Student Financial Aid

CSU Board of Trustees
Committee on Educational Policy—Item 4
March 18-20, 2019

Three Years of Financial Aid Funding

Primary Undergraduate Grant Aid Programs

- Pell Grant
- Cal Grant
- SUG
- MCS

![Bar chart showing financial aid funding for three years](chart.png)
Year-Round Pell Grant

- Eligible students may now receive up to 150% of an annual award.
- New funding is predominantly used for summer courses.
- In 2017, 7,000 CSU students used Pell Grants for summer classes in 2017
- In 2018, 21,000 CSU students used Pell Grant funding for summer classes.

State Financial Aid Reform

- The 2017-18 State Budget Act requested that the California Student Aid Commission issue recommendations related to improving existing aid programs.
- CSU participated as stakeholder on various committees and forums.
- CSU continues to provide input to legislative efforts related to state financial aid programs.
CSU & UC Principles to Guide Cal Grant Reform

- Build on success and do no harm to current students.
- Maintain Cal Grants’ core focus on tuition coverage.
- Expand the reach of Cal Grants.
- Establish supplemental summer Cal Grant eligibility.
- Maintain colleges’ and universities’ focus on the total cost of attendance.

Proposed Cal Grant Reforms

- Simplifying existing aid programs;
- Considering the total cost of attendance in the Cal Grant program;
- Reinstating a formula for private nonprofit institutions; and
- Augmenting to support summer enrollment.
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Reform in Practical Terms

• Close identified gaps in Cal Grant coverage
• Consolidate Cal Grant (A/B/C) and the Middle Class Scholarship into a single state program
• Increase Cal Grant B access award amount
• Expand Cal Grant eligibility by eliminating many of current exclusions
• Adopt a model focused on cost of attendance for Cal Grant

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