



# – CHANGES –



## to Financial Aid Regulations and Processes 2022-2023

1. The maximum Pell Grant award is \$6895 for eligible students with a \$0 Expected Family Contribution (EFC). The minimum Pell Grant award is \$346.
2. The Pell Grant eligibility expanded to include students with an EFC of up to \$6206, which is an increase compared to last year's max Pell Grant eligible EFC of \$5846.
3. The 2022-2023 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the California Dream Act Application (CADAA) are available beginning October 1, 2021. The applications will require 2020 income information.
4. The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) has a new program, Golden State Education and Training Grant Program (GSETGP), that offers one-time grants to eligible California resident workers who lost their jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic and are enrolling in public education or training programs to learn new skills and get back into the workforce. To be eligible, students must meet income and asset criteria for Cal Grant A award and must have been: displaced from employment due to the COVID-19 pandemic; unable to obtain employment that provides an average monthly wage that is equal to or greater than the average monthly wage received from their employment prior to the COVID-19 pandemic; and not enrolled in a training program, college, or university at the time they were displaced from employment.
5. CSAC has a new program, the California Dream Act Service Incentive Grant Program (DSIG), which encourages California Dream Act Application (CADAA) students with a Cal Grant B award to perform community or volunteer service. The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) will award up to \$3,000 per academic year (up to \$1,500 per semester or up to \$1,000 per quarter) to 2,500 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 B award. Students must also meet Satisfactory Academic Progress and complete any necessary verification for their Cal Grant B award.
6. On April 5, 2022, the U.S. Department of Education extended the student loan repayment pause through August 31, 2022. The pause includes the following relief measures for eligible students: a suspension of loan payments, a 0% interest rate, and stopped collections on defaulted loans.
7. As of late January 2021, the Department of Education has provided guidance to schools indicating that, on a case by case basis, we can treat income as zero if the student or student's parents are receiving unemployment compensation as their most recent income. This will remain in effect until further notice. Students should contact the Financial Aid Office to inquire about an Income Adjustment Appeal.
8. If you or your parents have been financially affected due to COVID-19, please contact the Financial Aid Office to inquire about an Income Adjustment Appeal.
9. FA Buzzy Bot allows students to get answers to frequently asked financial aid questions via chat 24/7 directly on the Financial Aid website. FA Buzzy Bot will also interact within myGateway so that the student, once authenticated, can ask specific questions about their financial aid file, financial aid offer, and disbursement.

