

Item 10

(Action Item)

Consideration of Extension of the 2017-21 Cal Grant Institutional Participation Agreement (IPA)

SUMMARY:

All postsecondary institutions participating in the Cal Grant Program must agree to the terms and conditions set forth in the Cal Grant Institutional Participation Agreement (IPA). The IPA is renewed for all institutions every four years with the current 2017-21 IPA expiring on June 30, 2021. Based on the unforeseen circumstances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, staff recommends extending the current IPA through June 30, 2023.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the two-year extension of the 2017-21 Cal Grant Institutional Participation Agreement for the period beginning July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023.

BACKGROUND:

The Institutional Participation Agreement (IPA) establishes the administrative, fiscal, and information security requirements for eligible institutions participating in the Cal Grant program. The current Cal Grant IPA expires June 30, 2021.

With each Cal Grant IPA renewal cycle, Commission staff work with stakeholders to amend and update the IPA. This process usually involves several meetings and public hearings until agreement is reached on pertinent updates to the Cal Grant IPA. Commission staff would have normally started the initial review and consultation with segmental representatives and other stakeholders earlier in the year; however, as California continues to navigate the global pandemic, both Commission staff and Cal Grant participating institutions have had to shift their focus and critical resources to ensure students are able to access their financial aid among an everchanging environment. In addition, the Commission is in a critical phase of fully transitioning to the new Grant Delivery System, requiring ongoing staff support to ensure successful deployment and stabilization of the new system.

Based on the challenges described above and with the support from the Financial Aid Advisory Board (FAAB), Commission staff recommend a two-year extension of the 2017-21 Cal Grant IPA. This extension will allow our agency and Cal Grant participating institutions to work through these unprecedented times and to collaborate over the next two years to review and reach agreement on needed updates for the 2023-27 Cal Grant IPA.

RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S):

Alessandra Morrison, Assistant Deputy Director
Program Administration and Services Division

California Student Aid Commission

ATTACHMENT(S):

2017-21 Cal Grant Institutional Participation Agreement