FutureReady California

AUGUST 2026

FutureReady Focus

UC/CSU Workshop

September 2026

Two options for support:

Orange County Sept. 10 - 8:00am -12:00pm

- Hear about CSU Direct Admissions
- Join UC staff for an enhanced application workshop designed to support AVID counselors and Future Ready Advisors in guiding students through the UC application process. The session will provide practical insights, strategies, and resources to help counselors better support students as they prepare and submit their applications.
- Register at https://ocde.k12oms.org/1235-284740

Los Angeles County - Sept. 16 - 8:00am - 3:00pm

- UC Outreach/Admission representatives will provide a deeper dive into Personal Insight Question (PIQ) myths and misconceptions, current trends in major selection, and common application mistakes and how to help students avoid them.
- CSU Outreach representatives will share important admissions updates, including information about CSU Direct Admission, along with guidance on current application processes and resources available to support students.
- Flyer and Registration

#WhyApply Day
September 18, 2026

We are excited to participate in the annual #WhyApply Day celebration, led by our friends at the American College Application Campaign! It's important to pause and remind students of the opportunities a college education brings, as well as to remind students that they are not alone in the process.

Gear up and check out the downloadable resources to help promote and inspire your own celebration with your students. **Learn more** about how to participate in this year's celebration on Friday, September 18.

EVENTS & DEADLINES

SEP. 10 – UC & CSU APPLICATION WORKSHOP - OC

SEP. 16 – UC & CSU APPLICATION WORKSHOP - LA

OCT. 6 – COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY SUMMIT

DEC. 4 – FALL DATA DUE

DEC. 9 – FUTUREREADY CA DEBRIEF - OC

JAN. 27 – FUTUREREADY CA DEBRIEF - LA

TBD – FUTUREREADY CA DEBRIEF - SB

ACAC WEBSITE
FUTUREREADY CA WEBSITE
FUTUREREADY CA BEST PRACTICES
FUTUREREADY CA RESOURCES

Counselor Conferences

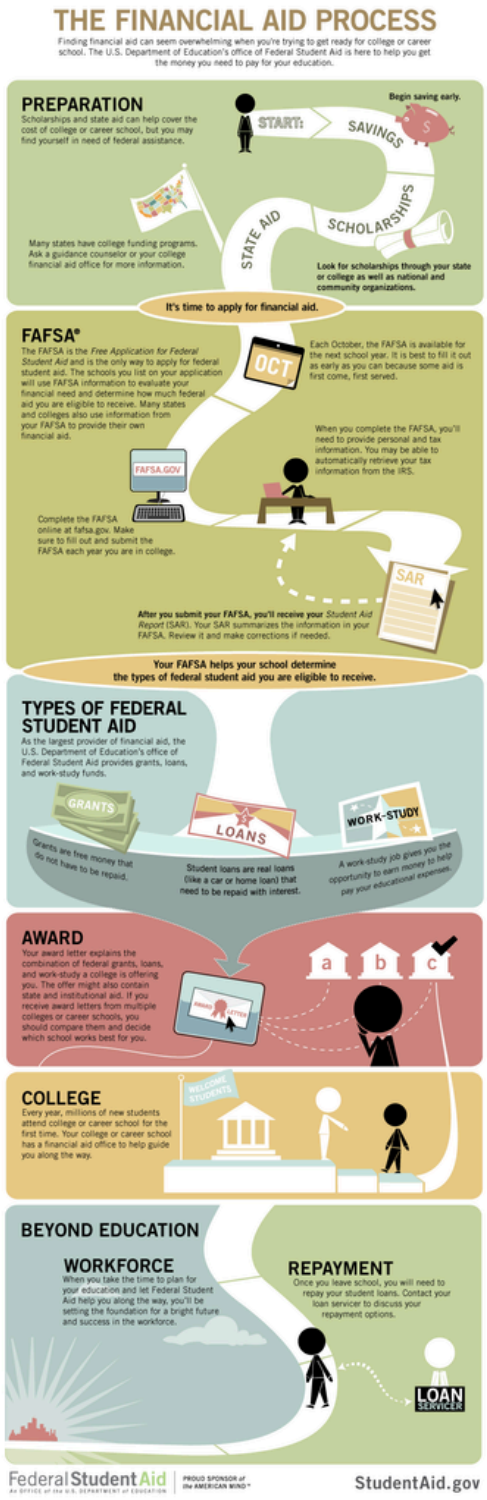
Counselor Conferences are now open.

