

# California Dream Act Application

## California Dream Act Application

for AB 540 Eligible Students

July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

[www.caldreamact.org](http://www.caldreamact.org)



This application is used to determine the eligibility of AB 540 students for California student financial aid for the 2016-17 school year. The California Student Aid Commission (Commission) will process this application. Any aid offered can only be used at eligible California institutions. The information on this form will be used to determine eligibility in the Cal Grant program. Ask your college whether they will be using this application for financial aid programs other than the Cal Grant program. The California Dream Act Application can be completed online at [www.caldreamact.org](http://www.caldreamact.org).

The California Dream Act Application is not an application for federal financial aid. Students eligible to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), must use that application which is available on-line at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). **Students should not complete both applications.**

### California Dream Act Application or FAFSA? Carefully read the statements below **before** starting this application.

#### You must submit the FAFSA if:

You are a United States citizen, a U.S. national or a Lawful permanent resident with an I-151, I-551, or I-551C (Permanent Resident Card).

#### You must file the California Dream Act Application if:

You are a person who meets all of the following eligibility criteria:

- You are not eligible to file the FAFSA
- You attended at least three full years in a California public or private high school, or you graduated from a California high school with the equivalent of 3 or more years of credits and have 3 or more years of cumulative attendance at a California elementary or secondary school
- You graduated from a California high school or attained the equivalent prior to the start of the college term, for example earning a GED from the California GED Office or California high school Proficiency Exam (CHSPE), and
- If you are without lawful immigration status, you will file an affidavit with your college stating that you have filed an application to legalize your immigration status, or will file an application as soon as you are eligible to do so. Students who have completed the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) process should file the Dream Act Application even if they have a Social Security number.

#### Submit the FAFSA if you meet the following requirements:

You are a United States Citizen, U.S. national, or lawful permanent resident, or

- You are in one of the following categories:
  - Persons with an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) showing one of the following designations:
    - "Refugee"
    - "Asylum Granted"
    - "Cuban or Haitian Entrant"
    - "Conditional Entrant" (granted before April 1, 1980)
    - Victims of Human Trafficking, T-Visa holder (T-2, T-3, or T-4, etc.) or letter/certification from the Office of Refugee Resettlement
    - Parolees (with evidence from USCIS that you are in the United States for other than a temporary purpose and intend to become a U.S. Citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident)
    - A "qualified" Battered Immigrant as described at <http://ifap.ed.gov/dpclatters/GEN1007.html>
    - A citizen of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Palau, or Swain's Island.

For help with filing this application, go to [www.caldreamact.org](http://www.caldreamact.org)

#### Do you hold a United States VISA?

The following students cannot receive federal financial aid through the FAFSA or state financial aid through the California Dream Act Application and should contact their campus financial aid department for assistance: Non-immigrants granted one of the following visas: A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, TN, TD, V, TROV, and NATO.

**Please note:** Holders of T-Visas should file the FAFSA and holders of U-Visas must file the California Dream Act Application.

#### Applying by the Deadlines

Submit this application as early as possible, but no earlier than January 1, 2016. The Cal Grant deadline is March 2, 2016 but we will process your application for other college programs as late as June 30, 2017. We will send this information to the colleges you list on this application. Your college may require additional forms and need your correct, complete information by any deadline that they may have. Check with your college to determine their application deadlines and filing requirements. The Cal Grant program requires a school certified GPA. Check with your high school counselor or a college financial aid administrator to see if they will be submitting your GPA. If they are not submitting your GPA for you, go to <http://www.csac.ca.gov/doc.asp?id=1177> to download the GPA form. If you are filing close to a deadline, we recommend you file online at [www.caldreamact.org](http://www.caldreamact.org). This is the fastest easiest way to apply for Dream Act assistance.

#### Using Your Tax Return

If you (or your parents) are required to file a 2015 income tax return with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), we recommend that you complete it as soon as possible or after January 1, 2016. If a return has not yet been filed, you can submit your California Dream Act Application using estimated tax information, and then correct that information after you file your return. Do not miss any of your college deadlines or the March 2, 2016 Cal Grant deadline.

#### Filling out the California Dream Act Application

If you or your family experienced significant changes to your financial situation (such as loss of employment), or other unusual circumstances (such as high unreimbursed medical or dental expenses), complete this form to the extent you can and submit it as instructed. Consult with the financial aid office at the college(s) you applied to or plan to attend.

