2015-16 Application Year

Completing the California Dream Act Application

California Student Aid Commission

888-224-7268

caldreamact@csac.ca.gov

The online Dream Act Application lists the application questions in a different order than the paper application. To find an answer to a question, look up the question here.

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Introduction

The California Dream Act Application is used to determine the California state financial eligibility of students who meet the qualifications of Assembly Bill 540 (AB 540), AB 130 and AB 131. The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) will process this application. Any aid received can only be used at eligible California institutions.

The Dream Act Application is used to apply for state financial aid like the University of California Grants, State University Grants and Community College Board of Governor's fee waivers. Also, the Dream Act Application is used to apply for Cal Grants at California public and private colleges and universities. This is not an application for federal financial aid. **Students who have a Social Security Number that was issued after completing the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) process must file the Dream Act application.** These Social Security cards will say "Valid For Work Only With DHS Authorization." Other students with Social Security numbers must file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA application is completed on-line at www.fafsa.gov.

California law requires that the financial eligibility for students who meet AB 131 criteria be calculated in the same manner as any other students receiving California state financial aid. The law instructs that the federal financial aid methodology (FM) be used to determine a student's financial need. As a result of this requirement, most of the questions on this application are also asked on the FAFSA, but it is important that students who are eligible to file the FAFSA use that application.

Completing and submitting the Dream Act Application is **free**, whether you file electronically or on paper. The website explains how to complete the 2015-16 *California Dream Act Application* (Dream Act Application) and explains the purpose of the Dream Act Application questions. In this document, there is a section that provides answers to a number of frequently asked questions (FAQs). After you review this document, if you have additional questions about state financial aid, or how to complete an electronic or paper application, you may contact your financial aid administrator (FAA) or call CSAC at 888-224-7268. You may also go to the California Dream Act Website at www.caldreamact.org.

How to complete the Dream Act Application

There are two ways to complete a Dream Act Application:

1. Online at www.caldreamact.org (recommended). This is faster and easier. If you do not have a computer with Internet access at home, you can find Internet access at your local library, high school, or a college financial aid office at a nearby campus.
2. Paper Dream Act Application Call the Student Aid Commission at 888-224-7268 to ask for a paper Dream Act Application.

Why complete a Dream Act Application?

CSAC uses the data on your Dream Act Application to calculate an Expected Family Contribution (EFC). The EFC is an indicator of your family's financial ability to pay for education after high school. Your school will subtract your EFC from your total cost of attendance. The result is your financial need.

The EFC is not necessarily the amount of money that your family must provide towards your education. Rather, it is an index that the college will use to determine how much financial aid you will receive if you attend that school.

The information you put on your Dream Act Application will be transmitted to the school(s) you listed on your application. In addition to using this information to calculate your EFC, many schools use this information to determine your eligibility for their financial aid. Some schools may also require you to complete additional applications.

Am I eligible for California student financial aid?

In general, to complete the Dream Act Application to receive aid from the State of California as a non-resident applying under AB 540 and AB 131, you must meet the following requirements:

- Attended high school in California for at least 3 full years OR graduated early from a California high school with the equivalent of at least three years of credits* AND
- Graduated or will graduate from a California high school or passed the California High School Proficiency Examination (CHSPE) or obtained a General Educational Development (GED) certificate in California AND
- Will register or enroll in an accredited and qualifying California college or university AND
- If applicable, complete or have completed an affidavit to legalize immigration status as soon as you are eligible to do so.

Each separate California aid program may have specific attendance, grade, financial and other requirements.

**if you graduated early from high school under this provision, you must also have attended CA schools (elementary and secondary) for a cumulative total of three or more years.*

Information Resources

Contact the colleges you hope to attend to inquire on financial aid available to AB 540 students. For information on the Cal Grant, go on-line to www.csac.ca.gov or call 888-224-7268.

CSAC provides the following services:

- Helps you to complete a Dream Act Application or make corrections to a Dream Act Application.
- Advises you how to add colleges on your application so they can receive the information.
- Advises you how to update your mailing address and e-mail address
- Advises you how to check the status of your Dream Act Application
- Advises you how to make corrections
- Explains who is eligible for state student aid

CSAC is not able to do the following:

- Make exceptions to the requirements of the law
- Expedite the student aid application process
- Discuss your student aid file with an unauthorized person
- Influence an individual school's financial aid policies or processes.

You may also find general information about state student aid and the Fund Your Future brochure on www.csac.ca.gov. *Fund Your Future* helps students and parents understand the financial aid process. This publication is for high school students, college students, parents, and adult learners looking for state student aid for their postsecondary education. It can be found at www.csac.ca.gov.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Where can I go to get assistance if I have questions while I am completing the Dream Act Application?
A. On the home page, www.caldreamact.org, go to "Dream Act Information & Resources" on the right side of the page. This page lists all of the available options for getting additional assistance.

Q. Why does CSAC ask for income information from the year before I go to school?
A. The law requires that this information be used. Studies have shown that verifiable income information from the most recently completed tax year is more accurate than projected income information and provides a reasonable basis for determining family financial strength in calculating the Expected Family Contribution (EFC).

Q. What should I do if my family has unusual circumstances? There is no place on the application to explain these circumstances.
A. If you or your family has unusual circumstances that you feel impacts your ability to pay for school (such as loss of employment, loss of benefits, death, or divorce), complete the

Dream Act Application to the extent that you can and submit it as instructed. Then talk to the financial aid administrator (FAA) at the school you plan to attend. If your family's circumstances change after you complete the Dream Act Application, the FAA may decide, on a case-by-case basis, to adjust data elements used to calculate your EFC. The FAA's decision is final and cannot be appealed to CSAC.

Q. What should I do if I have a special circumstance and cannot get my parent's data to report on the Dream Act Application?
A. If you are considered a dependent student by the application, but have no contact with your parents and are unable to provide your parents data on the Dream Act Application, you may have a special circumstance. If you are completing the Dream Act Application online, answer the questions to the best of your ability then sign and submit the form for processing. If you are completing a paper application, complete as much of the form as you can, sign, and submit it for processing. Your application will be incomplete and no EFC will be calculated, however, the financial aid offices at the schools listed on your Dream Act Application will still receive your data. Contact those schools listed on your Dream Act Application for further assistance to complete your application.

Note: Not living with your parents or the fact that your parents do not want to provide their information on your Dream Act Application **are not** considered special circumstances. Examples of special circumstances are when your parent or parents are incarcerated or you had to leave home because of an abusive situation. Your school of attendance will require documentation supporting claims of special circumstances.

Q. If I live with an aunt, uncle, or grandparent, should that relative's income be reported on my Dream Act Application?
A. Generally, no. You can only report your birth parents' or adoptive parents' income on your Dream Act Application. Only if a relative has adopted you and is now your adoptive parent can you report that person's information on your Dream Act Application. However, you must report for question 44(J) any cash support given by relatives except food and housing.

Q. I'm not sure if I am interested in working during the school year. What should I enter for the questions asking if I am interested in being considered for Campus employment?
A. Some schools have campus jobs that they can offer to student who are legally eligible to work. These would be students who have been through the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) process who have a work authorization and a Social Security number. The Dream act Application does not ask whether a student is interested in campus employment. Please inquire with the campus to determine if you can be employed by the school during the school year.

Q. I am now a U.S. citizen but have an Alien Registration Number (A-Number). How do I indicate this on the application?
A. If you are a US citizen, you should file the FAFSA application.

Q. I'm going to get married this summer. How do I answer the question that asks if I am married?
A. You must answer based on your marital status on the day you complete and sign your Dream Act Application. Answer "Yes" if you are married on the day you complete and sign your Dream Act Application, otherwise, answer "No." If you answer "No" and then marry after you originally file your Dream Act Application, you cannot change your answer. If you are still married when you apply in future years, you will file as a married student at that time.

Q. I'll be filing a tax return this year but I probably won't get around to it until April. How should I answer the financial questions? Should I wait to fill out this form after I've filed my tax return?
A. If you or your parents will file tax returns, the returns should ideally be completed before the Dream Act Application is completed. Many schools award aid on a first-come, first-served basis so accurate information provided as early as possible is decided. Be aware that you will not be eligible for a Cal Grant award if you wait until the tax filing deadline to submit your Dream Act Application. Also, many institutional deadlines are early in the calendar year. If you haven't completed your tax return, you should calculate your adjusted gross income (AGI) and taxes paid using the instructions for IRS Form 1040. You can get the instructions and the form at a public library or download them in Portable Document Format (PDF) from www.irs.gov/formspubs/index.html.

Assuming you are required to file a tax return, you might be required to provide your school with a copy of your Tax Return Transcript before you receive financial aid.

Q. If my parents are divorced, whose information do I need?
A. Report the information of the parent with whom you lived the most during the 12 months preceding the date you completed the Dream Act Application. It does not make a difference which parent claims you as a dependent for tax purposes. If you did not live with either parent or lived equally with each parent, the parental information must be provided for the parent from whom you received the most financial support during the preceding 12 months or the parent from whom you received the most support the last time support was given.

Q. I am entering financial information for my mother and stepfather on the Dream Act Application. Should I give my father's Social Security number (SSN) and last name, or my stepfather's?
A. If they have an SSN, you should provide the SSN and last name of the same person or people for whom you are reporting financial information. In this case, provide the SSNs and names of your mother and stepfather. If they have Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers (ITIN), provide those numbers. If they do not have an SSN or an ITIN, list all zeros in that field.

Q. What should I do if my parent that I live with is remarried and my stepparent refuses to supply information?
A. If you are a dependent student and your parent is remarried, the stepparent's information must be included or you will not be considered for student financial

aid. If you believe that your situation is unique or unusual, other than your stepparent simple refusing to provide the requested information, you should discuss the matter further with your financial aid administrator.

Q. How does a family decide who should be counted in the household size?
A. Anyone in the immediate family who receives more than 50% support from a dependent student's parents or an independent student and spouse may be counted in the household size even if that person does not reside in the house. For example, a sibling who is over 24 but still receives the majority of his/her support from the parents can be included. Siblings who are dependent (as defined by the Dream Act Application) as of the date you apply for aid are also included, regardless of whether they receive more than 50% of their support from the parents. Any other person who resides in the household and receives more than 50% support from the parents may also be counted, as long as they will continue to reside with your parents and the support is expected to continue through June 30, 2016. An unborn child who will be born during the 2015-16 award year may also be counted in the household size if the parents, or independent student and spouse, will provide more than half of the child's support through the end of the 2015-16 award year (June 30, 2016).

Household size and tax exemptions are not necessarily the same. Exemptions are used when filing taxes for the previous year but household size refers to the school year that the student is applying for aid.

Q. My parents separated four months ago. I live with my mother. My parents filed a joint tax return and claimed me as an exemption. Do I report income for both parents, or for just my mother?
A. Report only your mother's income and asset information because you lived with her the most during the past 12 months. Use a W-2 Form or other record(s) to determine her share of the income reported and taxes paid on the tax return. On the application you would enter her information as "Parent 1."

Q. If I (the student) am separated but filed a joint tax return, how is the information reported?
A. You should give only your portion of the exemptions, income and taxes paid.

Q. Who qualifies to be counted in the number in school?
A. Any person (other than your parents) who is counted in the household and who will be attending any term of the academic year at least half-time qualifies to be counted. The person must be working toward a degree or certificate leading to a recognized education credential at a postsecondary school eligible to participate in the student aid programs. You (the student) do not have to be enrolled half-time to be counted in the number in school.

