SACRAMENTO STATE

FINANCIAL AID AT SAC STATE
A RESOURCE GUIDE FOR NEW & CONTINUING STUDENTS

Apply for Financial Aid

The 2025-26 Financial Aid Applications open on December 1. To qualify for maximum aid, students should apply by the priority deadline of March 3. This application will cover the upcoming fall, spring, and summer semesters. Even if you only plan to attend for one semester, it's still a good idea to apply by the priority deadline to be considered for state funds.

Type of Financial Aid Applications

Review the criteria below and apply for **ONE** financial aid application that applies to you; *do not apply for both*. Both applications will require **Sac State's federal school code 001150**.

- [Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)](https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa) (https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa)
    - o Be a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident
    - o Have a valid Social Security Number (SSN)
    - o Review the full list of eligibility requirements on the [Federal Student Aid Website](https://studentaid.gov/help/federal-student-aid-eligibility) (https://studentaid.gov/help/federal-student-aid-eligibility)
- [California Dream Act Application (CADAA)](https://dream.csac.ca.gov/) (https://dream.csac.ca.gov/)
    - o Not a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident
    - o Be an AB540/ Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status
    - o Review the full list of eligibility requirements on the [California Student Aid Commission website](https://mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov/) (https://mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov/)
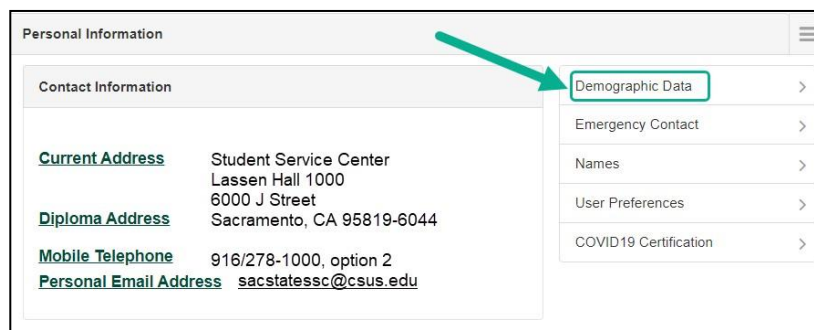
Financial Aid Application Submission

Once you've applied for financial aid, Sac State will reach out to you by email with your next steps. If you're starting in the fall, you can expect to hear from us starting in the winter, the year before you start school. For spring admits, notifications will be sent out in late November of the academic year you plan to transfer. For example, if you're transferring in Spring 2025, you'll get your status update in November 2024. Make sure to check your CSUS Outlook email for notifications, and you can also see any updates on your My Sac State account.

FAFSA Applicants Only: Verify Social Security Number (SSN)

Students with a Social Security Number (SSN) **must** report their number on their My Sac State account. This allows Sac State to retrieve your FAFSA from Student Aid to your student account. Follow the steps below to confirm or add your SSN.

From the Student Center page, locate *Personal Information* and select *Demographic Data* (see image below). Then, select 'Menu' on the top left of the page to show the "Add SSN" option.

Financial Aid Fee Deferment

A financial aid fee deferment is a **positive hold** that overrides your registration fee due date and prevents late fees from incurring up till the second week of the semester. *Financial aid students will be granted a fee deferment if certain conditions are met.* It will automatically be assigned to their student account on the *Student Center > Holds* section for the fall/spring semesters. By having this deferment, no immediate payment of tuition fees is required up till the second week of the semester. Check your *Student Center > Holds* for to determine if you are eligible.

Note: The fee deferment is an informational hold and won't stop you from registering or receiving your aid. It's your responsibility to submit all required financial aid documents and clear any holds before the semester starts to ensure your aid is disbursed on time.

Spring Transfers: Additional Steps Required

Consider the following, if applicable:

1. **If you attended another school in the fall and received aid prior to transferring**, you **must** close out your financial aid file at your previous institution after accepting your admission to Sac State. Students are not permitted to have two active financial aid applications within the same semester. Students may need to contact their previous school for closing instructions or to confirm file closure. **It may delay financial aid disbursements at Sac State if not completed.**

2. **It is the student's responsibility to add Sac State's school code 001150 to their financial aid application** to ensure that the university receives their financial aid application. **Your financial aid application does not automatically transfer to Sac State.**

3. **If you are a Cal Grant recipient**, it is the student's responsibility to update Sac State as the primary school on your WebGrants 4 Students (https://mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov/) account so Sac State can receive your award information. Without this update, we will not be able to determine the student's Cal Grant and/Middle Class Scholarship eligibility. *If you have questions about your WebGrants account, please contact the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) at 888-224-7268 (toll free).*

Sac State Resources

For questions about the financial aid process at Sac State, contact the Student Service Center in Lassen Hall, Room 1000, by phone at 916-278-1000, option 2 or visiting their website (https://www.csus.edu/ssc). Follow the Student Service Center on social media for important student updates *@sacstatessc* on Instagram, Twitter, TikTok, YouTube and Facebook.