#### Mailing your California Dream Act Application

After you complete this application, make a copy of pages 3 through 8 for your records. Mail the original, signed application (pages 3 through 8) to: California Student Aid Commission, Cal Grant Operations, P.O. Box 419077, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9077. After your application is processed, the Commission will send the results to the colleges listed on the application. If you provide an e-mail address, the Commission will be able to contact you if we need more information. To make changes to your CA Dream Act Application, go to [www.caldreamact.org](http://www.caldreamact.org) or call 888-224-7268.

Turn to page 3 to begin the California Dream Act Application. You can file the California Dream Act Application online at [www.caldreamact.org](http://www.caldreamact.org). Please note that form instructions are on pages 9 and 10.

## Why fill out the California Dream Act Application?

The California Dream Act Application is a significant step in the financial aid process. You use the California Dream Act Application to apply for California state financial aid, such as UC Grants, State University Grants, Board of Governors Fee Waivers and Cal Grants. In addition, many colleges use information from the Dream Act Application to award private scholarships.

### **Why all the questions?**

The questions on the California Dream Act Application are required to calculate your Expected Family Contribution (EFC). The EFC measures your family's financial strength and is used to determine your financial eligibility. The colleges you list may also use some of your responses. They will determine if you may be eligible for school or state aid.

### **How do I apply for a Cal Grant?**

To apply for a Cal Grant complete this California Dream Act Application and submit it by the March 2, 2016 filing deadline. You must also submit your school certified GPA. Download the GPA Verification form online at [www.csac.ca.gov/doc.asp?id=1177](http://www.csac.ca.gov/doc.asp?id=1177).

### **How do I apply for student financial aid through my college?**

To apply for financial aid through your college, contact the college or visit their website. The college may have an earlier filing deadline than for the Cal Grant program.

### **How do I find out what my Expected Family Contribution (EFC) is?**

Your EFC is displayed on your California Dream Act Application confirmation page at [www.caldreamact.org](http://www.caldreamact.org). Your EFC will be sent to the colleges listed on your application. The colleges will use the information to determine your eligibility for their financial aid programs. It is important to follow up with your colleges to make sure all of your information is correct and complete and to ask if they need any further information from you.

### **How much student financial aid will I receive?**

Using the information on your California Dream Act Application and your EFC, the financial aid office at your college will determine the amount of aid you will receive. The college will use your EFC to prepare a financial aid package to help you meet your financial need. Financial need is the difference between the cost of attendance (which can include living expenses) as determined by your college, and your EFC. If you or your family have unusual circumstances that should be taken into account, contact your college's financial aid office. Some examples of unusual circumstances are: significant medical or dental expenses or a large change in income from last year to this year.

### **When will I receive the student financial aid?**

Any financial aid you are eligible to receive will be paid to you through your college. Typically, your college will first use the aid to pay tuition, fees and room and board (if provided by the college). Any remaining aid is paid to you for your other educational expenses.

### **How can I have more colleges receive my CA Dream Application information?**

Your online California Dream Act Application record can only list up to ten school codes. If there are ten school codes on your record, each new code will need to replace one of the school codes listed. Go to [www.caldreamact.org](http://www.caldreamact.org) to add more colleges.

If you are completing a paper California Dream Act Application, you can only list four colleges in Section F. You may add more colleges by calling 888-224-7268 and talking to a CSAC customer service representative, who can add more school codes for you.

## Information on the Privacy Act

Your college will use the information that you provide on this form to determine if you are eligible to receive California state student financial aid. The colleges on this form may also use the information to determine your eligibility for private grants and scholarships. Therefore, we will disclose the information that you provide on this form to each institution you list in questions 107a - 107h.

Without your consent, we may disclose information that you provide to entities under a published "routine use." Under such a routine use, we may disclose information to third parties that we have authorized to assist us in administering the above programs; to other state agencies under computer matching programs, such as those with the Franchise Tax Board; to your parents or spouse; and to members of the California State Legislature if you ask them to help you with student aid questions.

### **State Certification**

By submitting this application, you are giving the California Student Aid Commission and any college you have listed permission to verify any statement on this form and to obtain income tax information for all persons required to report income on this form.

We may request additional information from you to process your application more efficiently. We will collect this additional information only as needed and on a voluntary basis.

