Financial Aid Application Instructions

The UCSC Teaching Credential Program is structured to begin in Summer 2024 and continue through the 2024-2025 aid year. Students enrolling in Summer 2024 who need financial aid for the entire program must apply for the 2023-2024 aid year (for the 2024 Summer term) and the 2024-2025 aid year (for the 2024-2025 academic year).

Financial Aid Application for Summer 2024
To apply for financial aid beginning Summer 2024, you must submit the 2023-2024 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Application (CADAA) as early as possible as but no later than June 1, 2023, to ensure funds are ready at the start of the summer program. UCSC’s Federal/State School Code #001321 must be listed on your FAFSA or CADAA.

The best way to apply for federal student aid is on the web at studentaid.gov. The best way to apply for California state aid is on the web at dream.csac.gov. The final date the Federal/State Application Processing Center will process the 2024-2025 FAFSA/CADAA is June 30th, 2023. If you have applied for financial aid and did not list UCSC, you can log in and correct your FAFSA/CADAA (see links above) to add UCSC to your application. Students who submitted the FAFSA/CADAA and received undergraduate aid at UCSC during the 2023-2024 academic year will not need to complete a new FAFSA or CADAA.

Financial Aid Application for the 2024-2025 Academic Year
Complete and submit the 2024-2025 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act Application (CADAA) as early as possible and no later than May 1, 2024, to ensure funds are ready at the beginning of the fall term. UCSC’s Federal/State School Code #001321 must be listed on your FAFSA/CADAA.

Sources of Financial Aid (FAFSA/CADAA required)

5th Year Extension of Cal Grant
Students who received Cal Grant A or B as undergraduates can request a one-year extension of this award for attendance in a program leading to a teaching credential. The California Student Aid Commission form (G-44) Request for Cal Grant Teaching Credential Program Benefits must be submitted within 15 months of the last term of undergraduate Cal Grant payment.

The Golden State Teacher Grant Program
GSTG awards of up to $20,000 are available to eligible, currently enrolled students in California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) approved teacher preparation programs. Campuses and program administrators will verify applicants’ enrollment status. Apply for a 2024-25 Golden State Teacher Grant here: https://gstg.csac.ca.gov
Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant

- A non-need-based program (FAFSA must be filed) that provides up to $4,000 per year to students enrolled in an eligible program and who agree to teach as a high-qualified teacher in a high-need field at a low-income elementary or secondary school for at least four years within eight years of completing the program for which TEACH grant was awarded.
- Failure to complete the required teaching service results in the conversion of the TEACH grant to a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan with interest accruing from the date the grant was disbursed.
- The Financial Aid Office will notify eligible students to complete the requirements. There is no separate application to complete.
- Eligible students must complete an Agreement to Service along with TEACH grant counseling.
- Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.25 (select grade option).
- Availability and amount of award is subject to change due to Federal updates.

**Federal Direct Student Loans**

Federal Eligible FAFSA Graduate Students: If enrolled at least half-time, you are eligible for two types of Federal Direct Loans.

For additional information regarding repayment, interest rates, and counseling, please visit [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov).

**Unsubsidized Loan**

- The federal government charges you interest while you are in school.
- Annual loan limit is $20,500 for fall, winter, spring, and the following summer.
- You have the option to pay interest as it accrues or to defer it.
- You do not need to make principal payments until six months after you graduate or enroll less than half-time.

**Graduate PLUS (loan)**

- The federal government charges you interest while you are in school.
- A processing fee is deducted from loan proceeds.
- The loan can make up the difference between the unsubsidized loan and our standard graduate cost of attendance.
- You must pass a credit check to qualify. If you do not qualify, you may obtain an endorser who does not have an adverse credit history.
- The Direct Loan Servicing Center will automatically grant an in-school repayment deferment while enrolled at least half-time if your expected graduation date is accurate on my.ucsc.edu.
- Upon dropping to less than half-time enrollment status, you must immediately begin repaying the loan; there is no grace period.

**California DREAM Student Loan**

Undocumented students who graduate from a California high school and meet the California Dream Act requirements are eligible for state and university aid but ineligible for federal aid (including federal loans). The DREAM loan program, funded by the state and UC, aims to close that gap and allow eligible students to borrow student loans to help pay for their education.

**Dream Loan**

- The DREAM Loan interest rate is 4.99% for July 2023 to June 30, 2024 (matches the Federal Direct Subsidized Stafford Loan). If you borrow through the DREAM loan program in 2024-25, the interest rate will not change for that loan. However, the interest rate for future loans may be different.
- Interest will not accrue on the loan if you're a student enrolled at least half-time.
- Once you graduate (or you cease being at least a half-time student), there is a 6-month "grace period" before you start paying back the loan.