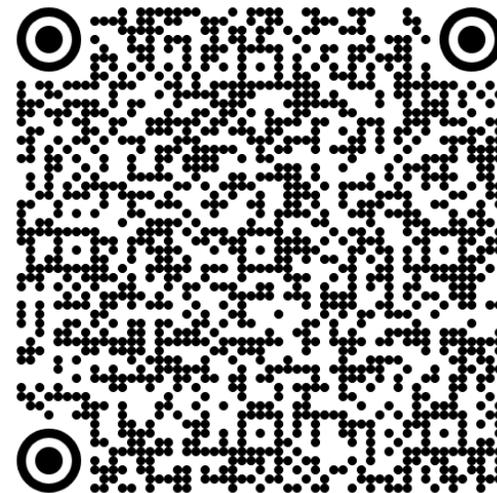


# Financial Aid Overview

PRESENTED BY: VENTURA COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID OFFICE



Scan this QR code to access the  
financial aid presentation



# What is FINANCIAL AID?

Financial aid is money to help pay for a college or career school.

Financial Aid can come  
from:



The U.S. federal government



The state in which you live



The college you attend



A nonprofit or  
private organization

# How to Apply

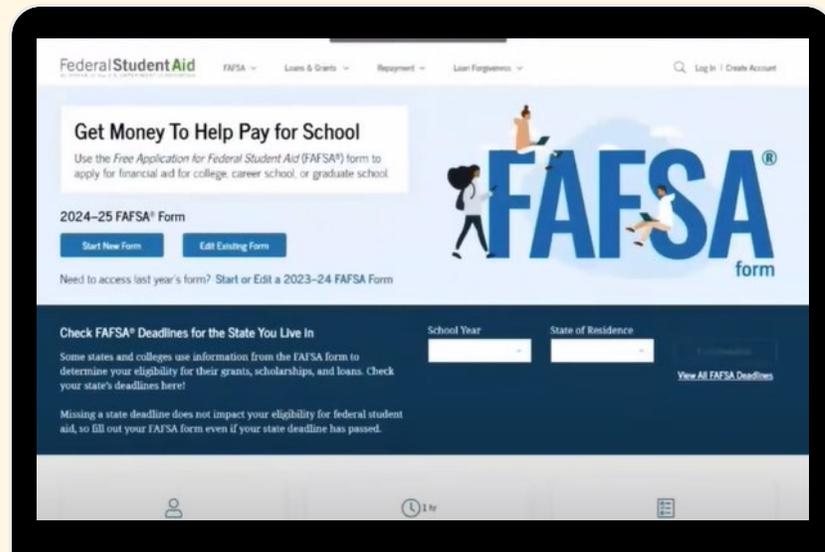
A student's eligibility for financial aid is determined through one application!

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

[fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov)

CA Dream Act Application (CADAA)

[dream.csac.ca.gov](https://dream.csac.ca.gov)



OR



- Determines eligibility for federal aid for U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens
- Used by many states (including California) to determine eligibility for state aid

- For students who are not eligible to complete the FAFSA
- Allows eligible students to qualify for state and institutional aid
- Be an AB 540 student (determined by Registrar's Office)

# What is needed to apply for the FAFSA or CA Dream Act Application?

Parent(s)/ Contributor (s)	Student/ Contributor
Social Security Number(s) (if no SSN, will indicate by checking box)	FAFSA- Social Security Number (SSN) CADAA- DACA SSN (leave blank if you don't have one)
Date of Birth	Date of Birth
Marital status and marital status date as of the date the application is filed	FAFSA- Citizenship or U.S. Permanent Resident information
Current asset information (cash, checking and savings, business, farm or other real estate records, records of stocks, bonds or other investments)	Current asset information

# Who is a CONTRIBUTOR?



The student



The student's biological or adoptive parent or parents who are completing the FAFSA



- If the parents are married and file taxes “Married Filing Jointly”, then only one parent is required to be a contributor and can complete the entire FAFSA Parent Section. In this case, only the parent contributing must provide consent.



- If the parents are married and file taxes “Married Filing Separately”, then both parents are required to be contributors. Each parent contributor must consent for their FTI to be shared.



- If the parent is single, separated or divorced from the other biological or adoptive parent, then only the parent that provided the greater financial support in the 12 months prior to application would be a contributor and would need to consent.



- If the parent contributor is remarried, their spouse would be included in the parent FAFSA section.

