

ARE YOU FINANCIAL AID READY?

A GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING THE FINANCIAL AID PROCESS

Apply for Financial Aid

Financial Aid applications open every year starting **October 1**. If you plan to attend for the upcoming Fall and/or Spring semesters, you are encouraged to file by the priority deadline March 2, each year. *For example: the application filing period October 1, 2020 – March 2, 2021 will be applicable to the Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 semesters.*

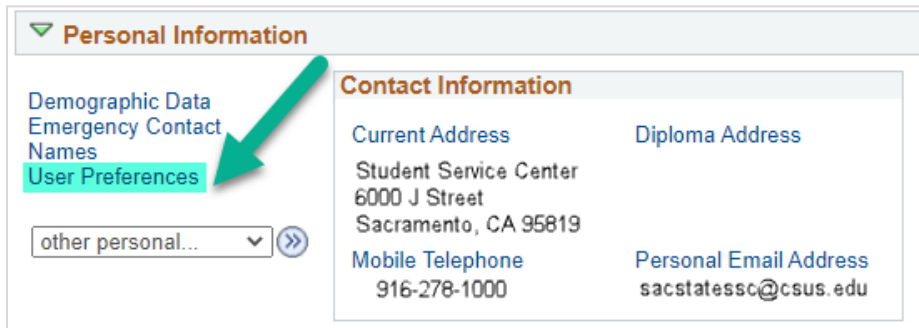
Type of Financial Aid Applications

Review the criteria below and choose **one** financial aid application that applies to you:

- [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#)
 - Be a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident
 - Have a valid Social Security Number (SSN)
 - Review the full list of eligibility requirements on the [Federal Student Aid Website](#).
- [California Dream Act application \(CADAA\)](#)
 - Not a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident
 - Be a AB540/ Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status
 - Review the full list of eligibility requirements on the [California Student Aid Commission Website](#)
- Both applications require Sac State's school code: **001150**

Verify your Social Security Number (SSN)

If you have a Social Security Number (SSN), it **must** be reported on your [My Sac State account](#) > *Student Center* > *Personal Information* section > *User Preferences* section > *Add SSN link* (see image below) for the Financial Aid Office to access your financial aid application and receive information on your aid status.



Personal Information

Demographic Data	Contact Information	
Emergency Contact Names	Current Address	Diploma Address
User Preferences	Student Service Center 6000 J Street Sacramento, CA 95819	
<input type="text" value="other personal..."/>	Mobile Telephone	Personal Email Address
	916-278-1000	sacstatessc@csus.edu

Financial Aid Application Submission

The Financial Aid office begins downloading the applications in December every year. The office will post your next steps on your [My Sac State](#) account > *Student Center* > *To Do List*, followed by an email notification regarding your next steps. Refer to the [Self-Guide & FAQs webpage](#) to learn more about the financial aid process.

If you are an incoming Transfer Student, also consider the following:

Transferring in the Spring Semester

If you are transferring in the Spring semester, you **must** close out your financial aid file at your previous institution when transferring to Sac State. Remember to add Sac State's school code: **001150** to your financial aid application.

You are **not** permitted to have two active financial aid applications within the same academic year. You may need to contact your previous school for closing instructions or to confirm file closure. This step is crucial as it may delay financial aid disbursements at Sac State.

Cal Grant

If you are a Cal Grant recipient, it is your responsibility to list Sac State as the primary school on your [WebGrants 4 Students](#) account. This step is crucial and will allow the University to receive information regarding your Cal Grant eligibility.

If you have questions about your WebGrants account, please contact the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) for assistance at 888-224-7268 (toll free).

Financial Aid Fee Deferment

The Financial Aid office issues a "fee deferment" on the *Student Center > Holds* section for eligible students for the Fall/Spring semesters. A fee deferment is a positive Hold that keeps you enrolled and overrides the current due date for your tuition fees. By having this deferment, no immediate payment of tuition fees is required up till the second week of the semester. If eligible, refer to your *Student Center > Holds* for details.

