Grant Delivery System Modernization (GDSM) April/May Newsletter 2021

Purpose

The purpose of this GDSM Newsletter is to keep institutions, and the student support community abreast of our monthly progress through the final transition to the new system, and quarterly for improvements deployed throughout 2021.

GDSM Sponsor Message

Catalina Mistler, GDSM Project Executive Sponsor

The deployment of the GDSM System is upon us with the May release. A big thank you to all involved and the institutions as we complete this milestone. Our teams have made resources available to you for a smooth transition to the new GDSM unified platform. Please ensure you have reviewed the Preparation Checklist, available videos, and training links sent to you in the alerts and information located the GDSM Website.

Project Management

George Polisner, State GDSM Project Manager

We are on target to release WebGrants for Institutions on May 10th. We are currently working on several rounds of quality assurance, integration, security testing, performance testing, and User Acceptance Testing. We are also working closely with Training and Support to prepare institutions for a smooth transition.

GDSM Champion Meeting Update

Joan Rene, GDSM Organizational Change Manager

March/April meetings: The March and April Champion meetings provided an opportunity for the institutions and CSAC to have discussions on support and expectations for the upcoming release of WebGrants for Institutions. The meetings provided the following updates:

1. PROJECTED GDSM RELEASE DATE: May 10, 2021
2. GDSM One-Page preparation list for Institutions
3. First-Time Login video for all external and internal users
4. Live Zoom support to assist in expediting support during transition
5. Additional questions and answers posted on the GDSM webpage

Project Champions are representatives from each institution who are briefed on the progress and available resources to prepare their users for the transition of the GDSM to the new modernized platform and new look and feel of the updated screens.

Training

Jose Quiaoit and Victoria Viksne

Re-establishing your login is required once the WebGrants 4 Institutions is transitioned to the new platform. The training team has created a login video. A Special Alert was sent out Friday April 23rd with links to the training and One-page preparation list for Institutions.

An eLearning library hosted on YouTube will be available with course modules such as the Cal Grant Overview, Uploading High School GPAs and more. They are available on-demand, so you will not have to wait for an upcoming webinar to learn more about the specific topic. These trainings will include updated screenshots of the new system. As new enhancements are released, additional trainings will be added to ensure understanding of the improved processes. In addition to the eLearning library, CSAC will continue to offer live webinars and eventually, per health and safety guidelines, in person trainings.

Video! View the narrated videos, *New Look and Feel Grant Delivery System Modernization (GDSM)*, and *First-Time Login Instructions*.

What to Expect

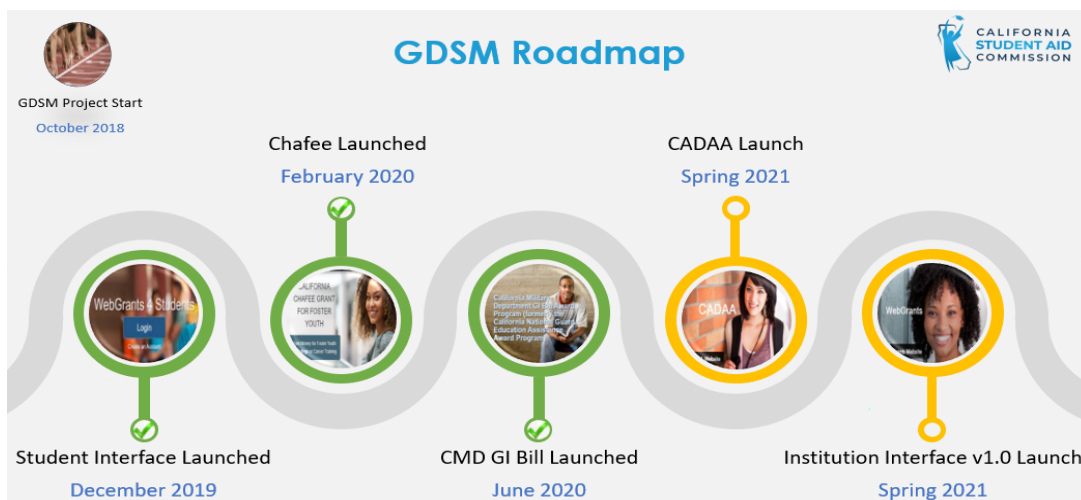| Program Developments	What to Expect
CADAA	CADAA will have the same easy to use look and feel as WebGrants for Students, including increased visibility throughout the approval and award process. The California Dream Act Application will also be scalable for use on tablets and cell phones.
WebGrants for Institutions	Institutions will have a new and improved look and feel on the WebGrants for Institutions interface. The current functionality is preserved with some improvements in the presentation.

Program Developments	What to Expect
Added Functionality	Continuous program improvements will be the priority and focus through and beyond 2021 made possible by the transition to modern technology.
Training	CSAC is in the process of updating our e-learning capabilities for high school counselors, administrators, financial aid administrators, and students. Using one of the leading eLearning authoring tools, this platform will transform projects into a responsive and rapid eLearning alternative for internal and external stakeholders. Some of the key features include: • On demand learning • Converts existing training materials into eLearning courses • Creates a new look and feel to the training modules

GDSM Key Benefits

The Grant Delivery System Modernization (GDSM) Project provides an easily accessible, one–stop shop for applying and managing the grant application and funding process. Through the GDSM Project, CSAC is completing development of a system that:

♦ Improves processes
♦ Reduces manual effort
♦ Increases staff productivity and efficiency
♦ Makes allocation of grant funds more efficient
♦ Improves internal and external satisfaction

Project Timeline

Contact Us

Please direct questions and inquiries to:
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