

FAFSA vs. CA Dream Act: Apply to the Correct Financial Aid in CA

Questions	FAFSA	CA Dream Application
Who is Eligible?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizens • Legal Permanent Residents • Eligible Non- Citizens (per FAFSA) • T visa holders 	AB 540/ SB 68 Eligible Students Who Are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undocumented individuals; • DACAmented individuals; and • U visa holders • TPS holders
Who is NOT Eligible?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any other immigration status that is not listed above including: • DACAmented students • Undocumented individuals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any visa holder (except U) • Citizens • Legal Permanent Residents • Eligible Non-Citizens (per FAFSA)
Requirements for Financial Aid to Be Awarded	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Homeland Security and Social Security Administration crosscheck student name, social security number, and birthdate to verify that all FAFSA eligibility requirements are met • All other eligibility for federal and state financial aid is met 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School verifies student meets AB/540/SB 68 eligibility requirements <i>Some schools may require a student's AB 540/SB 68 status to be approved prior to awarding state financial aid.</i> • All other eligibility for state financial aid is met
Requirements for Financial Aid to Be Released to Pay Outstanding Balances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admission into an approved degree or certificate program • Minimum Unit requirements • Satisfactory Academic Progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval as AB 540/ SB 68 student and: • Admission into an approved degree or certificate program • Minimum Unit requirements • Satisfactory Academic Progress
What Happens If You Fillout the Wrong Application?	A HOLD is placed on your Account	A HOLD is placed on your Account
	A hold from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will prevent all financial aid from being awarded. Proof of citizenship or lawful presence per FAFSA will be required to release the hold.	A Residency Hold will prevent all state financial aid from being awarded. AB 540/ SB 68 status will be required to release the hold.
How to Release the HOLD and Receive Your Financial Aid	<p>Contact the college or university you plan to attend and confirm which application you should be using. If the wrong application was submitted, be sure to complete the correct application. Then work with CSAC to complete the Application Conversion Form. After that, show a copy of this form to your financial aid counselor so they can: 1) Delete the incorrect application 2) Bring in the correct application and 3) Create a financial aid award. Based on your status, this will include federal or state financial aid or both. Once the proper application has been processed, you should be able to receive all financial aid for which you are eligible. For more information, contact CSAC at 1-888-294-7268.</p> <p><i>Remember: The California Student Aid Commission honors the priority deadline of the first application submitted, even if it's the incorrect application.</i></p>	