The Privacy Act

State and institutional student financial aid programs may also use the information that you provide on the Dream Act Application to determine if you are eligible to receive state and institutional aid. Therefore, the Commission will disclose the information that you provide on this form to each institution you list in questions 107a - 107h.

Without your consent, the Commission may disclose information that you provide to entities under a published "routine use" rule. Under such the routine use rule, we may disclose information to third parties authorized to assist us in administering our programs

We may request additional information from you to process your application more efficiently. We will collect this information only as needed and on a voluntary basis.

The Application Process

Getting Started

You have two options to complete the application:

- Online at www.caldreamact.org (recommended) This is faster and easier.
- Paper Dream Act Application
  If you do not have a computer with Internet access at home, you can find Internet access at your local library, high school, or a college financial aid office.

To complete the Dream Act Application, you begin by gathering gather the following documents:

- ✓ W-2 forms and other 2014 records of income (if you or your parents have any)
- ✓ 2014 income tax return (s) (if you or your parents have one) For more information if you or your return(s) have not been completed, see the instructions on the Dream Act Application
- ✓ Records of child support paid (if applicable)
- ✓ Current bank statements (if applicable)
- ✓ Current stock, bond, and other investment records (if applicable)
- ✓ Current business and farm records (if applicable)

If you are applying online:

- Before going online, print out and complete the Dream Act Application Worksheet. This will help you complete the application.
- Then, go to www.caldreamact.org. You will first establish your user name and password before being guided through a step-by-step application process.

If you are applying on paper:

- Make copies of your completed application for your files before you mail it
- Do not mail letters, tax forms, or any extra materials with the application. Only send the application.
- Make sure that you put any important documents such as tax forms or letters in a secure file so you can refer to them in the future if you need them.
- Mail your completed application to the following address:

California Student Aid Commission
Cal Grant Operations
P.O. Box 419077
Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9077

This address is also listed on the front page of the paper Dream Act Application

What happens after you apply?

After receiving your completed application, CSAC will analyze your Dream Act Application information and, using a formula established by Congress, calculate an **Expected Family Contribution** (EFC) for you. The results of your application will be sent to the schools you list on your application.

You can check your application status by going to www.caldreamact.org. If you filed a paper Dream Act Application, you can check the status 28 days from the date you mail the application. Another way to check the status of your application is by calling CSAC.

Please Note: If you need to make changes to your application information, go to www.caldreamact.org. You will then be given the option to make any necessary changes or corrections. However, you must not make any changes to income or asset information if that information was correct at the time you submitted your original application. Such information represents a "snapshot" of your family's financial strength and should not be updated.

Key application dates and deadlines

There is a March 2, 2015* filing deadline for the state Cal Grant program. Many colleges also use that date as their financial aid filing deadline. If you file the application after that date you cannot receive Cal Grant consideration but may be able to receive assistance in other programs.

To allow CSAC to be able to send your application data to the college you attend, we must receive your completed application no later than May 31, 2016 but schools may have much earlier deadlines! In all cases, your school must have your correct and complete application information by **your last day of enrollment during the 2015-16 year.** There are no exceptions to this requirement.

Receiving student aid

Aid from the State of California student aid programs will be paid to you through your school. The school will notify you of your aid package. Typically, your school will first use the aid to pay tuition and fee charges and room and board, if provided by the school. Any remainder will be paid to you for your other education-related expenses. The remainder may be distributed to you on a debit card, by direct deposit to your bank account or on a paper check.

If you believe that you have unusual circumstances that should be taken into account in determining your financial need, contact the financial aid administrator at the school awarding your aid. Unusual circumstances might include extremely high medical or dental expenses or a significant change in income from one year to the next. **Please note that the financial aid administrator's decision is final and cannot be appealed to CSAC.**

*State applications with deadlines that fall on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday will be accepted on the next business day.

The Application Questions

Overview

The next section will guide you step-by-step through the application questions. If you are using the online Dream Act Application, you will be asked to either key in your answers or use the drop-down menus or radio buttons to select your answers. If you are filing a paper Dream Act Application, use the, "Notes" pages as a guide to complete the answers on the six-page application.

Prior to completing the online Dream Act Application, you should fill out the Dream Act Application Worksheet and print it to help you prepare to complete the Dream Act Application online. By taking this action, you can easily transfer the data from the worksheet to the Web when you begin completing the Dream Act Application online.

Online Dream Act Application has a built in skip logic so some filers may be able to skip certain questions based on their answers to earlier questions. For example, you will be able to skip the parents question if you are an independent student.

Questions 1-30 (All applicants must complete these questions)

These question numbers refer to the questions on the paper Dream Act Application the same questions are asked on the on-line Dream Act Application. On both the paper application and the on-line application some question numbers are skipped due to the use of skip-logic and due to program changes.

Questions 1-13

1-3. Name. You are required to provide your name. The name provided for this question should match exactly the name on your high school and college records. If your name has a

suffix, such as Jr. or III, include a space between your last name and the suffix. If you are currently attending a community college, be sure to list your name the same as on college records. If you use a name (such as a nickname) other than the name on your school records, this could prevent you from getting student financial aid or there might be a delay in the awarding of your aid.

4-7. Mailing address. You are required to provide a permanent home mailing address (not a school or office address).

Use the following table to determine the two-character code for your state, territory, province or country. A homeless student may use his or her school's administrative address. If such a student uses a school's administrative address, the school's financial aid administrator (FAA) must include a letter with the Dream Act Application indicating that the student is homeless and is therefore using the school's address.

Alabama	AL
Alaska	AK
Alberta	AB
American Samoa	AS
Arizona	AZ
Arkansas	AR
Armed Forces - Americas	AA
Armed Forces - Europe	AE
Armed Forces - Pacific	AP
British Columbia	BC
California	CA
Canada	CN
Colorado	CO
Connecticut	CT
Delaware	DE
District of Columbia	DC
Federated States of Micronesia	FM
Florida	FL
Georgia	GA
Guam	GU
Hawaii	HI
Idaho	ID
Illinois	IL
Indiana	IN
Iowa	IA
Kansas	KS
Kentucky	KY
Louisiana	LA
Maine	ME
Manitoba	MB
Marshall Islands	MH
Maryland	MD
Massachusetts	MA
Mexico	MX
Michigan	MI
Minnesota	MN
Mississippi	MS
Missouri	MO
Montana	MT
Nebraska	NE
Nevada	NV
Newfoundland	NF
Newfoundland/Labrador	NL
New Brunswick	NB
New Hampshire	NH
New Jersey	NJ
New Mexico	NM
New York	NY
North Carolina	NC
North Dakota	ND
Northern Mariana Islands	MP
Northwest Territories	NT
Nova Scotia	NS
Nunavut	NU
Ohio	OH
Oklahoma	OK
Ontario	ON
Oregon	OR
Palau	PW
Pennsylvania	PA
Prince Edward Island	PE
Puerto Rico	PR
Quebec	PQ, QC
Rhode Island	RI
Saskatchewan	SK
South Carolina	SC
South Dakota	SD
Tennessee	TN
Texas	TX
Utah	UT
Vermont	VT
Virgin Islands	VI
Virginia	VA
Washington	WA
West Virginia	WV
Wisconsin	WI
Wyoming	WY
Yukon	YT

8. Your Social Security Number (SSN) or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) If you have an SSN enter it here. If you do not have an SSN, but have an ITIN, enter that number. If you have both numbers, enter your SSN. If you have neither number, leave this question blank.

8a. If you entered an SSN in question 8, was it issued after you went through the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) process? Check yes if your SSN was issued after you completed the DACA process.

9. Your date of birth. You are required to provide your date of birth. Enter in the appropriate boxes of the paper Dream Act Application the month, day and year in which you were born (formatted as MMDDYYYY). Do not use dashes on either the Web or paper applications. For example, if you were born on April 1, 1997, you would enter 04011997.

10. Your permanent telephone number. Enter your permanent telephone number where you can be contacted. Follow the instructions showing how to enter the number. For example, parentheses and dashes are used on the paper forms: (818) 555-1212; however, on the online *Dream Act Application*, you would enter 8185551212.

11. Your Statewide Student Identification number (SSID) You will have the 10 digit SSID only if you attended a California public high school. Otherwise leave this question blank. You can find your SSID on your high school transcripts or you can call your high school.

12. Your cell phone or alternate phone number. By providing this number, you will help us reach you faster if we need information from you. In the future, CSAC may begin using text message notifications. When this happens, your permission to use this contact method will be obtained before sending you any messages. Listing a mobile phone number here will allow the use of text messaging.

13-14. Your driver license number and state. If you have one, enter your driver license number (13) and its state of issue (14). If you do not have a driver license, leave Questions 13 and 14 blank.

15. Your e-mail address. This is a required field on the Dream act Application. CSAC will use this address as your primary contact address. If you do not have an e-mail address, you can obtain one without charge at yahoo.com or gmail.com. When you start college, your college may allow you to get an email through the college.

Questions 16-30

16. Citizenship status. You are required to indicate your citizenship status. If you are completing a paper Dream Act Application, fill in the appropriate circle. Online, select your citizenship status by using the drop-down menu. The citizenship status is directly related to which application you should be filing.

The Dream Act Application asks you to select from three questions under citizenship status:

1. **I am a U.S. citizen (U.S. national).**

   If you are a US citizen or U.S. National, you should file the FAFSA

2. **I am an eligible noncitizen.**

   If you meet the definition of "eligible non-citizen" below, you should file the FAFSA.

3. **I am not a citizen or eligible noncitizen.**

   If you select "not a citizen or eligible noncitizen" you should complete the Dream Act Application even if you have a Social Security number that you received through the DACA process. File the Dream Act Application if you are undocumented or possess a "U" Visa.

An Eligible Non-Citizen is:

- A U.S. permanent resident who has a Permanent Resident Card (I-551 or I-151) (also known as a green card)
- A conditional permanent resident with a conditional Green Card (I-551C)
- A person with an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) showing one of the following designations:
  - "Refugee"
  - "Asylum Granted"
  - "Cuban or -Haitian Entrant
  - "Conditional Entrant" (granted before April 1, 1980)
  - Victims of Human Trafficking, T-Visa holder (T-2, T-3, or T-4, etc.) or letter/certification from the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR)
  - Parolees (with evidence from USCIS that you are in the United States for other than a temporary purpose and intend to become a U.S. Citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident)
- A "qualified" Battered Immigrant is described at http://ifap.ed.gov/dpcletters/GEN1007.html
- A citizen of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia or Republic of Palau

If you are residing in the United States with one of the statuses as listed under "Eligible Non-Citizen," you should file the FAFSA at www.fafsa.gov.

If you are not a **U.S. citizen or an eligible noncitizen**, you cannot file the FAFSA application. You can file the Dream Act Application if you meet the requirements listed on page 5 of these instructions.

If you are residing in the United States with one of the following, you are not eligible to file the FAFSA or the Dream Act Application:

- An F-1, F-2 or M-1 student visa
- A J-1 or J-2 exchange visitor visa
- A B-1 or B-2 visitor visa
- A G series visa (pertaining to international organizations)
- An H series or L series visa (allowing temporary employment in the U.S.)
- A "Notice of Approval to Apply for Permanent Residence" (I-171 or I-464)

Persons residing in the United States with a "U" Visa should file the Dream Act Application making sure to also submit a school certified GPA by the March 2* deadline to receive Cal Grant consideration. *State applications with deadlines that fall on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday will be accepted on the next business day.

