

SUMMARY OF PRIORITY & TRACKED LEGISLATION

March 1, 2022



SPONSORED & SUPPORTED LEGISLATION

[AB 1746 \(Medina\) – Cal Grant Reform Act](#)

Summary: Enacts the Cal Grant Reform Act, which would revise and recast the provisions establishing and governing the existing Cal Grant programs. The bill would authorize the Commission to adopt emergency regulations to implement the Cal Grant Reform Act. The new Cal Grant Program would include a Cal Grant 2 Program and a Cal Grant 4 Program, with specified eligibility requirements. This bill is contingent on an appropriation.

Status: Assembly Higher Education

Position: Sponsor

Alignment with Policy Priorities: Maximize equitable public investment in California students through financial aid. Maximize the effectiveness of state financial aid programs.

[AB 2004 \(Cristina Garcia\) – California DREAM Loan Program](#)

Summary: Increases the total amount of DREAM loan funding that California Dream Act Application students can borrow to a total of \$40,000 in a lifetime. The most current bill fact sheet states the intent of the author to add provisions that would establish terms of discharging debt that mirror the federal programs and require the UC and CSU to provide additional reporting requirements to the legislature.

Status: Assembly Higher Education

Position: Support

Alignment with Policy Priorities: Maximize the effectiveness of state financial aid programs (Ensure undocumented students – who are unable to access federal financial aid – have access to financial aid opportunities comparable to their peers).

[AB 2286 \(Irwin\) - Student Aid Commission: donations and philanthropic funds](#)

Summary: Authorizes CSAC to receive and direct the use of philanthropic funding.

Status: Assembly Print

Position: Sponsor

[AB 2810 \(Arambula\) - Institutional FAFSA data for CalFresh outreach](#)

Summary: States the intent to codify the [U.S. DOE's Dear Colleague Letter GEN-22-02](#) issued on January 20, 2022. Additionally, this bill would require each CSU campus and each community college district to use FAFSA data to identify students who meet the income qualifications for CalFresh, and send an email informing the student that they may qualify for the CalFresh program if the student can also meet one of the exemptions for the CalFresh student eligibility rules.

It would also conform a definition of “half-time” student to the federal definition, for the purposes of determining CalFresh eligibility.

Status: Assembly Print

Position: Support

[SB 20 \(Dodd\) - Notification to CalFresh eligible students](#)

Summary: Would require CSAC to notify students that they may be eligible for CalFresh benefits under other exemptions other than TANF-funded CalGrant. This bill would also require the California Community College Chancellor's Office (CCCCO) to create a form that can be used by students and administrators to verify that a student qualifies for an exemption from the CalFresh student rule.

Status: Assembly Print

Position: Support

Alignment with Policy Priorities: Advance efforts that help students access other forms of assistance to cover non-tuition expenses (e.g., CalFresh, housing assistance, affordable student lending options, etc.).

[SB 641 \(Skinner\) - CalFresh for College Students Act](#)

Summary: Would require the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to post on its website a list of programs that meet the employment & training exemption for CalFresh as well as instructions for county human service workers regarding processing applications, reporting, and recertification for additional students who are exempt from the CalFresh student eligibility rule. This bill would also require CDSS to convene a workgroup (CSAC included) to identify the steps necessary to establish a CalFresh application submission process that improves access to real-time information about applications submitted and accommodates the large influx of CalFresh applications during the beginning of a school term.

Status: Assembly Desk

Position: Support

Alignment with Policy Priorities: Advance efforts that help students access other forms of assistance to cover non-tuition expenses (e.g., CalFresh, housing assistance, affordable student lending options, etc.).

[SB 1141 \(Limon\) - AB 540 eligibility criteria modification](#)

Summary: Would reduce, for purposes of AB 540 eligibility, the total years of full-time attendance in certain California schools, the years of full-time high school coursework in California, and the total years of attendance in California elementary schools and California secondary schools required from 3+ years to 2+ years.

Status: Senate Education

Position: Support

Alignment with Policy Priorities: Ensure undocumented students – who are unable to access federal financial aid – have access to financial aid opportunities comparable to their peers.

