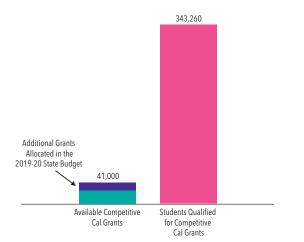
Data Hit



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Demand for Competitive Cal Grants Far Exceeds Supply

Available Grants Compared to Number of Qualified Students, 2018-19



Note: Competitive Cal Grant awards provide aid to low- and middle-income students who meet certain GPA and income requirements and apply to attend college more than one year after high school graduation. The Legislature establishes the number of awards available each year. Source: California Student Aid Commission • Low-income students who attend college more than a year after high school graduation and meet certain GPA requirements are eligible for Competitive Cal Grant awards. These awards help students pay for tuition and fees, as well as living expenses.

• The number of students eligible for Competitive Cal Grants far exceeds the number of available awards. The 2019-20 budget increases the number of Competitive Cal Grants by 15,250 (from 25,750 to 41,000). Even with these added awards, more than 300,000 eligible students are left without aid – 92% of eligible students.

• Cal Grants are a key pathway to higher education and higher earnings. By continuing to increase the number of available competitive awards, policymakers can ensure more low-income students can afford college and have the opportunity to enter the workforce.

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