

IS A 4-YEAR COLLEGE RIGHT FOR ME?





YES! YES! YES!

A four-year college is the right choice for you. We need hardworking students like you who will persevere and earn a four-year degree. Right now, we don't have enough people in the workforce with bachelor's degrees to fill the jobs we have in San Diego.

Many students choose not to apply to a four-year college because they think it is too expensive, or that going to a community college is a better choice, or that college applications are expensive. But don't let these concerns keep you from applying.

I'M HERE TO TELL YOU...

College is more affordable than you think. Most students don't pay the college sticker price.

WOW!

Four-year colleges provide more support so that you graduate on time.

You can get fee waivers for the applications so that you don't pay anything to apply.

Most students like you will apply to five or more four-year colleges this year.

Use this packet to start your college application today.

We're counting on you!

Liliana Silva

Sweetwater Union High School District, Counselor



SECTION I: **NET PRICE**

Most students don't pay the college sticker price.

FACT



KNOW THE **NET PRICE** OF THE COLLEGE YOU PLAN TO ATTEND!



WHAT OTHER STUDENTS ACTUALLY PAID BASED ON HOW MUCH THEIR PARENTS EARNED

FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES	PUBLISHED COST OF ATTENDING	PARENTS' INCOME LEVELS		
		PARENTS EARN LESS THAN \$30K PER YEAR	PARENTS EARN BETWEEN \$30K AND \$48K	PARENTS EARN BETWEEN \$48K AND \$75K
San Diego State University	\$28,224	\$7,430	\$9,406	\$13,827
UC San Diego	\$32,163	\$8,424	\$9,822	\$13,329
CSU San Marcos	\$24,066	\$6,663	\$8,086	\$11,364
University of San Diego	\$65,426	\$24,449	\$26,590	\$27,901
UC Irvine	\$33,858	\$9,026	\$10,302	\$13,674
UC Riverside	\$34,663	\$7,809	\$8,263	\$10,885
CSU Long Beach	\$24,066	\$5,588	\$7,459	\$10,754
CSU Fullerton	\$27,342	\$3,472	\$4,761	\$8,749
Northern Arizona University	\$40,705	\$11,930	\$12,117	\$14,837
Arizona State University	\$42,132	\$7,300	\$8,466	\$13,994
Stanford University	\$68,572	\$1,226	\$113	\$451

WHAT IS **NET PRICE**? HOW DO I KNOW WHAT I'LL PAY?

Net price is the amount that a student pays to attend an institution in a single academic year **AFTER** subtracting scholarships and grants the student receives. Scholarships and grants are forms of financial aid that a student **DOES NOT** have to pay back.

Some students only pay **\$3,472** to attend CSU Fullerton, not the **\$27,343** sticker price

FACT

Net price and calculators
When you use the **Student Union** college match tool in Section III, it will tell you the net price of the schools you plan to attend.

WHAT CAN I DO?

- ✓ Create a list of colleges you might attend.
- ✓ Identify the net price based on your parents' income levels.



SECTION II: GRADUATION RATE

Some colleges help students get through college better than others.



DON'T JUST GET IN, **FINISH!**



FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES		PUBLIC OR PRIVATE	GRAD RATE	WHITE GRAD RATE	BLACK GRAD RATE	HISPANIC GRAD RATE	ASIAN GRAD RATE
CSU San Marcos	San Marcos, CA	Public	51%	54%	58%	50%	49%
San Diego State University	San Diego, CA	Public	68%	73%	52%	64%	68%
UC San Diego	San Diego, CA	Public	87%	88%	78%	78%	90%
University of San Diego	San Diego, CA	Private	79%	80%	56%	83%	81%
UC Irvine	Irvine, CA	Public	86%	87%	85%	79%	90%
UC Riverside	Riverside, CA	Public	69%	72%	66%	70%	76%
CSU Long Beach	Long Beach, CA	Public	65%	67%	59%	64%	71%
CSU Fullerton	Fullerton, CA	Public	56%	57%	56%	58%	65%
Northern Arizona University	Flagstaff, AZ	Public	52%	59%	41%	48%	61%
Arizona State University	Tempe, AZ	Public	66%	67%	59%	63%	70%
Stanford University	Stanford, CA	Private	95%	95%	90%	93%	95%

GRADUATION RATES ARE ONE OF THE BEST INDICATORS OF SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING COLLEGE

GRADUATION RATE **QUESTIONS**

Graduation rates are for four-year colleges only. The average graduation rate and transfer rates at two-year colleges is less than 30%. Fewer than three in 10 students who go to a community college complete a degree or transfer.