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LEGISLATION WITH DIRECT IMPACT TO THE COMMISSION

[AB 1290 \(Lee\) – Student Aid Commission student membership](#)

Summary: Adds new seats to the Student Aid Commission to include four student members, one from each of the following: University of California (UC), California State University (CSU), California Community Colleges (CCC), and a California private postsecondary educational institution.

Status: Senate Education

Position: Watch

[AB 1633 \(Seyarto\) - Public postsecondary education: veterans' educational benefits: information sharing](#)

Summary: Requires the CSU, starting with the 2023-24 academic year, to electronically transmit to the Department of Veteran Affairs specific personal information regarding each student whose tuition/fees are paid (or are intended to be paid) using GI Bill educational benefits. It would also require, on or before June 1, 2023, that CSAC develop a template for a written consent that permits a student to opt in to having the student's person information shared with the Department of Veteran Affairs.

Status: Assembly Higher Education

Position: Watch

[AB 2222 \(Reyes\) - Golden State Social Opportunities Program](#)

Summary: Establishes the Golden State Social Opportunities Program for CSAC to administer grants (up to \$20,000) to students enrolled in an in-state postgraduate program and who commit to working in a California-based nonprofit eligible setting for their required post degree hours of supervised experience.

Status: Assembly Higher Education

Position: Watch

[AB 2263 \(Villapudua\) - Golden State Apprenticeship and Vocational Training Emergency Assistance Grant Program](#)

Summary: Establishes the Golden State Apprenticeship and Vocational Training Emergency Assistance Grant Program for CSAC to administer and provide one-time grants (between \$1,000-\$3,000) to California residents in financial need, as determined by the commission, who meet certain requirements for purposes of paying educational-related expenses associated with the eligible recipient's state-approved apprenticeship or vocational program of participation.

Status: Assembly Print

Position: Watch

[AB 2437 \(Boerner Horvath\) - California Pay Our Interns Program](#)

Summary: Establishes the California Pay Our Interns Program to be administered by CSAC to provide stipends to eligible recipients participating in unpaid internships at offices of the Legislature, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or any state agency/department.

Status: Assembly Print

Position: Watch

[AB 2489 \(Salas\) - Neighborhood Teacher Incentive Grant Program](#)

Summary: Establishes the Neighborhood Teacher Incentive Grant Program for CSAC to administer and provide grants to local educational agencies for the purpose of providing awards to teachers who agree to reside within the attendance boundaries of a priority school in which they are assigned to teach for at least five years.

Status: Assembly Print

Position: Watch

[AB 2572 \(Blanca Rubio\) - CSAC Spot Bill](#)

Summary: Currently a spot bill related to the provision about the commission's structure.

Status: Assembly Print

Position: Watch

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[AB 2652 \(McCarty\) - CalFresh Spot Bill](#)

Summary: The author's office has expressed their intent to amend this spot bill and include the following three CSAC CalFresh work group recommendations:

- Establish the regional hub pilot program
- Establish the pilot food benefit program for CADAA filers
- Direct colleges/universities to require local campus food service venues to accept CalFresh EBT cards

Status: Assembly Print

Position: Watch

[AB 2880 \(Bonta\) - College Access Tax Credit operative date extension](#)

Summary: Extends the sunset date of the College Access Tax Credit (CATC) from 2023 to 2028.

Status: Assembly Print

Position: Watch

[SB 419 \(Stern\) - Californians for All College Service Program](#)

Summary: Establishes the Californians for All College Service Program, under the administration of CSAC, which would award annual grants to eligible students to finance tuition and fees not covered by federal, state, or institutionally administered grants or fee waivers commencing with the 2024–25 academic year.

Status: Assembly Natural Resources

Position: Watch

[SB 851 \(Portantino\) - Cal Grant Program: independent institutions of higher education](#)

Summary: Establishes the maximum tuition award amount at the same maximum tuition award amount for new Cal Grant recipients at private non-profit institutions from the prior year the same maximum tuition, adjusted by an amount equal to the CA Consumer Price Index. This bill would also allow a California Community College Expanded Entitlement Award recipient to transfer to an independent institution of higher education and remain eligible to receive the award. Additionally, the bill extends the Students with Dependent Children (SWDC) and the Foster Youth access awards to students attending an private non-profit institution of higher education.