17. Alien Registration Number (A-Number). If you have one, please provide your A-Number. Enter your eight- or nine-digit A-Number. Leave the first space blank if you have an eight-digit A-Number. This is not used to determine your eligibility for state student financial aid but may be needed by your campus to maximize your consideration for other programs.

If you answered "No, I am not a citizen or eligible noncitizen" to Question 16, do not provide an Alien Registration Number (A-Number) in this question.

18. Marital status. If you are married, you are required to provide your marital status as of the date the application is signed. Your marital status directly affects how your income and assets are treated in the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) calculation. If your marital status changes after the date you first signed your Dream Act Application, you may be able to update that information. First, check with your financial aid office. They will determine if the update is necessary to more accurately reflect your financial situation.

19. Date of marital status. Enter the date (the month and the year) you were married, separated, divorced, or widowed. If you never married, leave this question blank.

20. The state where you live. You are required to provide the state in which you live. If you are a dependent student, this is usually the state in which your parents live. If you moved from your family's home into a state for the sole purpose of attending a school, do not count this state as your residence state.

Your state of residence is used in the EFC calculation to determine the appropriate allowance for state and other taxes paid by state residents.

21. Did you become a resident of that state before January 1, 2010. Select "Yes" if you become a resident of California before January 1, 2010 or "No" if you become a resident of California on or after January 1, 2010. Answering this question is not required for California state student financial assistance.

22. Date (month and year) of you started living in that state. If you answered "No" to Question 19, provide the month and year you began living in the state. We will use this information to determine whether you meet its specific residency criteria for state aid.

23. Are you male or female? You are required to indicate whether you are male or female.

Most males, age 18 through 25 must be registered with Selective Service to be eligible for state student aid. You can register on the Web at www.sss.gov.

If you believe that you are not required to register, call the Selective Service office at 847-688-6888 for information regarding exemptions.

23a. Selective Service. Most males between the ages of 18 and 25 are required to register with the Selective Service, regardless of their immigration status. The Selective Service System does not collect or share immigration information with anyone.

If you select "Register Me" on this application, we will send your data to the Selective Service System to register you. You will receive a confirmation by US mail of your registration from the Selective Service within 90 days. Keep the original and provide a copy to your college financial aid office in order to receive state financial aid.

If you don't select "Register Me", be aware that you may still be required by your college to fill out a paper registration form, sign, and mail it. This may delay your state financial aid disbursement.

For more information about Selective Service requirements go to www.sss.gov.

24-25. Father's/mother's highest school level. Indicate your father's/mother's highest level of schooling. "Father" and "mother" in these questions mean your birth parents or adoptive parents, but not stepparents or foster parents. If you don't know the answer, select or fill in "Other/unknown." These questions do not affect your eligibility for student aid. Some college programs use the information provided here to offer aid to first-generation college students.

Note that **this definition of parents is unique to these two questions**. All other questions use the definition given on page 6 of the paper form and elsewhere on this site (see Questions 58-92).

26. High school diploma/GED/Home Schooled/None of the above. You are required to indicate your high school completion status or its equivalent before beginning the 2015-2016 school year.

Choose from the following:

High school diploma
General Educational Development (GED) certificate
Home schooled
None of the above

27. High school information. If you indicated in Question 26 that you have a high school diploma, please indicate in this question the name, city, and state of the high school from which you received or will receive your high school diploma. If you are filing on the web and your high school is not found in the listing, you should type in the name, as well as the city and the state in which the school is located.

28. First bachelor's degree. Will you have your first bachelor's degree before July 1, 2015? A bachelor's degree includes degrees earned outside of the United States that are the equivalent of a bachelor's degree. If you have a foreign bachelor's degree and do not feel if is the equivalent of a U.S. bachelor's degree you must talk to the college you will be attending to be able to correctly answer this question.

29. Grade level during 2015-2016 school year. Choose from the following:

Never attended college and 1st-year undergraduate (high school seniors and/or first-time students should choose this grade level)
Attended college before and 1st-year undergraduate
2nd-year undergraduate/sophomore
3rd-year undergraduate/junior
4th-year undergraduate/senior
5th-year/other undergraduate
1st-year graduate/professional
Continuing graduate/professional or beyond

Grade level does not mean the number of years you have attended college. It means your grade level in regard to completing your degree/certificate. (For example, if you are have been enrolled less than full-time, you may be considered a second year student even though you have already been attending for longer than two years.

30. Degree or certificate. Choose from the following to indicate the expected degree or certificate you will be working on during the 2015-2016 school year. List the first degree/certificate you intend to earn even if you also have plans for a more advanced degree.

If your degree or certificate does not fit any of these categories, or if you are undecided, choose "Other/undecided."

- 1st bachelor's degree
- 2nd bachelor's degree
- Associate degree (occupational or technical program) Associate degree (general education or transfer program)
- Certificate or diploma for completing an occupational, technical, or education program of less than two years
- Certificate or diploma for completing an occupational, technical, or education program of two or more years
- Teaching credential (non-degree program) Graduate or professional degree
- Other/undecided

31. Are you interested in student loans. Filling in the "yes" oval does not obligate you to a student loan. Check with your college campus to see what financial aid programs they offer.
A new law for the 2015-16 school year allows campuses of the University of California and California State University to offer student loans to AB 540 eligible students. If you are offered a loan, you will have to pay it back even if you do not complete your schooling.
Check with your campus on the terms of any student loan, like the monthly payment amount, interest rate and when repayment starts.

Questions 32-59 Instructions (All applicants must complete these questions)

Purpose: All students (dependent and independent) must provide their financial information for these questions. The Expected Family Contribution (EFC) calculation, determined by a formula specified by law, uses a family's income, assets, exemptions, and household size to determine whether the family has discretionary income. If the family has discretionary income, a portion, and only a portion, of that income is included in the EFC as available for the student's educational costs.

How to complete the income tax section

If you and your parents will be filing a tax return, it is best to use a completed 2014 income tax return to fill out this application. You should calculate your adjusted gross income (AGI) and taxes paid using the applicable IRS instructions. You can get the instructions and the appropriate tax form at a public library or download them in Portable Document Format (PDF) from www.irs.gov/formspubs/index.html.

When your application is compared with the tax return actually filed, the financial information must agree. If there are differences, you must correct the Dream Act Application information online at www.caldreamact.org

Even if you and your parents **are not required to file a 2014 income tax return**, you will need to calculate your earnings for the year. Use W-2 forms and other records to answer the questions in this section.
If an answer is zero or a question does not apply to you, enter 0 (zero). Do not leave any of these questions blank.

For the 2015-2016 Dream Act Application, you will use 2014 tax information to answer the income tax questions. The income tax questions give 2014 Internal Revenue Service (IRS) tax form line references. If you will not be filing 2014 year taxes, you will instructed to not answer some questions

If you are **married** at the time you submit the Dream Act Application, even if you were not married in 2014, both your **and** your spouse's income, assets and exemptions must be reported. If you and your spouse filed (or will file) **separate tax returns** for 2014, be sure to include the combined information from both returns on the Dream Act Application.

Same-sex couples must report their marital status as married if they were legally married in a state or other jurisdiction (foreign country) that permits same-sex marriage.

If you are single, divorced, separated, or widowed, you must answer the questions for yourself only and ignore the references on the Dream Act Application to "spouse."

If you are **divorced, separated, or widowed** but filed (or will file) a joint tax return for 2014, you must give only your portion of the exemptions, income and taxes paid for the income and asset questions.

Use the information from one of the following 2014 income tax forms to complete the Dream Act Application in the same manner as U.S. tax information: the income tax return required by Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Swain's Island, or the Northern Marianas Islands or one of the Freely Associated States (the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, or the Republic of Palau. The amounts on these returns are already reported in U.S. dollars.

Foreign income

Income earned in a foreign country is treated the same as income earned in the U.S. Convert all figures to U.S. dollars, using the exchange rate in effect on the day you complete the Dream Act Application. You can find information on current exchange rates at www.federalreserve.gov/releases/h10/current.

Include the value of any taxes paid to the foreign government in the "U.S. income tax paid" line item. If income earned in the foreign country was not taxed by the central government of that country and was not subject to the foreign income exclusion based on filing an IRS Form 2555 or 2555EZ, the income must be reported as untaxed income in Question 45(i).

In many cases, if you file a return with the IRS for a year in which foreign income was earned, a portion of the foreign income can be excluded on IRS Form 2555 for U.S. tax purposes. The figure reported on line 45 of Form 2555 (or line 18 of Form 2555EZ) should not be reported in Question 45(i).

Questions 32-35

32. For 2014, have you (the student) completed your IRS income tax return or another tax return listed in question 33? Indicate whether you have already completed, are going to complete, or will not file a tax return for 2014.

33. What income tax return did you file or will you file for 2014? Indicate which tax form you filed or will file for 2014 or leave blank if you will not be filing.

34. What is or will be your tax filing status for 2014? Enter your tax filing status

35. Eligible to file a 1040A or 1040EZ. Regardless of what tax form you filed, or even if you did not file, **i**ndicate whether you were eligible to file a 1040A or 1040EZ

Answer "Yes" to eligible to file a 1040A or 1040EZ if you

- make less than $100,000, and
- do not itemize deductions, and
- do not receive income from your own business or farm, and
- do not receive alimony.

Also answer "Yes" if you

- filed a 1040 only to claim the American Opportunity, Hope, or Lifetime Learning credits and you would have otherwise been eligible to file a 1040A or 1040EZ, or
- filed a 1040 and were not required to file a tax return.

Answer "No" if you

- itemize deductions, or
- are self-employed, or
- receive alimony, or
- are required to file Schedule D for capital gains.

If you will not be filing a tax return, skip question 36, 37 and 38.

36. Adjusted Gross Income. If you filed or will file a 2014 US tax return, provide your (and your spouse's) adjusted gross income (AGI) for 2014. AGI is found on IRS Form 1040—line 37; 1040A—line 21; or 1040EZ—line 4. If you have not completed a 2014 tax return, you should calculate your AGI using the instructions for the applicable IRS form. You can get the instructions and the form at a public library or download them in Portable Document Format (PDF) from www.irs.gov/formspubs/index.html.

Note: AGI includes more than just wages earned; for example, it also includes interest, dividends, alimony, taxable portions of Social Security, and business income. Leave this question blank if you will not be filing a federal income tax form.

37. Income tax. If you filed or will file a US tax form, enter your (and your spouse's) 2014 income tax from IRS Form 1040— line 56; 1040A—line 37; or 1040 EZ—line 10. Do **not** copy the amount of federal income tax **withheld** from a W-2 Form. Do not include any FICA, self-employment, or other taxes. If you did not pay any income tax for 2014, enter zero (0).

38. Exemptions. If you filed or will file a US tax form, enter your (and your spouse's) exemptions for 2014. Exemptions are on IRS Form 1040—line 6d or 1040A—line 6d. If you checked the "You" or "Spouse" box on 1040EZ—line 5, use 1040EZ worksheet line F to determine the number of exemptions ($3,900 equals one exemption). If you didn't check either box on line 5, you should enter "**01**" if single or "**02**" if married.

If you are divorced, separated, or widowed, and have filed or will file a joint tax return for 2014, you should give only your portion of the exemptions.

39. Student's income earned from working. Enter your 2014 income earned from work (wages, salaries, tips). You must answer this question. The amount reported here will receive certain income allowances (deductions) from your income for necessary expenses (such as taxes and basic living costs).

