



Supporting Foster Youth Programs

Commission Meeting
November 30, 2023

Financial Aid Programs

- ✓ Chafee Grant
- ✓ Cal Grant Program
- ✓ Middle Class Scholarship Program
- ✓ Other Financial Aid Programs



Data & Definitions

- **California Department of Social Services (CDSS)** provides a monthly data file with foster youth information which CSAC uses to identify foster youth students in award consideration
- **Foster youth and former foster youth** means a person in California whose dependency was established or continued by a court of competent jurisdiction, including a tribal court, on or after the youth's **13th birthday** and who is no older than 25 years of age at the commencement of the academic year. *{CA Education Code 66025.9}*
- **Chafee Education Training Voucher** - Be a current or former foster youth who was a dependent or ward of the court, living in foster care, between the **ages of 16 and 18**. Youth who are/were in Kin -GAP, a non -related legal guardianship or were adopted, are eligible only if the youth was a dependent or ward of the court, living in foster care, at some point between the ages of 16 and 18. . *{ Federal law Sec. 477. [42 U.S.C. 677]}*

Chafee Grant

Student Eligibility

- Current or former foster youth living in foster care for **at least 1 day between the ages of 16 and 18.**
- Under 26 years of age on July 1st of the award year that the student is applying
- Can receive benefits for for up to five years



Award Information

- Pays up to \$5,000 annually to help foster youth pay for college or career/technical training
- Administered by the Commission through an interagency agreement with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS)
- Federal and State funded grant subject to annual availability of funds
 - Average year funding - \$17,500,000



Chafee Grant Data – 3 years

Chafee Grant for Foster Youth Awards			
	Academic Year		
Description	2021-22	2022 -23	2023 -24**
Number of Chafee Applicants *	9,068	11,804	7,927
Number of Chafee Awards	8,049	9,136	7,278
Number of Paid Recipients	4,305	4,709	3,516
Paid Rate	53%	52%	48%

* Includes new applicants and applicants from prior years with continued eligibility

** 2023-24 is an open year and will continue to award and pay students through August 2024

Chafee Grant Data – 3 years by segment

Chafee Grant for Foster Youth Paid Awards by Segment			
	Academic Year		
School Segment	2021-22	2022 -23	2023 -24**
California Community College	3,036	3,337	2,529
California State University	693	665	596
University of California	168	172	153
Private Non -Profit	123	110	95
Private For -Profit	229	242	97
Out of State	55	65	46
Totals	4,304	4,591	3,516

Cal Grant Program

Foster Youth Access Award

Foster youth can qualify for a new or increased Access Award to help cover the cost of attendance.

- Age requirements: in foster care **on/after age 13, and under 26 years** of age at the start of the academic year (July 1st)
- Available at CA public colleges/universities and private non -profit institutions
- Award amount varies, based on enrollment level

	Regular Access Award	Foster Youth Access Award
Cal Grant A Access:	N/A	Up to \$6,000
Cal Grant B Access:	\$1,648	Up to \$6,000
Cal Grant C Books & Supplies:	\$1,094	Up to \$4,000

Cal Grant Access Award Data

Cal Grant Access Awards for Foster Youth						
	2021-22 Academic Year			2022 -23 Academic Year		
School Segment	Award Offers	Paid Awards	Paid Rate	Award Offers	Paid Awards	Paid Rate
California Community College	3,157	1,587	50%	3,296	1,860	56%
University of California	376	283	75%	376	295	78%
California State University	1,277	986	77%	1,238	965	78%
Independent Colleges and Universities	N/A	N/A	N/A	192	139	72%
Totals	4,810	2,856	59%	5,102	3,259	64%

Cal Grant B for Foster Youth

Cal Grant B for Foster Youth expands eligibility to foster youth who were in foster care from age 13+.

High School Entitlement Application Window

- **Non -Foster Students:** High school seniors and prior -year graduates only
- **Foster Youth:** Foster youth under age 26 at the start of the award year (July 1st), when they *submit a high school GPA*

Maximum Eligibility (duration)

- **Non -Foster Students:** Up to 4 years of full -time enrollment
- **Foster Youth:** Up to 8 years of full -time enrollment

Middle Class Scholarship Program

MCS Legislation

2023 -24 State Budget (SB 117) –Foster Youth recipients are not subject to the 36% award amount reduction that other students face.

