

# ACADEMIC ADJUSTMENTS/ACCOMMODATIONS

## Disabled Students' Program and Services (DSPS)/ Disability Support Services (DSS)

Students who continue on to higher education have a number of services available to them. Upon admission to college, the student should contact the DSPS or DSS office which will refer the student for services that they may qualify for. You MUST inform the school that you have a disability and need an academic adjustment. Every public and private community college, college, and university has a DSPS office and their own website.

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## APPLYING TO COLLEGE

### Assist.org

An online student-transfer information system that shows how course credits earned at one public California college or university can be applied when transferred to another.

Website: [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org)

### CaliforniaColleges.edu

Provides students with an all-inclusive guide with: college search tools; college major search tools; application types overview (Community College, California State University, University of California); career search tools; financial aid eligibility information, and more!

Website: [www.californiacolleges.edu](http://www.californiacolleges.edu)

### College Application (Fee Waiver)

Every income-eligible student who takes the SAT or SAT Subject Tests using a test fee waiver can choose four (4) colleges from over 2,000 participating colleges and apply for free. These fee waivers will be delivered online to eligible students. Contact your high school or go online for more information.

Website: [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

### College Board

Helps students prepare for a successful transition to college by providing information on testing and accommodations (PSAT, SAT, AP, etc.) as well as information on colleges, majors, options for paying for college, free step-by-step college plans, and more!

Website: [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

## Common Application

Students are able to complete one single college application and send copies to more than 800 schools (private, public, large and small). Simply create an account and begin the application process. The website offers an array of tools, checklists, tips and strategies to help students save time and stay on track to meet deadlines.

Website: [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org)

## California State University Educational Opportunity Program (EOP)

Provides admission, academic and financial assistance to low-income, educationally disadvantaged students throughout California. If eligible, EOP participants receive services such as advising, tutoring, mentoring, and workshops designed to help students succeed and graduate from college. Find out if you meet the eligibility requirements and learn how to apply!

Website: [www2.calstate.edu/attend/student-services/eop/](http://www2.calstate.edu/attend/student-services/eop/)

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# CAREER & EMPLOYMENT

## Ability Jobs

An employment website for job seekers with disabilities.

Website: [www.abilityjobs.com](http://www.abilityjobs.com)

## California CareerZone

A website that helps people explore, plan for and pursue careers that reflect their passion, skills, and life goals.

Website: [www.cacareerzone.org](http://www.cacareerzone.org)

## Clothes the Deal

Clothes the deal is a non-profit organization that provides business attire to low-income individuals to empower them to interview with dignity and confidence in their pursuit to achieve economic self-sufficiency through securing gainful employment.

Website: [www.clothesthedeal.org](http://www.clothesthedeal.org)

Phone: 562-922-8635

## Getting Hired

Employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities – bridging the gap between job seekers with disabilities & employers looking to hire.

Website: [www.gettinghired.com](http://www.gettinghired.com)

## **Job Accommodation Network (JAN)**

Provides free resources and information for job seekers with disabilities who have questions about self-identifying, asking for reasonable accommodations and much more.

Website: [askjan.org](http://askjan.org)

## **My Next Move**

A web tool that offers ways to search for occupations, including required knowledge, skills, abilities, and technologies; simplified salary and employment outlook information, as well as links to trainings and employment opportunities.

Website: [www.mynextmove.org](http://www.mynextmove.org)

## **RecruitDisability.org**

For applicants with disabilities, this website provides job listings, with a good search tool, and a salary comparison tool.

Website: [jobs.recruitdisability.org/jobs/search](http://jobs.recruitdisability.org/jobs/search)

## **Roadmap to Careers**

A helpful online tool to help students find careers and majors based on their likes and interests. Read about the career journeys of professionals who share your interests.

Website: [roadtripnation.com/roadmap](http://roadtripnation.com/roadmap)

## **Talent Knows No Limits**

A California public education resource for the employment of people with disabilities. They provide resources for career planning, job training, job hunting, and workplace support.