Status: Senate Education

Position: Watch

[SB 1341 \(Cortese\) – Basic Income Pilot Program Spot Bill](#)

Summary: Currently a spot bill related to CalFresh. However, the author’s office has expressed interest in turning this spot bill into a guaranteed basic income pilot program to address summer melt that CSAC would administer.

Status: Senate Rules

Position: Watch

OTHER TRACKED PRIORITY BILLS

[AB 288 \(Calderon\) - California Ban on Scholarship Displacement Act of 2021](#)

Summary: Enacts the California Ban on Scholarship Displacement Act, which would prohibit each public and private institution of higher education in the state that receives, or benefits from, state-funded financial assistance, or that enrolls students who receive state-funded student financial assistance, from reducing certain students’ institution-based financial aid offer below their financial need.

Status: Senate Rules

Position: Watch

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[AB 1606 \(Irwin\) - Public postsecondary education: veterans: waiver of mandatory systemwide tuition and fees](#)

Summary: Adds children, spouses, and unmarried surviving spouses of any veteran of the United States military who has a service-connected disability, has been killed in service, or has died of a service-connected disability, where their annual income does not exceed the national poverty line, as eligible groups to have their tuition and fees waived at the UC, CSU, and California Community Colleges.

Status: Assembly Higher Education

Position: Watch

[AB 1671 \(Patterson\) - California Ban on Scholarship Displacement for Foster Youth Act of 2022](#)

Summary: Enacts the California Ban on Scholarship Displacement for Foster Youth Act of 2022, which would prohibit each public and private institution of higher education in the state that receives, or benefits from, state-funded financial assistance, or that enrolls students who receive state-funded student financial assistance, from reducing an institution-based financial aid award below the financial need of a student who is a current or former foster youth, a resident of California, and enrolled in an institution of higher education to obtain an undergraduate degree.

Status: Assembly Higher Education

Position: Watch

[AB 1764 \(Medina\) - Public postsecondary education student housing survey](#)

Summary: Requires the CSU Office of the Chancellor, California Community College Chancellors Office, and the Office of the President of the University of California to collect specified data on student housing insecurity at each of their respective campuses. This bill also requires each segment to submit a report on the collected student housing insecurity data to the Legislature and the Legislative Analyst's Office on or before each October 15 of years 2023, 2025, and 2027.

Status: Assembly Higher Education

Position: Watch

[AB 1998 \(Smith\) - California Community Colleges: nonresident tuition fees Spot Bill](#)

Summary: Express the intent to enact legislation to address nonresident tuition fees at California community colleges.

Status: Assembly Print

Position: Watch

[AB 2266 \(Santiago\) - Community colleges: California College Promise: fee waiver eligibility](#)

Summary: Expands the California College Promise (CCP) program to provide two years of tuition free community college to all full-time students, whether they are first-time or returning students.

Status: Assembly Print

Position: Watch

[AB 2371 \(Santiago\) - Public postsecondary education: California State University: tuition](#)

Summary: Prohibits the charging of tuition/mandatory systemwide fees at a CSU campus for any academic year, for up to 2 academic years, to students that meet the following criteria: are California Community College resident transfers, have completed an associate degree for transfer (ADT), and received a fee waiver. Students who qualify to have their tuition/fees waived through this program, have financial need, and have all or a portion of their tuition and fees waived by other financial aid programs would receive a grant in the amount of tuition and fees that would have otherwise been waived to help cover their nontuition costs.

Status: Assembly Print

Position: Watch

[AB 2491 \(Cervantes\) - CalFresh Spot Bill](#)

Summary: States the intent to enact legislation that will reduce the barriers college students face when accessing CalFresh benefits.

Status: Assembly Print

Position: Watch

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[AB 2881 \(Berman\) - Public postsecondary education: students with dependent children](#)

Summary: Spot bill that state the intent to enact future legislation that would support students with dependent children who are enrolled at the state's public segments.

Status: Assembly Print

Position: Watch