# Contributor Invitations

After the student completes their portion of the application, an invitation will be sent via email to the parent/contributor

## INVITE BY EMAIL

The screenshot shows the FAFSA 2026-27 interface for Student Alex Tran. A progress bar at the top indicates steps: Personal Circumstances, Demographics, Financials, Colleges, Contributor Invite (current step), and Signature. The main heading is "Invite Your Parent to This FAFSA® Form". Below it, a green box explains that more household financial information is needed. A blue box asks "Who counts as a parent on the FAFSA form?". A form titled "Invite a Parent Contributor" has an "Email" field containing "599887939test@testcod.edu" and a "Send Invite" button.

## EMAIL INVITATION

The email invitation is from Federal Student Aid. The subject is "Complete Your Section of Alex's FAFSA® Form". It includes a warning icon and a greeting "Hello,". The body text states: "Alex T. started their 2026-27 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form and needs your input as a contributor. Alex won't be eligible for federal student aid without your help." At the bottom, there is a blue "Accept Invitation" button and a note: "You will need to log in to StudentAid.gov to accept the invitation. If you log in without selecting the 'Accept Invitation' button, you will need to go to the 'FAFSA® Form' menu at the top of the page, select 'Accept Contributor Invite,' and provide this code."

## ACCEPTING INVITATION

The screenshot shows the "Accept 2026-27 FAFSA® Invitation" page. It has a "FAFSA Home Page" link. The main heading is "Accept 2026-27 FAFSA® Invitation". Below it, a green box says "Enter the code you received for the FAFSA form." An "Invitation Code" field contains "s5df1w9" and a blue "Submit" button. Two informational boxes are at the bottom: "Need to accept an invitation for a different year?" and "Don't have an invitation code?".

# Common Application Errors

## **PARENT INFORMATION**

Must be the biological or legally adoptive parent

## **LISTING INCORRECT NAME**

The name must match exactly as it appears on the Social Security card

## **PARENT MARITAL STATUS**

- Information must reflect the marital status as of the date the application is completed
- If the parent is remarried, the step-parent's information must also be included

## **NO SSN**

If the parent does not have an SSN, check off the box indicating the parent does not have an SSN. Do not list the parent's ITIN

# Timeline/ Deadlines

2026-2027  
APPLICATIONS AVAIL  
ABLE  
**OCTOBER 1, 2025**

- Applications available in both **English and Spanish**
- *Date is subject to change*

DEADLINE:  
CALIFORNIA  
STATE AID

- **March 2, 2026**, is the deadline for Cal Grant consideration. Both a **financial aid application** and a **school-certified GPA** must be submitted by this date.

COLLEGE DEADLINES

- Deadlines **vary by college**—students should check with the college they plan to attend for specific requirements and due dates

## After Your Application is Submitted:

- Once processed, you will receive a **Student Aid Index (SAI)** which helps determine your financial aid eligibility.
- **Colleges/universities** will contact you **via email, student portal, or by mail.**
  - You may need to submit **additional financial aid documents** to the school you plan to attend..

## Federal Grants

Free funding based on financial need

- **Federal Pell Grant**
- **Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)**

## Promise Grant & Programs

(California Community Colleges Only)

- Covers enrollment and/or registration fees
- **California College Promise Grant**
- CCC Promise Programs- including the VC Promise (criteria pending)

## Federal Work-Study\*

- Provides students the opportunity to **work on campus.**
- Gain **valuable work experience** while earning income.
- **Earnings are not required to be reported** as income on the FAFSA

## Scholarships

- Awarded based on **various criteria**
- Available through:
  - **College Foundation Office**
  - **Employers**
  - **Community Organizations**
  - **Non-Profits**

## State Grants

- **Cal Grant**
- **Student Success Completion Grant** (California Community College only)
- **Chafee Grant** (for current or former foster youth)
- **Middle Class Scholarship** (for CSU, UC, or eligible CC bachelor's programs)

## Loans

- **Borrowed funds** that must be **repaid**
- **Federal Direct Loans**
- **Private Loans**
- **DREAM Loan** (UC & CSU only)

\*FAFSA Applicants ONLY

# about the CAL GRANT

Cal Grant A	Cal Grant B	Cal Grant C
Available at a 4-year institution	Available at a 4-year institution or CA Community College	Available for students pursuing a vocational, occupational, or technical program
Minimum 3.00 high school GPA	Minimum 2.00 high school GPA	Complete the Cal Grant C Supplement Form and return to the CSAC by the requested deadline
Can only be used for tuition and fees		
If awarded at a CA Community College, will be held in reserve up to two years until the student transfers		

- Awarded by the **California Student Aid Commission (CSAC)**
- Provides financial assistance to **California residents** and **AB540 students**.
- Awards are based on **merit and financial need** (GPA, income & asset information)

## Eligibility Requirements :

- Submit a **2026-2027 FAFSA** or **CA Dream Act Application** by **March 2, 2026**
- Have your **high school certify your GPA**

# about the STUDENT SUCCESS COMPLETION GRANT

- Students at a **California Community College** with a **Cal Grant B or C** may be eligible for an **additional grant**.
- Designed to **encourage full-time status enrollment** (12 units or more).
- **Full-time attendance** helps you **finish your degree faster and save money!**



12-14.99  
units/semester

\$1,298 per  
semester



15+ units/  
semester

\$4,000 per  
semester



Foster Youth  
12+ units

\$5,250 per  
semester

**More classes.  
More money.**

Enroll full-time to receive up to \$8,000 more  
in financial aid so you can finish faster.

