

SIERRA COLLEGE 2009-2010 CAL GRANT INSTRUCTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2ND APPLICATION DEADLINE

If you plan to enroll at a California Community College for Fall 2009 and are interested in applying for a 2009-2010 Cal Grant, read these instructions.

The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) requires two things before they can determine your eligibility for a Cal Grant: (1) CSAC needs your GPA, and (2) you must submit your 2009-2010 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to the federal processor (<http://www.FAFSA.gov>). **Both must be done no later than Wednesday, September 2, 2009.**

To find out how to have your GPA sent to CSAC, read the following instructions.

A. If you meet both of these conditions:

- ◆ have attended Sierra College at least one semester since Fall 2003, *and*
- ◆ have completed at least 24 "degree credit" units at Sierra College prior to Fall 2009 (check with a counselor if you're not sure), **Sierra College will electronically submit your GPA to CSAC in late August 2009, so you do not have to fill out a GPA Verification Form.**

B. If you have completed at least 16 but less than 24 "degree credit" units at a community college, ask your high school to submit your high school GPA. Sierra College will also electronically submit your Sierra College GPA if you have completed at least 16 but less than 24 units. CSAC will compare your high school GPA and your Sierra College GPA. The higher GPA will be used by CSAC to determine your eligibility for a Cal Grant.

C. If you have attended other college(s) and need to have those units included as part of your "degree credit" units at Sierra College, you must get a Cal Grant GPA Verification Form (<http://www.webgrants4students.org>) and:

1. Request official transcripts from your previous college(s). When you receive your transcripts, do not open them.
2. Turn in your unopened transcripts, the Cal Grant GPA Verification Form, a Sierra Transfer Credit Request Form, and a Sierra Enrollment Verification Request Form to the Records Office. The Transfer Credit and Enrollment Verification forms are available at the Sierra College Rocklin and Nevada County Campus Records Office.
3. **All forms must be turned in to the Rocklin or Nevada County Campus Records Office beginning Monday, August 3, through Friday, August 21, 2009. *Do not turn in your forms before or after these dates.***
4. Allow five working days for processing, and then come to the Rocklin Campus Records Office to pick up your completed GPA Verification Form. Forms must be picked up no later than 4:30 pm, Friday, August 28, 2009.
5. Then you must send the completed GPA Verification Form to CSAC. The address is on the form.

E. If your high school GPA is not available and you have completed less than 24 "degree credit" units prior to Fall 2009, follow the instructions on the Cal Grant GPA Verification Form. You must submit test scores: GED, SAT or ACT. Home-schooled students must also submit test scores.

F. If you already have a Cal Grant and want to renew it, you must complete a 2009-2010 (FAFSA). Do not fill out a Cal Grant GPA Verification Form.

If you miss the September Cal Grant deadline, you may still submit your 2009-2010 FAFSA so you can be considered for federal financial aid. For more information on the Cal Grant Program, check CSAC's web site at www.csac.ca.gov.