Website: [tknl.sdsu.edu](http://tknl.sdsu.edu)

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# **COLLEGE ADMISSION EXAMS**

## **ACT**

The ACT is a national college admissions examination that is designed to measure academic achievement in: English; Mathematics; Reading; Writing (Optional); and Science. Learn when and where the test is offered, registration deadlines and fees, which colleges require or recommend the test and other important information by going online or asking your high school counselor.

Website: [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

## **ACT Accommodations**

The ACT approved accommodations for students with disabilities in accordance with the American Disabilities Act (ADA). To request accommodations on the ACT, the student must work with a school official to submit their request and supporting documentation via the Test Accessibility and Accommodation System (TAA). The school official will then contact the student within 2 weeks of submitting their request with a decision from the ACT.

Website: [www.act.org/theact/accomm](http://www.act.org/theact/accomm)

## **ACT Fee Waiver**

If you are a 11th or 12th grade student who can't afford the registration fee for the ACT or ACT with writing, you may be eligible for an ACT Fee Waiver. Information about the eligibility requirements and how to request a fee waiver is sent each summer to high schools. You should work with your high school counselor to determine your eligibility.

Website: [www.act.org/the-act/fees](http://www.act.org/the-act/fees)

## **College Board, Services for Students with Disabilities**

Students who show that their disabilities affect participation in the SAT, SAT Subject Tests™, PSAT/NMSQT, PSAT 10, and Advanced Placement® Exams are eligible to take those exams with accommodations. All accommodations must be approved by the College Board's Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). Work with your high school's designated SSD Coordinator to submit an accommodations request. The request process may take up to 7 weeks so start early!

Website: [www.collegeboard.org/students-with-disabilities](http://www.collegeboard.org/students-with-disabilities)

Email: [ssd@info.collegeboard.org](mailto:ssd@info.collegeboard.org)

Phone: (212) 713-8333

## **SAT & SAT Subject**

The SAT and SAT Subject Test are national college admissions examinations that measure what you learned in high school (Reading, Mathematics, Writing and Language, and the SAT Essay [optional]) and what you need to succeed in college. Learn when and where the test is offered, registration deadlines and fees, which colleges require or recommend the test and other important information by going online or asking your high school counselor.

Website: [sat.org](http://sat.org)

Phone: 866-756-7346

Email: [sat@info.collegeboard.org](mailto:sat@info.collegeboard.org)

## **SAT & SAT Subject Fee Waiver**

SAT fee waivers are available to low-income 11th and 12th grade students and SAT Subject Test fee waivers are available for students in grades 9–12. If you're eligible for a fee waiver, you can take the SAT or SAT Subject Tests for free. Contact your school for more information or go online to see if you meet the eligibility requirements.

Website: [sat.org/fee-waivers](http://sat.org/fee-waivers)

# COLLEGE SEARCH

## California Community Colleges

The community college system consists of 110 two-year institutions. Each college provides services for students with disabilities. Contact a specific college for more information and learn how to apply.

Website: [www.cccco.edu](http://www.cccco.edu)

## California State Universities

The California State University system consists of 23 campuses providing bachelor's (four year) and graduate programs. Each state university provides accommodations for students with disabilities. Contact a specific college for more information and learn how to apply.

Website: [www.calstate.edu](http://www.calstate.edu)

## Independent California Colleges and Universities

Comprised of 83 private nonprofit colleges and universities in Northern and Southern California. Each campus provides accommodations for students with disabilities who meet the academic and technical standards required for admission and participation in an educational program or activity. Contact a specific college or university for more information and learn how to apply.

Website: [www.aiccu.edu](http://www.aiccu.edu)

## Trade Schools, Vocational and Technical Colleges

A post-secondary institution that is designed to give students the technical skills to prepare them for a specific occupation. Contact a specific school for more information and learn how to apply.

