



CASH FOR C//LLEGE



Get Your Share of Financial Aid

Make Attending College a Reality



**CALIFORNIA
STUDENT AID
COMMISSION**

Scan the QR Code to see
what you are applying for!



[cash4college.csac.ca.gov/home/
What_You_Are_Applying_For](https://cash4college.csac.ca.gov/home/What_You_Are_Applying_For)

Do I fill out a FAFSA or a CADAA?

Definitions

FAFSA:
Free Application for Federal Student Aid

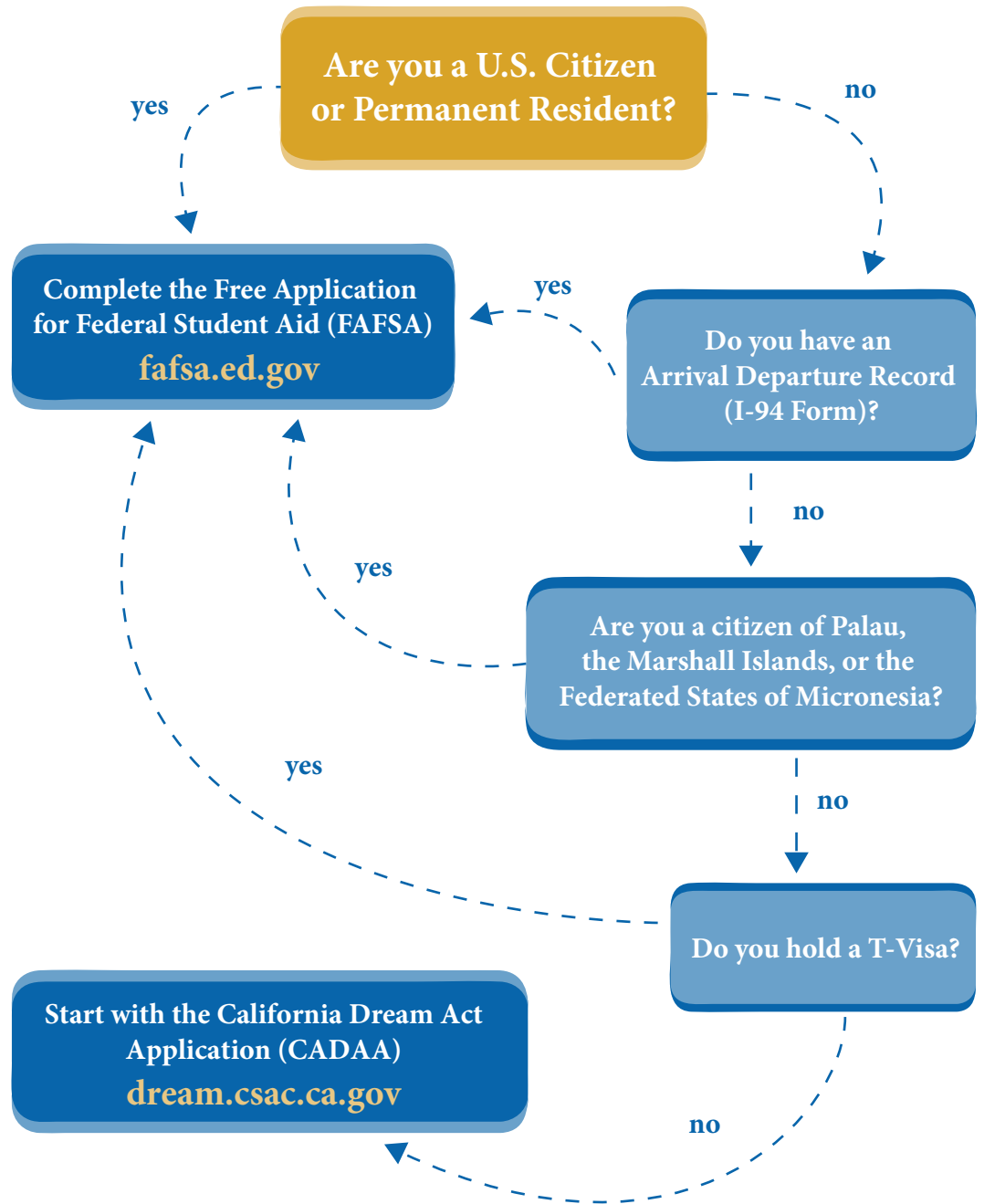
CADAA:
California Dream Act Application,
a financial aid application for
undocumented students
(This is not DACA)