### **Where can I receive more information on student financial aid?**

The best place for information about student financial aid is the financial aid office at the college you plan to attend. The financial aid administrator can tell you about student aid available from your state, the college itself and other sources.

- You can also visit our web site [www.caldreamact.org](http://www.caldreamact.org)
- For phone information call our Customer Relations Center at 888-224-7268.
- You can also check with your high school counselor or your local library's reference section.

Information about other assistance may be available from foundations, faith-based organizations, community organizations and civic groups, as well as organizations related to your field of interest, such as the American Medical Association or American Bar Association. Also, check at [www.e4fc.org](http://www.e4fc.org) and [www.maldef.org](http://www.maldef.org).

Check with your parents' employers or unions to see if they award scholarships or have tuition payment plans.



27. What is the name of the high school where you received or will receive your high school diploma?  
Enter the complete high school name, and the city and state where the high school is located.

High School Name	<input type="text"/>	STATE	<input type="text"/>
High School City	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>

28. Will you have your first bachelor's degree before you begin the 2016-2017 school year?

Yes  No

29. What will your grade level be when you begin the 2016-2017 school year?

- Never attended college and 1st year undergraduate.
- Attended college before and 1st year undergraduate.
- 2nd year undergraduate/sophomore
- 3rd year undergraduate/junior
- 4th year undergraduate/senior
- 5th year/other undergraduate.
- 1st year graduate/professional
- Continuing graduate/professional or beyond.

30. What degree or certificate will you be working on when you begin the 2016-2017 school year?

- 1st bachelor's degree.
- 2nd bachelor's degree
- Associate degree (occupational or technical program)
- Associate degree (general education or transfer program).
- Certificate or diploma (occupational, technical or education program of less than two years).
- Certificate or diploma (occupational, technical or education program of two or more years)
- Teaching credential (nondegree program)
- Graduate or professional degree
- Other/undecided.

31. If your campus offers a student loan program, would you be interested in a student loan?  
Indicating "Yes" does not obligate you to accept a loan, if offered.

Yes  No  Don't know

**Section B (Student)**

Answer questions 32–59 about yourself (the student). If you are single, separated, divorced or widowed, answer only about yourself. If you are married or remarried as of today, include information about your spouse (husband or wife).

32. For 2015, have you (the student) completed your IRS income tax return or another tax return listed in question 33?

- I have completed my return.
- I will file but have not yet completed my return
- I'm not going to file. **Skip to question 39**

33. What income tax return did you file or will you file for 2015?

- IRS 1040.
- IRS 1040A or 1040EZ.
- A foreign tax return. **See Notes page 9**
- A tax return with Puerto Rico, another U.S. territory, or Freely Associated State. **See Notes page 9**

34. What is or will be your tax filing status for 2015?

- Single  1
- Head of household  2
- Married, filed joint return  3
- Married, filed separate return  4
- Qualifying widow(er)  5
- Don't know.  6

35. If you have filed or will file a 1040, were you eligible to file an IRS 1040A or 1040EZ?  
**See Notes page 9.**

Yes  No  Don't know

For questions 36–45, if the answer is zero or the question does not apply to you, enter 0. Report whole dollar amounts with no cents.

36. What was your (and spouse's) adjusted gross income for 2015? Adjusted gross income is on IRS Form 1040—line 37; 1040A—line 21; or 1040EZ—line 4.

\$

37. Enter your (and spouse's) income tax for 2015. Income tax amount is on IRS Form 1040—line 56 minus line 46; 1040A—line 28 minus line 36; or 1040EZ—line 10

\$

38. Enter your (and spouse's) exemptions for 2015. Exemptions are on IRS Form 1040—line 6d or Form 1040A—line 6d. For Form 1040EZ, **see Notes page 9**.

Questions 39 and 40 ask about earnings (wages, salaries, tips, etc.) in 2015. Answer the questions whether or not a tax return was filed. This information may be on the W-2 forms or on the tax returns listed in question 33: IRS Form 1040—lines 7 + 12 + 18 + Box 14 (Code A) of IRS Schedule K-1 (Form 1065); on 1040A—line 7; or 1040EZ—line 1. If any individual earning item is negative, do not include that item in your calculation.

39. How much did you earn from working in 2015?

\$

40. How much did your spouse earn from working in 2015?

\$

41. As of today, what is your (and spouse's) total current balance of cash, savings and checking accounts? **Don't include** student financial aid.

