



**2027-28**

# Financial Aid Overview

FAFSA • California Dream Act Application • Ventura College  
Financial Aid

## **PAYING FOR COLLEGE STARTS HERE**

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Complete the right  
application.  
Know what comes next.  
Ask for help when you need  
it.

**Ventura College School Code  
001334**

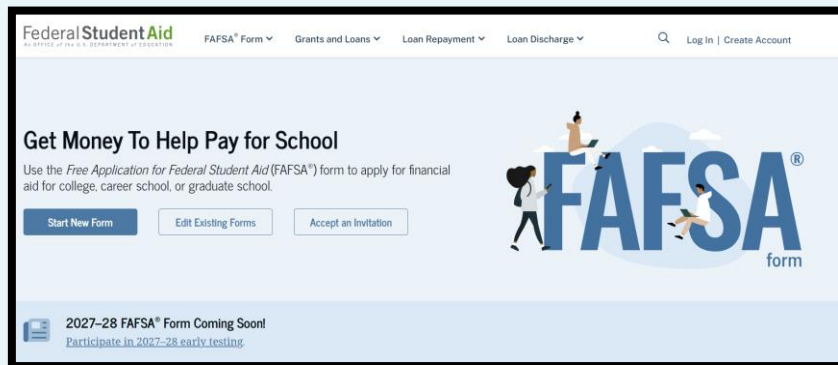
# FAFSA or CADAA: Which application do I complete?

## FAFSA

For U.S. citizens and eligible noncitizens.

Determines eligibility for federal student aid and is also used for many California aid programs.

Complete at StudentAid.gov.



## CALIFORNIA DREAM ACT APPLICATION (CADAA)

For eligible students who do not complete the FAFSA, including qualifying AB 540 students.

May provide access to California state and institutional aid.

Complete through the California Student Aid Commission.



**Add Ventura College to your application • School Code: 001334**

# Before you start: gather what you need

## STUDENT

- StudentAid.gov account (FAFSA)
- Social Security Number (FAFSA)
- Date of birth
- Citizenship/eligible noncitizen information (FAFSA)
- Current asset information, when required
- 2025 income/tax information

## PARENT / OTHER CONTRIBUTOR

- Their own StudentAid.gov account (FAFSA)
- Email address
- Social Security Number, if applicable
- Date of birth
- Marital status
- Current asset information, when required
- 2025 income/tax information

**FAFSA contributors cannot share a StudentAid.gov account.**

# Who is a FAFSA contributor?

A contributor is a person required to provide information, sign the FAFSA, and provide consent and approval for federal tax information to transfer from the IRS.

## STUDENT

The student is always a contributor to their own FAFSA.

## PARENT

A biological or adoptive parent may be required for a dependent student.

## PARENT SPOUSE

A stepparent may also be a contributor depending on the parents' marital and tax filing situation.

