

Item 13

(Information Item)

Update on upcoming efforts for launch of All In for FAFSA and CA Dream Act Application

SUMMARY:

This item will provide an update on the “All In” campaign efforts underway to support local education agencies in their implementation of AB 469 and universal financial aid applications for high school seniors in the 2022-23 academic year.

RECOMMENDATION:

This is an information item; no action is required

BACKGROUND:

Starting in 2022-2023 academic school year, Assembly Bill 469 will require high schools, continuation schools, and school district Local Education Agencies (LEA) to ensure that all seniors in California complete a FAFSA or CA Dream Act Application (CADAA) unless the student has formally submitted an opt-out waiver. The California Student Aid Commission (Commission) developed a model opt-out form for LEAs to document their seniors who elect not to submit or are exempt from submitting the FAFSA or CADAA. The California Department of Education (CDE) is required to share current school year's roster of pupils with the Commission, and the data will be published on Commission's website. The Commission has also developed a model acceptable use policy for the secure handling of parent, guardian, and student personal information gathered by the LEA.

The Commission has branded its efforts to support implementation of AB 469 as the “All In for FAFSA/CA Dream Act” campaign to be more inclusive of a wider audience of students, families, educators, community-based organizations, elected officials, and more. The goal of “All In” is to expand access to financial aid to thousands of students who may have otherwise not been aware of these opportunities. The Commission will position itself as the central resource to our partners in assisting them with the implementation of the “All In for FAFSA/CA Dream Act” campaign using workshops, training events, resources, and virtual webinars.

The Commission has also created an “All In for FAFSA/CA Dream Act” landing page, which will serve to centralize the various resources available to our partners in implementing this requirement. This will include information on Cash for College

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workshops, webinars, and the Train the Trainer Program, data resources, various marketing materials, educator toolkits, and information on local organizations people can tap into as resources such as the California Student Opportunity and Access Program (Cal-SOAP) and the Cash for College Regional Coordinating Organizations (RCO's).

Commission staff are also partnering with local entities to host several launch events to help bring attention and media coverage to the start of the "All In" campaign and California's new approach to ensuring that students understand the financial aid available to them.

RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S):

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ATTACHMENT(S):

CSAC All In For FAFSA and CA Dream Act Presentation Presented on September 8, 2022