

FINANCIAL AID AT SAC STATE

A RESOURCE GUIDE FOR NEW & CONTINUING STUDENTS

Type of Financial Aid Applications

Review the criteria below and apply for **ONE** financial aid application that applies to student; **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>)
 - 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](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/>)
 - Not a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident
 - Be an AB540/ Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status
 - **Review the full list of eligibility requirements on the [California Student Aid Commission website](https://mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov/)** (<https://mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov/>)

Apply for Financial Aid

Financial aid applications usually open on October 1. To qualify for maximum aid, new and continuing students should apply by the CA priority deadline of March 2 each year. The current application will cover the upcoming fall, spring, and summer semesters. Even if the student plans to attend one semester, it's still a good idea to apply by the priority deadline to be considered for state funds.

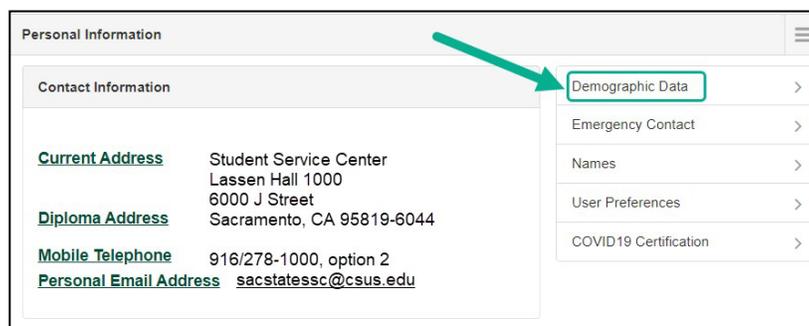
After the application is submitted, Sac State’s Financial Aid (FA) Office will reach out to the student by email with their next steps. If the student is starting in the fall, they can expect to hear from the FA office starting in the winter, the year before they start at Sac State. *Please note that financial aid awards will vary based on a student’s financial aid application and eligibility.*

For spring admits, notifications will be sent out in late November of the academic year the student plans to transfer. For example, if a student is transferring in Spring 2027, they’ll get a status update in November 2026. The student should check their CSUS Outlook email for notifications, and their Student Center portal for updates.

Verify Your Social Security Number (SSN) (for FAFSA Applicants Only)

Students with a Social Security Number (SSN) **must** report their number on their My Sac State account in order for the FA office to process their application. Refer to the steps below to confirm or add their 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. If the SSN is incorrect, then the student must submit a **Student Personal Information Change** through [OnBase Forms](https://onbaseform.csus.edu/apps/forms) (<https://onbaseform.csus.edu/apps/forms>).





Financial Aid Fee Deferment

A financial aid fee deferment is a **positive hold** that postpones a student's registration fee deadline while they await financial aid. It prevents late fees through the second week of the semester.

If eligible, the deferment is automatically applied for fall and spring and can be viewed in the *Student Center > Holds* section. With this deferment, no immediate tuition payment is required until the second week of the semester. Check Student Center > Holds to confirm eligibility.

NOTE: The fee deferment is an informational hold and does not prevent course registration. It's the student's 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 \(https://mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov/\)](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: To view the current federal and state programs, visit the Financial Aid website (www.csus.edu/faid)
For scholarship opportunities, visit www.csus.edu/apply/financial-aid-scholarships/scholarships/

Commonly Asked Questions about financial aid can be found on the Student Service Center's website (<https://www.csus.edu/ssc>)

Campus Contacts

Admissions & Outreach: admissions@csus.edu

Academic Advising (General Education): advising@csus.edu

Bursar's Office: bursar@csus.edu

Career Center: careercenter@csus.edu

Educational Opportunity Program (EOP): eop-01@csus.edu

New Student Orientation: orient.reservations@csus.edu

University Housing Services: housing@csus.edu

Student Service Center (SSC): www.csus.edu/ssc

For enrollment, student records, transcripts, financial aid, scholarships and more!

- **Financial Aid:** www.csus.edu/faid
- **Federal Work-Study:** sacstatefws@csus.edu
- **Scholarship's Office:** scholarshipfaqs@csus.edu
- **University Registrar:** registrar@csus.edu



Financial Aid Checklist for New & Continuing Students

I applied/renewed my financial aid application and included Sac State's federal school code: 001150.

[FAFSA \(www.studentaid.gov\)](http://www.studentaid.gov) or [DREAM Act Application \(www.csac.ca.gov\)](http://www.csac.ca.gov)

(Spring Admits Only) I closed my financial aid application from the last school I attended in this past fall term, if applicable

(Spring Admits Only) I am a Cal Grant recipient and I switched my school over to Sac State on my [WebGrants 4 Students \(https://mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov\)](https://mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov) account, if applicable.

(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 your ssn 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.

(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 [Commonly Asked Questions & Resources \(https://www.csus.edu/student-life/student-service-center/most-popular-topics.html\)](https://www.csus.edu/student-life/student-service-center/most-popular-topics.html)

How do I get awarded?

Students will receive an award notification email when their awards are posted. Awards can be viewed in the *Student Center* > *Accept/Decline Award Link*.

- **Newly admitted fall undergraduate students** receive a "provisional award offer," which estimates potential aid before official awards are finalized. Provisional awards are view-only and cannot be accepted. Official awards are posted later.
- **Spring transfers** are typically awarded in November-December
- **Continuing students** are typically awarded in the summer, after spring grades are posted.

Grants & Student Loans

- Grants and scholarships will be automatically accepted as part of a student's financial aid offer.
- Student loans will appear in "offer" status. Students may choose to accept or decline them, but they are not required to do so. Loans are additional resources available to eligible students and may be requested at any time during the academic year.

How does financial aid pay my charges?

Financial aid disbursements are processed automatically about 10 days before the start of the semester. All accepted aid (like grants, loans, and scholarships) will be automatically applied toward outstanding charges on the account first. Students must be enrolled at least half-time for aid to be disbursed and have 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.

How do I get a financial aid refund?

Financial aid refunds are issued when there are excess funds after all current charges are paid on the account. Disbursement and refund activity can be found on the *Student Center* > *Account Activity* page. Please 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!)** Issued within 2–3 business days of the posted disbursement date. Delivery time may vary by bank. Students must enroll in eRefund through My Sac State > Student Center.
- **Paper check (default):** Mailed within 3 days of disbursement; allow additional time for delivery. Applies to Parent PLUS loans, as eRefund is not available for parent borrowers.