



A California Student Opportunity & Access Program

Sacramento
Cal-SOAP
Consortium

Financial Aid Application Checklist for Students Using the Dream Act Application

1. Complete the CA Dream Act Application (Oct. 1- Mar 2)

- Complete **CA Dream Act Application** <https://dream.csac.ca.gov/>
- Don't forget to complete the parent and student signature tabs.

2. Complete Cal Grant GPA Verification Form (high school counselor needs to verify GPA)

* Most High Schools submit students' GPAs electronically. Check with your school!

3. Make Corrections to CA Dream Application if necessary

- Make Corrections to application if information submitted was incomplete or estimated

4. Receive a California Aid Report (CAR)

***A letter from CA Student Aid Commission informing you that:**

- You are eligible for a Cal Grant: A, B, or C?
- Create a "WebGrants for Students" account at www.calgrants.org

*You can make address changes, school choice changes and later verify your HS graduation

- California Student Aid Commission 1-888-224-7268

5. Provide all requested information by your college of attendance.

- Submit an **AB 540 Affidavit** for California non-resident tuition exemption www.csac.ca.gov/dream

*Check with your college of attendance as to where should the **affidavit** be submitted

- Official High School Transcript
- If applicable: Copies of tax forms to your college of attendance financial aid office.
- If applicable: documentation of residency, foster/independent status

6. Receive and review financial aid award notice from college

- This notice tells you the specific award amounts that the college is offering you.

*Many colleges prefer to post this information on your portal. Check your portal carefully and often!

7. Accept/ reject/ negotiate financial aid offers

- Call your college's financial aid office if you are uncertain about which offers to **accept** or **reject**.

**Each year in college you will have to file a CA Dream Act Renewal: shorter and faster than 1st year!*

8. Verify your High School graduation for Cal Grant release

- Verify your date of graduation at WebgGrants account www.calgrants.org