

# Community College Completion Grant

Stackable Grants

Full-time Student Success Grant

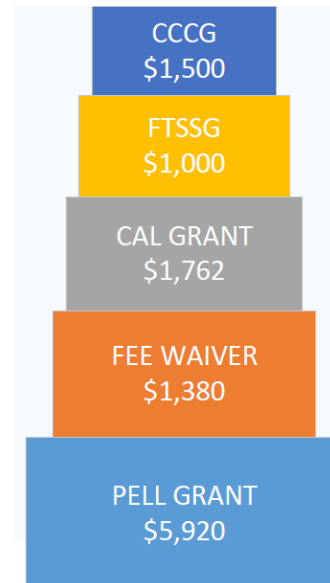
Community College Completion Grant

# Eligibility Criteria

For FTSSG and CCCG

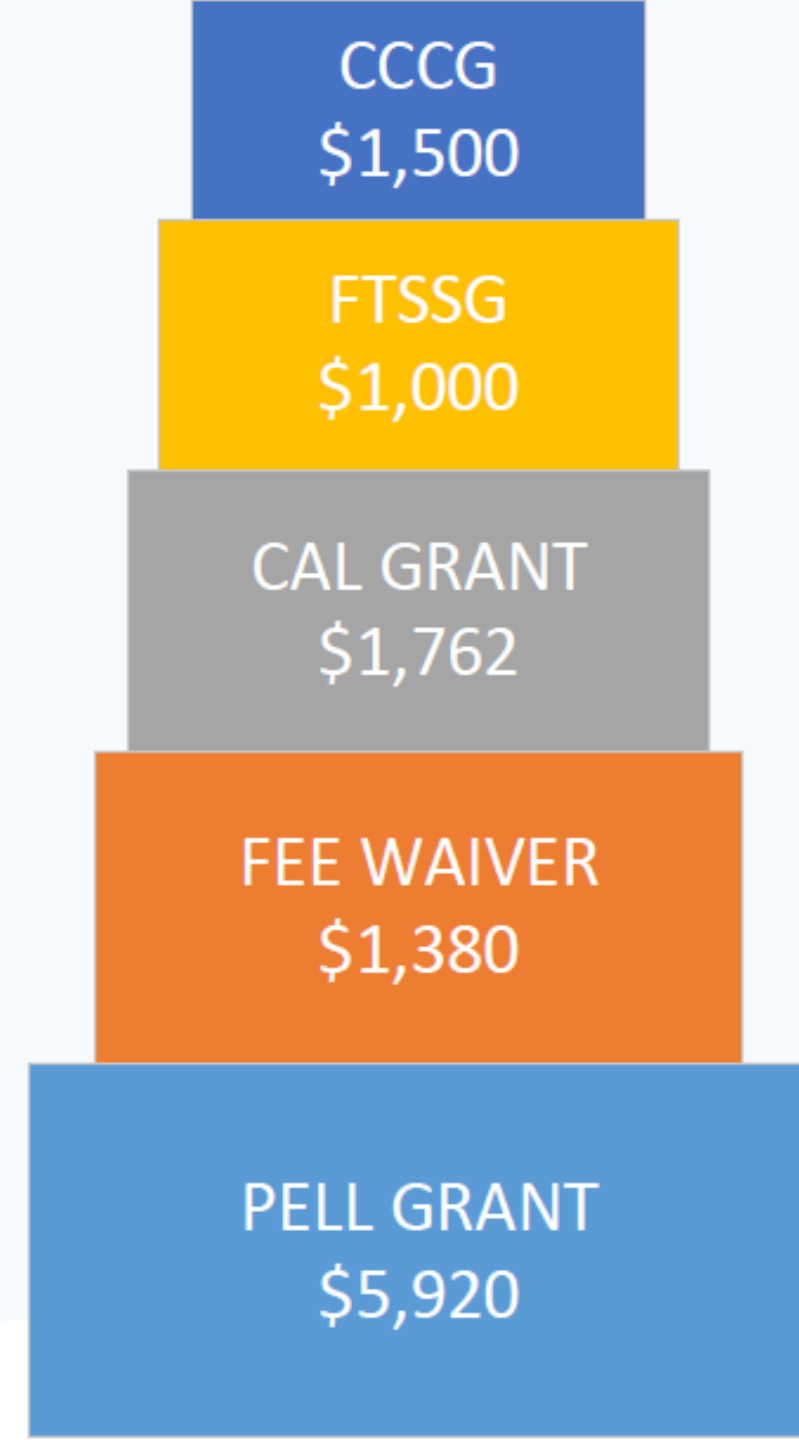
# Community College Completion Grant

- ▶ The Community College Completion Grant is new for the 2017-18 year
- ▶ The grant is a “stackable” grant, meaning it is designed to work in conjunction with other financial aid
- ▶ Requires full-time (15 units per term) attendance