40. Spouse's income earned from working. If you are married, enter your spouse's 2014 income earned from work (wages, salaries, tips). The amount reported here will receive certain income allowances (deductions) from your income for necessary expenses (such as taxes and basic living costs).

If you filed (or will file) a tax return, you should include **your share only** from IRS form 1040—lines 7 + 12 + 18 + Box 14 of IRS Schedule K-1 (Form 1065); 1040A—line 7;
1040EZ – line 1. Even if you filed a joint return, you must report your and your spouse's earnings **separately**.

If you filed a tax return using other than an IRS form, such as a foreign or Puerto Rican tax form, you should report on the Dream Act Application the amounts (converted to U.S. dollars) from the lines of the non-IRS form that correspond most closely to those on the IRS forms.

If you did not file a tax return, you should report your earnings from work in 2014. You can find this information on your W-2 Form(s) or by totaling the wages that you received for the year.

Questions 41-43

Student Asset Information Instructions

An asset is defined as property that has an exchange value. The purpose of collecting asset information is to determine whether your family's assets are substantial enough to support a contribution toward your cost of attendance (COA). For these questions, only the net asset value is counted in the need analysis. To determine the net value of any asset, you first determine the market value of the asset and reduce the value by the amount of debt against that asset. The result is the net value of the asset.

Ownership of an asset

Ownership of an asset may be divided or contested in several situations:

- **Part ownership of asset.** If you (or your spouse) own an asset with others and therefore only own a portion or percentage of the asset, you (or your spouse) should report the net asset value that represents only your share of the asset owned. You would determine the current market value of the asset, reduce the value by any outstanding debt, and then multiply the net asset value by your ownership percentage. This result is then reported on the Dream Act Application.

- **Contested ownership.** An asset should not be reported if its ownership is being legally contested. For instance, if you and your spouse are separated and you may not sell or borrow against jointly owned property that is being contested, the Dream Act Application information you report would not list any value for the property or any debts against it. If ownership of the asset is resolved after the initial application is filed, you may not update this information. However, if ownership of the property is not being contested, you would report the property as an asset.

- **Lien against asset.** If there is a lien or imminent foreclosure against an asset, the asset would still be reported on the Dream Act Application until the party holding the lien or making the foreclosure completes legal action to take possession of the asset. If the status of the property changes after the application is filed, you may not update the asset information.

Assets that are not reported

Below are examples of assets that are not reported:

- **Principal place of residence/family farm.** Your principal place of residence is not reported as an asset. Neither is your family farm if the farm is your principal place of residence and your family "materially participated in the farm's operation."

- **A small business with 100 or fewer employees.** If your family owns and controls more than 50 percent of a small business that has 100 or fewer full-time or full-time equivalent employees, do not report the net value of the business as an asset. For small business value, your family includes (1) persons directly related to you, such as a parent, sister or cousin, or (2) persons who are or were related to you by marriage, such as a spouse, stepparent, or sister-in-law.

- **Personal possessions.** Do not report possessions such as a car, a stereo, clothes, or furniture. By the same token, personal debts such as credit card debt cannot be reported.

- **Pensions and Whole Life Insurance.** The cash value or built-up equity of a life insurance policy (often referred to as a whole-life policy) isn't reported as an asset. The income distributed to the beneficiary must be reported as income.

Investments

Rental properties. Generally, rental properties must be reported as investment assets rather than as business assets. To be reported as a business, a rental property would have to be part of a formally recognized business. (Usually such a business would provide additional services, such as regular cleaning, linen or, maid service.)

Student Asset Information Questions

41. Total current balance of cash, savings, and checking accounts. Include the balance of your (and your spouse's) cash, savings, and checking accounts **as of the date the Dream Act Application is completed**. Do not include student financial aid.

42. Net worth of investments. Net worth means current value minus current debt. Investments include real estate such as rental property, land and second or summer homes. Do not include your primary place of residence (your home). Include the value of any multifamily dwellings that you own, except that you must exclude the portion of the value of a dwelling that is your residence. Investments also include trust funds, Uniform Transfers to Minors Act (UTMA)/Uniform Gifts to Minors Act (UGMA) Custodial Accounts, money market funds, mutual funds, certificates of deposit, stocks, stock options, bonds, other securities, Coverdell savings accounts, 529 college savings plans, the refund value of 529 prepaid tuition plans, installment and land sale contracts (including mortgages held), commodities, etc. Do not include the value of life insurance and retirement plans (401[k] plans, pension funds, annuities, non- Education IRAs, Keogh plans, etc.). Do not include UTMA or UGMA accounts for which you are the custodian but not the owner.

You should report the value of all qualified educational benefits or education savings accounts, such as Coverdell savings account, 529 college savings plan or the refund value of a 529 prepaid tuition plan in Question 42 if you or your spouse own the account and you are not reporting parental information on this application.

If you are a dependent student who owns qualified educational benefits savings accounts, such as Coverdell savings accounts, 529 College Savings Plans, or the refund value of 529 prepaid tuition plans, you must report the values in Question 95 with your parents' asset information.

Investment Value – Investment Debt = Net Worth of Investments

If you (and your spouse) own real estate or investments other than your principal residence, their value equals the amount they are worth today. Investment debt equals how much you (and/or your spouse) owe on real estate and investments other than your principal residence. Investment debt means only those debts that are related to the investments.

Subtract the amount of debt on these assets from their value to determine the net worth of the asset. Indicate this amount in **Question 42** for net worth of investments.

43. Net worth of business and/or investment farm. Business or farm value includes the current market value of land, buildings, machinery, equipment, inventory, etc. Do not include your primary home. Do not include the net worth of a family owned and controlled small business with not more than 100 full-time or full-time equivalent employees.

Business/Farm Value – Business/Farm Debt = Net Worth of the Business/Farm

For business or investment farm value, first figure out how much the business or farm is worth today. An investment farm is a farming business where the student (and/or spouse, if married) does not reside on the farm, nor do they materially operate the farm.
Business or investment farm debts are what you (and/or your spouse) owe on the business or farm. Include only debts for which the business or farm was used as collateral.

Subtract the amount of debt from the value. Indicate this amount in Question 43 for net worth of business and/or investment farm.

To report current market value for a business, you must use the amount for which the business could sell as of the date of the application. Also, if you are not the sole owner of the business, you should report only your share of its value and debt.

44. Student's Additional Financial Information. Enter combined amounts for you and your spouse.

a. **Education credits.** Enter the total amount of American Opportunity, Hope, or Lifetime Learning credits you (or your spouse) received from Form 1040—line 50 or 1040A—line 33. For more information about these tax credits, visit the IRS website at www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p970.pdf.

b. **Child support payments.** Enter child support payments paid by you (or your spouse) because of divorce, separation, or as a result of a legal requirement. Do not include support for children in your household, as reported in the "number in household" question on the Dream Act Application (Question 99). A child is a member of your household if you provide more than half of the child's support, whether they live with you or not.

c. **Taxable earnings from need-based employment program**s. Enter earnings from need based work programs including Federal Work-Study and need-based employment portions of fellowships and assistantships.

d. **Student grants and other awards.** Enter any student grant and scholarship aid reported to the IRS in your Adjusted Gross Income. This includes AmeriCorps benefits (awards, living allowances, and interest accrual payments), as well as grant and scholarship portions of fellowships.

e. **Combat Pay or Special Combat Pay.** Enter only the amount that was taxable and included in your adjusted gross income. Don't include untaxed combat pay reported on the W-2 (Box 12, Code Q).

f. **Earnings from work under a cooperative education program.** Enter here any amounts you earned from work under a cooperative education program offered by an institution of higher education.

45. Student's 2014 Untaxed Income. Enter the combined amounts for you and your spouse (if you are married). If you have any income in these categories, enter it even if you will not be filing taxes.

a. **Payments to tax-deferred pension and savings plans.** Enter amounts paid into tax-sheltered or deferred annuities (whether paid directly or withheld from earnings), including—but not limited to—amounts reported on the W-2 Form, in Boxes 12a through 12d, codes D, E, F, G, H, and S. You must include untaxed portions of 401(k) and 403(b) plans. Note that **employer contributions to tax- deferred pension and savings plans should not be reported** on the Dream Act Application as an untaxed benefit.

b. **IRA and other plans.** Enter the amount of IRA deductions and payments to self-employed Simplified Employee Pension (SEP), Savings Incentive Match Plan for Employees (SIMPLE) and Keogh and other qualified plans. These plan payments can be found on IRS 1040—total of lines 28 + 32 or 1040A—line 17.

c. **Child support received.** Enter the amount of child support you received for any children during 2014. Do not include foster care or adoption payments.

d. **Tax-exempt interest income.** Enter the total amount of tax-exempt interest income you (and your spouse) earned in 2014, as reported on Form 1040—line 8b or 1040A—line 8b.

e. **Untaxed portions of IRA distributions.** Enter the untaxed portions of your IRA distributions. This amount can be calculated from IRS Form 1040 (line 15a minus 15b) or 1040A (line 11a minus 11b). Exclude rollovers. If the result is a negative number, enter a zero here.

f. **Untaxed portions of pensions.** Enter the untaxed portions of your pension distributions. This amount can be calculated from IRS Form 1040 (line 16a minus 16b) or 1040A (line 12a minus 12b). Exclude rollovers. If the result is a negative number, enter a zero here.

g. **Housing, food, and other living allowances.** Enter the amount of housing, food and other living allowances provided to you or your spouse. These allowances must be reported when they are part of a compensation package that some people, particularly clergy and military personnel, receive for their jobs. Include cash payments and cash value of benefits. If you received free room and board for a job that was not awarded as federal or state student aid, you must report the value of the room and board as untaxed income. (This category, "housing allowances," excludes rent subsidies for low-income housing.)

h. **Veterans' non-education benefits.** Enter the total amount of veterans' **non-education** benefits you received. Include Disability, Death Pension, Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC), and/or VA Educational Work- Study allowances.

i. **Other untaxed income and benefits.** Enter untaxed income or benefits not reported in items 44a through 44h, such as worker's compensation or disability benefits, interest income on educational IRAs, untaxed portions of railroad retirement benefits, black lung benefits, the untaxed portion of capital gains, and foreign income that wasn't taxed by any government.

   Don't include student aid, earned income credit, additional child tax credit, welfare payments, untaxed Social Security benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Workforce Investment Act educational benefits, on-base military housing or a military housing allowance, combat pay, benefits from flexible spending arrangements (for example, cafeteria plans), foreign income exclusion, or credit for federal tax on special fuels.

j. **Money received, or paid on your behalf (e.g., bills), not reported elsewhere on this form.** Enter the amount of any cash support you received from a friend or relative (other than your parents, if you are a dependent student). Cash support includes payments made on your behalf. For instance, if your aunt pays your rent or utility bill that you would otherwise be obligated to pay yourself, you must report those payments here.

Certain income and benefits should **not** be reported in Questions 44 and 45:

- **Student financial aid.** Student aid received is already taken into account when a school packages your aid. However, work-study earnings must be reported as taxed income in the income questions of the Student's Income and Assets section.

- **Food stamps and other programs.** Benefits received from federal, state, or local governments from the following programs are not counted as untaxed income: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (formerly the Food Stamp Program); Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC); Food Distribution Program; Commodity Supplemental Food Program; National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs; Summer Food Service Program; and Special Milk Program for Children.

