

Financial Aid 101

*What You Need to Know and How to
Prepare for Senior Year*



Agenda

TOPICS TO COVER

1. What is Financial Aid?
2. Who Qualifies for Financial Aid?
3. 4 Types of Financial Aid
4. Cost of Attendance (COA)
5. Student Aid Index (SAI)
6. Preparing for Senior Year



What is Financial Aid?

**MONEY GIVEN, PAID, OR LOANED TO HELP PAY
FOR COLLEGE EXPENSES**



- **GRANTS (FREE MONEY)**
- **SCHOLARSHIPS (FREE MONEY)**



- **WORK**
- **SAVINGS ACCOUNT**
- **FAMILY CONTRIBUTION**
- **LOANS**

Four Types of *Financial Aid*

GRANTS

SCHOLARSHIPS

WORK
STUDY

LOANS



Four Types of Financial Aid

GRANTS

Free money for educational expenses based on financial need

- FEDERAL PELL GRANT
- FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY GRANT (FSEOG)
- CAL GRANT A, B, OR C
- INSTITUTIONAL GRANTS



Four Types of Financial Aid

SCHOLARSHIPS

free money based on specific requirements or criteria

- National
- Local
- Campus



Four Types of Financial Aid

WORK STUDY

On campus jobs to help pay for school

- Certain on-campus jobs are exclusively reserved for work-study recipients
- About 19.5 hours per week



Four Types of Financial Aid

LOANS

Borrowed money that students have to pay back with an accreud interest (interest on these loans is lower than private loans)

- **2 Types of Loans**
 - **Subsidized Loans**: Government pays interest while in school
 - **Unsubsidized Loans**: Collects interest while in school



Cost of Attendance (COA)

Cost of Attendance (COA):

Amount of money that will cost a student to attend a college/university each year.

5 main costs universities consider to determine COA:

- *Tuition and Fees*
- *Room and Board*
- *Books and Supplies*
- *Personal Expenses*
- *Transportation*



Student Aid Index (SAI)

Student Aid Index (SAI):

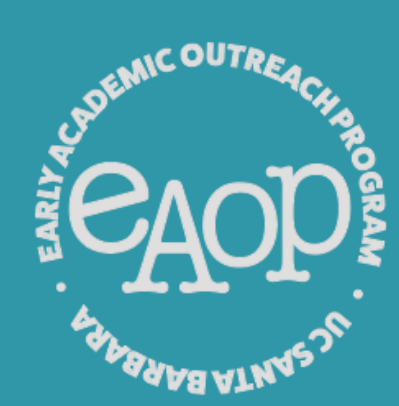
Is a "...number ranging from -1500 to 999999. Where your SAI falls within the SAI range helps your school determine how much financial support you may need.

A negative SAI indicates you have a higher financial need. For example, if you have an SAI of -1500, you'll qualify for a maximum Pell Grant award (if you meet all student eligibility requirements)."

HOW CAN I PREPARE?



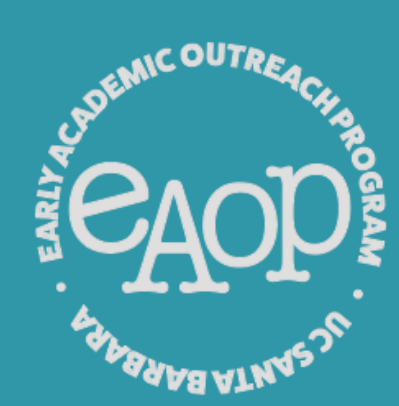
- **Start researching scholarships**
 - **Fastweb.com**
 - **Dosomething.org**
 - **Local Scholarships**
 - **Scholarship Foundation of Santa Barbara**
 - **Elks Student of the Month**
 - **Henry Mayo Scholarship**
- **Talk to your parents**
 - **Will they be able to contribute to your higher education costs?**
 - **Did they, or will they, complete their taxes for 2024?**
 - **What will their family contribution look like?**



WHICH ONE DO I QUALIFY FOR?



1. **High school grad/GED holder**
2. **Valid Social Security Number (SSN)**
 - a. **You are a U.S. Citizen or eligible non-citizen**
3. **Males can register for Selective Service (optional)**
4. **Maintain satisfactory academic progress**



WHICH ONE DO I QUALIFY FOR?

1. High School Grad/GED Holder

2. Meet AB540 Criteria

- a. **Attend CA school for at least 3 full years**
- b. **High school grad/GED holder**
- c. **Males can register for Selective Service (optional)**
- d. **File an affidavit**



What Will You Need?

Student laptop

Social Security Number (if applicable)

Personal Email (NOT SCHOOL EMAIL)

Student Cell Phone



FAFSA

Federal Student Aid
An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

FAFSA® Form ▾ Loans and Grants ▾ Loan Repayment ▾ Loan Forgiveness ▾ Log In | Create Account

Create and Manage Your StudentAid.gov Account

[Create an Account](#)

Log In

POPULAR TOPICS

- [Apply for Aid Using the FAFSA® Form >](#)
- [Complete a *Master Promissory Note* \(MPN\) >](#)
- [Apply for a Direct PLUS Loan >](#)
- [Learn About Public Service Loan Forgiveness >](#)
- [View Your Loan Information >](#)

Considering School
I'm thinking about going to college or a career school.

In School
I'm in the process of earning a degree or certificate.