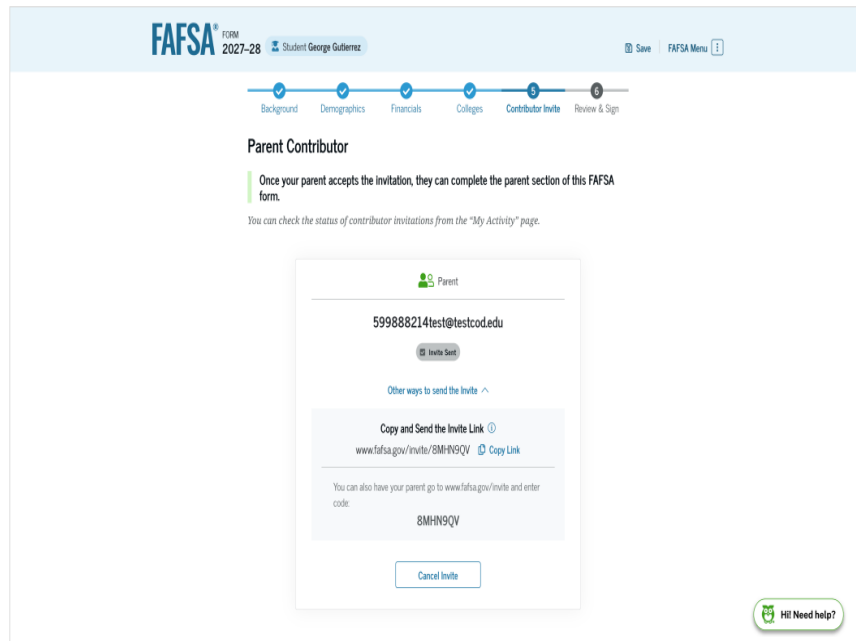
## STUDENT SPOUSE

A spouse may be required for some married independent students.

**Being a contributor does not make someone responsible for paying the student's college costs.**

# New for 2027-28: contributor invitations are easier to access

## Invited Contributor: Student Invite



The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2027-28 interface for a student named George Gutierrez. The progress bar indicates the 'Contributor Invite' step is active. The form is titled 'Parent Contributor' and includes instructions: 'Once your parent accepts the invitation, they can complete the parent section of this FAFSA form. You can check the status of contributor invitations from the "My Activity" page.' Below this, there is a section for 'Other ways to send the invite' which includes a 'Copy and Send the Invite Link' button. This button generates a unique link: [www.fafsa.gov/invite/8MH9GQV](https://www.fafsa.gov/invite/8MH9GQV) and a unique code: 8MH9GQV. A 'Cancel Invite' button is also present at the bottom of the invite options section.

### 1. SEND THE INVITE

The student enters the contributor's email address.

### 2. SHARE THE LINK OR CODE

The FAFSA also provides a unique invitation link and code that can be shared directly.

### 3. CONTRIBUTOR COMPLETES THEIR PART

The contributor signs in with their own StudentAid.gov account, completes their section, and signs.

**Tip: The student should start their own FAFSA and complete the student section first.**

# Avoid common application mistakes

- Invite the correct biological or legally adoptive parent when parent information is required.
- Report marital status as of the date the application is completed.
- If a required parent is remarried, the stepparent may need to be included.
- Enter names and Social Security Numbers exactly as they appear on official records.
- If a contributor does not have an SSN, follow the FAFSA instructions - do not enter an ITIN in the SSN field.
- Make sure every required contributor completes and signs their section before you consider the FAFSA finished.

**Need help? Ask us before guessing - correcting an application can delay your aid.**

# Apply early - then watch for next steps

## STEP 1: APPLY

Complete the 2027-28 FAFSA or CADAA as early as possible.

Deadlines vary per institution.

Priority deadline for California is **March 2, 2027.**

## STEP 2: CHECK

Monitor your institution's portal and email for additional information.

If Financial Aid requests documents or clarification, respond promptly.

## STEP 3: COMPLETE

Finish all Financial Aid Requirements so your institution can determine your eligibility and prepare your financial aid offer.

# Financial aid can help make college possible

## GRANTS

Money that generally does not have to be repaid.

Examples: Federal Pell Grant, Cal Grant, FSEOG.

## FEE SUPPORT

Programs may help cover enrollment and other eligible college fees.

Examples: California College Promise Grant and VC Promise.

## WORK + SCHOLARSHIPS

Federal Work-Study can provide paid work experience.

Scholarships are awarded using a variety of criteria.

## LOANS

Borrowed money that must be repaid.

Consider grants, scholarships and work opportunities first.

