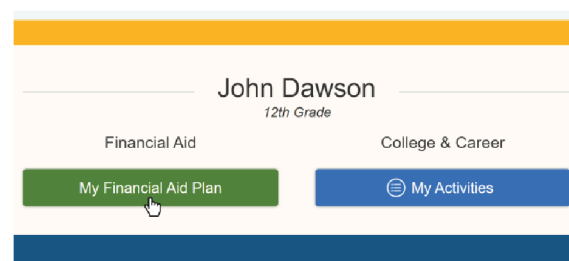


Launching Your FAFSA or California Dream Act Application

Earning a college degree can transform your financial future, but getting there can be an expensive investment. Fortunately, there are lots of financial aid resources for students. You can access many of them, for free, by filling out either the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** or the **California Dream Act Application (CADAA)**. Many colleges also use these forms to determine their own financial aid awards.

By launching your FAFSA or CADAA through your CaliforniaColleges.edu account, you can monitor your application's status and confirm whether it has been completed and submitted.

- Students who are **U.S. citizens, permanent residents, eligible non-citizens** or who have a **T-Visa** can fill out the **FAFSA** to access:
 - State and federal grants.
 - Work study.
 - Student loans.
- Students who are **undocumented**, have **valid or expired DACA status**, have a **U-Visa** or are on **Temporary Protected Status** can use the **CADAA** to access:
 - State scholarships.
 - Grants.
 - Student loans.
- To launch your application, sign into your CaliforniaColleges.edu account and click on the green **My Financial Aid Plan** button on the homepage.
- Here you will find a series of modules that have information on every part of the financial aid application process.
- The **Complete Your Prep Work for FAFSA or CADAA** module helps you select the application you'll need to apply.
- Once you've selected an application, the other modules will be customized to you.



My Financial Aid Plan		
	Opens Oct 1	Launch FAFSA/CADAA
		To Do (0)
1	September Complete Prep Work for Your FAFSA or CADAA	Not Started >
2	October Launch and Submit the FAFSA or CADAA	Not Started >
3	February Review the Student Aid Report and Cal Grant GPA	Not Started >
4	March Check College Portals	Not Started >
5	April Review Financial Aid Offers	Not Started >
6	May Secure State Aid	Not Started >

☒ **FAFSA**

☐ **CADAA**

OR

Select the **FAFSA** if one of these describes you:

- You're a U.S. citizen.
- You're a **permanent resident**.
- You're an **eligible non-citizen**.
- You have a **T Visa**.

Select the **CADAA** if one of these describes you:

- You're **undocumented**.
- You have a **valid or expired Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)**.
- You have a **U Visa**.
- You have **Temporary Protected Status (TPS)**.

Video instructions on launching your FAFSA or California Dream Act application through CaliforniaColleges.edu are available at vimeo.com/californiacolleges/launchFAFSA-CADAA-partner

- To launch your application, open the **Launch and Submit the FAFSA or**

Managed by
California College
Guidance Initiative

You can save the CADAA and come back to it later. Just make sure to with all your schools by March 2.

Take the First Six Steps

CADAA module, and click on the lesson called either **Complete Your FAFSA** or **Complete Your CADAA**.

— From within the lesson, click the **Launch FAFSA/CADAA** button to launch your application.

— You can also launch your application from the **My Financial Aid Plan** page by clicking the **Launch FAFSA/CADAA** button at the top of the page. Please note that this button is only available during the financial aid application window - from October 1 through June 30.

— For the FAFSA, you'll be taken to **studentaid.gov**, where you can create your Federal Student Aid ID and begin filling out your application.

— For the California Dream Act Application, you'll be taken to the **California Student Aid Commission's** California Dream Act page, where you can determine your eligibility and begin filling out your application.

— Launching your FAFSA or CADAA from your CaliforniaColleges.edu account allows you and your counselor to monitor your application and confirm when it has been completed and submitted.

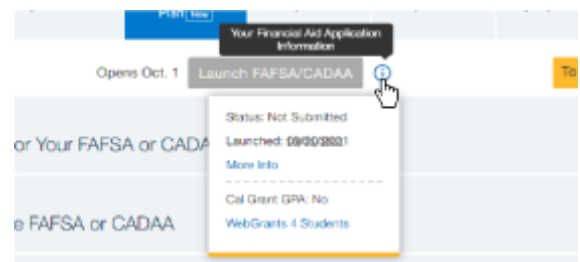
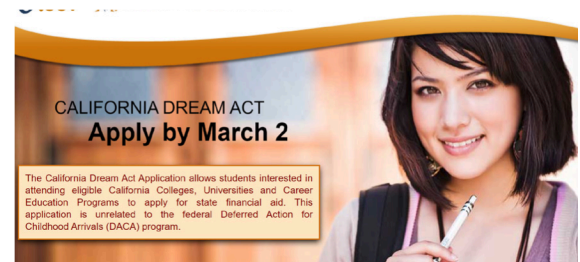
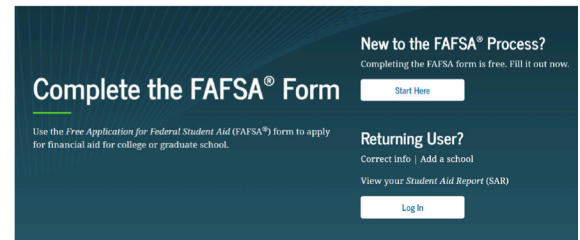
— To do so, sign into your CaliforniaColleges.edu account, and click on the green **My Financial Aid Plan** button on the homepage.

— To see the status of your application, click on the **Information** icon next to the **Launch FAFSA/CADAA** button at the top of the page.

— You'll be able to see your application status, the date you launched your application, and whether or not your school district has submitted your Cal Grant GPA to the California Student Aid Commission. If you have any questions about the status of your Cal Grant GPA submission, speak to your counselor.

— As you complete your application, don't forget that timing is important. Some financial aid opportunities are first-come-first-serve, so it's best to submit early.

— **To be eligible for a Cal Grant, your FAFSA or California Dream Act Application must be completed and submitted by March 2.**



That's all it takes. Now you can complete and submit your FAFSA or California Dream Act Application and access the resources you need to make your college and career dreams come true.

To learn more about how CaliforniaColleges.edu can help you smooth your college and career path, visit CaliforniaColleges.edu/#/help