Item 5

(Information Item)

Student insights on new programs

SUMMARY:

This item provides student insights into the California Student Aid Commission's (Commission) newest programs and their impact to their educational journey. In addition, the item includes status updates on the programs since the September 2022 Commission meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:
This is an information item; no action is required

BACKGROUND:

Dream Act Service Incentive Grant Program

The California Dream Act Service Incentive Grant Program (DSIG) encourages California Dream Act Applicants (CADAA) with a Cal Grant A award (that met Cal Grant B eligibility) or a Cal Grant B award to perform community or volunteer service. The Commission will award up to $4,500 per academic year (up to $2,250 per semester or up to $1,500 per quarter) to 1,667 eligible students. The grant will be available to the student for up to 8 semesters or up to 12 quarters while they have an active Cal Grant A or B award recipient.

The Commission has successfully implemented the programmatic changes to DSIG for the 2022-23 academic year with applications currently being accepted. Commission staff have updated the Commission's website and printed materials and will continue to work on updating the DSIG Social Media Toolkit.

The Commission, in partnership with California Volunteers, will be implementing #CaliforniansForAll College Corps to AB 540 California Dream Act students who attend one of the designated community partner campuses. College Corp Fellows who complete 450 hours of service will receive a $5,500 stipend (living allowance) and a $4,500 Education Award for a total of $10,000. The Education Award for AB 540 California Dream Act students will be administered through the California Dream Act Service Incentive Grant Program. College Corps has 48 partner campuses where students can apply to the program. DSIG is available to eligible students attending any

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of the 355 Cal Grant Eligible schools. As shown in the table below, a total of 389 students have applied for DSIG for 2022-23, already an increase from the prior academic year and out of those, 190 students are also participating in the College Corp program.

AY 2022-23 Total DSIG Applications Received Per Segment as of 11/4/2022		
SEGMENT	Total	College Corp
CCC	122	39
CSU	151	73
Private	3	2
UC	98	76
Not Provided	15	0
Total Received Applications	**389**	**190**

Golden State Teacher Grant Program

The Golden State Teacher Grant Program (GSTG) awards up to $20,000 to students currently enrolled in a professional preparation program approved by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) and working towards earning their preliminary teaching or pupil personnel services credential.

The Commission opened the GSTG application on April 1, 2022, for the 2022-23 academic year. Programmatic changes from Assembly Bill 181 were implemented to the online application in September 2022. Staff have prioritized updating the GSTG Application, GSTG Roster, and Service Agreement to include students working towards earning their pupil personnel services credential and elimination of the high-need field requirements. Commission staff updated the Commission's website, printed materials, and Social Media Toolkits.

2022-23 Academic Year
As of October 31, 2022, a total of 6,853 applications have been received with the following distribution per segment:

- University of California: 417
- California State University: 2,113
- Private Institutions of Higher Education: 3,702
- Local Educational Agencies: 621

Fall payments began processing in August 2022 and winter payments began processing in November 2022.

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<u>2023-24 Academic Year</u>
As of October 31, 2022, a total of 496 applications have been received with the following distribution per segment:

- University of California: 8
- California State University: 175
- Private Institutions of Higher Education: 271
- Local Educational Agencies: 42

Payments will begin processing in August 2023.

Student Anthony La Madrid from the University of Southern California will present his story on the impact of this program.

Golden State Education and Training Grant Program

The Golden State Education and Training Grant Program (GSETGP) was established in the 2021-2022 State Budget with $500 million in one-time funding. The GSETGP offers a one-time grant payment of $2,500 to displaced workers from the COVID-19 pandemic seeking to enter (or who are enrolled in) an education or training program administered by a public institution of higher education or a qualified provider on the Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL). To be eligible for the program, students must:

- have lost their job due to the COVID-19 pandemic,
- have been unable to find an equivalent paying job since,
- have not been enrolled in an education or training program at the time of their job loss; and,
- have meet the income and asset requirements associated with Cal Grant A eligibility

The Quick-Start Application launched on March 17, 2022, and was open to students at California's public higher education institutions (UC, CSU and CCCs). The pilot launch resulted in 4,768 applications submitted with 2,638 payments ($6,595,000) disbursed.

The Expanded, "Long Application" launched for the 2022-23 Academic Year on August 29, 2022. This application includes further questions for applicants to directly input their income and asset information, in addition to allowing applicants who have already completed a FAFSA/CADAA to use the income information from that application for the GSETGP. Since its launch, 3,090 applications have been submitted, as of November 4, 2022.

For eligible training providers to demonstrate a "track record of having the majority of its participants obtain employment that pays at least a living wage, as calculated by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology within one calendar year of program

completion," as specified in California Education Code 69670 – 69671, a Training Program Agreement Form has been developed. The form and further resources can be found on the GSETGP Website here: https://www.csac.ca.gov/colleges/gsetgp. Once training providers are found to have met the demonstrated track record, they will be added to the GSETGP Application and given access to GSETGP Roster in the Commission's WebGrants system.

Training webinars for GSETGP participating institutions and training providers will be offered in the next few weeks to address any questions on the program, the application, and enrollment verification process. Commission staff have also explored a couple of different options to facilitate the application and enrollment verification process for potentially eligible participants attending adult education programs, and will be working on some additional system enhancements to enable this process workflow.

Middle Class Scholarship Program

The 2021-22 State Budget introduced significant changes to the Middle Class Scholarship (MCS) program starting in the 2022-23 academic year. The 2022-23 State Budget approved the $515 million appropriation in the General Fund bringing the total appropriation to $632 million.

The MCS 2.0 program successfully awarded 268,169 students on September 23, 2022, totaling nearly $620 million at the UC and CSU campuses. Since the initial award run, CSAC has continued to receive additional student records, as well as corrections to previously awarded students from the campuses. As of October 31, 2022, award offers have increase to 276, 501 with a total amount of $631,282,822.

Some notable insights on the MCS 2.0 version are:

- 55% of the MCS offered awardees are Cal Grant recipients as well. Under the original program, Cal Grant recipients were not MCS eligible due to the 40% tuition coverage criteria.

- 80% of the student records received from the UC and CSU campuses were offered an MCS award.
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- 82% of the MCS award offers were made to applicants with incomes less than $100,000, while the remaining 18% represented applicants between $100,001 and $201,000

Commission staff continue to meet with the MCS workgroup to discuss implementation issues, program refinement and to identify best practices or recommendations to enhance the program.

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Learning-Aligned Employment Program

The Learning-Aligned Employment Program (LAEP) offers eligible students at public colleges and universities the opportunity to earn money to help defray their educational costs while gaining education-aligned, career-related employment. All UC and CSU campuses and 98% of CCC campuses have elected to participate in the $500 million program as it launches in the 2022-23 academic year. The LAEP Workgroup (comprised of representatives from public colleges and universities across the state) created resource documents for institutions and employers, including a LAEP Handbook, FAQs, and Employer Agreement resources. These resources and many others are posted on the LAEP website at www.csac.ca.gov/laep.

A small cohort of students have begun participating in the program in the fall of 2022. The majority of participating institutions are preparing for a spring 2023 launch of the program.

The Commission is working with the regional partners to host launch events for institution and employer partners throughout the 2022-23 academic year.

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