\$

42. As of today, what is the net worth of your (and spouse's) investments, including real estate? **Don't include** the home you live in. **See Notes page 9.**

\$

43. As of today, what is the net worth of your (and spouse's) current businesses and/or investment farms? **Don't include** a family farm or family business with 100 or fewer full-time or full-time equivalent employees. **See Notes page 9.**

\$

44. Student's 2015 Additional Financial Information (Enter the combined amounts for you and your spouse.)

- a. Education credits (American Opportunity or Lifetime Learning tax credits) from IRS Form 1040-line 50 or 1040A-line 33.
- b. Child support paid because of divorce or separation or as a result of a legal requirement. **Don't include** support for children in your household, as reported in question 99.
- c. Taxable earnings from need-based employment programs, such as Federal Work-Study and need-based employment portions of fellowships and assistantships.
- d. Taxable college grant and scholarship aid **reported to the IRS in your adjusted gross income**. Includes AmeriCorps benefits (awards, living allowances and interest accrual payments), as well as grant and scholarship portions of fellowships and assistantships.
- e. Combat pay or special combat pay. Only enter the amount that was taxable and included in your adjusted gross income. **Don't include** untaxed combat pay.
- f. Earnings from work under a cooperative education program offered by a college.

\$									
\$									
\$									
\$									
\$									
\$									

45. Student's 2015 Untaxed Income (Enter the combined amounts for you and your spouse.)

- a. Payments to tax-deferred pension and savings plans (paid directly or withheld from earnings), including, but not limited to, amounts reported on the W-2 forms in Boxes 12a through 12d, codes D, E, F, G, H and S. **Don't include** amounts reported in Code DD (employer contributions toward employee health benefits).
- b. IRA deductions and payments to self-employed SEP, SIMPLE, Keogh and other qualified plans from IRS Form 1040—line 28 + line 32 or 1040A—line 17.
- c. Child support received for any of your children. **Don't include** foster care or adoption payments.
- d. Tax exempt interest income from IRS Form 1040—line 8b or 1040A—line 8b.
- e. Untaxed portions of IRA distributions from IRS Form 1040—lines (15a minus 15b) or 1040A—lines (11a minus 11b). Exclude rollovers. If negative, enter a zero here.
- f. Untaxed portions of pensions from IRS Form 1040—lines (16a minus 16b) or 1040A—lines (12a minus 12b). Exclude rollovers. If negative, enter a zero here.
- g. Housing, food and other living allowances paid to members of the military, clergy and others (including cash payments and cash value of benefits). Don't include the value of on-base military housing or the value of a basic military allowance for housing.
- h. Veterans noneducational benefits, such as Disability, Death Pension, or Dependency & Indemnity Compensation (DIC) and/or VA Educational Work-Study allowances.
- i. Other untaxed income not reported in items 45a through 45h, such as workers' compensation, disability benefits, etc. Also include the untaxed portions of health savings accounts from IRS Form 1040—line 25. **Don't include** student aid, earned income credit, additional child tax credit, welfare payments, untaxed Social Security benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act educational benefits, on-base military housing or a military housing allowance combat pay, benefits from flexible spending arrangements (e.g., cafeteria plans), foreign income exclusion or credit for federal tax on special fuels.
- j. Money received, or paid on your behalf (e.g., bills), not reported elsewhere on this form. This includes money that you received from a parent or other person whose financial information is not reported on this form and that is not part of a legal child support agreement.

\$									
\$									
\$									
\$									
\$									
\$									
\$									
\$									
\$									
\$									

**Section C (Student):** Answer the questions in this section to determine if you will need to provide parental information. If you answer "Yes" to any of the questions in this section, skip Section D and go to Section E on page 8.

