

Introduced by Senator PriceFebruary 16, 2011

An act to amend Section 69439 of the Education Code, relating to student financial aid.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 451, as introduced, Price. Student financial aid: Cal Grant C awards.

Existing law, the Ortiz-Pacheco-Poochigian-Vasconcellos Cal Grant Act, establishes the Cal Grant C Program under the administration of the Student Aid Commission and establishes eligibility requirements for awards under this program. The act requires that a Cal Grant C award be used only for occupational or technical training, as defined, in a course of not less than 4 months. The act requires the commission, after consultation with state and federal agencies, to determine the areas of occupational or technical training for which Cal Grant C awards shall be awarded.

This bill would require the Student Aid Commission to develop, and regularly review and update at least every 5 years, the areas of occupational or technical training for which students may utilize Cal Grant C awards. The bill would require the commission to give priority in granting the awards to students pursuing occupational or technical training in areas that meet specified criteria. The bill would require the commission to publish, and retain, on its Internet Web site, a current list of the areas of occupational or technical training meeting those specified criteria. The bill would require the Legislative Analyst's Office to submit a report to the Governor and the Legislature, containing specified data on the outcomes of the Cal Grant C Program, on or before

April 1, 2015, and on or before April 1 of each odd-numbered year thereafter.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 69439 of the Education Code is amended
2 to read:

3 ~~69439. (a) Commencing with the 2001–02 academic year, and~~
4 ~~each academic year thereafter, a~~ Cal Grant C award shall be
5 utilized only for occupational or technical training in a course of
6 not less than four months. There shall be the same number of Cal
7 Grant C awards each year as were made in the 2000–01 fiscal year.
8 The maximum award amount and the total amount of funding shall
9 be determined each year in the annual Budget Act.

10 (b) “Occupational or technical training” means that phase of
11 education coming after the completion of a secondary school
12 program and leading toward recognized occupational goals
13 approved by the commission.

14 (c) The commission may use criteria it deems appropriate in
15 selecting students with occupational talents to receive grants for
16 occupational or technical training.

17 (d) The Cal Grant C *award* recipients shall be eligible for
18 renewal of their grants until they have completed their occupational
19 or technical training in conformance with terms prescribed by the
20 commission. In no case shall the grants exceed two calendar years.

21 (e) Cal Grant C awards shall be for institutional fees, charges,
22 and other costs, including tuition, plus training-related costs, such
23 as special clothing, local transportation, required tools, equipment,
24 supplies, and books. In determining the amount of grants and
25 training-related costs, the commission shall take into account other
26 state and federal programs available to the applicant.

27 (f) (1) *To ensure alignment with the state’s dynamic economic*
28 *needs, the commission, in consultation with appropriate state and*
29 *federal agencies, shall develop areas of occupational and technical*
30 *training for which students may utilize Cal Grant C awards. The*
31 *commission, if necessary, may also consult with nongovernmental*
32 *stakeholders that develop or provide workforce training or employ*

1 graduates of occupational and technical training programs for
2 this purpose.

3 (2) The areas of occupational and technical training developed
4 pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be regularly reviewed and updated
5 at least every five years, beginning in 2012.

6 (3) The commission shall give priority in granting Cal Grant
7 C awards to students pursuing occupational or technical training
8 in areas that meet at least two of the following criteria:

9 (A) High employment need.

10 (B) High employment salary or wage projections.

11 (C) High employment growth.

12 ~~(f) Cal Grant C awards~~

13 (g) The commission shall ~~be awarded~~ determine areas of
14 occupational or technical training that meet the criteria described
15 in paragraph (3) of subdivision (f) in consultation with the
16 Employment Development Department using projections available
17 through the Labor Market Information Data Library. The
18 commission shall publish, and retain, on its Internet Web site a
19 current list of the areas of occupational or technical training ~~as~~
20 ~~determined by that meet the commission after consultation with~~
21 ~~appropriate state criteria described in paragraph (3) of subdivision~~
22 ~~(f), and federal agencies; update this list as necessary.~~

23 (h) The Legislative Analyst's Office shall submit a report to the
24 Governor and the Legislature on the outcomes of the Cal Grant
25 C Program on or before April 1, 2015, and on or before April 1
26 of each odd-numbered year thereafter. This report shall include,
27 but not necessarily be limited to, information on the age, gender,
28 segment of attendance, the occupational and technical training
29 program categories prioritized, and the number and percentage
30 of students who received selection priority as defined in paragraph
31 (3) of subdivision (f).