Financial Aid for Full-time Students

 **15 units/  
semester\*** =   
up to **\$8,000** / year  
in financial aid

# WEBGRANTS 4 STUDENTS

## MYGRANTINFO.CSAC.CA.GOV



Students eligible for a Cal Grant will be required to verify their high school graduation date and college of attendance.

### Step 1

Create a WebGrants 4 Students account at:  
<https://mygrantinfo.csac.ca.gov/>

### Step 2

Verify two things:

- Confirm School of Attendance
- Confirm High School Graduation

# Ventura College

# PROMISE GRANT

## VC Promise Coverage

The VC Promise will cover the following fees for Summer 2026\*, Fall 2026, and Spring 2027\*\*

- Ventura College **Enrollment Fee**
- **Student Health Fee**
- **Student Center Fee**
- **Student Representative Fee**

**Important:** All units must be taken at **Ventura College**.

\* Students enrolled full-time (12 units) in **Summer 2026** may be eligible for the VC Promise

\*\* Criteria and covered fees are **subject to change**

## Requirements

- Submit a **2026-2027 FAFSA** or **CADAA**
- Include **Ventura College** on your application
- Submit a **VC Admissions application**
  - Current dual enrollment students must submit a **new admissions application**
- Be a **California resident** or **AB 540 student** (residency determined by Admissions & Records)
- Enroll **full-time (12 units)** at **Ventura College** for **Fall 2026** and **Spring 2027\***
- Vist [Ventura College Promise Website](#) for full details

**\*Criteria subject to change**



# Ventura College Financial Aid Office

## Financial Aid Office & Computer Lab Hours

Monday 8:30am - 6:00pm

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Tuesday 8:30am - 6:00pm

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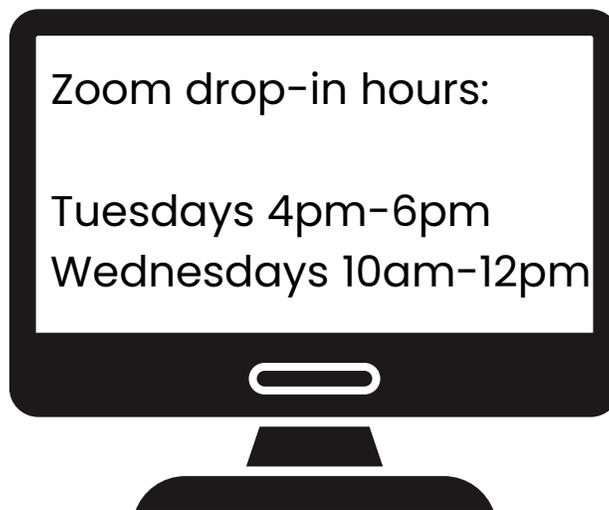
Wednesday 8:30am - 4:30pm

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Thursday 8:30am - 4:30pm

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Friday 8:30am - 12:00pm



(805)289-6369



[vcfinancialaid@vcccd.edu](mailto:vcfinancialaid@vcccd.edu)



BCS Building  
4667 Telegraph Rd.  
Ventura, CA 93003



Financial Aid Services are provided at  
VC East Campus.



957 Faulkner Road  
Suite 106  
Santa Paula, 93060 CA

[venturacollege.edu/eastcampus](http://venturacollege.edu/eastcampus)

# Create an FSA ID

## For Students Completing the FAFSA:

- Every **FAFSA contributor** must have an **FSA ID**, including parents **without a Social Security Number**.
- Create an account at:

<https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch>

### Create an Account

Whether you're a student, parent, or borrower, you'll need to create your own account to manage the student loan journey.

[Get Started](#)

Already have an account? [Log In](#)

#### What You Can Use Your Account For

- Filling out the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)* form
- Signing your *Master Promissory Note (MPN)*
- Applying for repayment plans
- Completing loan counseling
- Using the *Public Service Loan Forgiveness Help Tool*

#### What You'll Need

- Social Security number
- Your own mobile phone number and/or email address

# Questions ?

Scan this QR code to access  
financial aid flyers and materials