- 46. Were you born before January 1, 1993? ..... Yes  No
- 47. As of today, are you married? (Also answer "Yes" if you are separated but not divorced.) ..... Yes  No
- 48. At the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year, will you be working on a master's or doctorate program (such as an MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, EdD, graduate certificate, etc.)? ..... Yes  No
- 49. Are you currently serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training? **See Notes page 9.** ..... Yes  No
- 50. Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces? **See Notes page 9.** ..... Yes  No
- 51. Do you now have or will you have children who will receive more than half of their support from you between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017? ..... Yes  No
- 52. Do you have dependents (other than your children or spouse) who live with you and who receive more than half of their support from you, now and through June 30, 2017? ..... Yes  No
- 53. At any time since you turned age 13, were both your parents deceased, were you in foster care or were you a dependent or ward of the court? **See Notes page 10.** ..... Yes  No
- 54. As determined by a court in your state of residence, are you or were you an emancipated minor? **See Notes page 10.** ..... Yes  No
- 55. Does someone other than your parent or stepparent have legal guardianship of you, as determined by a court in your state of legal residence? **See Notes Page 10.** ..... Yes  No
- 56. At any time on or after July 1, 2015, did your high school or school district homeless liaison determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless? **See Notes page 10.** ..... Yes  No
- 57. At any time on or after July 1, 2015, did the director of an emergency shelter or transitional housing program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless? **See Notes page 10.** ..... Yes  No
- 58. At any time on or after July 1, 2015, did the director of a runaway or homeless youth basic center or transitional living program determine that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or were self-supporting and at risk of being homeless? **See Notes page 10.** ..... Yes  No

Chafee Supplemental Questions: The Chafee ETV program is a state/federal grant designed for students who are or were in foster care placement at any time under court dependency/wardship, between the ages of 16-18. To receive consideration, answer these questions. Others may leave them blank.

59. Are you, or were you, in a foster care placement at any time under court dependency/wardship, between the ages of 16-18? Yes No

If yes to question 59, in what County Jurisdiction was the dependency/wardship established? 60. County 61. State

62. Certification: Fill in the oval below to request further consideration for the Chafee ETV program. By this mark, I hereby authorize the appropriate county point of contact (POC) to release information that verifies my dependency/wardship and placement criteria to participate in the Chafee ETV Program.

If you (the student) answered "No" to every question in Section C, go to Section D. If you answered "Yes" to any question in Section C, skip Section D and go to Section E on page 8. If you believe that you are unable to provide parental information, see Notes page 10.

Section D (Parent): Complete this section if you (the student) answered "No" to all questions 46 through 58.

Answer all the questions in Section D even if you do not live with your legal parents (your biological and/or adoptive parents). Grandparents, foster parents, legal guardians, aunts and uncles are not considered parents on this form unless they have legally adopted you.

63. What is your parents' marital status as of today? Never married Married or remarried Unmarried and both parents living together, See Notes For section D Page 10. Divorced or Separated Widowed

64. Month and year they were married, remarried, separated, divorced or widowed. MONTH YEAR

What are the Social Security Numbers, or Individual Taxpayer Identification numbers, names and dates of birth of the parents reporting on this form? If your parents do not have a Social Security Number, enter their Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN). If they have neither, enter 000-00-0000. If the name includes a suffix, such as Jr., include a space between the last name and suffix. Enter two digits for each day and month (for example, for May 31, 1970, enter 05 31 1970). Questions 65 - 68 are for Parent 1 (father/mother/stepparent)

65. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER OR ITIN 66. LAST NAME, AND 67. FIRST INITIAL 68. DATE OF BIRTH

Questions 69 - 72 are for Parent 2 (father/mother/ stepparent)

69. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER OR ITIN 70. LAST NAME, AND 71. FIRST INITIAL 72. DATE OF BIRTH

73. Your parents' e-mail address. If you provide your parents' e-mail address, we can contact them if we need more information. This e-mail address will be shared with the colleges listed on your California Dream Act Application to allow them to communicate electronically with your parents.

74. In what state do your parents live? STATE 75. Did your parents start living in this state before January 1, 2011? YES NO 76. If the answer to question 75 is "No," give the month and year for the parent who began living in the state the longest. MONTH YEAR

77. How many people are in your parents' household? Include yourself (even if you don't live with your parents) and: your parents your parents' other children (even if they do not live with your parents) if (a) your parents will provide more than half of their support between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017, or (b) the children could answer "No" to every question in Section C on page 5 of this form, and other people if they now live with your parents, your parents provide more than half of their support and your parents will continue to provide more than half of their support between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017

78. How many people in your parents' household (from question 77) will be college students between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017?

In 2014 or 2015, did you, your parents or anyone in your parents household (question 77) receive benefits from any of the state/federal programs listed? Mark all the programs that apply. Answering these questions will not reduce your eligibility for student aid or for these other programs. Always count yourself as a college student. Do not include your parents. You may include others only if they will attend at least half-time in 2016-2017, a program that leads to a college degree or certificate.