Permanent Resident:
Holders of a Permanent Resident Card
(I-551C), formerly known as an “Alien
Registration Card” or “Green Card.”
Card will have an “A” followed by 9 or 10
numbers.

T-Visa:
Issued to certain victims of human
trafficking and their immediate family
members to assist law enforcement in
an investigation of human trafficking.

Arrival-Departure Record:
Known as the I-94 form, issued by a
Customs Officer to visitors entering
the US.
If your I-94 form lists any of the
following, answer “YES” on the chart
to the right:

- Refugee
- Asylum Granted
- Indefinite Parole
- Humanitarian Parole
- Cuban-Haitian Entrant



FAFSA/CA Dream Act Application

 *Pro Tip: Save your IDs and Passwords in a secure device.*

 FSA ID / CADAA User ID: _____

 Dream Act ID: Assigned to you on the ‘Confirmation’ page of the CADAA - For Undocumented Students

 Password Hint: _____

 Security Answer Hint: _____

 Student’s Email Address: _____

 Parent’s Email Address (If applicable): _____

 Notes: _____

Top 5 Financial Aid FAQs?

Q1. What is a CSAC ID and Dream Act ID?

A1. The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) assigns these unique identification numbers to students for the purpose of identifying, tracking, and sharing student information for its various financial aid programs. You will need your CSAC ID or Dream Act ID for various financial aid purposes, so save this number!

Q2. When will I know if I've received a Cal Grant?

A2. After you apply, you can track the status of your Cal Grant application online by using the **WebGrants 4 Students** site: <https://mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov/>. Log on to set up your personal, confidential account. To receive notification, you must submit a FAFSA or CADAA and a verified GPA submitted by March 2.

Q3. What is the difference between the federal Pell Grant and Cal Grants?

A3. **Pell Grants** are federal grants and **Cal Grants** are state grants. Both are for students with financial need. Some Cal Grants have a minimum GPA requirement while federal Pell Grants do not. You could qualify for both a Pell Grant and a Cal Grant. To apply for a Pell Grant, you must submit the FAFSA. For the Cal Grant, you must submit either the **FAFSA** or **CADAA**, and your **verified Cal Grant GPA** by the March 2 Cal Grant deadline.

To learn more about Pell Grants, visit:

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/grants-scholarships/pell>
Cal Grant FAQ:

<http://www.csac.ca.gov/post/cal-grant-faq-0>

To learn more about the Cal Grant GPA requirements, visit:

<http://www.csac.ca.gov/pod/cal-grant-gpa-information>

Q4. When will I receive my Cal Grant funds?

A4. Your Cal Grant funds will first go to your school, so you should contact your school's financial aid office for information on its disbursement policies and schedules. Since the school is responsible for payments, you will need to work with your school's financial aid office to resolve issues with payments. If the school determines that a student is not eligible, they have the authority to withdraw the award. Note: To receive a Cal Grant payment, you must be attending at least half-time, provide all necessary documentation to your school, and maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) as reported by your school.

Q5. What happens if I'm "disqualified" or determined to be "ineligible" for a Cal Grant?

A5. You can always reapply the next year when your circumstances change, or if you feel like you were not awarded due to an error or unusual circumstance, you can always file an **appeal** to the financial aid office of the college you plan on attending. The appeal process will vary from college to college, so you will need to contact the financial aid office and ask for guidance on how to proceed. It is highly likely that they will ask you to submit supporting documentation validating your appeal. Please allow 6-8 weeks for a decision to be made.