**Your financial aid offer may include more than one type of assistance.**

# What financial aid might I receive?

## FEDERAL

- Pell Grant
- FSEOG
- Federal Work-Study
- Federal Direct Loans

## CALIFORNIA

- Cal Grant
- Student Success Completion Grant (CCC only)
- Chafee Grant (current/former foster youth)
- California College Promise Grant (CCC only)
- Middle Class Scholarship (CSU/UC/CCC BDP)
- Dreamer Service Incentive Grant (DSIG)
- CalVet

## VENTURA COLLEGE

- VC Promise
- Scholarships
- Other institutional resources

## OTHER

- Private scholarships
- Employer/community assistance
- Private education loans
- Veterans Benefits

# California aid: don't stop after you apply

## CAL GRANT

California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) administers Cal Grant programs. Eligibility can depend on the financial aid application, GPA, income/assets, school type and other requirements.

Make sure FAFSA/CADAA and a required Cal Grant GPA is submitted by **March 2, 2027**.

## Student Success Completion Grant (SSCG)

Designed to encourage full-time status enrollment (12 units or more) for students at a California Community College with a Cal Grant B or C.

| 2026-27 Academic Year |                                                                        |                                                |                                                |                                                 |                                                          |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
|                       | California Community College (CCC)                                     | CCC Bachelor's Degree Program                  | California State University (CSU)              | University of California (UC) 2026-27 Cohort    | Private Institutions                                     |
| Cal Grant A           | "CC Reserve"<br><i>Award on hold until transfer to a 4-year school</i> | Tuition/Fees<br>\$3,024                        | Tuition/Fees<br>\$6,838                        | Tuition/Fees<br>\$15,588                        | Tuition/Fees<br>\$4,000 - \$9,358                        |
| Cal Grant B           | Access<br>\$1,648                                                      | Tuition/Fees<br>\$3,024<br>+ Access<br>\$1,648 | Tuition/Fees<br>\$6,838<br>+ Access<br>\$1,648 | Tuition/Fees<br>\$15,588<br>+ Access<br>\$1,648 | Tuition/Fees<br>\$4,000 - \$9,358<br>+ Access<br>\$1,648 |
| Cal Grant C           | Books/Supplies<br>\$1,094                                              | N/A                                            | N/A                                            | N/A                                             | Books/Supplies<br>\$547<br>Tuition/Fees<br>\$2,462       |

| 12-14.99 units/semester | 15+ units/semester   | Foster Youth 12+ units |
|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| \$1,298 per semester    | \$4,000 per semester | \$5,250 per semester   |

# California aid: don't stop after you apply



## WEBGRANTS 4 STUDENTS

Create and monitor your WebGrants 4 Students account.

Use it to review California state aid information and complete required actions.

Important actions may include confirming your school of attendance and high school graduation information.

Keep both your WebGrants and student portal information current.



# Ventura College Promise

## FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS

VC Promise can help eligible first-time college students with covered Ventura College fees when program requirements are met.

Students must complete a FAFSA or CADAA for the applicable year and meet residency/AB 540, enrollment and other program requirements.

## SECOND-YEAR STUDENTS

Eligible students may continue into a second year after meeting first-year unit, GPA, FAFSA/CADAA, enrollment and other requirements.

## SUMMER 2027

Beginning Summer 2027, VC Promise may cover Summer enrollment fees for students who meet the requirements for the upcoming academic year.

Summer rules differ depending on whether the student is entering their first Fall or continuing into a second year.

**2027-28 criteria and covered fees are subject to the published VC Promise requirements.**

# Need more help? Come to Cash for College

## FREE FAFSA + CADAA HELP FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

- One-on-one assistance
- Step-by-step FAFSA or CADAA support
- Help starting or finishing your application
- Answers about financial aid and next steps



**Scan for Upcoming Cash for  
College Workshops**

**Didn't finish tonight? You have another place to get help.**

# Ventura College Financial Aid is here to help



**Scan for Ventura College  
Financial Aid resources**

[venturacollege.edu/departments/student-services/financial-aid](https://venturacollege.edu/departments/student-services/financial-aid)

## CONTACT US

Financial Aid Office & Computer Lab  
BCS Building  
4667 Telegraph Road, Ventura, CA 93003

