



OPERATIONS MEMO

Update from the California Student Aid Commission

STATE OF
CALIFORNIA



April 1, 2016

GOM 2016-08

TO: Financial Aid Administrators
High School Counselors

FROM: Catalina G. Mistler *Catalina G. Mistler*
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SUBJECT: **Entitlement Cal Grant – Late GPA Appeal Process**

This Operations Memo from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) explains the Late Cal Grant Grade Point Average (GPA) Appeal Process for students who missed the March 2 filing deadline.

- **Late Cal Grant GPA Appeal Deadline – Monday, May 16, 2016.**
- State regulations allow Entitlement Cal Grant applicants to appeal the late submission of their Cal Grant GPA if circumstances beyond their control delayed or prevented them from submitting a verified GPA by the March 2, 2016 filing deadline.
- 2016-17 Entitlement Cal Grant applicants are:
 - Students that graduate high school or achieve the equivalent on or after July 1, 2014; or
 - Students who are planning to transfer from a California Community College to a four-year college during the 2016-17 academic year.
- Entitlement Cal Grant applicants whose GPAs were not received, will be notified by the Commission about this appeal process. Schools may also submit late GPAs on behalf of students through this appeal process.

To receive appeal consideration, applicants must:

- Have submitted a 2016-17 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or 2016-17 CA Dream Act Application by the March 2, 2016 filing deadline.
- Complete the "Late Cal Grant GPA Verification Form" providing an explanation of the circumstances that prevented them from submitting an on-time Cal Grant GPA.
- Ensure the appeal is **received** by the Commission no later than the May 16, 2016 deadline.

Appeal Form Availability and Processing

- The appeal forms, are located at: <https://www.csac.ca.gov/appeals> and are available in two versions:
 - “Late Cal Grant GPA Verification Form **(SSN)**” if the student completed the FAFSA; or
 - “Late Cal Grant GPA Verification Form **(Non-SSN)**” if the student completed the California Dream Act Application.
- If the appeal *is* accepted, the student will be processed for Entitlement Cal Grant award consideration and will receive correspondence from the Commission based on their application status.
- If the appeal is *not* accepted and the student is planning on attending a CCC, the GPA will be retained and considered for the September 2, 2016 Competitive Cal Grant award.

Unmatched Non-SSN GPA Records

- The Commission continues the matching process for Non-SSN GPA data after the March 2 deadline. School officials can also match Non-SSN GPA data to the student’s FAFSA or CA Dream Act Application by using the *Match Non-SSN Record to Financial Application* screen in WebGrants through April 2016.
- The *Non-SSN GPA Unmatched* Report, available from the “Data Transfer” screen in WebGrants, identifies Non-SSN GPAs that are yet to be matched to a student’s FAFSA or CA Dream Act Application.
- For students whose Non-SSN GPAs were submitted on time but have not yet been matched, there is no need to submit a late GPA appeal. In some cases, the Non-SSN GPA matching process to the student’s financial aid application occurs after the March deadline. These students will be considered on-time applicants.

Need to contact us?

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