Website: [www.careerschoolnow.org](http://www.careerschoolnow.org)

## University of California

The University of California is a statewide system of ten campuses providing bachelor's (four year) and graduate programs. Each campus provides accommodations for students with disabilities. Contact a specific university for more information and learn how to apply.

Website: [www.ucop.edu](http://www.ucop.edu)

# HOW TO PAY FOR COLLEGE

## California Chafee Grant for Foster Youth

If you are or were in foster care for at least one day, between the ages of 16 and 18 as a dependent or ward of the court and have financial need, you may qualify for up to \$5,000 a year for career and technical training or college. You don't have to pay this money back. You may also be able to use your grant to help pay for child care, transportation and rent while you're in school. You can use your Chafee Grant at any eligible California college or university or career or technical school, as well as schools in other states.

Website: [www.chafee.csac.ca.gov](http://www.chafee.csac.ca.gov)

Phone: (888) 224-7268, option 3

Email: [chafee@csac.ca.gov](mailto:chafee@csac.ca.gov)

## California College Promise Grant

Whether you want to move into a career or move on to a four-year university, California community colleges want to help you achieve your educational goals. The California College Promise Grant, available to eligible students, will waive your per unit enrollment fee at any California community college throughout the state.

Website: <https://home.cccapply.org>

## California Dream Act Application

The California Dream Act is a state law that allows undocumented and out-of-state students to receive financial aid while attending eligible California Colleges, Universities and Career Education Programs. The California Dream Act Application allows eligible students to receive certain types of financial aid such as: private scholarships, state administered financial aid, university grants, community college fee waivers, and Cal Grants. **The online and paper application for the next academic year will be available October 1st.**

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

Phone: (888) 224-7268

Email: [StudentSupport@csac.ca.gov](mailto:StudentSupport@csac.ca.gov)

## CSS Profile

Specific colleges, universities, and scholarship programs use CSS Profile® as part of their financial aid process for some or all of their financial aid applicants. You may be eligible to receive CSS Profile fee waivers if you are a first-year undergraduate applicant who: qualified for an SAT fee waiver OR are an orphan or ward of the court under the age of 24 OR based on parent income and family size.

Website: <https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/>

## Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

To apply for federal student aid, such as federal grants, work-study, and loans, you need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Completing and submitting the FAFSA is free and it gives you access to the largest source of financial aid to pay for college or career school.

In addition, many states and colleges use your FAFSA information to determine your eligibility for state and school aid, and some private financial aid providers may use your FAFSA information to determine whether you qualify for their aid.

Website: <https://fafsa.ed.gov>

Phone: 1-800-433-3243

## Scholarships and Awards

Resource	Type	Website Link
Affordable Colleges Online	Attention-Deficit Disorder (ADD); Autism; General; Hearing Impairment; Learning/Cognitive; Physical; Speech Disorders; Visual	<a href="http://www.affordablecollegesonline.org">www.affordablecollegesonline.org</a>
American Autism Association	Children and adults on the spectrum	<a href="http://www.myautism.org">www.myautism.org</a>
American Council of the Blind	Students who are legally blind.	<a href="http://www.acb.org/scholarships">www.acb.org/scholarships</a>
Blue and Gold Opportunity Plan	University of California undergraduate student	<a href="http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/paying-for-uc/">http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/paying-for-uc/</a>
California Community Colleges Scholarship Endowment	Low-Income Community College students	<a href="https://foundationccc.org/">https://foundationccc.org/</a>
California Council of the Blind	Students who are legally blind	<a href="http://ccbnet.org/drupal7/node/11">http://ccbnet.org/drupal7/node/11</a>
CareerOneStop	Everyone	<a href="http://www.careeronestop.org/toolkit/training/find-scholarships">www.careeronestop.org/toolkit/training/find-scholarships</a>
Chegg	Everyone	<a href="http://www.chegg.com/scholarships">www.chegg.com/scholarships</a>