79. Supplemental Security Income (SSI) 80. Food Stamps (CalFresh/SNAP) 81. Free or reduced Priced Lunch 82. CalWorks (TANF) 83. Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

84. For 2015, have your parents completed an IRS income tax return or another tax return listed in question 85? 85. What income tax return did your parents file or will they file for 2015? 86. For 2015, what is or will be your parents' tax filing status?

My parents have completed their return My parents will file but have not yet completed their return My parents are not going to file. Skip to question 92. IRS 1040. IRS 1040A or 1040EZ. A foreign tax return. See Notes page 9. A tax return with Puerto Rico, another U.S. territory, or Freely Associated State. See Notes page 9. Single Head of household Married, filed joint return Married, filed separate return Qualifying widow(er) Don't know.

87. If your parents have filed or will file a 1040, were they eligible to file a 1040A or 1040EZ? See Notes page 9. Yes No Don't know 88. As of today, is either of your parents a dislocated worker? See Notes page 10. Yes No Don't know





## Instructions on SSID question 11, page 3

Enter your Statewide Student Identification number (SSID). You'll have the 10 digit SSID only if you attended a California public high school. Your high school will be able to supply this; otherwise leave blank

## Instructions on citizenship questions 16 and 17, page 3

If you are an eligible noncitizen, write in your eight- or nine-digit alien registration number, if you have one. Generally, you are an eligible noncitizen if you are (1) a permanent U.S. resident with a Permanent Resident Card (I-551); (2) a conditional permanent resident with a Conditional Green Card (I-551C); (3) the holder of an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from the Department of Homeland Security showing any one of the following designations: "Refugee," "Asylum Granted," "Parolee" (I-94 confirms that you were paroled for a minimum of one year and status has not expired), T-Visa holder or "Cuban-Haitian Entrant;" or (4) the holder of a valid certification or eligibility letter from the Department of Health and Human Services showing a designation of "Victim of human trafficking." Eligible noncitizens who have a Social Security number should file the FAFSA. If you are in the U.S. on an F1 or F2 student visa, a J1 or J2 exchange visitor visa, or other visa, you cannot file the California Dream Act Application. However, holders of U-Visas must file the California Dream Act Application. If you are undocumented, or if you have completed the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) process, select "No, I am not a citizen or eligible non-citizen" and do not enter any number in question 17

## Instructions on SSID question 18, page 3

Report your marital status as of the date you sign your California Dream Act Application. If your marital status changes after you sign your California Dream Act Application, check with the **financial aid office at the college.**

## Notes for questions 23a: Selective Service

Most men ages 18 through 25 including undocumented males, must register with the U.S. Selective Service System. If you are not registered, check "Register me" and we will send your registration information to the US Selective Service. For more information visit [www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov).

## Notes for question 31 (page 4)

Checking Yes doesn't require you to take out a student loan if it is offered.

## Notes for questions 33 (page 4) and 85 (page 6)

If you or your parents filed or will file a foreign tax return, a tax return with Puerto Rico, another U.S. territory (e.g., Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands or the Northern Mariana Islands) or one of the Freely Associated States (i.e., the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands or the Federated States of Micronesia), use the information from that return to fill out this form. If you filed a foreign return, convert all monetary units to U.S. dollars, using the published exchange rate in effect for the nearest to today's date. View the daily exchange rates, go to [www.federalreserve.gov/releases/h10/current](http://www.federalreserve.gov/releases/h10/current).

## Notes for questions 35 (page 4) and 87 (page 7)

In general, a person is eligible to file a 1040A or 1040EZ if he or she makes less than \$100,000, does not itemize deductions, does not receive income from his or her own business or farm and does not receive alimony. A person is not eligible to file a 1040A or 1040EZ if they make \$100,000 or more, itemizes deductions, receives income from their own business or farm, is self-employed, receives alimony or is required to file Schedule D for capital gains. If you filed a 1040 only to claim American Opportunity or Lifetime Learning credits, and you would have otherwise been eligible for a 1040A or 1040EZ, answer "Yes" to this question. If you filed a 1040 and were not required to file a tax return, answer "Yes."

## Notes for questions 38 (page 4) and 91 (page 7)

On the 1040EZ, if a person didn't check either box on line 5, enter 01 if he or she is single, or 02 if he or she is married. If a person checked either the "you" or "spouse" box on line 5, use 1040EZ worksheet line F to determine the number of exemptions (\$3,950 equals one exemption).

