



# TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD

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TO: Directors of Financial Aid  
Texas Public and Private/Independent Institutions of Higher Education

FROM: DeChà Reid  
Director, Financial Aid Services

DATE: Aug. 31, 2021

RE: State Financial Aid Reminders and Resource Updates

As we begin the new fiscal year, the Office of Student Financial Aid Programs (SFAP) would like to provide institutions with some reminders and updated resources that can be used throughout the year.

## **Funds Request Process**

### **Grant Programs**

Institutions can begin submitting funds requests for FY 2022 for the three state grant programs which include Toward EXcellence, Access and Success (TEXAS) Grant, Texas Educational Opportunity Grant (TEOG) and Tuition Equalization Grant (TEG). Please note that the additional funding (Strategy B.1.10) that was communicated in the final allocations for each program are being added in the grant payment portal in the coming months to reflect the full allocation amount.

### **Special Programs**

Institutions can begin submitting funds requests for FY 2022 for the Educational Aide Exemption (EAE) and the Bilingual Education Program by submitting the applicable PDF fillable form available on the Student Financial Aid Programs webpage under [Program Resources](#).

### **Work-Study Programs**

Institutions participating in Texas College Work-Study (TCWS) or Work-Study Student Mentorship Program (WSMP) will receive FY 2022 funds as a lump-sum payment.

**Note:** All requests and payments will be processed by Financial Aid Services after the first day of the new fiscal year, **Sept. 1, 2021**.

## **College Access Loan (CAL) and Texas Armed Services Scholarship Program (TASSP) Processing**

Starting in September 2021, all CAL applications that are "incomplete" after 60 days in the HelmNet portal will be deactivated. This process will ensure that the HelmNet system is current with applications that are moving through the funding process.

As a reminder, the Texas Comptroller's office payment system USAS, will be down from 7 p.m. Aug. 31 through 7 a.m. Sept. 2, 2021 for year-end processing. In order for College Access Loan (CAL) funds to arrive at the institution prior to the Comptroller's closure on Aug. 31, a student must have accepted their Loan Approval Disclosure (LAD) by Aug. 16, 2021. LAD's accepted after this date will not have funds disbursed until after the Labor Day holiday.

All FY 2022 TASSP disbursements will be processed by the THECB after the first day of the new fiscal year, Sept. 1, 2021.

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## **Institutional Calendar**

The [Fall 2021 Calendar](#) edition (Sept. – Dec. 2021) is now available on the SFAP webpage under [Stay Connected](#) → Calendar of Program Deadlines.

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## **HHloans Online Fillable Forms**

In an effort to streamline and modernize the borrower experience, various forms on the hhloans.com website were updated to be fillable and include the option to electronically sign before submitting them to the THECB. The following fillable forms are now available:

- [Borrower Repayment Options Form](#)
- [General Postponement Request Form](#)
- [TASSP Annual Certification Form](#)
- [BOT Loan Application for Forgiveness](#)
- [Authorization for Release of Information Form](#)

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## Exemption and Waiver Program Guidelines

The following new resources were published for institutions to reference on the Student Financial Aid Programs webpage under the [Exemptions and Waivers webpage](#) for the two exemption and waiver programs listed below. *Please share with other departments that may benefit from these resources.*

- [Children of Professional Nursing Program Faculty and Staff - Fact Sheet](#)
- [Competitive Scholarship Waiver - Fact Sheet](#)

To learn more about state financial aid programs and processes, join the monthly webcast on **Sept. 14, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.** Additional information can be found under the [Stay Connected](#) webpage and prior webcasts can be found on the SFAP webpage under [Monthly Archives](#).

For questions, please call Financial Aid Services at 844-792-2640 or [CONTACT US](#) (select "Financial Aid Question" as the **Contact Reason**).