CollegeScholarships.org	Attention-Deficit/ Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Blind/Vision Impairment, Cleft Palate, Deaf/Mute, Dwarfism, Learning Disabilities, Autism, Asperger	<a href="http://www.collegescholarships.org/disabilities">www.collegescholarships.org/disabilities</a>
CollegeBoard	Everyone	<a href="https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search">https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search</a>
CSU Scholarships	California State University students	<a href="http://www2.calstate.edu">www2.calstate.edu</a>
DisabilityScholarships.us	Various disabilities	<a href="http://www.disabilityscholarships.us">www.disabilityscholarships.us</a>
Fastweb	Everyone	<a href="http://www.fastweb.com">www.fastweb.com</a>
Golden Door Scholars	Undocumented Students	<a href="http://www.goldendoorscholars.org">www.goldendoorscholars.org</a>
Middle Class Scholarship	Undergraduate students, with family incomes and assets up to \$171,000	<a href="http://www.csac.ca.gov/middle-class-scholarship">www.csac.ca.gov/middle-class-scholarship</a>
National Center for Learning Disabilities	High School seniors with learning disabilities and/or ADHD	<a href="http://www.nclid.org/scholarships-and-awards">www.nclid.org/scholarships-and-awards</a>
National Federation of the Blind	Legally blind in both eyes	<a href="http://www.nfb.org/scholarships">www.nfb.org/scholarships</a>
Scholarships.com	Various disabilities; Undocumented Student	<a href="http://www.scholarships.com">www.scholarships.com</a>
University of California: Undocumented Student Resources	Undocumented Students	<a href="http://undoc.universityofcalifornia.edu/financial-aid.html">http://undoc.universityofcalifornia.edu/financial-aid.html</a>
Video Caption Corporation	Deaf and Hearing Impaired	<a href="http://www.vicaps.com/blog/scholarship-information">www.vicaps.com/blog/scholarship-information</a>



## Paying for Textbooks

### Amazon: Prime Student

Amazon Prime Student is an online membership program created for college students. As a Prime Student member, you receive a FREE 6-month trial that includes Free Two-Day Shipping on over 100 million items such as textbooks, electronics, school supplies, groceries and more. After your trial, you can choose to pay a reduced monthly or annual fee to continue to use your Prime Student benefits.

Website: [www.amazon.com/primestudent](http://www.amazon.com/primestudent)

### Barnes and Noble

Rent or buy textbooks, E-textbooks, lab manuals, study guides, manuals, and workbooks at low prices directly from BN.com. At the end of the semester or quarter, if your purchased textbooks are still in good condition, you can sell your books back to B&N for cash!

Website: [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com)

### Campus Book Rentals

Campus Book Rentals provides students with affordable textbooks for rent and free shipping both ways.

Website: [www.campusbookrentals.com](http://www.campusbookrentals.com)

### Chegg

Save money by buying or renting used or new textbooks and E-textbooks. Chegg also offers 24/7 homework help for a fee, search engines for finding internships and scholarships, and more!

Website: [www.chegg.com](http://www.chegg.com)

## Rights of Adult Individuals with Disabilities

### Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) protects individuals with disabilities in employment, state and local government services, public accommodations (most private offices and businesses), transportation, and telecommunications for the deaf.

Website: <https://www.ada.gov/>

## Office of Civil Rights (OCR)

The OCR enforces laws and regulations that prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability in programs, services, activities, and facilities.

Office of Civil Rights - Pacific Region	
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 90 7th Street, Suite 4-100 San Francisco, CA 94103	(800) 368-1019 TDD: (800) 537-7697 Email: <a href="mailto:ocrmail@hhs.gov">ocrmail@hhs.gov</a>

Website: [www.hhs.gov/ocr](http://www.hhs.gov/ocr)

## Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Section 504 is part of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973: a Federal law that protects individuals from discrimination based on disability. Under this law, individuals with disabilities may not be excluded from or denied the opportunity to receive benefits and services from certain programs. This includes public school districts, institutions of higher education, and other state and local education agencies.

