



OPERATIONS MEMO

Update from the California Student Aid Commission

STATE OF
CALIFORNIA



August 18, 2020

GOM 2020-22

TO: Financial Aid Administrators
High School Counselors

FROM: Steve Caldwell 
Interim Deputy Director, Program Administration & Services Division

SUBJECT: 2021-22 Student Expense Budget / Income and Asset Ceilings

This Operations Memo from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) announces the release of the 2021-22 [Student Expense Budgets](#) and [Income and Asset Ceilings](#).

- The statewide Student Expense Budgets were calculated using the prescribed methodology from the 2018-19 Student Expenses and Resources Survey (SEARS) and adjusted using the California Consumer Price Indices. The 2021-22 budgets include standardized allowances for food, housing, books, supplies, transportation, and personal/miscellaneous expenses based on a nine-month academic year.
- Actual campus budget information provided by the institutions on WebGrants, or on a College Cost Estimate form, will be used for Cal Grant awarding.
- The 2021-22 Cal Grant Income and Asset Ceilings were adjusted using the cost of living factor based on the percentage change in California per capita personal income from the prior year.
- California Education Code section 69432.7(k) states that the maximum household Income and Asset Ceilings applicable for a renewing recipient be the higher of:
 1. The adjusted ceilings for the year; **or**
 2. The ceilings at the time of the renewing recipient's initial Cal Grant award.
- The 2021-22 Income and Asset Ceilings will be the same for new and renewal Cal Grant students.
- Student Expense Budgets and Income and Asset Ceilings are available at www.csac.ca.gov on the "Colleges" tab menu, under the "Resource Documents" section.

Need to contact us?

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