- **Dependent Assistance.** You may be eligible to exclude a limited amount of benefits received for dependent care assistance if certain requirements are met. Generally, up to $5,000 of benefits may be excluded from an employee's gross income, or $2,500 for a married employee who files a separate return from his or her spouse. This exclusion cannot exceed the employee's (or his or her spouse's) earned income. If you are receiving benefits for your children through the CalWORKs Child Care Program, list that in this question.

Questions 46-58 (Dependency questions – All applicants must complete). These questions appear in Section C of the paper Dream Act Application and will also be displayed online.

Purpose: These questions are used to determine, according to law, whether you are a dependent or an independent student for purposes of calculating an EFC. If you answer "No" to all of these questions, you are a dependent student, even if you do not live with your parents. On a case-by-case basis, a FAA may make an otherwise dependent student independent if he or she can document in the student's file that the student's individual circumstances warrant the decision. The reason must relate to that individual student and not to an entire class of students. **The FAA's decision is final and cannot be appealed to CSAC.**

A dependent student will move on to questions 59-98, and provide information about his or her parents in the purple areas of the paper Dream Act Application or in the area designated for parental income online. On the 2015-2016 Dream Act Application, only an independent student who answers "Yes" to any one of the dependency questions 46 through 58 will skip questions 59-98 and continue with Question 99 through to the end of the application. All students must complete the rest of the application from Question 101 through the end.

You must answer "Yes" or "No" to each of the following questions:

46. Were you born before January 1, 1992? If you were born before January 1, 1992, answer "Yes". Note that if you were born on January 1, 1992 or later, you should answer "No."

47. As of today, are you married? Answer "Yes" if you are married on the date you complete the application. As previously stated under the instructions for Question 16, marital status cannot be projected. "Married" does not mean living together unless your state recognizes your relationship as common-law marriage. Answer "Yes" if you are separated but not divorced.

48. At the beginning of the 2015-2016 school year, will you be working on a master's or doctorate program (such as an MA, MBA, MD, JD, Ph.D., Ed.D, graduate certificate, etc.)? You should answer "Yes" if you will be enrolled in a master's or doctorate program in the initial term you attend in 2015-2016. If you will be finishing your bachelor's degree in the initial term of the school year and then moving on to a master's or doctorate you should first answer Question 48 as "No." Once you have completed the undergraduate degree, this question should be corrected to "Yes" and resubmitted. You should also notify your college Financial Aid Administrator.

A graduate or professional student is not eligible for a Cal Grant. Therefore, if you incorrectly report that you are a graduate or professional student, you will need to correct this answer to receive consideration for any of the grants reserved for undergraduate students.

49. Are you currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training? Answer "Yes" if you are currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces or are a National Guard or Reserve enlistee who is on active duty for other than state or training purposes. Answer "No" if you are a National Guard or Reserve enlistee who is on active duty for state or training purposes.

50. Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces? You should answer "Yes" if

- You have engaged in active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard), or you were a member of the National Guard or Reserve who was called to active duty for purposes other than state or training purposes, or you were a cadet or midshipman at one of the service academies, **and**

- You were released under a condition other than dishonorable. Box 24 of the DD214 indicates the "Character of Service." If anything other than "dishonorable" appears in that box, you should answer "Yes" to this question, as long as you were called to active service. There is no minimum amount of time the student has to have served to be considered a veteran for student aid purposes, but it does have to have been considered "active service." If "dishonorable" appears in box 24, you must answer "No" to Question 50.

You should also answer "Yes" if you are not a veteran now but will be one by June 30, 2016.

You should answer "No" (you are not a veteran) if:

- You have never engaged in active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces,

- You are currently an ROTC student or a cadet or midshipman at a service academy, or
- You are a National Guard or Reserve enlistee activated only for training purposes.
- You were engaged in active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces but released under dishonorable conditions.

Please note that if you are currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces and will continue to serve through June 30, 2016, you should answer "No" to this particular question.

51. Do you have children who will receive more than half of their support from you between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016? "Support" includes money, gifts, loans, housing, food, clothes, car payments or expenses, medical and dental care, and payment of school costs that you pay. An applicant whose unborn child will be born before the end of the award year (June 30, 2016) may answer "Yes" if the child will receive more than half of his or her support from you throughout the award year. Note that the support is the issue here; it does not matter whether the child lives with you or not.

52. Do you have dependents (other than your children or spouse) who live with you and who receive more than half of their support from you, now and through June 30, 2016? Again, the Dream Act Application is asking about "support" that includes money, gifts, loans, housing, food, clothes, car payments or expenses, medical and dental care, and payment of school costs that you pay. For this question, the people supported must live with you throughout the award year.

53. At any time since you turned age 13, were both your parents deceased, were you in foster care, or were you a dependent or ward of the court? You should answer "Yes" if you had no living parent (biological or adoptive) at any time since you turned age 13 or older, even if you are now adopted.

Answer "Yes" if you were in foster care at any time since you turned age 13, even if you are no longer in foster care as of today.

Answer "Yes" if you were a dependent or ward of the court at any time since you turned age 13, even if you are no longer a dependent or ward of the court as of today.

Note that the financial aid administrator at your school may require you to provide proof that you were in foster care or were a dependent/ward of the court.

54. Are you or were you an emancipated minor as determined by a court in your state of legal residence?

Answer "Yes" if you can provide a copy of a court's decision that as of today you are an emancipated minor. Answer "Yes" if you can provide a copy of a court's decision that you were an emancipated minor immediately before you reached the age of being an adult in your state. The court must be located in your state of residence at the time the court's decision was issued.

Answer "No" if you are still a minor and the court decision is no longer in effect or the court decision was not in effect at the time you became an adult.

Note that the financial aid administrator at your college may require you to provide proof that you were an emancipated minor.

55. Are you or were you in legal guardianship as determined by a court in your state of legal residence?

Answer "Yes" if you can provide a copy of a court's decision that as of today you are in legal guardianship. Also answer "Yes" if you can provide a copy of a court's decision that you were in a legal guardianship immediately before you reached the age of being an adult in your state. The court must be located in your state of legal residence at the time the court's decision was issued.

Answer "No" if you are still a minor and the court decision is no longer in effect or the court decision was not in effect at the time you became an adult.

56. At any time on or after July 1, 2014, did your high school or school district homeless liaison determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless?

57. At any time on or after July 1, 2014, did the director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless?

58. At any time on or after July 1, 2014, did the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or was self-supporting and at risk of being homeless?

For Questions 56-58, answer "Yes" if you received a determination at any time on or after July 1, 2014, that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless, or for question 58, at risk of being homeless. Note that the financial aid administrator at your college may require you to provide a copy of the determination if you answered "Yes" to Question 56, 57, or 58.

You may be considered an unaccompanied homeless youth or be a youth who was self-supporting and at risk of being homeless even though you do not have a determination from the district liaison or the director of the programs cited in these questions. These officials only make these determinations if you are in high school or are receiving their services. If you are not in high school or receiving the services of these programs, your financial aid office can determine whether you should be considered an unaccompanied homeless youth or an unaccompanied youth who is self-supporting and at risk of being homeless.

You should contact your financial aid office for assistance if you do not have a determination but believe you are an unaccompanied youth who is homeless or you believe you are an unaccompanied youth providing for your own living expenses who is at risk of being homeless. If you are older than 21 but not yet 24, you should also contact your financial aid office if you are homeless or are self-supporting at risk of being homeless. Note that if you answer "Yes" to any of the previous three questions (56, 57, or 58), the financial aid administrator at your college may require you to provide proof of your status.

Answer "No" if you are not homeless, or at risk of being homeless, or do not have a determination from a district liaison, director of a cited program, or your financial aid administrator.

Homeless means lacking fixed, regular, and adequate housing. You may be considered homeless if you are living in shelters, parks, motels, or cars, or are temporarily living with other people because you have no place else to go. If you are living in any of these situations and fleeing an abusive parent, you may be considered homeless even if your parent would provide support and a place to live.

Unaccompanied means you are not living in the physical custody of your parent or guardian.

Youth means you are 21 years of age or younger or you are still enrolled in high school as of the day you sign this application.

If you answered "Yes" to any of the questions 46-58, you should now skip to Question 99. If you answered "No" to every one of these questions, continue with Question 59.

Questions 59-62 These questions are used to determine eligibility in the Chafee Grant program (Also called Chaffee Voucher program)

59. Are you, or were you, in a foster care placement at any time under court dependency or wardship, between the ages of 16-18? This question is different than what is asked in question 53. For this question, be sure to only consider foster care placement when you were aged 16, 17 or 18.

60 and 61. If you answered yes to question 59, enter the County Jurisdiction where the dependency/wardship established in question 60 and the state in 61.

62. Certification: By your mark, you authorize the appropriate county point of contact (POC) to release information to the California Student Aid Commission that verifies your dependency or wardship and placement criteria to participate in the Chafee ETV Program.

Questions 63-98 (Dependent applicants must complete)

Purpose: Your parents must provide information for questions 63-98 if you are a dependent student (meaning if you answered "No" to every question from 46-58). The EFC calculation, determined by a Congressional formula, uses information from this part to determine what portion of your parents' income and assets should be available to contribute towards your educational expenses.

The application does not require gender identification for the parent responses. Parents are referred to as Parent 1 and Parent 2 without regard to their gender. If you enter information for one of your parents as "Parent 1," be sure to also list that parent's information as parent 1 in other questions on the application.

If you have only one parent, enter their information in the questions under Parent 1.

Who is considered a parent?

The term "parent" is not restricted to biological parents. There are instances (such as when a grandparent legally adopts the applicant) in which a person other than a biological parent is treated as a parent and, in these instances, the parental questions on the application must be answered, since they apply to such an individual (or individuals).

If your parents are both living and married to each other, answer the questions about both of them. A dependent student must provide information about both of his or her legal parents, regardless of the parents' marital status or gender, if the parents live together

If your parents are living together and have not been formally married, answer the questions about both of them. If your parents live together and meet the criteria in their state for a common-law marriage, they should report their status as married on the application.

A foster parent, legal guardian, or a grandparent or other relative is not treated as a parent for purposes of filing a Dream Act Application unless that person has legally adopted the applicant. An adoptive parent is treated in the same manner as a biological parent on the Dream Act Application.

If one, but not both, of your parents have died, you should answer the parental questions about the surviving parent. Do not report any financial information for the deceased parent on the Dream Act Application. If the surviving parent dies after the Dream Act Application has been filed, you must submit a correction to Question 53, thus updating your dependency status to independent, and correct all other information as appropriate (for example, you will no longer fill out questions 63-98). If the surviving parent is remarried as of the date you complete the Dream Act Application, answer the questions about both that parent and the person he or she married (your stepparent).

If your parents are divorced (or separated—see below for more information), answer the questions about the parent you lived with more during the 12 months preceding the date you

complete the Dream Act Application. If you did not live with one parent more than the other, give answers about the parent who provided more financial support during the 12 months preceding the date you complete the Dream Act Application, or during the most recent year that you actually received support from a parent. If this parent has remarried as of the date you fill out the Dream Act Application, answer the questions on the remaining sections of the Dream Act Application about that parent and the person he or she married (your stepparent).

If your parents are **legally separated**, the same rules that would apply for divorced couples are used to determine which parent's information must be reported. A couple doesn't have to be legally separated in order to be considered separated for purposes of the Dream Act Application. The couple may consider themselves informally separated when one of the partners has permanently left the household. If the partners live together, they can't be considered informally separated.