Some colleges help students better than others, so graduation rates are not the same across schools or student groups.

→ **FACT**

WHAT CAN I DO?

- ✓ Create a list of colleges you might attend.
- ✓ Determine the graduation rate for each college/university where you plan to attend.

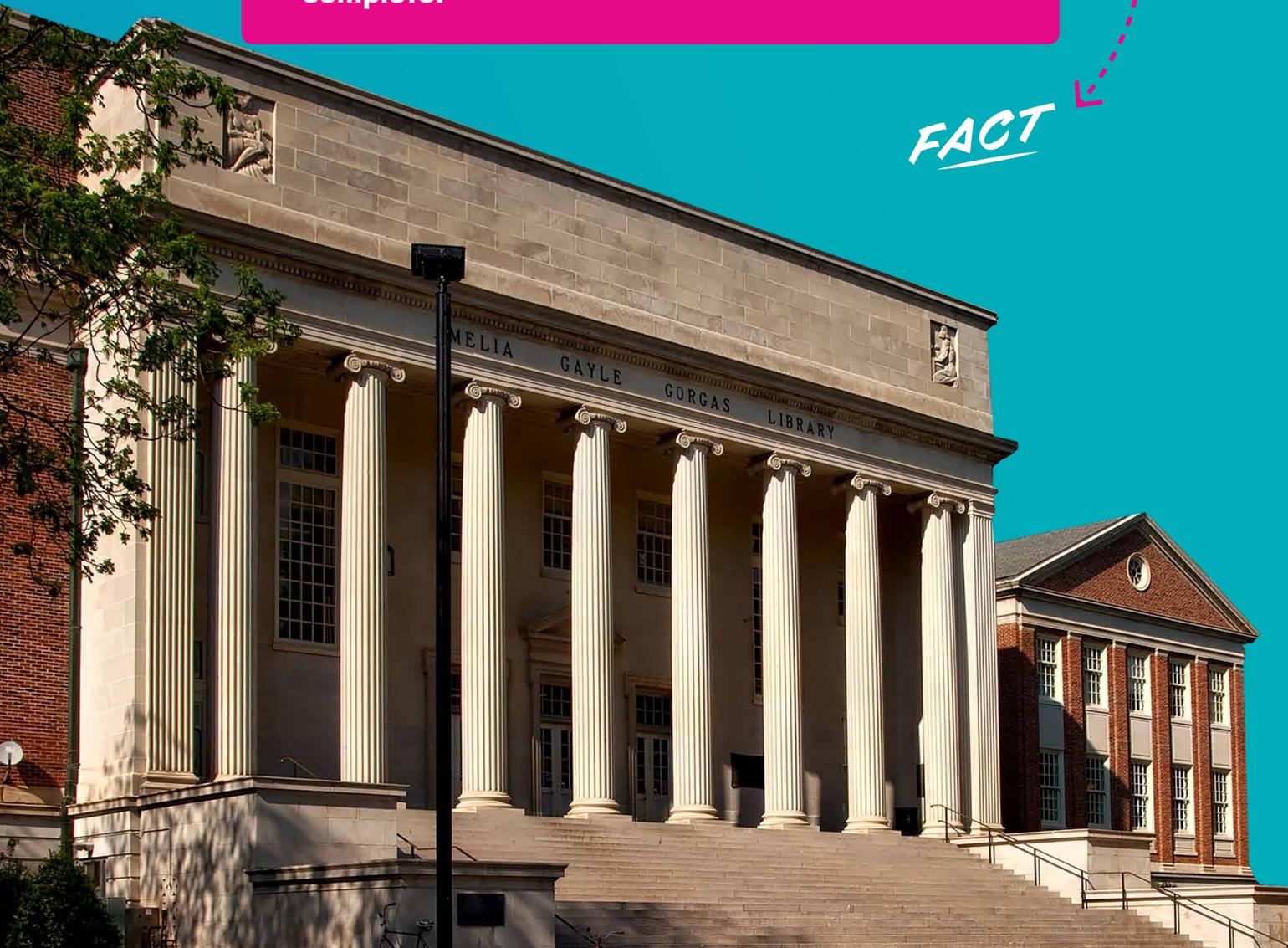


SECTION III: COLLEGE MATCHING

You have more 4-year college options than you think.

