

**California Student Aid Commission
Strategic Policy and Planning Committee**

Item 4

(Information Item)

Update on the Competitive Cal Grant program

SUMMARY:

This agenda item provides a brief overview of the take rates for the Competitive Cal Grant Program in 2019-20 and 2020-21, to date.

RECOMMENDATION:

This is an information item; no action is required.

BACKGROUND:

The Competitive Cal Grant Program was established in the 2001-02 academic year for students who did not receive a Cal Grant entitlement award. The Competitive Program is comprised of two separate award cycles: March 2nd and September 2nd. The September cycle allows students who apply for financial aid after March 2nd to compete for a California Community College Competitive Cal Grant award. The Competitive Cal Grant program has a statutory number of awards that can be paid during the academic year, as well as a specific number of authorized awards that can be made by the Commission each year, with a requirement that at least fifty percent of the awards are offered to students attending a California Community College.

To receive Cal Grant A and B award consideration under the Competitive Cal Grant program, students must meet general eligibility requirements:

- File an on-time FAFSA or California Dream Act Application (CADAA)
- Be a U.S. citizen, legal resident or meet the California Nonresident Tuition Exemption per Education Code section 68130.5, commonly known as AB 540.
- Be a California resident.
- Be enrolled or intend to enroll in a Cal Grant participating institution at least half-time in a program leading to an undergraduate degree.
- Meet minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) requirements and GPA submission deadlines.
- Meet the Cal Grant income and asset ceilings and minimum financial need based on school of attendance.
- Not have a bachelor's or professional degree.

RESPONSIBLE PERSON(S):

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Data, Analysis, and Research Team

Jessica Moldoff, Research Data Specialist
Data, Analysis, and Research Team

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ATTACHMENT(S):

Report on Competitive Cal Grant Program