



# SPECIAL ALERT

STATE OF  
CALIFORNIA



## Update from the California Student Aid Commission

October 27, 2023

GSA 2023-59

TO: Financial Aid Administrators  
County and District Superintendents  
High School Counselors

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

SUBJECT: **You're Invited! California College Affordability Summit**

The California Student Aid Commission (Commission) is pleased to invite you to the [4th annual California College Affordability Summit](#) (Summit) presented by the Commission in partnership with the Riverside County Office of Education, the Education Trust-West and the California Department of Education. The Summit will be held **November 7-8, 2023**, at the Riverside Convention Center in Riverside, CA.

We are delighted to announce that this year's Summit will feature award-winning journalist, documentarian, speaker, author, and philanthropist **Soledad O'Brien** as its Keynote speaker. O'Brien has a long and distinguished career dedicated to telling empowering and authentic stories on a range of social issues, including college student hunger in America. In 2019, O'Brien's documentary, "Hungry to Learn," chronicled the lives of four students facing the hard choice of paying for college or paying for food and housing. At the Summit, O'Brien will discuss the magnitude of the student hunger problem in America as told by real students making hard choices about their future success in college.

The Summit brings together K-12 educators, counselors, higher education leaders, and financial aid experts into one space to focus on working together to help students access financial aid and pursue the promise of a college education.

### Registration

We encourage you and your colleagues to take advantage of the valuable information and insights you will receive by attending this important event. [Register today!](#)

### Session topics

The Summit will offer numerous sessions that cover various topics, including but not limited to:

- Understanding the Better FAFSA and Better California Dream Act Application
- Latest Updates from Higher Education Segment Offices

- University of California
- California State University
- California Community College
- Independent California Colleges and Universities
- Supporting Undocumented Students
- Engaging the Community in the Financial Aid Process
- Ensuring Basic Needs for Students in Higher Education
- Best Practices for Increasing FAFSA/CADAA Completion Rates

**Need to contact us?**

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

Enclosure: California College Affordability Summit Flyer

***Working together to effectively promote education beyond high school!***