A stepparent is treated in the same manner as a biological parent if the stepparent is married, as of the date of application, to the biological parent whose information will be reported on the Dream Act Application, or if the stepparent has legally adopted you. There are no exceptions. Prenuptial agreements do not exempt the stepparent from providing required data on the Dream Act Application. Note that the stepparent's income information for the entire year prior to application (2015) must be reported even if your parent and stepparent were not married until after the start of 2015, but were married prior to the date the Dream Act Application was completed. It does not matter whether stepparent information is listed as parent 1 or parent 2 on the Dream Act Application.

63. Parents' marital status as of today. Enter your parents' marital status as of the date the application is completed.

Never married

Unmarried and both parents living together

Married or remarried

Divorced or Separated

Widowed

64. Month and year your parents were married, separated, divorced or widowed.
Enter the month and year that your parents attained the status you provided in Question 63.

Questions 65 through 72

What are the Social Security numbers, or Individual Taxpayer Identification numbers, names and dates of birth of the parents reporting on this form? If your parent does not have a Social Security Number (SSN), enter their Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN). If they have both numbers, enter their SSN. If they have neither, enter 000000000. If the name includes a suffix, such as Jr., include a space between the last name and suffix. For the birth

date, enter two digits for each day and month (for example, for May 31, 1968, enter 05 31 1968).

65. Parent 1 Social Security number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number. Enter your parent's Social Security number (SSN) or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN). Enter the information for the same person whose financial information you are reporting. All dependent applicants must provide the SSN or ITIN of the parent providing financial data on the application, if they have one of those numbers. If your parent has both numbers, have them enter their SSN. If your parent doesn't have an SSN or ITIN, enter 000000000.

66-68. Parent 1 last name, first initial, and date of birth. Enter your parent's last name, first initial, and date of birth (that is, enter the information for the same person (in Question 66) whose financial information you are reporting). Use the name found on the Social Security card. In entering your parent's SSN, last name and first initial on the application must match the number and name on the Social Security card. For information on how to update or correct the name on the Social Security card, your parent can call the Social Security Administration (SSA) at 800-772-1213 or go to the SSA's website at www.ssa.gov.

69. Parent 2 Social Security number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number. Enter your parent's Social Security number (SSN) or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN). Enter the information for the same person whose financial information you are reporting. All dependent applicants must provide the SSN or ITIN of the parent providing financial data on the application, if they have one of those numbers. If your parent has both numbers, have them enter their SSN. If your parent doesn't have an SSN or ITIN, enter 000000000.

70-72. Parent 2 last name, first initial, and date of birth. Enter your parent's last name, first initial, and date of birth (that is, enter the information for the same person (in Question 66) whose financial information you are reporting). Use the name found on the Social Security card. In entering your parent's SSN, last name and first initial on the application must match the number and name on the Social Security card. For information on how to update or correct the name on the Social Security card, your parent can call the Social Security Administration (SSA) at 800-772-1213 or go to the SSA's website at www.ssa.gov.

73. Your parents' e-mail address. Enter your parents' e-mail address if you want your parents to receive communications about your Dream Act Application electronically. The e-mail address will also be shared with your state and the colleges listed on your Dream Act Application.

74. State of residence. Indicate the two-letter abbreviation for your parents' current state of residence. Your parents' residence is their true, fixed, and permanent home. If your parents are separated or divorced, use the state of legal residence for the parent whose information is reported on the form. Use the State Abbreviations list on page 14 to provide the abbreviation for your parents' state of legal residence. If your parents live in a foreign country, enter "FC" in the state abbreviation space.

75. Resident before January 1, 2010. Select "Yes" if your parents became residents of their state before January 1, 2010 or "No" if your parents became residents of their state on or after January 1, 2010. States have varying criteria for determining whether you are a resident for purposes of **state** financial aid. However, if you established a true, fixed, and permanent home in any state more than four years ago, you will meet the state's criteria.

76. Date (month and year) of legal residence. If your parents did not become residents of their state before January 1, 2010, provide the month and year legal residency began for the parent who has lived in the state the longest.

77. Number in parents' household. Enter the number of family members in your parents' household.

The following persons are included in your parents' household size:

- **You** (the student), even if you do not live with your parents.
- **Your parents** (only the ones whose information is reported on the Dream Act Application).
- **Your parents' other children**, if your parents will provide more than half of their support from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 or if the other children could answer "No" to every question in questions 46-58.
- **Your parents' unborn child**, if that child will be born before July 1, 2016 and your parents will provide more than half of the child's support from the projected date of birth through the end of the 2015-2016 award year (June 30, 2016). (If there is a medical determination of a multiple birth, then all expected children can be included.)
- **Other people** (including your children and/or **your** unborn child due before July 1, 2016), **i**f they live with and receive more than half of their support from your parents at the time of application and will continue to receive that support from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

To determine whether to include children in the household size, the "support" test is used (rather than a residency requirement) because there may be situations in which a parent supports a child who does not live with the parent, especially in cases where the parent is divorced or separated. In such cases, the parent who provides more than half of the child's support may claim the child in his or her household size. It does not matter which parent claims the child as a dependent for tax purposes. If your parent receives benefits (such as Social Security or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF, called CalWORKS in California) payments in the child's name, these benefits must be counted as parental support to the child.

Support includes money, gifts, loans, housing, food, clothes, car payments or expenses, medical and dental care, and payment of school costs.

78. Number of college students in parents' household. Enter the number of people from the parents' household (in question 77) who are or will be enrolled in a postsecondary school in 2015-2016. Count yourself as a college student. Include others only if they will be attending at least half time in an approved program during 2015-2016 that leads to a degree or certificate at a postsecondary school eligible to participate in any of the student aid programs.

Do not include your parents. Also do not include a student at a U.S. military academy because the family is not expected to contribute to that student's postsecondary educational cost at the academy.

79-83. Benefits your parents (or anyone in your parents' household) received during 2014/2015. If your parents (or anyone in your parents' household) received benefits from any of the federal or state benefits programs shown in the boxes below, they should fill in the circles to the corresponding questions on the paper form or use the corresponding drop-down menus online. Use the instructions for Question 77 to identify who is included in your parents' household. Answering these questions will not reduce your, your parents', or anyone in your parents' household's eligibility for student aid or eligibility for these federal/state benefits.

Question:	Benefit:
79	Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
80	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (Formerly the Food Stamp Program, called **Cal Fresh** in California)
81	Free or Reduced Price School Lunch
82	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF, called CalWORKS in California)
83	Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

Instructions for Questions 84-91 (How to complete the income tax section)

Questions related to specific income tax answers should be completed only if a tax return was filed. Otherwise, leave the questions blank. If your parents will be filing taxes, it is best to use a completed 2014 income tax return to fill out this application. However, if your parents do not have a completed income tax return, they should calculate their adjusted gross income (AGI) and taxes paid using the applicable IRS instructions. The instructions and the appropriate tax form can be obtained at a public library or downloaded in Portable Document Format (PDF) from www.irs.gov/formspubs/index.html.

When your application is compared with the tax return actually filed, the financial information must agree. If there are differences, you should correct the information.

Even if your parents **are not required to file a 2014 income tax return**, they will need to calculate their earnings for the year. Use W-2 forms and other records to answer the questions in this section.

If an answer is zero or a question does not apply to your parents, enter 0 (zero). Do not leave any of these questions blank.

For the 2015-16 Dream Act Application, your parents will use 2014 year income and tax information to answer the income tax questions. The income tax questions give 2014 Internal Revenue Service (IRS) tax form line references.

Use the information from one of the following 2014 income tax forms to complete the Dream Act Application in the same manner as U.S. tax information: the income tax return required by Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Swain's Island, or the Northern Marianas Islands or one of the Freely Associated States (the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, or the Republic of Palau). The amounts on these returns are already reported in U.S. dollars.

Foreign income

Income earned in a foreign country is treated in the same way as income earned in the U.S. Convert all figures to U.S. dollars, using the exchange rate in effect on the day you complete the Dream Act Application. Your parents can find information on current exchange rates at www.federalreserve.gov/releases/h10/current.

Your parents should also include the value of any taxes paid to the foreign government in the "U.S. income tax paid" line item. (If the income earned in the foreign country was not taxed by the central government of that country and was not subject to the foreign income exclusion based on filing an IRS Form 2555 or 2555EZ, the income should be reported as untaxed income in Question 98(i).

In many cases, if your parents file a return with the IRS for a year in which foreign income was earned, a portion of the foreign income can be excluded on IRS Form 2555 for U.S. tax purposes. The figure reported on line 45 of Form 2555 (or line 18 of Form 2555EZ) should not be reported in Question 98(i).

Questions 84-93

84. For 2014, have your parents completed an IRS income tax return or another tax return listed in question 85? Indicate whether your parents have already completed, are going to complete but have not yet, or will not file a tax return for 2014.

85. What income tax return did your parents file or will they file for 2014? Indicate which tax form your parents filed or will file for 2014.

86. What is or will be your parents' tax filing status for 2014? List the tax filing status from the tax return. If you do not know, contact your parents to ask them how they filed or will file their tax return.

Single
Head of household Married,
filed joint return Married, filed
separate return Qualifying
widow(er)
Don't know.

87. Eligible to file a 1040A or 1040EZ. Indicate your parents' eligibility to file one of these forms (even if they filed or will file a 2014 IRS Form 1040).

Answer "Yes" if your parents

- make less than $100,000
- do not itemize deductions
- do not receive income from their own business or farm, and
- do not receive alimony.

Also answer "Yes" if they

- filed a 1040 only to claim American Opportunity or Lifetime Learning credits and you would have otherwise been eligible to file a 1040A or 1040EZ, or

- filed a 1040 and were not required to file a tax return.

Answer "No" if they

- itemize deductions
- are self-employed
- receive alimony, or
- are required to file Schedule D for capital gains.

88. Dislocated Worker. As of today is either of your parents a dislocated worker? In general, a person may be considered a dislocated worker if he or she

- is receiving unemployment benefits due to being laid off or losing a job and is unlikely to return to a previous occupation;

- has been laid off or received a lay-off notice from a job;

- was self-employed but is now unemployed due to economic conditions or natural disaster; or

- is a displaced homemaker. A displaced homemaker is generally a person who previously provided unpaid services to the family (for example, a stay-at-home mom or dad), is no longer supported by the husband or wife, is unemployed or underemployed, and is having trouble finding or upgrading employment.

If a person quits work, generally they are not considered a dislocated worker even if, for example, the person is receiving unemployment benefits.

Answer "Yes" to Question 88 if your parent is a dislocated worker. Answer "No" to Question 88 if your parent is not a dislocated worker.

Answer "Don't know" to Question 88 if you are not sure whether your parent is a dislocated worker.

You can contact your financial aid office for assistance in answering this question. Note that the financial aid administrator at your school may require you to provide proof that your parent is a dislocated worker if you answered "Yes" to Question 88.

If your parents will not be filing a tax return, skip questions 89, 90 and 91.

89. Adjusted Gross Income. If your parents will be filing taxes, enter your parents' adjusted gross income (AGI) for 2014. AGI is found on IRS 1040—line 37; 1040A—line 21; or 1040EZ—line 4. If your parents have not completed a 2014 tax form, they should calculate their AGI using the instructions for the applicable IRS form. They can get the instructions and the form at a public library or download them in Portable Document Format (PDF) from www.irs.gov/formspubs/index.html.

Note that AGI includes more than just wages earned; for example, it also includes interest, dividends, alimony, taxable portions of Social Security, and business income.

