



SPECIAL ALERT

Update from the California Student Aid Commission

November 14, 2019

GSA 2019-35

TO: High School Counselors

FROM: Catalina G. Mistler 
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SUBJECT: **The 2020-21 Race to Submit Campaign**

This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) invites every public high school and school district in California to join our annual statewide **Race to Submit** campaign for the 2020-21 application year.

- The [Race to Submit Online Dashboard](#) tracks the number of FAFSAs and CADAA's completed by the senior class at the high school, district, county, and state level from October 1, 2019 to the March 2, 2020 Cal Grant deadline. The Dashboard provides progress updates of the following data on a weekly basis:
 - ✓ FAFSA/CADAA completion and submission rates
 - ✓ Number of financial aid applications matched to GPAs
 - ✓ Number of Cal Grant award offers
- The Dashboard offers the ability to compare the current year with 2019-20 data. To date, we will be using last year's student enrollment data until we receive the certified census data from the California Department of Education. Updates will be available on the Dashboard.

Things to Consider

- To increase the chances that GPAs are matched to financial aid applications, high schools should ensure student demographic information is collected and updated prior to the submission of GPAs during senior year. It is recommended that schools utilize the [Demographic Verification Form](#) to confirm that they have the most updated demographic information for their students.
- To guarantee that all students are given fair financial aid consideration, schools should not remove any students from any GPA uploads regardless of their current school of attendance.
- For additional assistance in GPA Matching and Editing, please refer to the [GPA Matching and Editing Reference Guide](#) and [training webinars](#).

Need to contact us?

- Institutional Support phone number: (888) 294-0153
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