Apply to a 4-year college that best fits you and where you have the best chance to complete.

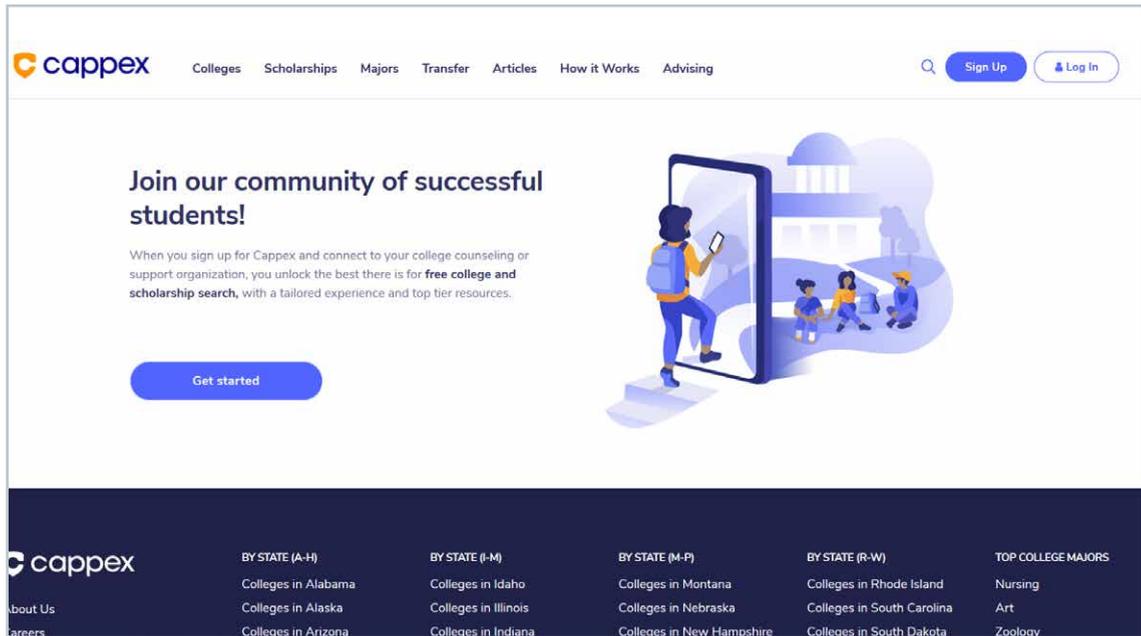
FACT



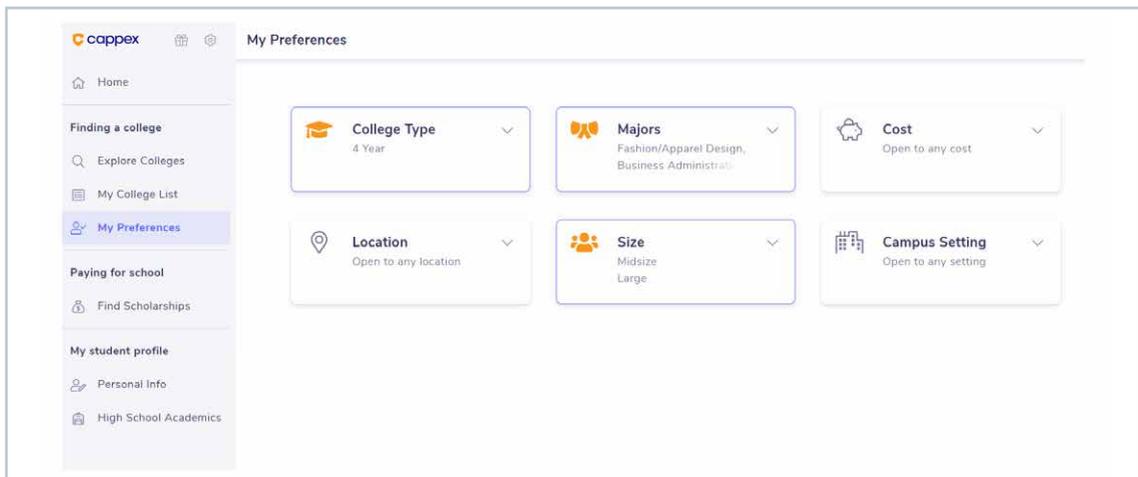


BUILDING THE PERFECT COLLEGE LIST

1. Use the QR code or visit <https://cappex.com> and sign up for an account.



2. Next, select your college preferences.



BUILDING THE PERFECT COLLEGE LIST



3. Explore the colleges that match **your** interests.

The screenshot shows the 'Explore Colleges' page on the Coppex website. The page features a navigation menu on the left with options like 'Home', 'Finding a college', 'Paying for school', and 'My student profile'. The main content area displays a grid of college cards, each with a photo, the college name, location, and average net price. The colleges shown are:

College Name	Location	Avg ACT / SAT	Avg Net Price
University of California-Los Angeles	Los Angeles, California	32 / 1387	\$14,309
Harvard College	Cambridge, Massachusetts	31 / 1402	\$17,590
Stanford University	Stanford, California	35 / 1489	\$13,261
Pennsylvania State University-Main Campus	University Park, Pennsylvania	28 / 1269	\$30,373
University of California-Berkeley	Berkeley, California	32 / 1414	\$15,859
University of Florida	Gainesville, Florida	31 / 1356	\$12,345
Yale University	New Haven, Connecticut	35 / 1520	\$18,627
University of Chicago	Chicago, Illinois	34 / 1524	\$25,455

4. Create a list of colleges that are "reach," "target," and "likely" schools. **Reach schools** are more difficult to gain admission but you still have a good chance. **Target schools** are just right. These are schools where you should apply. **Likely schools** are schools where you have the best chances of being admitted.

The screenshot shows the 'My College List' page on the Coppex website. The page is organized into three categories: 'Reach Schools', 'Target Schools', and 'Likely Schools'. Each category contains a list of colleges with their names, locations, and a 'considering' status. The colleges listed are:

- Reach Schools:** University of California-Los Angeles (Los Angeles, CA)
- Target Schools:** San Diego State University (San Diego, CA), Baylor University (Waco, TX)
- Likely Schools:** Michigan State University (East Lansing, MI)

MY COLLEGE LIST



- 1.** Build out your college list using the schools you saved from the cappex.com website and other schools where you **SHOULD** apply.

COLLEGE		JUST RIGHT, STRETCH, MOONSHOT	GRADUATION RATE	NET COST	DISTANCE FROM HOME	GOOD FIT?
SCHOOLS I SAVED FROM STUDENT UNION WEBSITE	Chapman University	● STRETCH	74%	\$26,119	91 MILES	YES
	Claremont McKenna College	● MOONSHOT	90%	\$7,701	119 MILES	YES
	Arizona State University Tempe	● JUST RIGHT	63%	\$8,555	355 MILES	YES
	Stanford University	● MOONSHOT	95%	\$2,203	478 MILES	YES
APPLY TO AT LEAST 2 OF THESE SCHOOLS	University of California Irvine	● MOONSHOT	86%	\$10,302	82 MILES	
	University of California Santa Cruz	● STRETCH	77%	\$12,602	462 MILES	
	University of California Riverside	● STRETCH	69%	\$8,263	95 MILES	YES
	University of California Merced	● JUST RIGHT	64%	\$10,472	397 MILES	
APPLY TO AT LEAST 3 OF THESE SCHOOLS	San Diego State University	● MOONSHOT	66%	\$8,790	9 MILES	YES
	San Jose State University	● STRETCH	52%	\$10,516	459 MILES	
	California State University San Marcos	● JUST RIGHT	50%	\$8,086	34 MILES	YES
	California State University Long Beach	● MOONSHOT	65%	\$7,459	104 MILES	
	California State University Fullerton	● JUST RIGHT	56%	\$4,761	117 MILES	
	California State University Channel Islands	● JUST RIGHT	62%	\$11,172	176 MILES	

- 2.** Add all the "Good Fit" colleges to your Common Application using the College Search tab.

MY COLLEGE LIST



Use this area to list the schools where you will apply. Use the schools you saved from cappex.com.

Remember to apply to at least five colleges from this list.