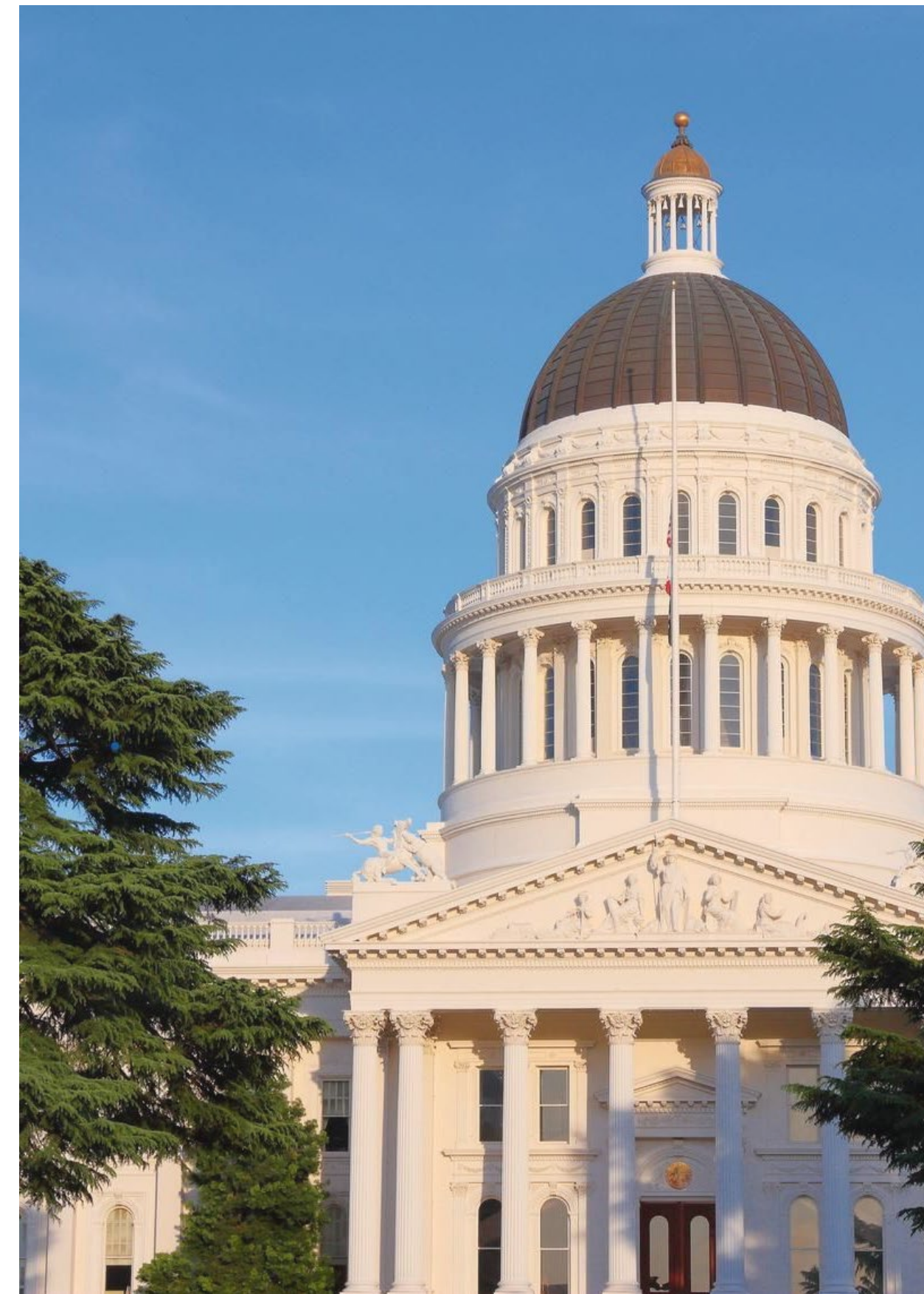
IMPACT –Increased MCS award amounts

STATUS –Implemented on 10/26/2023

Senate Bill 142 - emergency assistance awarded by an institution -based foster youth support program not calculated directly in the award calculation, but part of the \$7,898 student contribution.

IMPACT –Increased MCS award amounts

STATUS –Implemented on 10/03/2023



MCS Data

Middle Class Scholarship Awards for Foster Youth		
	2023 -24 Academic Year	
School Segment	Award Offers (Non - Foster Youth)	Award Offers (Foster Youth)
California State University	187,169	881
University of California	79,824	82
California Community College (Baccalaureate Degree)	32	0
Totals	267,025	963

MCS Data

School Segment	Average Max Award (Non - Foster Youth)	Average Max Award (Foster Youth)	% Increase in Max Average Award for Foster Youth
California State University	\$3,406	\$8,446	148%
University of California	\$3,061	\$ 7,031	130%
California Community College (Baccalaureate Degree)	\$3,157	N/A	N/A

Other Financial Aid Programs

Other Financial Aid Awards

Federal Pell Grant

- Award amounts are given to the neediest students with a zero expected family contribution (EFC)
- Maximum award in 2023 -24 - \$7,395

Institutional Grants

- State University Grants - CSU
- University Grant - UC
- CA College Promise Grant –CCC
- Award amounts vary by campus and student

Guardians Scholars Program

- Scholarship Opportunities
- Emergency funding up to \$2,500

Sample Financial Aid Packages

Award Type	UC-FY	UC-Non FY	CSU-FY	CSU-Non FY
Federal Pell Grant	\$7,395	\$7,395	\$7,395	\$7,395
Cal Grant B Tuition/Fees	\$13,752	\$13,752	\$5,742	\$5,742
Cal Grant B Access	\$6,000	\$1,648	\$6,000	\$1,648
Chafee Grant	\$5,000	0	\$5,000	0
Middle Class Scholarship	\$7,031	\$3,061	\$8,446	\$3,406
Total Aid	\$39,178	\$25,856	\$32,583	18,191

Foster Youth Awards

CHAFEE AWARDED	CG ACCESS AWARDED	MCS AWARDED	COUNT
✓	✓	✓	214
✓	✓	✗	2,408
✓	✗	✓	41
✗	✓	✓	270

Resources

Foster Resources



- Financial Aid Resources
- Foster care to age 21
- Getting through high school
- HS graduation alternatives
- Adult Schools that offer GED courses
- Job Training



- Financial Aid Resources
- Campus support programs and foster youth liaison contacts
- NextUp campuses
- Info on Educational Opportunity Programs (EOP), Extended Opportunity Program and Services (EOPS), TRIO
- Housing Resources



- Burton Book Fund
- Education Resources
- Housing Providers
- Health Resources
- Extended Foster Care (AB 12)



Thank you!



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