

Questions from Students About Applying for Aid

I am a prospective student applying to UC Merced for the 2012-13 academic year. What types of aid will I be eligible for under the California Dream Act (AB 130 and AB 131)? How do I apply?

As a prospective student for the 2012-13 academic year, you may be eligible for all UC Merced scholarships that are derived from private, non-state funds for the fall 2012 semester and the spring 2013 semester, and you may be eligible for all UC Merced grants and scholarships for the spring 2013 semester including those derived from private, non-state funds as well as those derived from state funds.

You apply for this aid by completing the [2012-13 UC Merced Undergraduate Dream Act Aid Application](#). The priority deadline is March 2, 2012. If you fail to meet this deadline, please complete the Dream Act Application and contact the Financial Aid and Scholarships Office for further instructions.

To be eligible for grant aid, you must qualify for an [AB 540 nonresident tuition exemption](#), and you must be ineligible for federal financial aid. To be eligible for scholarship aid, you must also have an entry GPA of 3.25 or above. We encourage you to complete and submit the [University of California Nonresident Tuition Exemption Form](#) as soon as possible after you have been notified of your admission to UC Merced.

I live in another state now, but I am planning to move to California to attend college. Am I eligible for California Dream Act aid?

No. You must qualify for an [AB 540 nonresident tuition exemption](#) in order to receive California Dream Act Aid. To receive an AB 540 nonresident tuition exemption, you must have attended a California high school for at least three full years and you must have graduated from a California high school.

I am from another state and am currently a nonresident student at UC Merced. Am I eligible for California Dream Act aid?

No. You must qualify for an [AB 540 nonresident tuition exemption](#) in order to receive California Dream Act aid. To receive an AB 540 nonresident tuition exemption, you must have attended a California high school for at least three full years and you must have graduated from a California high school.

I am an international student. Am I eligible for a California Dream Act aid?

No. You must qualify for an [AB 540 nonresident tuition exemption](#) in order to receive California Dream Act aid. To receive an AB 540 nonresident tuition exemption, you must have attended a California high school for at least three full years and you must have graduated from a California high school.

Is this a one-time award, or can I apply every year?

You will need to reapply for financial aid every year.

When will I be eligible for a Cal Grant?

The AB 131 part of the California Dream Act allows all students who qualify for an [AB 540 nonresident](#) (CSAC) has announced that the first Cal Grants available as a result of this law will be awards for the 2013-14 academic year, beginning in fall 2013.