# OPERATIONS MEMO

## Update from the California Student Aid Commission

**June 17, 2020**                                                                                          **GOM 2020-18**

TO:         Financial Aid Administrators

FROM:       Steve Caldwell
            Interim Deputy Director, Program Administration & Services Division

SUBJECT:    **2020-21 Cal Grant Renewal**

This Operations Memo from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) announces the 2020-21 Cal Grant renewal process that took place on **June 15, 2020**.

**2020-21 Renewal Process**

- Cal Grant recipients were renewed for the 2020-21 academic year if they met the following conditions:

  o Had all 2019-20 terms satisfied with a payment or another eligible transaction code posted on WebGrants, such as a Leave of Absence (LA). Students who did not have qualifying 2019-20 transactions posted will be withdrawn from the program during the year-end reconciliation process.

  o Had completed a 2020-21 FAFSA or California Dream Act Application.

- Students will continue to be renewed on a weekly basis as they complete their 2020-21 financial aid application and/or schools post eligible transactions on their records.

- Renewal applicants must continue to meet financial eligibility criteria. See Income and Asset Ceiling information for the 2020-21 academic year on the Commission's website.

  o Students who were eligible for both Cal Grant A and B in the initial award year, but failed to meet the lower income and asset ceiling of Cal Grant B in the renewal year, are eligible to renew with a Cal Grant A.

- Cal Grant recipients who were ineligible for a renewal award during the prior year because they exceeded income and asset ceilings or did not demonstrate financial need, were eligible to receive a renewal award if:

  1. The recipient met all eligibility requirements for the 2020-21 renewal and;

  2. The recipient had remaining program award eligibility

  o The recipient's Cal Grant eligibility was reduced by 100%

- Students were notified of their renewal eligibility or disqualification. Students may view their Cal Grant status in their WebGrants 4 Students account.

- Renewal award amounts were determined by both, school segment and the year in which the student entered the program.

**Renewal Reports**

The WebGrants "Data Transfer" screen contains reports which identified both, disqualified students and those whose renewal eligibility could not be determined:

- Disqualified Renewal Students: This report identifies students who were disqualified for not meeting 2020-21 Cal Grant financial eligibility requirements.

- Unable to Determine Renewal Eligibility: This report identifies students with 2019-20 Cal Grant award offers that were withdrawn during year-end reconciliation because qualifying transaction codes were not reported for the 2019-20 award year.

Please contact Institutional Support if you have questions regarding students' eligibility to renew their Cal Grant awards.

**Need to contact us?**

- ➢ Institutional Support phone number: (888) 294-0153
- ➢ E-mail:  schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov

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