT two days in advance of deposits that will include a unique Claim Schedule Number.

Institutions that would like to add additional contacts to receive the EFT email notification, email **chafee@csac.ca.gov**. Please keep in mind that these contacts would also receive email notifications for all EFT communications.

Identifying Students' Payments

Once an institution receives notification of Chafee EFT funds, the Chafee Coordinator may utilize the "Recipients per Claim Schedule on the "Institution Reconciliation" screen in WebGrants to determine which students' payments were included. Please refer to the Chafee Payment Roster Quick User Guide on our **Chafee Grant homepage** for additional step by step instructions

How to Return Funds via EFT

Institutions must promptly return unused Chafee funds to the Commission throughout the academic year. The two options for returning EFT funds are:

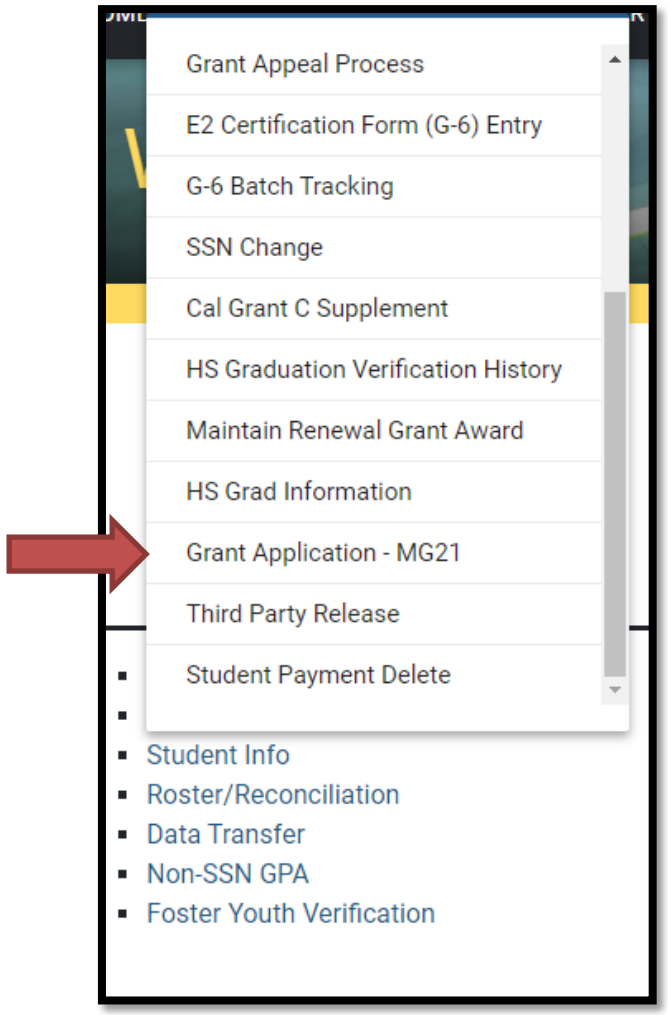
New Chafee EFT Webpage

- Identifying Students' Payments using the *Institution Reconciliation* screen in WebGrants
- How to Return Funds via EFT
- Enroll in EFT

Corrections to Award or Withdraw Students

Submit Grant Application MG21 in WebGrants:

- Domestic Partnership Status
- Parent and Student State of Residence
- Family Size
- Number in College
- Total Income
- Net Worth
- Total Family Contribution (EFC)
- High School Graduation Date
- NEW: Students with Dependents Eligibility



For more information, please see GSA 2023-09

Cal Grant Institutional Participation Agreement

•The IPA is a binding contract between the college and the Commission.

•The new 4-year Cal Grant IPA: 2023-27. All documents must be submitted by **May 31, 2023.**

•The IPA is used for initial participation, renewal or updates.

•Eligible institutions with a valid Cal Grant IPA are placed on the CSAC Eligible Schools List.

