



## CHILD DEVELOPMENT & FAMILY STUDIES DEPARTMENT • PHELAN CAMPUS • TEACHER PREP CENTER

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### *A Guide to Financial Support For Future Teachers and Teacher Candidates*

As a future teacher you have many decisions to make, such as what to major in, where to transfer to and what type of credentialing program to enter. However, one of your biggest decisions will be figuring out how to support yourself and pay for your education. Although this guide provides basic information on financial aid, it does not represent a comprehensive list. All students are strongly encouraged to contact City College of San Francisco Financial Aid Office for additional information.

#### **What is Financial Aid?**

The term "financial aid" covers a wide variety of programs that help students pay for college. The three major sources of aid are the federal government, state government and educational institutions.

- **Scholarships** -- free money given by businesses, foundations and other organizations. Eligibility and amounts vary according to the individual scholarship.
- **Grants** -- comes from the federal and state governments and does not have to be repaid. Some grants are awarded based on financial need and others are based on merit or a combination of both.
- **Loans** -- borrowed money that must be repaid with interest
- **Work-Study** -- allows students to receive funds earned through part-time jobs on campus to help meet education costs such as books, supplies and personal expenses.

#### **Financial Aid Programs Available at City College of San Francisco**

##### Scholarships

Dozens of scholarship listings and requirements are published in November in an annual Scholarship Brochure. In addition, new scholarship information is posted throughout the year. For further information, contact the SAC Scholarship Office, C-324 or call (415) 239-3917.

##### Cal Grant Program

A State-funded grant program that is available to California residents who are pursuing a bachelor's degree.

- **Cal Grant A** -- assists students with tuition and fees. Eligibility is based on financial need and GPA. Community college students awarded Cal Grant A will have it placed on "reserve" for up to three years until they transfer.
- **Cal Grant B** -- for low-income students, it assists students with tuition and fees and also living expenses, books and supplies, housing and transportation.
- **Other Cal Grants Available**
  - Cal Grant A and B Entitlement Awards
  - Competitive Cal Grant A and B Awards
  - California Community College Transfer Entitlement Award

Pell Grant and Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) --awarded solely on demonstrated financial need to students who have not already earned a bachelor's or professional degree.

Federal Works-Study (FWS) -- A federally funded program that provides employment opportunities to students with financial need. Students awarded FWS receive an allocation of funds to be earned through part-time jobs on campus.

#### **Loans**

- Federal Perkins Loan. Provides low-interest (5%) loans to students who demonstrate need.
- Federal Stafford Loan. Two types of Stafford Loans:

Subsidized - awarded based on demonstrated financial need. The federal government pays the interest while you are in college.

Unsubsidized -- allows middle and higher-income students to borrow money for education costs. The interest rate is the same as the Subsidized Stafford Loan, but begins to accrue immediately once the loan is disbursed.

## Future Financial Aid for Teacher Candidates and Teachers

Cal Grant T: This award covers with the cost of tuition and fees for one academic year for students who have a bachelor's degree or higher and are working towards a teaching credential. As a condition of receiving a Cal Grant T award, a recipient must teach for one year at a low-performing public school for each \$2,000 of award money received, for a maximum of four years. If you do not complete the teaching service, the award must be repaid.

### Fifth-year Cal Grant A and B Awards

This award provides an additional year of grant assistance for Cal Grant recipients who are enrolled in teaching credential programs. The award amounts are based on the type of four-year university attended (CSU, UC, or independent).

### Assumption Program of Loans for Education (APLE)

This is a competitive teacher incentive program designed to encourage outstanding elementary and secondary teaching candidates to serve in critical shortage areas. Under this program \$11,000 can be assumed in outstanding educational loans in return for four years of consecutive teaching service in a California K-12 public school; and up to \$8,000 more for those who teach in low-performing schools and teach math, science or special education. For more information log on to

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

### Federal Loan Forgiveness for Teachers

This program allows certain teachers to have up to \$5,000 of their federal Stafford student loan forgiven in exchange for five consecutive years of teaching service at a qualified low-income school. For more information on loans that may be forgiven log on to [www.ed.gov/offices/OSFAP/Students/repayment/teachers/](http://www.ed.gov/offices/OSFAP/Students/repayment/teachers/)

## How Do I Apply for Financial Aid?

The application process for all federal, state and college financial aid programs begins by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). FAFSA forms are available in the Financial Aid Office – C 324, Counseling Center – Conlan Hall E205, Teacher Preparation Center – Bungalow 213 or on-line at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). Students who begin a financial aid file at CCSF will gain more accessibility to financial aid programs upon transferring to a four-year university.

### For Assistance in Completing the FAFSA

- City College of San Francisco Financial Aid Office (415) 239-3917
- California Student Aid Commission 1-888-CA GRANT (1-888-224-7268) or [www.csac.ca.gov](http://www.csac.ca.gov).

## Financial Aid Checklist

1. Obtain the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
2. Complete the FAFSA. Use estimates if you or your parents have not yet completed your federal tax return.
3. File or send the FAFSA as soon as possible after January 1. Deadline for Cal Grant deadline is **March 2**.
4. If applying for a Cal Grant, make sure you complete a GPA verified through your college or high school. The California Student Aid Commission must receive your verified GPA no later than March 2.
5. Apply for scholarships. The City College of San Francisco College Scholarship Office publishes a scholarship booklet available in November. The SAC Scholarship deadline is generally some time during the first week of March. Also, a good scholarship search available on the web at <http://www.fastweb.com>
6. Get a certificate of mailing for the GPA Verification Form and FAFSA, or the FAFSA signature page, if you'll be mailing them, to verify you met the deadlines.
7. Keep a photocopy or printout of everything you send.

## School – District Assistance

Many school districts help future teachers with financial incentives. Financial incentives for credentialed teachers range from housing subsidies to hiring bonuses. Additionally, some districts assist future teachers by paying for their education. Para-educator programs pay for the educational expenses of para-educators (teacher –aides) while they work and attend school. University partnership programs may provide tuition reimbursement to emergency permit teachers attending credential programs while teaching. For instance, San Francisco Unified School District has both a para-educator training program and a menu of incentives at <http://www.sfusd.edu>