90. Income tax. Enter the amount of income taxes your parents paid in 2014 from IRS 1040—line 56; 1040A—line 37; or 1040EZ—line 10. They should not copy the amount of federal income tax withheld from a W-2 Form. If they did not pay any income tax for 2014, they should enter zero (0).

91. Exemptions. Enter your parents' exemptions for 2014. Exemptions are on IRS Form 1040—line 6d or 1040A—line 6d. If your parents checked the "You" or "Spouse" box on 1040EZ—line 5, they should use 1040EZ worksheet line F to determine the number of exemptions ($3,900 equals one exemption). If your parents didn't check either box on line 5, they should enter "**01**" if single or "**02**" if married.

If your parent is divorced, separated or widowed, but he or she has filed or will file a joint tax

return for 2014, he or she should give only his or her portion of the exemptions.

92. Parent 1 income earned from working. Enter your parent's 2014 income earned from work (wages, salaries, tips). The amount reported here will receive certain income allowances (deductions) from the income for necessary expenses (such as taxes and basic living costs).

93. Parent 2 income earned from working. Enter your parent's 2014 income earned from work (wages, salaries, tips). The amount reported here will receive certain income allowances (deductions) from the income for necessary expenses (such as taxes and basic living costs).

If your parents filed (or will file) a 2014 tax return, each should include only his or her share from IRS Form 1040—lines 7 + 12 + 18 + Box 14 of IRS Schedule K-1 (Form 1065); 1040A—line 7; 1040EZ—line 1. Even if your parents filed a joint return, they should report their earnings **separately** in questions 92 and 93.

If your parents filed a tax return in Puerto Rico, or they filed a foreign or tax form, they should report on the Dream Act Application the income amounts (converted to U.S. dollars) from the lines of the non-IRS form they filed that corresponds most closely to those on the IRS forms.

If your parents did not file a tax return, they should report their earnings from work in 2014. They can find this information on their W-2 form(s).

Questions 94-96

Parent Asset Information Instructions

An asset is defined as property that has an exchange value. The purpose of collecting asset information is to determine whether your family's assets are substantial enough to support a contribution toward your cost of attendance (COA). Only the net asset value is counted in the need analysis. To determine the net value of any asset, you first determine the market value of the asset and reduce the value by the amount of debt against that asset. The result is the net value of the asset.

Ownership of an asset

Ownership of an asset may be divided or contested in several situations:

- **Part ownership of asset.** If your parents own an asset with others and therefore only own a portion or percentage of the asset, they should report the net asset value that represents only their share of the asset owned. They would determine the current market value of the asset, reduce the value by any outstanding debt, and then multiply the net asset value by their ownership percentage. This result is then reported on the Dream Act Application.

- **Contested ownership.** An asset should not be reported if its ownership is being legally contested. For instance, if your parents are separated and they may not sell or borrow

against jointly owned property that is being contested, the Dream Act Application information they report would not list any value for the property or any debts against it. If ownership of the asset is resolved after the initial application is filed, they may not update this information. However, if ownership of the property is not being contested, they would report the property as an asset.

- **Lien against asset.** If there is a lien or imminent foreclosure against an asset, the asset would still be reported on the Dream Act Application until the party holding the lien or making the foreclosure completes legal action to take possession of the asset. If the status of the property changes after the application is filed, you may not update the asset information.

Assets that are not reported

Below are examples of assets that are not reported:

- **Principal place of residence/family farm.** Your parents' principal place of residence is not reported as an asset. Neither is their family farm if the farm is their principal place of residence and they "materially participated in the farm's operation."

- **A small business with 100 or fewer employees.** If your family owns and controls more than 50 percent of a small business that has 100 or fewer full-time or full-time equivalent employees, do not report the net value of the business as an asset. For small business value, your family includes (1) persons directly related to you, such as a parent, sister or cousin, or (2) persons who are or were related to you by marriage, such as a spouse, stepparent, or sister-in-law.

- **Personal possessions.** Do not report possessions such as a car, a stereo, clothes or furniture. By the same token, personal debts such as credit card debt cannot be reported.

- **Pensions and Whole Life Insurance.** The cash value or built-up equity of a life insurance policy (often referred to as a whole-life policy) isn't reported as an asset. The income distributed to the beneficiary must be reported as **income**.

- **Excluded Assets From Native American Students.** Do not report any property received under the Per Capita Act or the Distribution of Judgment Funds Act (25 United States Code [USC] 1401, et seq.), the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 USC 1601, et seq.), or the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act (25 USC 1721, et seq.).

Investments

Rental properties. Generally, rental properties must be reported as investment assets rather than as business assets. To be reported as a business, a rental property would have to be part of a formally recognized business. (Usually such a business would provide additional services, such as regular cleaning, linen, or maid service.)

Parent Asset Information Questions

94. Total current balance of cash, savings, and checking accounts. Include the balance of your parents' cash, savings, and checking accounts as of the date the Dream Act Application is completed. Do not include student financial aid.

95. Net worth of investments. Net worth means current value minus debt. Investments include real estate such as rental property, land and second or summer homes. Do not include your parents' primary home. Include the value of portions of multifamily dwellings that your parents own, except that you must exclude the portion of the value of a dwelling that is your parents' principal residence. Investments also include trust funds, Uniform Transfers to Minors Act (UTMA)/Uniform Gifts to Minors Act (UGMA) Custodial Accounts, money market funds, mutual funds, certificates of deposit, stocks, stock options, bonds, other securities, Coverdell savings accounts owned by your parents, 529 college savings plans they own for any member of the household, and the refund value of 529 prepaid tuition plans, installment and land sale contracts (including mortgages held), commodities, etc. This includes accounts owned by the dependent student. Do not include the value of life insurance and retirement plans (401[k] plans, pension funds, annuities, non- Education IRAs, Keogh plans, etc.). Do not include UTMA or UGMA accounts for which your parents are the custodians but not the owners.

Investment Value – Investment Debt = Net Worth of Investments

If your parents own real estate or investments other than their principal residence, the value equals the amount they are worth today.

Investment debt equals how much your parents owe on real estate and investments other than their principal place of residence. Investment debt means only those debts that are related to the investments.

Subtract the amount of debt on these assets from their value. Indicate this amount in Question 95 for net worth of investments.

96. Net worth of business and/or investment farm. Business or farm value includes the current market value of land, buildings, machinery, equipment, inventory, etc. Do not include your parents' primary home. Do not include the net worth of a family owned and controlled small business with not more than 100 full-time or full-time equivalent employees.

Business/Farm Value – Business/Farm Debt = Net Worth of Business/Farm

For business or investment farm value, first figure out how much the business or farm is worth today. An investment farm is a farming business where the parents do not reside on the farm, nor do they materially operate the farm.

Business or investment farm debts are what your parents owe on the business or farm. Include only debts for which the business or farm was used as collateral.

Subtract the amount of debt from the value. Indicate this amount in Question 96 for net worth of business and/or investment farm.

To report current market value for a business, your parents must use the amount for which the business could sell as of the date of the application. Also, if your parents are not the sole owners of the business, they should report only their share of its value and debt.

97. Parents' 2014 Additional Financial Information. Enter the combined amounts for your parents.

a. **Education credits.** Enter the total amount of American Opportunity or Lifetime Learning credits your parents received from Form 1040—line 50 or 1040A— line 33. The American Opportunity or Lifetime Learning tax credits benefit students or parents who pay tuition and related expenses for attendance at least half time in a degree-granting program. These tax credits are subtracted directly from the total federal tax on a tax return. For more information about these tax credits, visit the IRS website at www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p970.pdf.

b. **Child support payments.** Enter any child support payments paid by your parents because of divorce, separation, or as a result of a legal requirement. Do not include support for children in your parents' household, as reported in the "number in household" question on the Dream Act Application (Question 77). For purposes of the Dream Act Application, a child is a member of your parents' household if your parents provide more than half of the child's support, whether the child lives with your parents or not.

c. **Taxable earnings from need-based employment programs.** Enter your parents' earnings from any need-based work programs including Federal Work-Study and need-based employment portions of fellowships and assistantships.

d. **Student grants and other awards.** Enter any student grant and scholarship aid reported to the IRS in your parent's AGI. This includes AmeriCorps benefits (awards, living allowances, and interest accrual payments), as well as grant and scholarship portions of fellowships and assistantships.

e. **Combat Pay or Special Combat Pay.** Enter only the amount of combat pay that was taxable and included in your parent's adjusted gross income. Do not enter untaxed combat pay reported on the W-2 (Box 12, Code Q).

f. **Earnings from work under a cooperative education program.** Enter here any amounts your parents may have earned from work under a cooperative education program offered by an institution of higher education.

98. Parents' 2014 Untaxed Income. Enter the combined amounts for your parents.

a. **Payments to tax-deferred pension and savings plans.** Enter amounts your parents paid into tax-sheltered or deferred annuities (whether paid directly or withheld from

b.

earnings), including—but not limited to—amounts reported on the W-2 Form, in Boxes 12a through 12d, codes D, E, F, G, H, and S. They must include untaxed portions of 401(k) and 403(b) plans. Note that **employer contributions to tax-deferred pension and savings plans should not be reported** on the Dream Act Application as an untaxed benefit.

b. **IRA and other plans.** Enter your parents IRA deductions and payments to self- employed Simplified Employee Pension (SEP), Savings Incentive Match Plan for Employees (SIMPLE) and Keogh and other qualified plans. These plan payments can be found on IRS 1040—total of lines 28 + 32 or 1040A—line 17.

c. **Child support received.** Enter the amount of child support your parents received for any children during 2014. Do not include foster care or adoption payments.

d. **Tax-exempt interest income.** Enter the total amount of tax-exempt interest income your parents earned in 2014, as reported on Form 1040—line 8b or 1040A—line 8b.

e. **Untaxed portions of IRA distributions.** Enter your parents' untaxed portions of IRA distributions. This amount can be calculated from IRS Form 1040 (line 15a minus 15b) or 1040A (line 11a minus 11b). Exclude rollovers. If the result is a negative number, enter a zero here.

f. **Untaxed portions of pensions.** Enter your parents' untaxed portions of pension distributions. This amount can be calculated from IRS Form 1040 (line 16a minus 16b) or 1040A (line 12a minus 12b). Exclude rollovers. If the result is a negative number, enter a zero here.

g. **Housing, food, and other living allowances.** Enter the amount of housing, food and other living allowances provided to your parents. These allowances must be reported when they are part of a compensation package that some people, particularly clergy and military personnel, receive for their jobs. Include cash payments and cash value of benefits. If your parents received free room and board for a job that was not awarded as federal student aid, they must report the value of the room and board as untaxed income. (This category, "housing allowances," excludes rent subsidies for low-income housing.)

h. **Veterans' non-education benefits.** Enter the total amount of veterans' non-education benefits your parents received. Include Disability, Death Pension, Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC), and/or VA Educational Work Study allowances.

i. **Other untaxed income and benefits.** Enter your parents' untaxed income or benefits not reported in items 98a through 98h, such as worker's compensation or disability benefits, interest income on educational IRAs, untaxed portions of railroad retirement benefits, black lung benefits, the untaxed portion of capital gains, and foreign income that wasn't taxed by any government.

For 98i, do not include any income you listed already and do not include student aid, earned income credit, additional child tax credit, welfare payments, untaxed Social Security benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Workforce Investment Act educational benefits, on-base military housing or a military housing allowance, combat pay, benefits from flexible spending arrangements (for example, cafeteria plans), foreign income exclusion, or credit for federal tax on special fuels.