To learn more about the Cal Grant appeal process, visit:

<http://www.csac.ca.gov/appeals>

To learn more about the CADAA, visit:

<http://www.csac.ca.gov/california-dream-act>

Scholarship Corner
[www.cash4college.csac.ca.gov/
home/Find_Scholarships](http://www.cash4college.csac.ca.gov/home/Find_Scholarships)



Check These Common Mistakes

Are you doing an application for the correct academic year?

The year of the application corresponds to the academic year of the college you will be attending.

Are you entering the correct basic, demographic information?

Make sure things like your name and date of birth are spelled and entered correctly. Use your legal name that matches a valid form of identification (i.e., SSN, Driver's License, state-issued ID, birth certificate) on all college forms and applications – please do not use a nickname.

Are you listing the correct financial information?

It's easy to make mistakes in this section. You'll need to know the amount you and/or your parents made and how much you paid in taxes from the correct year. Use the information on your and your parent's prior-prior year tax forms. Read all questions carefully. Remember, if you are a foster youth you may qualify as an Independent Student and will not be required to provide your parent's financial information.

Did you remember to sign and submit the application before March 2nd?

Remember that "saving" your application is not the same as "submitting" your application. If you're filing as a dependent student, both you and a parent must sign.

I Completed My Application — Now What?

1 Make sure your application was successfully submitted.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid - After you submit the FAFSA, you should receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) within 3-5 days via e-mail. If you don't get this e-mail, log back into your FAFSA account to check for errors and make corrections if needed. If you need additional help, call FAFSA.

California Dream Act Application - After you submit the CADAA, you will get a system generated e-mail that states your application was processed. If you don't get this e-mail, or think there is an issue with the application, contact Student Support at the California Student Aid Commission for assistance.

FAFSA Help

Free Application for Federal Student Aid
1-800-4FED-AID (1-800-433-3243)

CADAA Help (This is not DACA)

California Dream Act Application
1-888-224-7268

studentsupport@csac.ca.gov
www.csac.ca.gov

2 Create a WebGrants 4 Students Account

If you have a Cal Grant, you should have a WebGrants 4 Students (WGS) account. If you will be a high school graduate this year and receiving a Cal Grant for the first time, you must have a WGS account to get paid at your college. It's easy to create one! Just go to: mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov

Please wait about a week after you complete your FAFSA or CADAA before you create an account. It is in your WebGrants 4 Students account that you can claim your Cal Grant award by confirming your college of attendance (starting in February) and by certifying your high school graduation (after graduation). Save your login information as a contact in your phone.

What is a Cal Grant and how do I know if I have one?

A Cal Grant is free money from the State of California to help you pay for college. It's money that you don't have to pay back. If you qualify for a Cal Grant award, you will receive a Cal Grant Eligibility Notification via e-mail. If you haven't received a notification by June 30th, please log into your WebGrants 4 Students account and check your status under the Cal Grant menu.

3 Final Steps

Make sure you listed all the colleges you applied to on your financial aid application, so those colleges receive your information. You can add and remove schools as needed. Be sure to include at least one school in California.

Contact or visit the financial aid office of the school you will be attending to make sure you have done everything you need to do to receive your financial aid. If they contact you, respond promptly.

Compare your financial aid offers if you applied to more than one school. Aid amounts vary by school and are greatly impacted by the cost of tuition and fees.

If you or your family have had any recent major life or financial changes, be sure to talk to your college financial aid office for assistance.

Become Your Own 'Financial Aid Expert!'
Check out the Fund Your Future magazine
for more detailed information
via the links below!

Fund Your Future (English)



www.fundyourfuture.org/



Invierte En Tu Futuro (Spanish)



www.invierteentufuturo.org/