California Dream Act Application (CADAA)
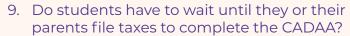
The California Dream Act Application (**CADAA**) allows undocumented students who meet certain criteria to apply for financial aid. The CADAA is one of the most important forms to fill out in regard to a college education and should be completed every academic year. The information supplied is used to assess a student's financial need and gives them access to multiple sources of financial aid to help pay to attend a college, university, or vocational school.

The following are some of the most **frequently asked questions** about the CADAA:

1. Who can apply for the California Dream Act?
2. What are the non-resident requirements?
3. What will students need to fill out the CADAA?
4. How do students apply for financial aid under the California Dream Act?
5. Does the student's parents' citizenship status affect their eligibility for financial aid under the California Dream Act?
6. Can students fill out the CADAA if they don't have a Social Security number?
7. How can students get help with completing the CADAA?
8. Are undocumented students eligible for federal student aid?
9. Do students have to wait until they or their parents file taxes to complete the CADAA?
10. How do parents sign the CADAA?
11. How are mistakes fixed on the CADAA?
12. What's next after completing the CADAA?

FAQ

1. Who can apply for the California Dream Act?
- Undocumented Students
- DACA recipients (valid or expired)
- U Visa holders
- Students under Temporary Protected Status (TPS)
- Students who meet the non-resident exemption

2. What are the non-resident requirements?
AB 540 requires three years of coursework and three years total attendance at California elementary schools, middle schools, and high schools. SB 68 expands on the equivalency of high school attendance to include adult schools and Community Colleges.

3. What will students need to fill out the CADAA?
The CADAA opens on October 1st. To maximize your financial aid opportunities, submit your application by the state priority deadline of March 2nd. Students attending a CA Community College can apply by September 2nd.

4. How do students apply for financial aid under the California Dream Act?
The application can be found at **CA Dream Act Application**.

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5. Does the student's parents' citizenship status affect their eligibility for financial aid under the California Dream Act?

No, the parents' citizenship status does not impact eligibility to receive financial aid. The CADAA does not contain any questions asking for this information and their parents' immigration status isn't considered in any financial aid decisions.

6. Can students fill out the CADAA if they don't have a Social Security number?

Yes. Students are not required to have a Social Security Number to submit the CADAA. However, students will need to meet the non-resident exemption requirements under AB 540/ SB 68 to receive state aid.

7. How can students get help with completing the CADAA?

From their high school counselor/advisor or by attending one of the many free Cash for College workshops held every year throughout the state, beginning October 1st. To locate your nearest Cash for College workshop, please visit **CSAC - Cash for College**.

8. Are undocumented students eligible for federal student aid?

No, undocumented students are not eligible for federal student aid. If they attend an eligible California public or private institution, they will be considered for California state financial aid. Their college or university will determine their financial aid eligibility. Students should submit their CADAA by March 2 to maximize their financial aid options.

9. Do students have to wait until they or their parents file taxes to complete the CADAA?

No, The CADAA uses two years prior tax information. If the student or their parents were not required to file taxes during that year, select "Will not file" on the tax filing question on the application.

10. How do parents sign the CADAA?

Parents will sign the CADAA using the self-selected PIN. The PIN is a 4-digit number that can be used each year to electronically sign the CADAA. Parents can apply for the California Dream Act PIN only after the student has completed the online application. To apply for a PIN and to sign the CADAA, parents will navigate to the link that says, "Submit Parent Signature." This PIN should be kept in a safe place as parents will need it to re-sign whenever there is a change to the application.

11. How are mistakes fixed on the CADAA?

After submitting an application, students should review the Confirmation Page to identify and fix any errors that need correction. After the initial successful completion of the application, CSAC will send an email with a nine-digit Dream ID number. If students haven't received an email from CSAC, be sure they check their junk/spam folders. Students will use their Dream ID number to create a WebGrants4 Students account to use when talking to their college or CSAC.

12. What's next after completing the CADAA?

After completing the CADAA, CSAC will send application data to all colleges listed on the application. If the student meets financial income and asset eligibility as well as GPA requirements, they will be considered for a Cal Grant and other state financial aid programs. Advise students to check the status of their Cal Grant eligibility using their WebGrants4 students account found at **WebGrants 4 Students**.