Note: This is an informational hold and DOES NOT prevent registration. It is your responsibility to submit **all** requested financial aid documents and clear any disbursement holds prior to the start of the semester to ensure timely disbursement of aid.

Resources & Offices

Contact the [Student Service Center](#) if you have any questions regarding the Financial Aid process at Sac State by phone at 916-278-1000, option 2 or by email at SacStateSSC@csus.edu.

Contact the [Financial Wellness](#) office for assistance on managing your school expenses. A FREE, confidential resources to help your budget financially for school. Schedule and [appointment online](#) or via email at Green2Gold@csus.edu.

Connect with the Student Service Center for important updates! @SacStateSSC



[INSTAGRAM](#)



[TWITTER](#)



[TIKTOK](#)



[YOUTUBE](#)

[Online Video Resources & Tutorials](#)

Financial Aid Admitted Checklist

First-Time Freshman/ New Fall Transfer	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>I applied for financial aid and listed Sac State's school code #001150:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAFSA • DREAM Act Application
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>(If applicable) I have a SSN and confirmed/updated to My Sac State account. <i>Located on the Student Center > Personal Information section.</i></p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>I reviewed my My Sac State account for any Holds and/or To Do List item(s). <i>TIP: Review the description(s) for instructions. If your To Do List items are in "Initiated" status, action is required from you. Review the Self-Guide & FAQs for the full list of statuses.</i></p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>I have submitted required documentation (eform/downloadable forms) requested by the Financial Aid office. <i>TIP: Use the online upload from your Student Center to submit your forms!</i></p>
Once all steps above are completed, the Financial Aid office will begin to process your file & determine your aid eligibility.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>I have accepted/declined my award offer(s) on My Sac State account. <i>You are encouraged to accept/decline awards within 30 days of the offer date.</i></p>
How does financial aid pay my charges?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is the student's responsibility to clear any Financial Aid Holds for a timely disbursement. • Based on your accepted aid and enrolled units, funds pay out one week before the start of the semester. • Aid is set to automatically pay any outstanding charges owed on your account first. • If there is left-over aid after your charges are paid then, a refund will be issued. <p><i>Note: If you have a "fee deferment" on your account, charges owed must be paid by you or your financial aid before the second week of the semester.</i></p>	
How do I receive my financial aid refund?	
<p>By default, a paper-check will be issued to the student's current address on file. We encourage students to sign up for eRefund (direct deposit) <i>Note: Parent PLUS Loan borrowers will receive their refund by paper-check, eRefund is not offered at this time.</i></p> <p>Timelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper-check, mailed out by the University within 3 days of the posted disbursement date. Take into account of additional mailing time. • ERefund, transactions occur within 2-3 business days of the posted disbursement date. Receipt of funds may vary depending on your bank. 	

Financial Aid Admitted Checklist

New Spring Transfer	
<input type="checkbox"/>	I applied for financial aid and listed Sac State's school code #001150: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAFSA • DREAM Act Application
<input type="checkbox"/>	(If applicable) I have a SSN and confirmed/updated to My Sac State account. <i>Located on the Student Center > Personal Information section.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	I reviewed my My Sac State account for any Holds and/or To Do List item(s). <i>TIP: Review the description(s) for instructions. If your To Do List items are in "Initiated" status, action is required from you. Review the Self-Guide & FAQs for the full list of statuses.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have submitted required documentation (eform/downloadable forms) requested by the Financial Aid office. <i>TIP: Use the online upload from your Student Center to submit your forms!</i>
Once all steps above are completed, the Financial Aid office will begin to process your file & determine your eligibility.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	(If applicable) I closed my financial aid application from the last school I attended prior to transferring to Sac State. <i>TIP: Make sure you follow up with your previous school to confirm!</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have accepted/declined my award offer(s) on my My Sac State account. <i>You are encouraged to accept/decline awards within 30 days of the offer date.</i>
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