Parent
I want to help my child pay for college.

In Repayment
I have loans I need to repay.

Go to: studentaid.gov

An official website of the United States government.

Federal Student Aid
An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

FAFSA® Form ▾ Loans and Grants ▾ Loan Repayment ▾ L

Create an Account

Whether you're a student, parent, or borrower, you'll need to create your own account to apply for, receive, and manage your federal student aid.

[Get Started](#)

Already have an account? [Log In](#)

What You Can Do With Your Account

You must have an account to do the following:

- Fill out the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA®) form online
- Complete other online forms (such as the *Master Promissory Note*) required to receive aid
- Review the federal student aid you've received

What You'll Need

- Your Social Security number (if applicable)
- Your own email address

CADAA

Application

YOUR SAFETY AND PRIVACY IS CSAC'S PRIORITY
We understand that you may be concerned about sharing personal information. Information provided on a CA Dream Act Application (CADAA) is only used to determine state financial aid eligibility, and is not shared with the federal government or used for immigration enforcement. [Read more about how we protect your privacy.](#)



STUDENT ACCOUNT

- Submit a CA Dream Act Application
- Update a previously submitted CA Dream Act Application
- Retrieve Username or Password

Login

Need an Account? Click [here](#) for first-time account registration.

HOME INFORMATION & RESOURCES

California Dream Act Application

Registration

STOP! If you already have a CSAC account, do not create a new account. Instead, click [here](#) to Retrieve your User ID and/or Password.

Welcome

Completion of the California Dream Act Application is required to determine state financial aid for eligible California AB 540 students. Your application will be processed by the California Student Aid Commission.

The following questions will determine whether this is the best financial aid application for you or whether you should fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Continue

Go to: dream.csac.ca.gov

QUICK TIPS

- When using an email, we discourage you to use iCloud as it can cause delays. Please use a Gmail if you already have one.
- Speaking of emails: use your PERSONAL EMAIL, not your school email.
- For your password, use a unique password like your NETWORK PASSWORD FOLLOWED BY AN EXCLAMATION POINT. ex: Xz123456!

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

When creating your FAFSA/CADAA accounts

- Use your **FULL LEGAL NAME** (as seen on Aeries). If you are unsure, ask a counselor for help
- Enter your correct **SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER** (if you have one)- Double check!!
- Enter your correct **DATE OF BIRTH**- Double check!!
- You create **ONE** account that is yours for the rest of your life! You will use this account to apply for Financial Aid every year. Make sure you use a current personal email, mobile number, and double check ALL INFORMATION!
- **WRITE DOWN** your **USERNAME, PASSWORD, SECURITY ANSWERS, and BACKUP CODE**

APPLICATION YEAR: 2026-2027

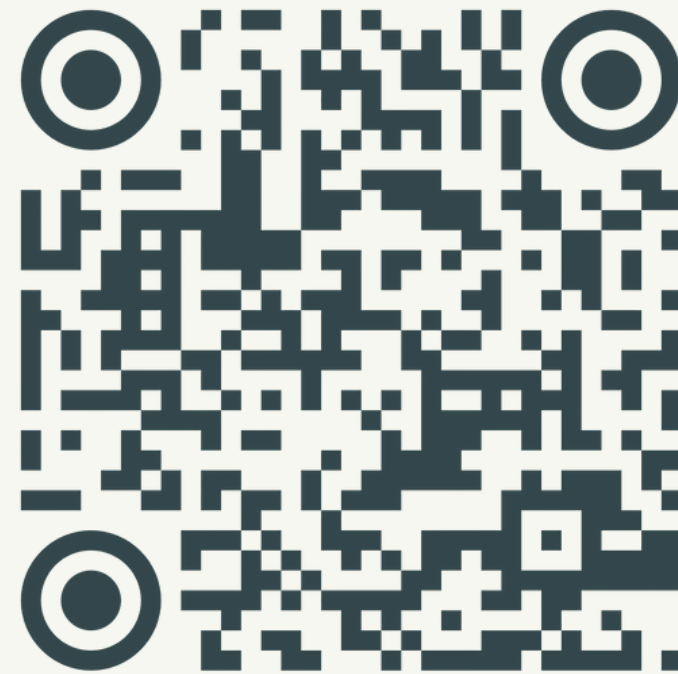


IMPORTANT DATES

- **COMMON APPLICATION OPENS 8/1/25**
- **UC APPLICATION OPENS 8/1/25**
- **CSU APPLICATION OPENS 10/1/25**
- **FAFSA SET TO OPEN 10/1/25.**
- **ALLAN HANCOCK COLLEGE PREPARATIONS WILL START THROUGH SENIOR CLASSES IN THE FALL. ALL WILL APPLY REGARDLESS OF POST HIGH SCHOOL PLANS**

QR CODE

PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE AND FILL THE
INFORMATION OUT TO STORE YOUR
FAFSA/CADAA INFORMATION



IF YOU CAN'T SCAN THE QR CODE PLEASE
TYPE THE FOLLOWING LINK TO YOUR
PHONE OR LAPTOP:

<https://gqr.sh/E23B>

CLASS OF 2026 TEAM



Heydi Elenes
School Counselor A-L



Crystal Buchan
High School & College
Readiness Counselor



Rocio Trujillo
School Counselor M-Z



Juan Antonio-Martinez
UCSB EAOP Coordinator



College & Career Specialist