

# UNDOCUMENTED STUDENT BUDGET WORKSHEET

**FIVE QUICK STEPS** to understanding your financial aid award at any college or university in California. This worksheet can be used per semester or per year. If you are considering a number of schools, fill out a worksheet for each one and compare what your financial aid award would be. For more details, check out this video: [youtu.be/3N5DhEbZKVI](https://youtu.be/3N5DhEbZKVI)

1. Determine the cost of tuition and other expenses on your school's website by searching for "Cost of Attendance." Write down the estimated costs, then add your own expenses.
2. Review your financial aid award & write down any CA Dream Act Grants offered through your institution. Add up your grants and subtract the cost of tuition. Determine if there is any remaining balance available to cover other costs.
3. Write down all the scholarships you've been awarded & subtract any outstanding tuition owed, if applicable.
4. Identify other ways to pay for college and list any money you will receive through employment, paid internships, savings or the CA Dream Loan to determine how you will cover any outstanding expenses.
5. Figure out how your remaining college expenses will be covered by looking at the money left over once your tuition is paid. Create a budget. Apply for more scholarships.

## 1. ESTIMATED COST OF ATTENDANCE

Search for "Cost of Attendance" on your campus website. Fill in the estimated costs below and then figure out your actual costs. Students living at home might have significantly lower room & board expenses. Keep in mind, tuition must be covered.

SCHOOL BUDGET	ESTIMATED COSTS	YOUR COSTS
TUITION	\$ _____	\$ _____
ROOM & BOARD	\$ _____	\$ _____
BOOKS	\$ _____	\$ _____
PERSONAL EXPENSES	\$ _____	\$ _____
TRANSPORTATION	\$ _____	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____	\$ _____

## 3. SCHOLARSHIPS (MONEY YOU WIN)

Each Scholarship has specific rules for enrollment & how it can be used.

SCHOLARSHIP	\$ _____
SCHOLARSHIP	\$ _____
SCHOLARSHIP	\$ _____
TOTAL AMOUNT OF SCHOLARSHIPS	\$ _____
MINUS ANY OUTSTANDING TUITION	\$ _____
EQUALS BALANCE DUE (TO YOU OR SCHOOL)	\$ _____

## 2. CA DREAM ACT GRANTS (FREE MONEY)

AB 540/SB 68 requirements must be met to receive CA state aid. Check [csac.ca.gov](https://csac.ca.gov) for Cal Grant information.

CAL GRANT (A, B OR C)	\$ _____
INSTITUTIONAL GRANT (CCC, CSU OR UC)	\$ _____
OTHER	\$ _____
TOTAL GRANTS	\$ _____
MINUS YOUR OUTSTANDING TUITION	\$ _____
EQUALS BALANCE DUE (TO YOU OR SCHOOL)	\$ _____

*If you owe money, carry balance to section 3 or 4*

## 4. OTHER WAYS TO PAY FOR COLLEGE

- A) STUDENT EMPLOYMENT/OTHER (MONEY YOU EARN)  
This is money from additional sources.

STUDENT ASSISTANTSHIP	\$ _____
OFF CAMPUS EMPLOYMENT	\$ _____
OTHER (INTERNSHIPS/SAVINGS/FAMILY)	\$ _____

- B) CA DREAM LOAN (MONEY YOU BORROW)  
Money you repay once you graduate or drop below half time.

CA DREAM LOAN	\$ _____
TOTAL AMOUNT OF FUNDS	\$ _____
MINUS ANY OUTSTANDING TUITION	\$ _____
EQUALS BALANCE DUE (TO YOU OR SCHOOL)	\$ _____

**IMPORTANT TIPS FOR ADVOCATING FOR YOUR FINANCIAL AID:** Talk to the financial aid office at the school you are attending or plan to attend. If you do not have a completed financial aid award, check the following three places: (1) The "TO DO" list on your student portal; (2) Your Confirmation page on the Dream Application at [dream.CSAC.ca.gov](https://dream.CSAC.ca.gov); and/or (3) Your Cal Grant account at [webgrants4students.csac.ca.gov](https://webgrants4students.csac.ca.gov). Be diligent, ask questions, and follow up!