	JUST RIGHT, STRETCH, MOONSHOT	GRADUATION RATE	NET COST	DISTANCE FROM HOME	GOOD FIT?
APPLY TO A MINIMUM OF 2 UC SCHOOLS BELOW					
University of California Irvine		86%		82 MILES	
University of California Santa Cruz		77%		462 MILES	
University of California Riverside		69%		95 MILES	
University of California Merced		64%		397 MILES	
APPLY TO A MINIMUM OF 3 CSU SCHOOLS BELOW					
San Diego State University		66%		9 MILES	
San Jose State University		52%		459 MILES	
California State University San Marcos		50%		34 MILES	
California State University Long Beach		65%		104 MILES	
California State University Fullerton		56%		117 MILES	
California State University Channel Islands		62%		176 MILES	



SECTION IV: FEE WAIVERS

Don't let fees get in the way of applying for college.

A fee waiver removes the cost of applying to a 4-year college. Turn the page to figure out how to apply for fee waivers.

FACT

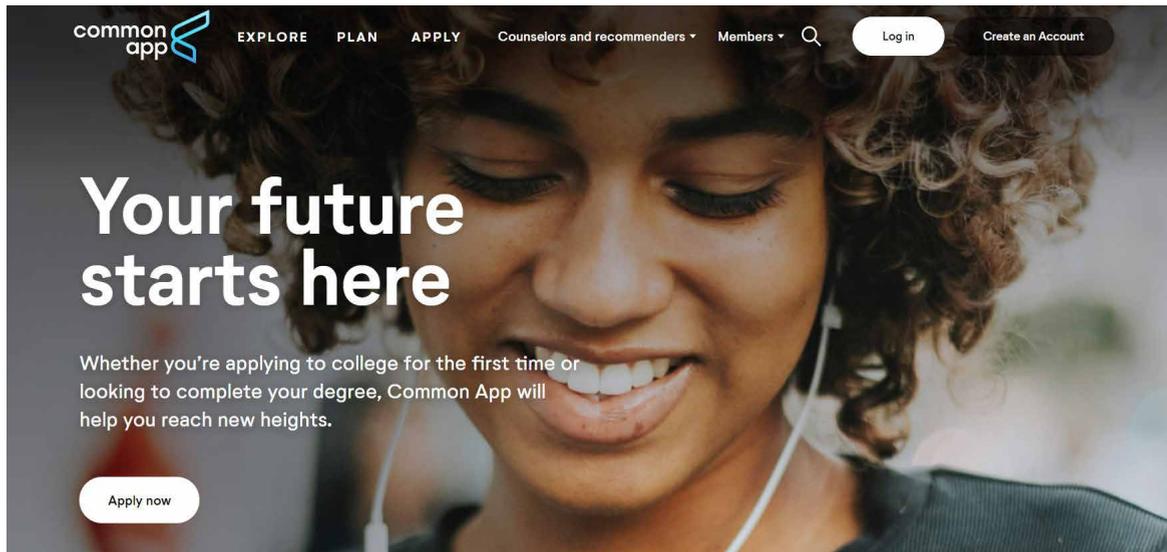




FEE WAIVER INSTRUCTIONS

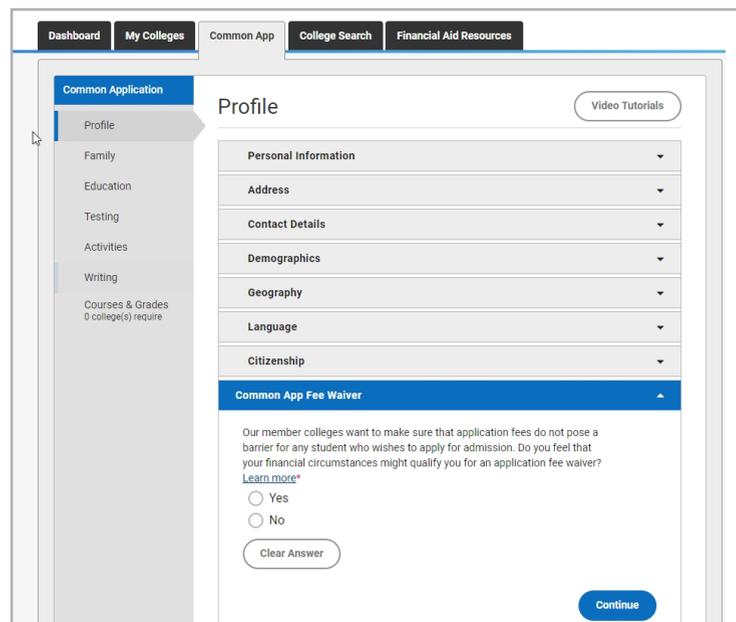
1.