## Notes for questions 42 and 43 (page 4) and 95 and 96 (page 7)

Net worth means the current value, as of today, of investments, businesses, and/or investment farms, minus debts related to those same investments, businesses and/or investment farms. If net worth is negative, enter 0.

**Investments also include** qualified educational benefits or education savings accounts (e.g., Coverdell savings accounts, 529 college savings plans and the refund value of 529 prepaid tuition plans). For a student who does not report parental information, the accounts owned by the student (and/or the student's spouse) are reported as student investments in question 42. For a student who must report parental information, the accounts are reported as parental investments including all accounts owned by the student and all accounts owned by the parents for any member of the household.

**Investments do not include** the home you live in, the value of life insurance, retirement plans (401[k] plans, pension funds, annuities, noneducation IRAs, Keogh plans, etc.) or cash, savings and checking accounts already reported in the previous question.

**Investments also do not include** UGMA and UTMA accounts for which you are the custodian, but not the owner. Investment value means the current balance or market value of these investments as of today. Investment debt means only those debts that are related to the investments.

**Business and/or investment farm value includes** the market value of land, buildings, machinery, equipment, inventory, etc. Business and/or investment farm debt means only those debts for which the business or investment farm was used as collateral.

**Business value** does not include the value of a small business if your family owns and controls more than 50 percent of the business and the business has 100 or fewer full-time or full-time equivalent employees. For small business value, your family includes (1) persons directly related to you, such as a parent, sister or cousin, or (2) persons who are or were related to you by marriage, such as a spouse, stepparent or sister-in-law.

**Investment farm value** does not include the value of a family farm that you (your spouse and/or your parents) live on and operate.

## Notes for Questions 49, page 5

Answer "**Yes**" if you are currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces or are a National Guard or Reserves enlistee who is on active duty for other than state or training purposes.

Answer "**No**" if you are a National Guard or Reserves enlistee who is on active duty for state or training purposes.

## Notes for Question 50, page 5

Answer "**Yes**" (you are a veteran) if you (1) have engaged in active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard) or are a National Guard or Reserve enlistee who was called to active duty for other than state or training purposes, or were a cadet or midshipman at one of the service academies, and (2) were released under a condition other than dishonorable. Also answer "Yes" if you are not a veteran now but will be one by June 30, 2017.

Answer "**No**" (you are not a veteran) if you (1) have never engaged in active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, (2) are currently an ROTC student or a cadet or midshipman at a service academy, (3) are a National Guard or Reserve enlistee activated only for state or training purposes, or (4) were engaged in active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces but released under dishonorable conditions.

Also answer "**No**" if you are currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces and will continue to serve through June 30, 2017.

### Notes for question 53 (page 5)

Answer **“Yes”** if at any time since you turned age

- 13:
- You had no living parent (biological or adoptive), even if you are now adopted; or
  - You were in foster care, even if you are no longer in foster care today; or
  - You were a dependent or ward of the court, even if you are no longer a dependent or ward of the court today. For student aid purposes, someone who is incarcerated is not considered a ward of the court.

The financial aid administrator at your school may require you to provide proof that you were in foster care or a dependent or ward of the court.

### Notes for question 54 and 55 (page 5)

Answer **“Yes”** if you can provide a copy of a court’s decision that as of today you are an emancipated minor or are in legal guardianship. Also answer **“Yes”** if you can provide a copy of a court’s decision that you were an emancipated minor or were in legal guardianship immediately before you reached the age of being an adult in your state. The court must be located in your state of legal residence at the time the court’s decision was issued.

Answer **“No”** if you are still a minor and the court decision is no longer in effect or the court decision was not in effect at the time you became an adult. Also answer **“No”** and contact your school if custody was awarded by the courts and the court papers say **“custody”** (not **“guardianship”**).

The financial aid administrator at your college may require you to provide proof that you were an emancipated minor or in legal guardianship.

### Notes for Question 56-58 (page 5)

Answer **“Yes”** if you received a determination at any time on or after July 1, 2015, that you were an unaccompanied youth who was homeless or, at risk of being homeless.

- **“Homeless”** means lacking fixed, regular and adequate housing. You may be homeless if you are living in shelters, parks, motels or cars, or are temporarily living with other people because you have nowhere else to go. Also, if you are living in any of these situations and fleeing an abusive parent you may be considered homeless even if your parent would provide support and a place to live.
- **“Unaccompanied”** means you are not living in the physical custody of your parent or guardian.
- **“Youth”** means you are 21 years of age or younger or you are still enrolled in high school as of the day you sign this application.