Types of Financial Aid Awards: view the current federal and state programs on the Financial Aid website (www.csus.edu/faid)
Scholarships Opportunities, visit www.csus.edu/apply/financial-aid-scholarships/scholarships/

Commonly Asked Questions about financial aid can be found on our Self-Service & FAQs webpage (https://www.csus.edu/student-affairs/centers-programs/student-services-center/most-popular-topics.html)

Campus Contacts

Admissions & Outreach: admissions@csus.edu
Academic Advising (General Education): advising@csus.edu
Bursar's Office (Payment Options & Refund status): bursar@csus.edu
Career Center: careercenter@csus.edu
Educational Opportunity Program (EOP): eop-01@csus.edu

Student Service Center (SSC): www.csus.edu/ssc *(Financial aid services are offered at the SSC)*
Federal Work-Study: sacstatefws@csus.edu
Scholarship's Office: scholarshipfaqs@csus.edu
New Student Orientation: orient.reservations@csus.edu
University Registrar (Academic Records & Enrollment): registrar@csus.edu

FALL ADMITS AND CONTINUING STUDENTS

FINANCIAL AID ADMITTED CHECKLIST

☐ **I applied/renewed my financial aid application and included Sac State's federal school code: 001150.**
   FAFSA (www.studentaid.gov) or DREAM Act Application (www.csac.ca.gov)

☐ **(FAFSA Applicants only) I have a SSN and confirmed/updated to My Sac State account.**
   You can check your Student Center > Personal Information section to add or confirm that it is listed.

☐ **I reviewed my Student Center for any Holds and/or To Do List item(s).**
   Review the description(s) for instructions. To Do List items in "Initiated" status means action is required by the student. Review the Self-Guide & FAQs (https://www.csus.edu/student-affairs/centers-programs/student-services-center/ most-popular-topics.html) for status details.

☐ **(If listed) I have submitted all required financial aid documents listed on my To Do List.**
   Only submit documents requested on your account! It can be a mix of PDF or eforms, make sure you review the document description on the To Do List. Not all students will have forms to submit. Use the online upload tool on your student account to securely submit your forms. For other submission methods, review the Self-Guide & FAQs (https://www.csus.edu/student-affairs/centers-programs/student-services-center/ most-popular-topics.html)

Processing & Awarding

The student will receive an award notification email when awards are posted to their account.

- **Newly admitted fall undergraduate students** will receive a "provisional award offer," which is an estimate of their potential financial aid award. *These awards cannot be accepted, view-access only.*
- **Continuing students:** are typically awarded in the summer, after spring grades are posted.

Students will be notified when award offers will be posted to your *Student Center> Accept/Decline Award Link.*
- Grants/Scholarships will be **automatically** accepted on the account.
- Student loans will appear in "offer" status and a student may choose to accept/decline the offers. **Students are not required to take out loans to attend Sac State but is a resource if needed.**

☆ **Learn more! Types of financial aid offered at** www.csus.edu/faid | **Sac State Scholarship opportunities** found at www.csus.edu/apply/financial-aid-scholarships/scholarships

How does financial aid pay my charges?

Disbursements begin a week before the semester starts. All qualified financial aid students will earn a fee deferment to post-pone their registration fee due date up till the second week of the semester.

Students must be enrolled at least half-time for aid to be disbursed, and there should be no financial aid holds on their account. All accepted aid (like grants, loans, and scholarships) will be automatically applied toward outstanding charges on the account first.

Any remaining funds will be refunded to the student. Disbursement and refund activity can be found on the *Student Center > Account Activity* page.

How do I receive my financial aid refund?

Financial aid refund(s) are <u>only</u> issued if there are left-over monies after all university charges are paid in full.
NOTE: Not all financial aid students receive refunds. It's important to plan your college costs with your aid with an advisor!

Erefund – Direct Deposit (Recommended!) occur within 2-3 business days of the posted disbursement date. *The time to receive your refund may vary depending on your bank. **If interested in this method, the student must sign up for Erefund on their student account.***

Paper-check (default method), mailed out by the university within 3 days of the posted disbursement date. *Consider additional mailing time. This method applies to Parent PLUS loans since eRefund is not offered to parent borrowers at this time.*

SPRING ADMITS/TRANSFERS

FINANCIAL AID ADMITTED CHECKLIST

☐ **I applied/renewed my financial aid application and included Sac State's federal school code: 001150.**
(FAFSA (www.studentaid.gov) or DREAM Act Application (www.csac.ca.gov)

    ☐ **(If applicable) I closed my financial aid application from the last school I attended in this past fall term.**

    ☐ **(If applicable) I am a Cal Grant recipient and I switched my school over to Sac State on my** WebGrants 4 Students (https://mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov) account.

☐ **(FAFSA Applicants only) I have a SSN and confirmed/updated to My Sac State account.**
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☐ **I reviewed my Student Center for any Holds and/or To Do List item(s).**
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