Use the QR code (or visit <https://www.commonapp.org/how-apply>) to log onto Common App.



2

Go to the profile section and locate the common application fee waiver request.



FEE WAIVER INSTRUCTIONS



1.

Use the QR code (or visit <https://calstate.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login>) to complete the California State University application. Remember that a fee waiver allows you to apply to up to four campuses.



— CAL STATE —
APPLY

Welcome to The California State University

Thank you for your interest in The California State University. This application will allow you to apply for the 2019-2020 cycle, including Fall 2019, Winter 2020, Spring 2020 and Summer 2020. Please take time to acquaint yourself with the application and instructional resources available. You may access your application and change your answers as many times as you like prior to submission by using your login credentials from any computer with internet access. Please visit

Sign in with your username and password below. First time here? Select Create an Account to get started.

Sign In

[Create an Account](#)

2.

Complete the “My Application” and “Add Program” sections.

My Application	Add Program	Submit Application	Check Status	
<h3 style="margin: 0;">My Application</h3> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">This dashboard is your application home providing access to each part of the application you need to complete and a high level overview of your progress.</p> <div style="background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;">Latest Notifications</div> <div style="margin-top: 5px; border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px;"><p> Welcome to the California State University application (save this email!) 07/12/2019</p><div style="background-color: #005596; color: white; text-align: center; padding: 2px 5px; margin-top: 5px;">View My Notifications</div></div>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">Personal Information</h3> <div style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;"> 0/8 <small>Sections Completed</small></div>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">Academic History</h3> <div style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;"> 0/7 <small>Sections Completed</small></div>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">Supporting Information</h3> <div style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;"></div>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">Program Materials</h3> <div style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;"></div>



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY (CSU) **FEE WAIVER** INSTRUCTIONS

3 Once you have fully completed the application, you will see the **“Check My Fee Waiver Status”** link. Click on the link to determine your eligibility.

The screenshot shows the CSU Cal State Apply website. The main heading is 'Application Fee Waiver'. Below the heading, there is a paragraph explaining that applicants are automatically considered for a fee waiver based on the information provided. A second paragraph states that the fee waiver eligibility is determined after the application is fully completed. A third paragraph instructs users to click on the 'Check My Fee Waiver Status' link on the 'Submit Application' tab. Below this text is a navigation bar with tabs for 'My Application', 'Add Program', 'Submit Application', and 'Check Status'. The 'Submit Application' tab is active, and a table shows 'APPLICATIONS MADE FOR ADMISSION' with a value of 1 and 'TOTAL FEE' with a value of \$55. A red circle highlights the 'CHECK MY FEE WAIVER STATUS' link, with a yellow arrow pointing to it. A 'Submit All' button is also visible. On the right side, there is a sidebar with a red 'Apply Now' button and a list of links: 'Apply Home', 'Application Dates & Deadlines', 'California Residency for Tuition Purposes', 'Campus Preview & Open House Days', 'Choosing a Campus', 'Choosing a Degree', 'Counselor Resources', 'FAQ', 'Getting into the CSU', and 'Paying for College'.

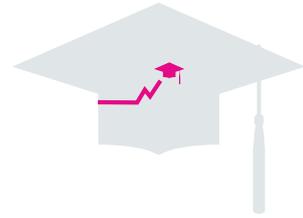
4 Avoid common errors that may cause you **not to receive an** application fee waiver:

1. If you report yourself as a dependent applicant with a family size of one.
2. If you report the same dollar amount in the Adjusted Gross Income field as well as in the Untaxed Income field.
3. If you select “none” in answer to “What U.S. State/ Possession do you regard as your permanent home?”

If you still have questions, talk with your counselor.

