



# OPERATIONS MEMO

## Update from the California Student Aid Commission

STATE OF  
CALIFORNIA



January 9, 2017

GOM 2018-01

TO: Financial Aid Administrators

FROM: Catalina G. Mistler   
Deputy Director, Program Administration & Services Division

SUBJECT: **2017-18 Cal Grant Fifth-Year Benefits Update**

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This Operations Memo from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) announces changes to institutionally prescribed five-year undergraduate programs at some Cal Grant participating institutions for the 2017-18 academic year.

Per [California Education Code 69433.6\(c\)](#), the Commission is allowed to offer an additional year of Cal Grant program eligibility for those students who have been awarded a Cal Grant A or B and are enrolled in an institutionally prescribed five-year undergraduate program, provided that minimum financial need exists.

A mandatory five-year undergraduate program is one that requires all participants to complete more than four years of undergraduate study to obtain their degree.

- A list of all current Cal Grant Eligible Five-Year Programs is included on our [G-42 Request for Cal Grant Fifth Year Benefits form](#).
- If a course of study or institution is not listed, the student must contact a school official to obtain documentation that the program is a mandatory five-year program.
- These additional Cal Grant benefits are not available to students who attendance is extended for other reasons.

Recently, some institutions have amended their five-year programs and no longer qualify for extended Cal Grant benefits. This affects previously approved fifth-year Cal Grant students' 2017-18 financial aid eligibility. If your institution is affected by the removal of a Fifth-Year Program, please contact the Institutional Support Unit to assist you with any related questions.

### Need to contact us?

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

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