

CALIFORNIA DREAM ACT MAP 2023-24: STEPS TO SUCCESSFULLY APPLY

PHASE 1 October 1 - March 2

Student enters or creates a user name and password at caldreamact.org
Write down and save this information!

Student completes 2023-24 California Dream Application (CADAA) online at caldreamact.org. Make sure to select the correct aid year. ★

Student must include:

- » School code for all schools they are considering
- » Parental information
- » Income (taxed & untaxed)
- » Assets & Investments
- » Household size

Social Security Number is not required.

Parent information is required unless:

- » student is 24 years old or
- » was born before 1/1/2000
- » is married, has children, dependents other than children, is an orphan, ward of the court, veteran or on active duty or in graduate school

Student submits their CADAA application by **3/2/23** and immediately checks the app status on the confirmation page tab.

Parent obtains a personal identification number (P.I.N.) and signs the application (the P.I.N. is unique for each student).

California Student Aid Commission (CSAC):

1. Calculates the Estimated Family Contribution (EFC)
2. Sends CADAA to all schools listed.
3. Randomly selects students for income verification.
4. Identifies any errors or missing information on the CADAA.

CSAC informs students who need to resolve missing or erroneous info through:

1. CADAA confirmation page;
2. Emails; or
3. [webgrants4students](http://webgrants4students.com) portal

Student must:

1. Correct CADAA & provide necessary information
2. Re-sign & resubmit CADAA including the parent signature, if required.

PHASE 3 March - May

School will receive all CADAA that are complete, with a valid EFC.

School informs students who are required to submit income verification documents.

Student & Family, if chosen, must complete and submit:

- a) an income verification form and
- b) 2021 Tax Return TRANSCRIPT(s), if required to file taxes per the IRS tax code.

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Warning: Incomplete CADAA
School contacts students under 24 who did not include parent information. Documentation is required before financial aid can be awarded.

CA College Promise Grant
Students at California Community Colleges may be eligible for the Promise Grant without filing the CA Dream Application (CADAA).

School sends a financial aid offer to students who met the income guidelines, priority deadline, AB 540/SB 68 status, and all other eligibility the CA College Promise Grant, State University Grant (CSU), the University Grant (UC), Cal Grants, and/or other institutional aid (if available).

You're ready to start Phase 4!

PHASE 2 October 1 - March 2

After **student** applies at caldreamact.org:

1. Verify your high school or community college sent your GPA (electronically) ★
2. If school did not send GPA, student prints out Non-SSN GPA verification form, has school fill it out, then student mails form to CSAC by **3/2/23** and requests proof of mailing from US Postal Service

Student creates account on [webgrants4students](http://webgrants4students.com) on mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov. You can use the same login info that you used for CA Dream application (CADAA).

Student checks status of GPA submission, Cal Grant, Middle Class Scholarship (MCS) & Chafee Grant.
Note: Chafee requires additional app.

Student ensures the proper school is listed and all holds are cleared, including confirmation of CA High School graduation or GED

School verifies student meets all Cal Grant eligibility: income, assets, financial need, AB 540/SB 68 status, entitlement, & class level. MCS eligibility is also verified.

PHASE 4 May - September

Student logs onto student portal at each school to review and accept each financial aid offer. Follows up with CSAC, if necessary.

Student calculates each college's costs and develops a per semester/quarter and per year budget, including any scholarships. ★

Student accepts financial aid, informs school of any pending scholarships, and confirms tuition is deferred, so classes will not be dropped.

Student submits AB 540/SB 68 affidavit and necessary documents. **School** confirms student meets AB 540/SB 68 eligibility. ★

Starting in 2021, per SB 169, male students are no longer required to provide proof of registration for the selective service.

School will send the student:

- a) Available funds after tuition and fees are paid (via direct deposit, check or credit); or
- b) A bill for the balance that is still outstanding.

Student ensures they are enrolled in proper number of units and there are no holds on their financial aid record.

Student checks if there are any scholarship restrictions regarding tuition; financial need; unit requirement; or others, per the organization

School disburses grants and/or scholarships to pay tuition and other outstanding balances.

OPTIMAL TIMELINE

PHASE 1	Apply for CA State Aid October 1 - March 2
PHASE 2	GPA received by CSAC October 1 - March 2
PHASE 3	Claim your financial aid March - May
PHASE 4	Use your financial aid May - September

★ Click on the star to access its related resource