# Stackable Grant Concept

- ▶ Grants build upon existing financial aid programs
- ▶ CCCG requires FTSSG
- ▶ FTSSG requires Cal Grant
- ▶ Cal Grant requires FAFSA or Dream Act Application completion
  - ▶ FAFSA completion allows Federal Aid consideration and fee waiver
  - ▶ Dream Act Application allows fee waiver
- ▶ These numbers reflect maximum eligibility for lowest income students



# Full-time Status: FTSSG

- ▶ For FTSSG
  - ▶ Must be enrolled full-time for a primary term
  - ▶ Full-time is at least 12 units and receiving Cal Grant linked to either the initial or final Cal Grant B or C term award payment with a reported payment code of either of the following:
    - ▶ **FT**, for full-time attendance and full-time term award payment, or
    - ▶ **OF**, for full-time attendance but less than a full-time term award payment

# Full-time Status: Completion Grant

- ▶ Full-time for CCCG is at least 15 units in primary term or primary plus an adjacent intersession or summer term, or
- ▶ Be enrolled in at least 12 units/term but less than 15 units per term or 30 units per year if the student's pace allows them to complete within the "scheduled timeframe," or
- ▶ Be enrolled in a sufficient number of units per semester, quarter, or summer term to be considered on track to receive a certificate for a career technical education program or other community college certificates within the published length of time, or within the published length of time plus one additional year if a student is required to take basic skills courses by the community college.
- ▶ Must be receiving FTSSG
- ▶ Basic skills includes ESL

# Attendance Requirements

- ▶ Cal Grant allows as low as 6 units (half-time) per term
  - ▶ Pace same as for Title IV
- ▶ FTSSG requires 12 units per term encouraging faster completion
  - ▶ No additional pace besides receipt of Cal Grant
- ▶ CCCG requires 15 units per term requiring faster completion
  - ▶ Pace is set and must be maintained

*Since CCCG requires student to maintain pace, support services must be available and encouraged to keep student on pace*

# FTSSG Criteria – By Extension for CCCG

All Cal Grant B and C award and payment eligibility standards are applicable, including:

- ▶ Be a U.S. citizen or an eligible noncitizen (AB 540)
- ▶ Be a California resident or California Dream Act eligible (AB 540)
- ▶ Attend a Cal Grant participating California college or university
- ▶ Demonstrate financial need at his or her college
- ▶ Have family income and assets below the annual ceilings
- ▶ Have met U.S. Selective Service requirements
- ▶ Be in a program leading to an undergraduate degree, certificate or first professional degree
- ▶ Have a valid Social Security number (Unless AB 540)
- ▶ Maintain satisfactory academic progress
- ▶ Not owe a refund on any state or federal educational grant
- ▶ Not be in default on any student loan
- ▶ Not be incarcerated



# CCCG Eligibility

- ▶ To receive a CCCG payment, the student must:
  - ▶ Be receiving an FTSSG payment in the primary term
  - ▶ Be enrolled in at least 15 units for the primary term, or be enrolled in 12 units for the primary term and also at least 3 units in any adjacent summer, intersession or module
  - ▶ Be enrolled in a sufficient number of units per semester, quarter, or summer term, as determined by the community college, to be considered on track to receive a certificate for a career technical education program or other community college certificates within the published length of time, or within the published length of time plus one additional year if a student is required to take basic skills courses by the community college
  - ▶ Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0
  - ▶ Establish eligibility as provided in 88912 (b)
  - ▶ Maintain pace as specified in the qualifying comprehensive education plan in accordance with 88912 (b)

# Completed Student Educational Plan (SEP)

- ▶ **EC Section 88912(b)(2):**

- ▶ The student is enrolled in a program of study and has completed an education plan identifying courses, sequence of courses, key progress milestones, and other requirements the student must complete to earn an associate degree, career technical education certificate, or other community college certificates, or meet university transfer requirements