Certain income and benefits should **not** be reported in Questions 97 and 98:

- **Student financial aid.** Student aid received is already taken into account when a school packages your aid. However, work-study earnings must be reported as taxed income in the income questions of the Student's Income and Assets section.

- **Food stamps and other programs.** Benefits received from federal, state or local governments from the following programs are not counted as untaxed income:

  Special Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (formerly Food Stamps called Cal Fresh in California); Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC); Food Distribution Program; Commodity Supplemental Food Program; National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs; Summer Food Service Program; and Special Milk Program for Children.

- **Dependent Assistance.** You may be eligible to exclude a limited amount of benefits received for dependent care assistance if certain requirements are met. Generally, up to $5,000 of benefits may be excluded from an employee's gross income, or $2,500 for a married employee who files a separate return from his or her spouse. This exclusion cannot exceed the employee's (or his or her spouse's) earned income. (Note: Some states provide reimbursement for childcare expenses incurred by welfare recipients through Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF or CalWORKS in California). You must report this on the application because you bill the state for the amount of childcare costs incurred while on welfare and are reimbursed on that basis.)

Questions 99-106 (Independent Students)

If you answered "Yes" to any of the dependency questions (46-58), you will need to respond to questions 99 to 106.

Purpose: The number of family members you report determines the allowance that will be subtracted from your family's income to provide for basic living expenses when the Department's processor calculates your Expected Family Contribution (EFC). The number of family members in college directly affects your family's ability to contribute to your education costs. Your EFC is divided by the number of family members in college.

99. Number in student's (and spouse's) household. The following persons are included in the household size of an independent student:

- **You**
- **Your spouse**, excluding a spouse not living in the household as a result of death, separation, or divorce
- **Your children**, if they will receive more than half of their support from your household from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016
- **Your unborn child**, if that child will be born before July 1, 2015 and your household will provide more than half of the child's support from the projected date of birth through the end of the 2015-16 award year (June 30, 2016). (If there is a medical determination of a multiple birth, then all expected children can be included.)
- **Other people**, if they live with you and will receive more than half of their support from your household for the entire award year (July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016)

To determine whether to include children in your household size, the "support" test is used (rather than a residency requirement) because there may be situations in which you support a child who does not live with you, especially in cases of divorce or separation. In such cases, the parent who provides more than half of the child's support may claim the child in his or her household size. It does not matter which parent claims the child as a dependent for tax purposes. If you receive benefits such as Social Security or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), which is called CalWORKS in California, in the child's name, these benefits must be counted as parental support to the child.

Support includes money, gifts, loans, housing, food, clothes, car payments or expenses, medical and dental care, and payment of college costs.

100. Number of college students in household. Enter the number of people from your household (in question 99) who are or will be enrolled in a post-secondary school in 2015-16. Count yourself as a college student. Include others only if they will be attending at least half time during 2015-16 in an approved program that leads to a degree or certificate at a postsecondary school eligible to participate in any of the student aid programs.

101-105. Benefits you (or your spouse or anyone in your household) received during 2013 or 2014.

If you (or your spouse or anyone in your household from question 93) received benefits from any of the federal or state benefits programs shown in the boxes below, you should fill in the circles to the corresponding questions on the paper form or use the corresponding drop-down menus online. Use the instructions for Question 99 to identify who is included in your household. Answering these questions will not reduce your eligibility for student aid. Nor will it reduce your, your spouse's, or anyone in your household's eligibility for these federal/state benefits.

Question:	Benefit:
101	Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
102	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (Formerly the Food Stamp Program, now called Cal Fresh in California)
103	Free or Reduced Price School Lunch
104	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF or CalWORKS in California)
105	Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

106. Dislocated Worker. As of today, are you (or your spouse) a dislocated worker? In general, a person may be considered a dislocated worker if he or she:

- is receiving unemployment benefits due to being laid off or losing a job and is unlikely to return to a previous occupation;
- has been laid off or received a lay-off notice from a job;
- was self-employed but is now unemployed due to economic conditions or natural disaster; or
- is a displaced homemaker. A displaced homemaker is generally a person who previously provided unpaid services to the family (for example, a stay-at-home mom or dad), is no longer supported by the husband or wife, is unemployed or underemployed, and is having trouble finding or upgrading employment.

If a person quits work, generally he or she is not considered a dislocated worker even if, for example, the person is receiving unemployment benefits.

Answer “Yes” to Question 106 if you or your spouse is a dislocated worker. Answer

“No” to Question 100 if you or your spouse is not a dislocated worker.

Answer “Don’t know” to Question 106 if you are not sure whether you or your spouse is a dislocated worker.

You can contact your financial aid office for assistance in answering this question. Note that the financial aid administrator at your school may require you to provide proof that you or your spouse is a dislocated worker if you answered “Yes” to Question 106.

Questions 107 a-h (College Codes and Housing Plans)

Purpose: This section of the application allows you to list up to four schools on the paper Dream Act Application and up to 10 schools online that you are interested in attending. If you apply using the Dream Act Application, you must list at least one school. The system offers a

school code feature if you do not know the school code(s).

Benefits derived from AB 540, AB 130 and AB 131 can only be used at California colleges. Therefore, there are no out-of-state colleges listed on the Dream Act Application.

Once you have submitted your Dream Act Application you can still open your on-line Dream Act Application and add more schools that you want to receive your information.

If you originally listed the maximum number of schools on the application and then replaced them with new schools by changing your application, only the second set of schools would get data from any corrections. If you made corrections to your Dream Act Application information at (or after) the time you listed the new schools, only the second set of schools would get the corrected data.

Federal School Code. California uses the U.S. Department of Education federal school code on the Dream Act Application. For a school to receive your application data, you must list the school's Federal School Code. These codes are not listed in the Dream Act Application instructions; they are provided in the Federal School Code List that can be found at **www.fafsa.gov**. At that site, click on "School Code Search." High schools, colleges, and public libraries also have access to the *Federal School Code List*.

The Federal School Code begins with "0" (zero), "G," "B," or "E" and ends in five digits.

The on-line application has a drop-down list of the college codes for which this application can be used. If you cannot get the Federal School Code for the paper application, **indicate clearly the complete name, address, city, and state** of each school you are interested in attending. Your Dream Act Application will be processed faster if you provide the Federal School Code. By answering the questions in the school listing section and signing the Dream Act Application, you give permission to CSAC to provide your application information to the college (s) listed. Schools will use your Dream Act Application information to determine the amount of your financial aid package. You should not indicate the name of a school if you do not want it to receive your information. If you leave these questions blank, CSAC will not be able to forward your application information to any schools.

Housing plans. For each school listed, indicate your housing plans by selecting the pull down menu on the online Dream Act Application or by filling in the circle (on the paper Dream Act Application) corresponding to your housing plans at that school—on campus, with parent, or off campus.

Date and Signatures (Questions 108-112 on the paper Dream Act Application)

Purpose: This is asking for the date the application was completed (on the paper form), your signature, and your parent's signature if you are a dependent student. The questions are numbered 108-112. If you are completing an online Dream Act Application, you can sign your application electronically. If you choose not to sign electronically, you can print a signature

page and, sign, and mail it to CSAC. Dependent students will also need to provide a parent's signature. For each student in the household that submits an application, the parent will be assigned a different PIN. They can either electronically sign each application using the PIN for that student or sign and submit the student's printed signature page.

Shown below is the numbered order of the questions as they appear on the paper Dream Act Application:

108. Date this form was completed. If you apply on paper, fill in the month and day spaces using 2-digit numbers, for example, "04" for April or "12" for December. Then fill in the appropriate circle for the year. Note that all information you report on the Dream Act Application must be accurate as of the date you complete the form. If you apply online, the date you submit the application will automatically pre-fill this field.

109. Student and parent signatures. When a student signs the application, he or she will be directed to a page with a parent signature link. A parent signature is not required for independent students. The parent must click on the PARENT SIGNATURE link and then select the correct option in the dropdown menu. If a parent does not have a pin because they are signing the application for the first time, they will select 'NO' in the dropdown menu for the question, 'DO YOU ALREADY HAVE A PARENT PIN?' The parent will then been asked to provide information about the student. This information must match exactly with the information which was previously provided on the Dream Act application. The parent will then be asked to supply their own last name and date of birth. Once the parent has successfully provided this Information, they will receive their PIN, which should be saved for future use. When the parent clicks on CONTINUE they will arrive at the signature screen. The parent will sign electronically by checking the PARENT SIGNATURE box and clicking the SUBMIT BUTTON.

If a parent has already received a PIN and they know what that PIN is, they can indicate YES from the drop down and complete the information to sign the application again (i.e. after a correction or for a new, academic year). If the parent has a PIN but has forgotten it, they would select, YES, BUT I FORGOT MY PIN in the drop down menu and complete the required information. If a dependent student submits a Dream Act Application without a parent signature, it cannot be processed. Signatures are needed to complete the application process.

When signing the application, you, your parents (for dependent students) certify that all information on the form is correct and that those who signed are willing to provide documents to prove that the information is correct. This information may include U.S. or state income tax forms that you filed or are required to file. You also certify that:

1) You will use the state student financial aid only to pay the cost of attending an institution of higher education in California and will not receive state aid at more than one school for the same time period
2) The information you provided on this application is accurate and correct

Giving permission to state agencies to obtain income tax information and certifying your application data

By signing this application electronically using your State Personal Identification Number (PIN) or by signing the paper application, or by signing a signature page and mailing it to us, you agree, if asked, to provide information that will verify the accuracy of your completed form. This information may include U.S. or state income tax forms that you filed or are required to file. Also, you certify that you understand that the State of California has the authority to verify information reported on this application with the Internal Revenue Service and other federal agencies. If you purposely give false or misleading information on this application, you may be fined or sent to prison, or both.

Understanding the proper use of a Password

Your password is used to save your application if you cannot complete it in one sitting, and to login to add schools or change your application information after you submit your application. You should not share your Password with anyone—even if that person is helping you complete the application. In addition, only the person providing the data should sign the application. Note that if you (or a parent, if you are dependent) sign electronically any document related to the Dream Act Application using a PIN, you certify that you are the person identified by that PIN and have not disclosed that PIN to anyone else. Your parent's PIN is used to sign the application and to resign the application if any changes are made later in the year.

Alternatives to a parental signature

Although parental information must be provided for a dependent student, a high school counselor or a postsecondary school's FAA may sign the application in place of your parents in the following limited cases:

- Your parents are **not** currently in the U.S. and cannot be contacted by normal means.
- Your parents' current address is not known.
- Your parents have been determined physically or mentally incapable of providing a signature.

Your parents' unwillingness to sign the Dream Act Application or provide financial information is not, in and of itself, a reason for the FAA to sign your Dream Act Application in place of them. If your counselor or FAA signs the paper Dream Act Application in place of your parents, he or she should provide his or her title when signing and briefly state the reason (only one reason is needed) why he or she is signing for your parents. By signing your application, however, your counselor or FAA does not assume any responsibility or liability in this process. If a financial aid office finds any inaccuracies in the information reported, you will have to submit corrections on paper, on the Web or through the financial aid office.

If you complete a Dream Act Application and need a counselor to sign in place of your parent, you will need to print a signature page.

110-112. Preparer's name/Social Security number (SSN)/signature and date. If you or your family paid a fee to someone to fill out your Dream Act Application, or advised you as to how to fill it out, that person must provide his or her Social Security number or Employment Identification Number (EIN) on the online Dream Act Application, or on the paper Dream Act Application. That person must also sign and date the form.