



CASP Advocacy Restores Golden State Teacher Grant (GSTG) Eligibility for School Psychology Candidates

The California Association of School Psychologists (CASP) is pleased to announce that **Governor Gavin Newsom signed SB 147 into law on October 13, 2025**. The bill, which is a budget trailer bill, made clarifying changes to the Golden State Teacher Grant (GSTG) program eligibility criteria. The GSTG provides up to \$10,000 in financial support to students enrolled in Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC)-approved professional preparation programs. These programs provide the training and coursework required to apply for preliminary teaching or pupil personnel services (PPS) credentials (specifically those specializing in school psychology, school counseling, and school social work).

A CASP Member who is on faculty at CSU Chico had many of their candidates participate in the GSTG grant program in prior years. Unfortunately, during the past application period program candidates were determined ineligible because of a language change to the criteria that was made in the 2024 State Budget. The language excluded training programs with an "intern" component.

"The Golden State Teachers Grant is critical to our school psychology students. It provides some financial stability while they serve California students – particularly students in high-need districts" said CASP member Dr. Donna D. Kreskey. "The CASP Advocacy Team sprang into action, ensuring important clarifications were made to the Golden State Teacher Grant so our students can access these funds."

The CASP advocacy team worked closely with the State Board of Education, key policy advisors to the Administration, and the Department of Finance to clarify that the program changes made in 2024 State Budget only excluded "teacher intern programs." This clarifying language was included in SB 147. The bill becomes effective immediately so the clarification that PPS credential candidates are eligible is now in effect.

2025-26 GSTG Applications and Grants Available

To apply for the Golden State Teacher Grant, students must submit either a 2025-26 Free Application for Federal Student Aid ([FAFSA](#)) or CA Dream Act Application ([CADAA](#)) in addition to a [GSTG Application](#). 2025-26 GSTG applications will be accepted through June 30, 2026, or until all GSTG funding is expended, whichever occurs first. The Student Aid Commission Memo on the GSTG program can be found here [EOM 2025-19](#).

CASP thanks our members for bringing issues and questions to the attention of association leadership. Working together, we can resolve questions and remove barriers to education, training and access for school psychologists.