(805) 289-6369  
[vcfinancialaid@vcccd.edu](mailto:vcfinancialaid@vcccd.edu)

## ONLINE + EAST CAMPUS

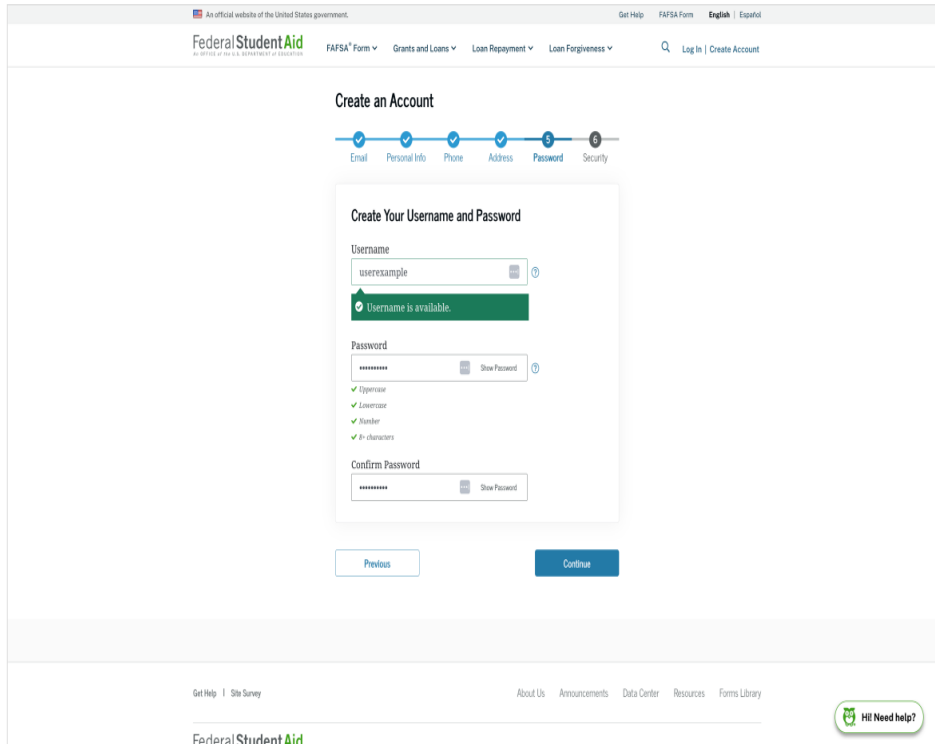
Financial Aid services are also available through online assistance and at Ventura College East Campus.

Check the Ventura College Financial Aid website for current office, Zoom and East Campus service hours.

**You do not have to navigate financial aid alone.**

# Ready? Create your StudentAid.gov account

## StudentAid.gov Account Creation: Create Username and Password

A screenshot of the StudentAid.gov website showing the "Create an Account" process. The page has a header with "FederalStudentAid" and navigation links. A progress bar at the top shows steps: Email, Personal Info, Phone, Address, Password (current), and Security. The "Create Your Username and Password" section includes a "Username" field with "userexample" and a green confirmation box stating "Username is available". Below are "Password" and "Confirm Password" fields, both masked with asterisks. The "Password" field has a "Show Password" link and a list of requirements: Uppercase, Lowercase, Number, and 8+ characters. At the bottom are "Previous" and "Continue" buttons. The footer contains links like "Get Help", "Site Survey", "About Us", "Announcements", "Data Center", "Resources", "Forms Library", and a "Need help?" button.

17

## EACH FAFSA CONTRIBUTOR NEEDS THEIR OWN ACCOUNT

Students and required contributors must each use their own StudentAid.gov account. Accounts cannot be shared, and an email address can be linked to only one account.

Create and verify your account before you need to complete and sign the FAFSA.

**SCAN QR Code to  
Create an Account  
Or  
Visit Studentaid.gov**



**NEXT: We'll help you get started.  
Have access to your email and mobile  
phone.**