



# OPERATIONS MEMO

STATE OF  
CALIFORNIA



## Update from the California Student Aid Commission

July 25, 2023

GOM 2023-25

TO: UC & CSU Financial Aid Administrators

FROM: Tae Kang *Tae Kang*  
Deputy Director, Program Administration & Services Division

SUBJECT: **2023-24 Middle Class Scholarship Awards - UPDATE**

This Operations Memo from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) provides an update on the 2023-24 Middle Class Scholarship (MCS) award processing for the University of California (UC) and the California State University (CSU) campuses.

### 2023-24 MCS Awards

The Commission is doing testing on the award changes and anticipates running initial 2023-24 MCS awards on **Friday, August 4, 2023**, and will provide another update should this timeline change.

Per the recently enacted state budget, 2023-24 MCS awards will be based on the difference between the student's cost of attendance and the sum of the following amounts:

1. Other federal, state, institutionally administered scholarships, grants, and fee waivers awarded to the student;
  - a. as well as any private scholarships and institutionally awarded emergency housing funds and **other basic needs emergency assistance** awarded to the student that are **in excess** of the sum of items 2 and 3.
2. \$7,898 dollars reflecting an expected student contribution toward cost of attendance from work earnings or other resources.
3. 33% of the parents' contribution for dependent students with an annual household income greater than \$100,000 dollars.

Beginning with the 2023-24 award year, the MCS program will cover the total cost of attendance for **current or former foster youth students**.

- Foster youth students will still be subject to the same award-amount calculations (including consideration of self-help and other awards) but will not be subject to the proportionate reduction that occurs to MCS awards based on the annual budget allocation.

- The foster youth students initial MCS award will reflect the base amount which includes the proportionate reduction but will see an augmentation to their award later in the fall term. We will release a separate Operations Memo when the awarding increase is scheduled.

### **2023-24 MCS Payment Roster File Layout**

- The 2023-24 Payment Roster File layout has been updated with these changes and is available on the [Technical Documents page](#) for MCS.
- The following fields were added:
  - Field 64 – Foster youth flag
  - Field 65 – Filler
- The following fields were updated to reflect changes to data elements and/or logic rules and descriptions: 13, 25, 28-33, 35-38, 40, 58-62.

### **Need to contact us?**

- School Support phone number: (888) 294-0153
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