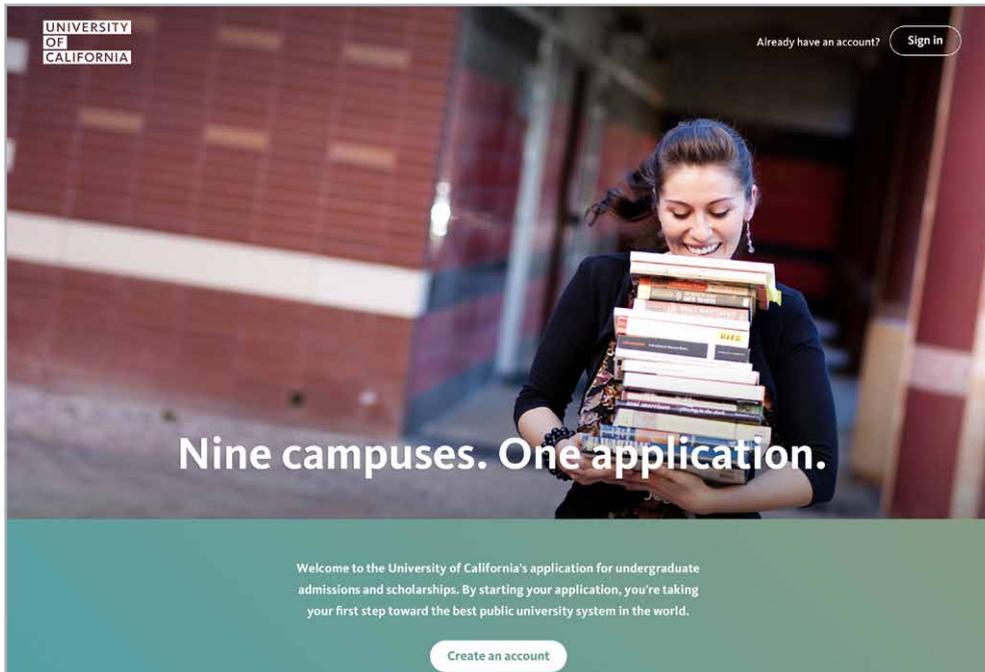
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA (UC)

FEE WAIVER INSTRUCTIONS



1.

Use the QR code (or visit <https://apply.universityofcalifornia.edu/my-application/login/logout>) to complete the University of California application. Remember that a fee waiver allows you to apply to up to four campuses.



2.

In the "About you" section of the application, complete the "Family Size & Income" accurately and completely. **You cannot go back and change this answer and apply for the fee waiver again.**





UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA (UC)

FEE WAIVER INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.** During the submission process, click **"APPLY FOR A FEE WAIVER"** (Step 6 of the Review & Submit section) and the system will automatically grant the waiver if you are eligible.

New Process for the Fee Waiver

Fee Waiver
UC will waive application fees for up to four campuses for qualified students who otherwise would be unable to apply. Waivers cannot be combined to cover the cost of applying to more than four campuses.
Your family size and income information are used to check if you qualify.

Family Size & Income Edit

Did you receive financial support from a parent/legal guardian last year? For example, did a parent/legal guardian claim you as a dependent?
 Yes No

How many people were in your family last year?
5

What was your estimated total household income to support the family size above for last year?
\$ 45000

Fee waiver amount: \$-280.00
Based on your family size and income, you qualify for the fee waiver. This information is subject to verification. Do you accept the fee waiver?
 Yes No

- 4.** If you don't get a fee waiver, talk to your counselor because you have other options through College Board. Select the **"Check (by mail)"** payment option and talk to your counselor about sending a College Board waiver with the application receipt to the UC Application Center or submitting submit a letter with your receipt explaining your situation. Fee waivers may be granted for special circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

If you still have questions, talk with your counselor.



SECTION V: **TIMELINE AND CHECKLIST**



IMPORTANT DATES AND **DEADLINES**



Identify dates you plan to take the SAT/ACT and sign up

AUG.

Make a list of colleges and create a calendar with important dates for each school

SEPT.

Apply to and visit colleges

OCT.

File the FAFSA

DEC.

Check with colleges about important deadlines

APR.

Narrow your college choices

MAY

Make your college decision and submit a deposit





**IS A 4-YEAR COLLEGE
RIGHT FOR ME?**



Ms. Liliana Silva Diaz
Counselor on Special Assignment (COSA)
Phone: 619-796-7748
Email: Liliana.silva@sweetwaterschools.org

