**California Dream Act Map 2024–25: Steps to Successfully Apply**

**PHASE 1 December 31 - May 2**

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

- **Student** completes 2024–25 California Dream Application (CADAA) online at caldreamact.org.
- **Make sure to select the correct aid year.**
- **caldreamact.org.**

**PHASE 2 December 31 - May 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 5/2/24 and requests proof of mailing from US Postal Service.

- **Student** creates account on webgrants4students 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 GPA submission, Cal Grant, Middle Class Scholarship (MCS) & Chafee Grant.

**PHASE 3 March - May**

- **Student** must sign the application, if required.

- **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** confirms AB 540 affidavit was received through CA Dream application or submits affidavit to school. Provides any attendance and degree confirmation, if necessary.

- **School** confirms student meets AB 540 eligibility.

- **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.

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

- **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).

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

- **Student** confirms AB 540 affidavit was received through CA Dream application or submits affidavit to school. Provides any attendance and degree confirmation, if necessary.

- **School** sends 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.

- **School** disburse grants and/or scholarships to pay tuition and other outstanding balances.

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

**Optimal Timeline**

- **PHASE 1 Apply for CA State Aid December 31 - May 2**
- **PHASE 2 GPA received by CSAC December 31 - May 2**
- **PHASE 3 Claim your financial aid March - May**
- **PHASE 4 Use your financial aid May - September**

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