- UC Counselor Conference $100 (f2f) $50 (virtual)
  - Los Angeles - September 1
  - Palm Springs - September 3
  - Virtual - September 11
- CSU Counselor Conference $150
  - Pasadena - September 23
  - Anaheim - September 25
  - Virtual - September 29

call to ACTION

Campaign Details

Please be sure to keep us up-to-date with your school's campaign details, including dates and times on our Campaign Google Sheet. Each county has a tab at the bottom of the sheet where you can find your school. You will also see contact information for volunteers on the page. See all the campaigns in calendar view.



Annual Statewide Financial Aid Workshops - FREE

Various Dates

The Annual Statewide Financial Aid Workshops are free workshops, offered both in-person and virtually. They provide high school counselors and staff, student advocates, student outreach coordinators, community education partners, Dreamer resource staff, and foster youth advocates the opportunity to attend a half-day training to obtain relevant financial aid information they can use to support their students apply for and receive financial aid for college. To register, visit https://csac.ca.gov/asfaw.

Training Topics incude:

- Updates to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and California Dream Act Application (CADAA)
- Information and updates to:
  - Cal Grant Programs
  - Middle Class Scholarship
  - Programs for Foster Youth
  - CA Dream Act Service Incentive Grant

FAFSA vs CADAA— Which is the right application for me?

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

The FAFSA is an application operated by the U.S. Department of Education and the Office of Federal Student Aid (FSA) that allows students to qualify for federal, state, and institutional financial aid.

You are eligible to complete the FAFSA if you:

- Are a US Citizen
- Are a Permanent Resident ("Green Card" holder)
- Have a T-Visa
- Are an Eligible Non-citizen*

California Dream Act Application (CADAA)

The CADAA is California's state financial aid application operated by CSAC that allows undocumented and other eligible students to qualify for state and institutional financial aid.

You are eligible to complete the CADAA if you:

- Are Undocumented
- Have a U-Visa or Temporary Protected Status (TPS)
- Meet the CA non-resident exemption requirements
- New: Students from Mixed-Status Families

College Affordability Summit Unlocking the California Dream: Intentional Change & Focused Investments - FREE

October 6, 2026 (Virtual)

The 7th Annual California College Affordability Summit will take place virtually on Tuesday, October 6, 2026. This event brings together K-12 educators, high school counselors, college financial aid administrators, student advocates, and policy leaders to share updates, resources, and tools for the 2027-28 application cycle. For registration and information, visit https://www.csac.ca.gov/summit.

Multifactor Authentification for Webgrants

The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) announces the implementation of multifactor authentication (MFA) within WebGrants. This update is a mandatory requirement to enhance the security of state information assets and protect user data.

New MFA Process MFA is now enabled for all WebGrants users with the following steps:

- Verification: Upon logging in, you will be prompted to enter a one-time passcode.
- Delivery: This passcode will be sent automatically to the email address associated with your WebGrants account.
- Completion: Enter the passcode on the login screen to gain access. This verification step will be required every time you log into WebGrants.

CA FACT: California Financial Aid Certification Training

Launches: August 2026

The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) is pleased to announce the launch of the California Financial Aid Certification Training – CA FACT, a collaborative effort between CSAC and the California Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (CASFAA). In alignment with CSAC's Student Success Blueprint Goal 1 Equitable Access, advance equitable access to financial aid, CSAC is partnering with CASFAA to address regional financial literacy gaps and highlight promising practices led by college and university financial aid professionals. CA FACT is designed to provide standardized professional development for educators, counselors, community partners, and financial aid staff across California. Visit https://www.csac.ca.gov/ca-fact for more information.

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