# Comprehensive Student Educational Plan

- ▶ Comprehensive SEP must be obtained prior to any CCCG payment
- ▶ This SEP establishes pace for the CCCG and this initial pace is the one used to determine eligibility for the CCCG
  - ▶ SEP used to show that pace is being maintained as student advances towards education goal
  - ▶ SEP used to establish how far along the student is when they enter the program considering units earned inside and outside the institution

# Use of SSSP funding to complete counseling requirements

- ▶ It is the intent of the Legislature that SSSP funds -and any other support programs funds- be used to facilitate the creation of the comprehensive Student Educational Plans (SEP) required for this program
- ▶ No CCCG payment allowed until the SEP is created thus allowing pace to be determined
- ▶ Interventions should be used to keep the student on pace towards completion as specified in their SEP
- ▶ Student is held to the original pace established in the initial SEP
- ▶ Change of majors may make it impossible to maintain original pace

# Interventions

- ▶ All campus student service and support programs, especially SSSP and Equity, should be alerted to the counseling and intervention requirements of this new program
- ▶ Mid-year and end-year intervention counseling will prove to be essential to successfully help students maintain pace towards program completion to continue to receive grant payments
- ▶ Timely counseling could alert the student to add units for summer or intersessions to maintain completion pace

# Eligibility Determination

# Eligibility Determination/Payment and Pace:

## ► Three Step Process

1. **Establish Timeframe (pace):** Review the student's education objective and the associated comprehensive education plan to determine eligibility in accordance with 88912 (b)
2. **Payment:** Colleges should pay on enrolled units in program from comprehensive education plan for the term or term(s) (including Summer/intersession/modules) in compliance with 88912(b)
3. **Measure Pace:** Measure after each primary term for all participants on successfully completed units in the program from the comprehensive SEP to determine continued eligibility and participation

# Disqualification Based on Pace

- ▶ Disqualification from participating in the CCCG program occurs when a student can no longer complete their stated objective in the originally scheduled timeframe
- ▶ Re-establishing eligibility would require a student to demonstrate that they have or will be able to complete within originally scheduled time frames
- ▶ Changing majors might cause disqualification
  - ▶ Since many electives can be used in multiple programs, the student may be able to complete within the original timeframe
- ▶ Stopping out (no attendance) for an entire term does not disqualify
  - ▶ Get a Cal Grant leave of absence to preserve CG
- ▶ No appeals provided in the education code for disqualification



# FTSSG and CCCG Payment

# FTSSG Payment

- ▶ FTSSG increased to **\$1000** per year for 2017-18
- ▶ When a student receives their Cal Grant B payment at full-time status in the term, they are then eligible for a FTSSG award payment for the term. The term payment is not to be split, but is to be paid in full each term.
  - ▶ Semester payments are **\$500** per primary term not to exceed **\$1,000 annually**
  - ▶ Quarter payments are **\$333/334** per primary term not to exceed **\$1,000 annually**
- ▶ Full-time (at least 12 units) attendance is ascertained at the date at which a school determines enrollment status for Cal Grant B access award payment. If this is a freeze date, then use the same date. If another date is used, use the same date and enrollment level as used for the Cal Grant B payment.

# CCCG Payment

- ▶ As soon as a student receives their FTSSG in the term and meets all of the required eligibility standards (including comprehensive education plan), they are then eligible for a CCCG award payment for the term provided they are enrolled in:
  - ▶ 15 units; or
  - ▶ A combined 15 units between any primary term and intersession, summer session or module; or
  - ▶ Enrolled in at least 12 units/term but less than 15 units/term or 30 units /year if the student's pace allows them to complete within the "scheduled timeframe."
- ▶ The term payment is not to be split, but is to be paid in full each term
  - ▶ Semester payments are \$750 per primary term (and associated intersession/summer/module) not to exceed \$1,500 annually
  - ▶ Quarter payments are \$500 per primary term (and associated intersession/summer/module) not to exceed \$1,500 annually
- ▶ Enrolled attendance is ascertained at the date at which a school determines enrollment status for FTSSG award payment. If this is a freeze date, then use the same date. If another date is used, use the same date and enrollment level as used for the FTSSG payment
- ▶ Ideally pay Cal Grant, FTSSG and CCCG all at once

# More Eligibility Information

- ▶ The CO has created an enrollment scenarios document to assist in making payment eligibility determinations based on the student's attendance
- ▶ An FAQ document is also available
- ▶ A graphic, which puts a visual to the stackable grant concept is available