

SPECIAL ALERT

STATE OF CALIFORNIA



Update from the California Student Aid Commission

October 1, 2020 GSA 2020-38

TO: Financial Aid Administrators
High School Counselors

FROM: Steve Caldwell

Interim Deputy Director, Program Administration & Services Division

SUBJECT: 2021-22 Online California Dream Act Application

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This Special Alert from the California Student Aid Commission (Commission) announces the release of the 2021-22 California Dream Act Application (CADAA) on **October 1, 2020**, to align with the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The CADAA can be found on our Dream Act web portal located at dream.csac.ca.gov.

Updates to the 2021-22 CADAA

- Update to the Schedule 1 question and help text to reflect the following:
 - Removed Capital Gains as an exception
 - Added Virtual Currency (i.e. Bitcoin)

Selective Service Requirement

- Selective Service registration is still a requirement for all male students between the ages of 18 and 25 to receive state financial aid.
- Students without a social security number can register using the paper registration form and mail it directly to the U.S. Selective Service System. Paper registration forms can be obtained at any U.S. Post Office or online at https://www.sss.gov/forms/. Selective Service registration may take up to 8 weeks for paper forms.
- Male students who are not yet 18 years of age at the time they complete their CADAA, are not required to register during this application year; even if they turn 18 within that same year. They will be required to register the following academic year. Students can submit their registration for selective service starting at 17 years and 3 months of age. Selective Service will process the registration no earlier than 30 days before the student's 18th birthday.
- The requirement to verify Selective Service registration continues to be waived for applicants who apply for Cal Grant aid using the California Dream Act Application (CADAA) for grants received for the 2020-21 academic year, in accordance with Governor Newsom's <u>Executive Order</u> (EO) that includes two provisions to ease certain administrative requirements for Cal Grant eligibility.

Application Support

- Technical reference documents such as the Cal ISIR file specification and other documents can be found on the Commission's website.
- The 2021-22 CADAA documents, forms and other resources can be found on the Commission's website.
- Phone support for students filing the CADAA is available at (888) 224-7268 or at students should provide their Dream Act ID when corresponding with the Commission. Spanish speaking staff are available to assist students and parents in understanding the application process.

As a reminder, undocumented students who meet the requirements per California Education Code Section 68130.5, as amended, commonly known as AB 540, are eligible to apply through the CADAA to receive state financial aid consideration. Meeting the requirements of Section 68130.5 also allows students to qualify for in-state tuition.

Need to contact us?

➤ Institutional Support phone number: (888) 294-0153

➤ E-mail: <u>schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov</u>

Working together to effectively promote education beyond high school!