Website: [www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/for-individuals/disability](http://www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/for-individuals/disability)

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## Tax Benefits for Education

### American Opportunity Tax Credit (AOTC)

A tax credit to help pay for education expenses paid for the first four years of education completed after high school. You can get a maximum annual credit of \$2,500 per eligible student and 40% or \$1,000 could be refunded if you owe no tax. This credit is subject to income limitations.

Website: [www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/individuals/aotc](http://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/individuals/aotc)

### Lifelong Learning Credit (LLC)

The Lifetime Learning Credit is for qualified tuition and related expenses paid for eligible students enrolled in an eligible educational institution. This credit can help pay for undergraduate, graduate and professional degree courses--including courses to acquire or improve job skills. There is no limit on the number of years you can claim the credit. It is worth up to \$2,000 per tax return.

Website: [www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/individuals/lc](http://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/individuals/lc)

### Student Loan Interest Deduction

Student loan interest is interest you paid during the year on a qualified student loan. It includes both required and voluntarily pre-paid interest payments. If your modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) is less than \$80,000 (\$160,000 if filing a joint return), there is a special deduction allowed for paying interest on a student loan (also known as an education loan) used for higher education. This deduction can reduce the amount of your income subject to tax by up to \$2,500.

Website: [www.irs.gov/newsroom/tax-benefits-for-education-information-center](http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/tax-benefits-for-education-information-center)

## Transition Guides: from High School to Adulthood

### CA Transition Alliance

Provides resources for students and parents as they transition from secondary education to adult life.

Website: [www.catransitionalalliance.org](http://www.catransitionalalliance.org)

### EDsmart, *Winning in College: A Guide for Students with Disabilities*

Online college guide that helps students learn about their civil rights, requesting accommodations and supports, choosing the right school, paying for college and more!

Website: [www.edsmart.org/students-with-disabilities-college-guide](http://www.edsmart.org/students-with-disabilities-college-guide)

### Going to College

Contains information about living a college life with a disability. It's designed for high school students and provides video clips, activities and additional resources that can help them get a head start in planning for college.

Website: [www.going-to-college.org](http://www.going-to-college.org)

### Talent Knows No Limits

"Taking Charge of Your Education: A Guide for Young People with Disabilities Transitioning to Adulthood" is an online transition guide that provides information regarding: Education; Independent Living; Employment; Finances; Healthcare; Social/Recreation; and more!

Website: <http://tknl.sdsu.edu/Toolkit/education.html>

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### California Cash for College

Students and families can attend FREE Cash for College workshops across California for help in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act Application (CADAA) and Chafee Grant for Foster Youth applications. Enter your current location, zip code, school name or county for workshops near you. Registration is required.

Website: [www.cash4college.csac.ca.gov](http://www.cash4college.csac.ca.gov)

### College Affordability and Transparency Center

Search and compare colleges based on costs, majors offered, size of the school, campus safety, graduation rates and other criteria.

Website: [collegecost.ed.gov](http://collegecost.ed.gov)

## **College Navigator**

An interactive website that allows you to explore and compare features of different institutions, including programs and majors, admissions considerations, campus crime statistics and more.

Website: [nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator](https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator)

## **I Can Afford College**

A bilingual (English and Spanish) website that educates current or future students about the year-round availability of financial aid at California's community colleges to pay for fees, books, supplies and sometimes even help with rent. The website also connects students with events in their area to receive one-on-one help completing applications.

Website: [www.icanaffordcollege.com](http://www.icanaffordcollege.com)

## **Khan Academy**

Khan Academy offers FREE online SAT prep courses covering mathematics, reading and writing. They also offer practice online and paper SAT tests, tips, test-taking strategies and more.

Website: [www.khanacademy.org](http://www.khanacademy.org)