



# Grant Delivery System Modernization (GDSM) September Newsletter 2020

## Purpose

The purpose of this GDSM Newsletter is to keep institutions, and the student support community abreast of our progress monthly through the final transition to the new system, and quarterly for improvements deployed throughout 2021.

## GDSM Sponsor Message

Catalina Mistler, GDSM Project Executive Sponsor

The GDS Modernization supports current and future growth of the Grant Program making grants more accessible to students with improved transparency, agility, maintainability, security, delivery, and adaptability to changes.

We at the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) are pleased to announce we are heading into the home stretch with the transition of the Grant Delivery System (GDS) to a robust and modernized technology platform. Web Grants for Students, Chafee Grant for Foster Youth Application, California Military Department GI Bill Award Program, (CMD GI Bill), successfully transitioned over the past ten months. Upcoming releases in Q4 of 2020 for the California Dream Act Application (CADAA) and Web Grants for Institutions will complete the transition to the new GDS modernized unified platform.

## Coming Soon

CADAA and Web Grants for Institutions are scheduled for migration to the GDSM Platform around the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2020. Key dates and materials, both informational and training will soon be available to assist users in adopting these programs to the new look and feel of the GDSM system. Added functionality is planned through quarterly releases in 2021.



## What to Expect

Program Developments	What to Expect
CADAA	CADAA will have the same easy to use look and feel as the Student Landing Page, including increased visibility throughout the approval and award process. The CADAA will also be scalable for use on tablets and cell phones.
Web Grants for Institutions	Institutions will have a new and improved look and feel on the Web Grants for Institutions page. The current functionality is preserved with some improvements in the presentation.
Added Functionality	Continuous program improvements will be the priority and focus through and beyond 2021 made possible by the transition to modern technology.
Training	<p>CSAC is in the process of updating our e-learning capabilities for high school counselors, administrators, financial aid administrators, and students. Using one of the leading eLearning authoring tools and best practices in eLearning design, this platform will transform projects into a responsive and rapid eLearning alternative for internal and external stakeholders. Some of the key features include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On demand learning</li> <li>• Converts existing training materials into eLearning courses</li> <li>• Creates a new look and feel to the training modules</li> <li>• Offers interactive features for your training modules</li> </ul>

## Added Functionality (July-August)

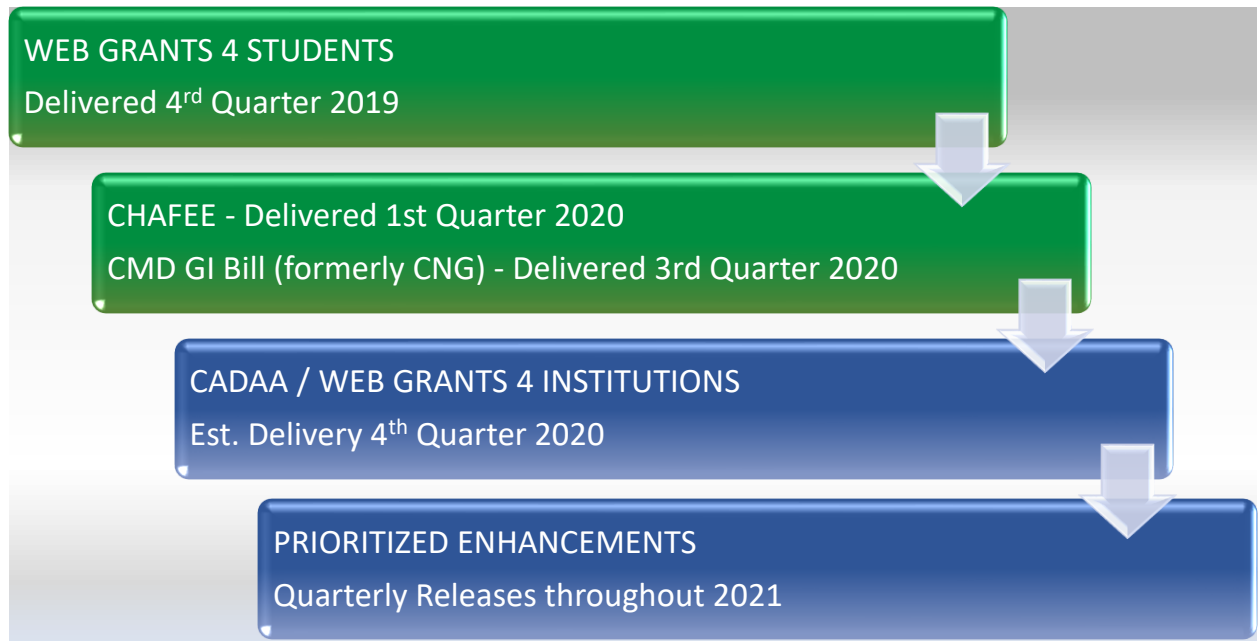
Program	Improvement Implemented
Web Grants for Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School of Attendance Card now displays the amounts for students who are in a pending status based on the school</li> <li>• A Link was added to the Cal Grant Award Amount FAQs Sheet for students to get more information about the award amounts at specific campuses.</li> </ul>

## GDSM Key Benefits

The Grant Delivery System Modernization (GDSM) Project provides an easily accessible, one-stop shop for applying and managing the grant application and funding process. Through the GDSM Project, CSAC is completing development of a system that:

- ◆ exemplifies current architectural methods
- ◆ integrates multiple programs
- ◆ reduces processing from staff
- ◆ accommodates changing demands from legislative, regulatory, and operational requirements
- ◆ provides interfaces to current technologies

## Project Timeline



## Contact Us

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