



Cal-HBCU Transfer Grant (Cal-HBCU) Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Eligibility

Who is eligible for the Cal-HBCU Program?

To be eligible for the Cal-HBCU Program, applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Be a California community college student who has earned an Associate's Degree for Transfer (ADT),
- Enroll (or plan to enroll) at an eligible HBCU,
- Demonstrate unmet financial need.
- Intend to return to California after graduating from the Partnered HBCU.

What is an eligible HBCU?

Eligible HBCUs are HBCUs that satisfy all of the following. The list of Eligible HBCUs for the 2024-25 Academic Year is available on the Commission's website.

- Have associate degree for transfer memoranda of understanding on file with the chancellor's office.
- Maintain a federal student loan Cohort Default Rate (CDR) below 15.5% and a graduation rate above 30%.
- Are regionally accredited by an agency recognized by the United States Department of Education.

If I transferred to a HBCU prior to this program launching, can I still receive a payment?

No; awardees are only eligible for the grant during their first term at the partnered HBCU.

When is the application due?

During the duration of the program, there will be two application periods for Fall and Spring term transfer students. The exact due dates for the current academic year are available on the Commission's website.

Is financial need required to receive this grant?

Yes, financial need is required for this grant.

Priority of awards will be given to students with the greatest unmet financial need, who do not exceed the maximum household income and asset level for a Cal Grant B award.

Awarding**What are the next steps after applying to the program?**

After the Commission receives an applicant's completed application, they will first verify with the California Community College Chancellor's Office that an applicant has completed an Associate's Degree for Transfer (ADT).

Once the completion of ADT is verified, the student's information will be sent to the partnered HBCU's financial aid office to verify enrollment, unmet need, and to request payment.

Can I receive this grant multiple times?

No, the Cal-HBCU Transfer Grant is a one-time grant.

Payments**How do payments work?**

Once the HBCU has verified enrollment, unmet need, and requested payment, a paper check will be printed in the student's name (C/O the HBCU) and will be mailed to the HBCU for distribution. This process takes at least six to eight weeks.

How much funding can I receive from this grant?

An awardee can receive up to \$5,000. The exact amount will depend on the awardee's unmet financial need.

Awards are contingent upon available funds.

How can I contact the Commission for further information?

The Commission's Cal-HBCU Program Team can be reached at calhbcu@csac.ca.gov.