

# Cal Grant

## Disqualification Fact Sheet



New and renewal Cal Grant applicants must meet certain criteria to be considered for an award. Applicants who do not meet the Cal Grant program criteria are disqualified and notified of their status. For student-specific disqualification reason(s), Cal Grant applicants can refer to their disqualification notification received from the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) and compare that reason(s) to the description(s) below. You may also refer to the Student Award Detail screen on WebGrants for Students (WGS) at [webgrants4students.org](http://webgrants4students.org).

### **NEW Applicant Disqualification Reasons**

#### **EL Greater than 4 (EL is educational level in college):**

Student's educational level was beyond the 4<sup>th</sup> year college senior level. A new Cal Grant award cannot be offered to applicants who are 5<sup>th</sup> year seniors or who have completed their undergraduate degree programs.

#### **Not Pursuing an Undergraduate Degree:**

Students pursuing a graduate degree cannot receive Cal Grant benefits for graduate coursework.

#### **No GPA/Test Scores Provided:**

School certified GPA or test score was not submitted by the March 2 or September 2 deadline.

#### **GPA Below Minimum:**

Student did not meet the minimum required Grade Point Average (GPA) as follows:

- A minimum 3.00 high school GPA or 2.40 college GPA for the Cal Grant A program.
- A minimum 2.00 GPA for the Cal Grant B program.

If you believe your GPA was incorrectly calculated, a correction from the school must be submitted to CSAC.

#### **State of Legal Residence Not California:**

Student is not a California resident.

#### **Not a California Resident at the Time of Graduation:**

Student was not considered a California resident at the time of high school graduation.

#### **Ineligible Course of Study or Degree Certificate:**

Cal Grant C student is not enrolled in a course of study of at least four months.

#### **School Not Eligible for Cal Grant A, B, or C:**

Student did not list an eligible Cal Grant school.

#### **No California School Listed:**

Student did not list a California school.

#### **Reported [Assets](#) Over the Ceiling:**

Reported assets exceed the maximum Cal Grant asset ceilings established by California law.

#### **Reported [Income](#) Over the Ceiling:**

Reported income exceeds the maximum Cal Grant income ceilings established by California law.

#### **Unmet Need Below Minimum / Minimum Need Not Met:**

Per California law, student did not have enough financial need at the first California college listed on their FAFSA.

### **Score Below Cut Off (Competitive Cal Grant Awards):**

The combined Cal Grant score – using the GPA and information from the FAFSA including family income, household size, parent’s education level, student or parent household status, and disadvantaged high school experience – was below the minimum cut-off necessary to receive an award. Only 11,250 Competitive Cal Grant awards are designated for the March 2 deadline and 11,250 awards for the September 2 deadline.

## **RENEWAL Applicant Disqualification Reasons**

### **No Remaining Program Eligibility:**

Based on the education level or year in school reported to CSAC by your school when you initially received a Cal Grant payment, you have used all Cal Grant program eligibility and are not eligible to receive further payments.

### **No Activity Reported for Previous Year:**

Renewal students must have received a 2011-12 Cal Grant payment from their school or requested a leave of absence. Students should coordinate with their school to have a 2011-12 payment posted on WebGrants or they will be withdrawn.

### **Reported Assets Over the Ceiling:**

Reported assets exceed the maximum Cal Grant asset ceilings established by California law.

### **Reported Income Over the Ceiling:**

Reported income exceeds the maximum Cal Grant income ceilings established by California law.

### **Unmet Need Below Minimum / Minimum Need Not Met:**

Per California law, student did not have enough financial need at the first California college listed on their FAFSA.

## **For ALL Disqualified Applicants**

### **Can I make corrections or changes to my FAFSA?**

This applies only to new Entitlement applicants and renewal students: Students can make changes or corrections to their FAFSA. Your school will also receive an updated version of your corrected FAFSA and may determine you qualify for a Cal Grant award. If your school determines the updated information may qualify you, they must contact CSAC directly for you to receive award consideration. Applicants should review their 2012-13 FAFSA information and make corrections at [fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov).

### **Are there other financial aid programs that can help me?**

Remember, just because you were not awarded a Cal Grant does not mean you are not eligible for other forms of financial aid. It is very important for you to contact your college Financial Aid Office regarding other sources of assistance. Some colleges may offer institutional grant funds to students if they are not eligible for a Cal Grant award. They also provide specific advice on applying for other types of aid at their school, including scholarships, fellowships, loans, and work-study programs.

Also, keep in mind that there are numerous organizations that help students find ways to pay for college. FinAid (<http://www.finaid.org/>), for example, is a great source for student financial aid information. Here are a few additional websites you may want to explore:

<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/pay/index.html>

[www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)

[www.petersons.com](http://www.petersons.com)

[www.gocollege.com](http://www.gocollege.com)