CSAC CALIFORNIA STUDENT AID COMMISSION

2023-27 CAL GRANT PROGRAM
INSTITUTIONAL PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

Name of Institution: _____

Address of Institution: _____

Office of Postsecondary Education Identification (OPE ID) Number: _____

Provide staff's name, email, and mailing addresses (if different from above) in the spaces below:

President/Chief Executive Officer/Chancellor:

Financial Aid Director:

Cal Grant Coordinator:

Chief Financial Officer:

Please return via email to: csacipa@csac.ca.gov

For assistance please contact:
Institution Support
1-888-294-0153 or
csacipa@csac.ca.gov

Execution of this Agreement is mandatory for participation in the California Student Aid Commission's Cal Grant Program.

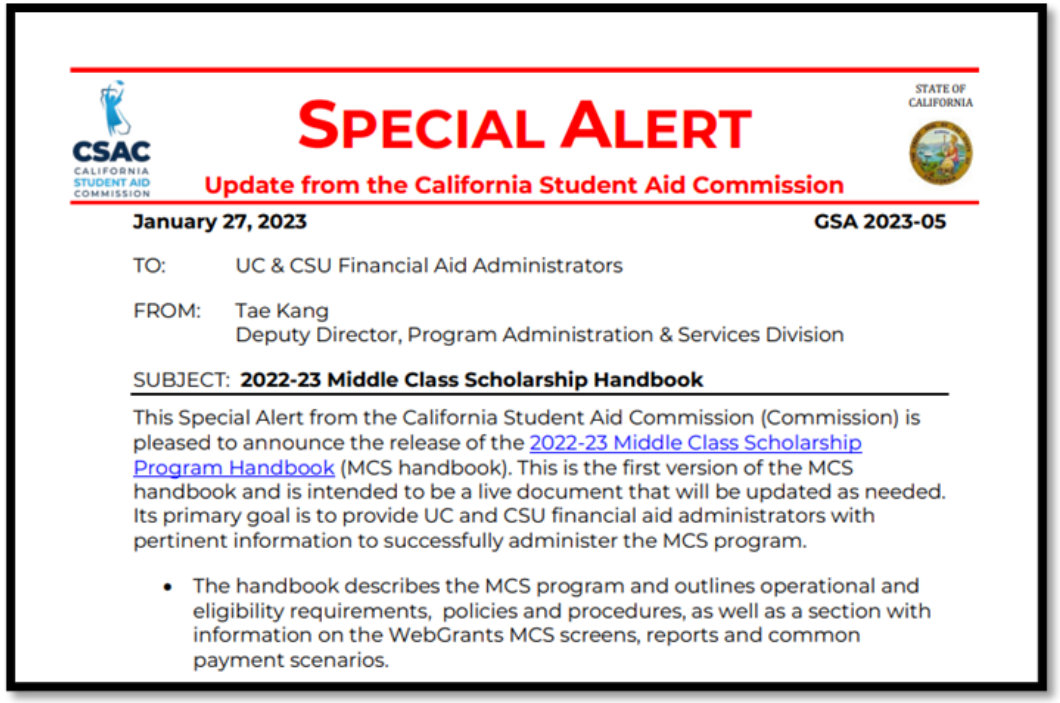
2023-27 Cal Grant Program Institutional Participation Agreement 1

Please direct general questions about required documents to csacipa@csac.ca.gov

MCS 2.0

2022-23

- Awards are determined based on COA and the sum of other aid, $7,898, and 33% of parents' contribution from adjusted available income only for dependent students with household income > $100,000
- More students are eligible for this award
- More details will be covered during Session C
- MCS Handbook is now available!



CSAC CALIFORNIA STUDENT AID COMMISSION

SPECIAL ALERT

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Update from the California Student Aid Commission

January 27, 2023 **GSA 2023-05**

TO: UC & CSU Financial Aid Administrators

FROM: Tae Kang
Deputy Director, Program Administration & Services Division

SUBJECT: **2022-23 Middle Class Scholarship Handbook**

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) is pleased to announce the release of the 2022-23 Middle Class Scholarship Program Handbook (MCS handbook). This is the first version of the MCS handbook and is intended to be a live document that will be updated as needed. Its primary goal is to provide UC and CSU financial aid administrators with pertinent information to successfully administer the MCS program.

- The handbook describes the MCS program and outlines operational and eligibility requirements, policies and procedures, as well as a section with information on the WebGrants MCS screens, reports and common payment scenarios.

For more information, please see GSA 2023-05