Answer **“No”** if you are not homeless or at risk of being homeless, or do not have a determination. You should contact your college financial aid office for assistance if you do not have a determination but believe you are an unaccompanied youth who is homeless or are an unaccompanied youth providing for your own living expenses who is at risk of being homeless.

The financial aid administrator at your college may require you to provide a copy of the determination if you answered **“Yes”** to any of these questions.

### Notes for students unable to provide parental information on pages 6 and 7

Under very limited circumstances (for example, your parents are incarcerated; you have left home due to an abusive family environment; or you do not know where your parents are and are unable to contact them), you may be able to submit your California Dream Act Application without parental information. **If you are unable to provide parental information**, skip Sections D and E, and go to Section F. Once you submit your California Dream Act Application without parental data, you must follow up with the financial aid office at the college you plan to attend, in order to complete your California Dream Act Application.

For Help — [www.caldreamact.org](http://www.caldreamact.org) or [caldreamact@csac.ca.gov](mailto:caldreamact@csac.ca.gov) or 888-224-7268

### Notes for questions 59 - 62

**Chafee Supplemental Questions:** The Chafee ETV program is a state/federal grant designed for students who are or were in foster care placement at any time under court dependency/wardship, between the ages of 16-18. To receive consideration, answer questions 59-62.

### Notes for Section D, questions 63–98 (pages 6 and 7)

Review all instructions below to determine who is considered a parent on this form:

- If your parent was never married and does not live with your other legal parent, or if your parent is widowed or not remarried, answer the questions about that parent.
- If your parents (biological, adoptive, or as determined by the state [for example, if the parent is listed on the birth certificate]) are not married to each other and live together, select **“Unmarried and both parents are living together”** and provide information about both of them regardless of their gender. Do not include any person who is not married to your parent and who is not a legal or biological parent.
- If your legal parents are married, select **“Married/ remarried.”** If your legal parents are divorced but living together, select **“Unmarried and both parents living together.”** If your legal parents are separated but living together, select **“Married/ remarried,”** not **“Divorced/separated.”**
- If your parents are divorced or separated, answer the questions about the parent you lived with more during the past 12 months. (If you did not live with one parent more than the other, give answers about the parent who provided more financial support during the past 12 months, or during the most recent year that you actually received support from a parent). If this parent is remarried as of today, answer the questions about that parent and your stepparent.
- If your widowed parent is remarried as of today, answer the questions about that parent and your stepparent.

### Notes for questions 88 (page 6) and 106 (page 8)

In general, a person may be considered a dislocated worker if he or she:

- Is receiving unemployment benefits due to being laid off or losing a job and are unlikely to return to a previous occupation;
- Have been laid off or received a lay-off notice from a job;
- Is self-employed but are now unemployed due to economic conditions or natural disaster; or
- Is the spouse of an active duty member of the Armed Forces and has experienced a loss of employment because of relocating due to permanent change in duty station; or
- Is the spouse of an active duty member of the Armed Forces and is unemployed or underemployed, and is experiencing difficulty in obtaining or upgrading employment; or
- Is a displaced homemaker. A displaced homemaker is generally a person who previously provided unpaid services to the family (e.g., a stay-at-home mom or dad), and are no longer supported by the husband or wife, are unemployed or underemployed, and are having trouble finding or upgrading employment.

If a person quits work, generally they are not considered a dislocated worker even if, for example, the person is receiving unemployment benefits.

Answer **“Yes”** to question 88 if your parent is a dislocated worker.

Answer **“Yes”** to question 106 if you or your spouse is a dislocated worker.

Answer **“No”** to question 88 if your parent is not a dislocated worker.

Answer **“No”** to question 106 if neither you nor your spouse is a dislocated worker.

Answer **“Don’t know”** to question 88 if you are not sure whether your parent is a dislocated worker. Answer **“Don’t know”** to question 106 if you are not sure whether you or your spouse are dislocated workers. You can contact your financial aid office for assistance in answering these questions.

The financial aid administrator at your college may require you to provide proof that your parent is a dislocated worker, if you answered **“Yes”** to question 88, or that you or your spouse is a dislocated worker, if you answered **“Yes”** to question 106.