10 things students need to know about Cal Grants

1. Cal Grants are free money for college, money you don’t have to pay back. Cal Grants are up to $12,630* of free money annually for up to four years of college!!

   *Amount varies depending upon the eligible school that you attend.

2. Cal Grants are good at all UCs, CSUs, community colleges and many eligible private, career and technical schools in California. Check for eligible schools at www.csac.ca.gov.

3. Submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the California Dream Act Application (CADAA). Go to www.fafsa.gov to apply. California Dream Act students should go to www.caldreamact.org to complete a California Dream Act Application.

4. File a school verified GPA. The minimum GPA is 2.0.

5. Deadline to apply for a Cal Grant is March 2.**

   **When a state deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, applications will be accepted through the next working day.

6. Meet financial need requirements to qualify.

7. Be a California resident or AB 540 student.

8. Must graduate from a California high school or be a California resident by the age of 18. A California law gives you more time to pass the Exit Exam to receive a Cal Grant. So make sure to apply by March 2.

9. A Cal Grant is guaranteed if you meet all requirements.