

NEWSLETTER

STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES



Why Apply for Financial Aid?

Submitting a financial aid application is the single most important thing you can do to get money for college. Most students receive some type of aid, so you should submit an application even if you don't think you qualify. The time you spend completing an application could translate into hundreds or even thousands of dollars that can help you pay for college.

Important Reminders

APRIL 22-25: Financial Aid Awareness Week

MAY 2: Cal Grant priority deadline extension

MAY 18: MVC Open House

FA PORTAL: mvc.studentforms.com

Contact SFS



(951) 571-6139



StudentFinancialServices@mvc.edu



MVC Welcome Center

SPRING 2024

SUPPORT SERVICES

FAFSA/CADAA

STATE GRANTS

RESOURCES

SCHOLARSHIPS

PROFESSIONAL
JUDGEMENT

FINANCIAL WELLNESS

SFS OUTREACH

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

SAP

STUDENT VOICES

All applications for financial assistance programs (i.e. student loans, work compensation, grants, scholarships, special funds, subsidies, prizes, etc.) will be considered by the Riverside Community College District without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies or practices: District Compliance Officer, 3801 Market Street, Riverside, CA 92501, or (951) 222-8039

Support Services

Welcome Center

Take advantage of our in-person services in the Welcome Center for assistance with all of your financial aid needs. From the application process to navigating the world of financial aid and scholarships, SFS is ready to assist you. Visit the lobby desk in the Welcome Center and you'll be directed to our front counter.



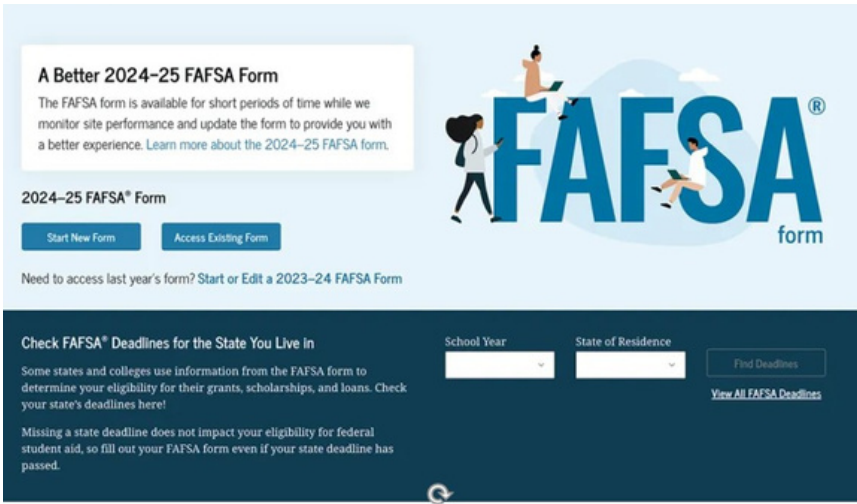
Online Services

ConexED is a platform that allows students to connect with departments and services online, regardless of your physical location. With ConexEd, you can drop in to virtual offices, make appointments, send messages and ask important questions to the SFS team. [Sign in to ConexED](#) using your student email and password.

SFS Counselors

Are you considering withdrawing from a course or are in danger of not passing a course? Have you received a financial aid warning email? Have you received a financial aid ineligible email? Need to create or update your Student Educational Plan (SEP)? [Schedule an appointment](#) with an SFS Counselor.





FAFSA

If you need financial assistance to pay for college, don't miss out! Submit the FAFSA, include Moreno Valley College's school code 041735 on your application, and ensure your social security number is on file with Admissions and Records. Federal and state funds, including grants and

scholarships, remain available for scholars year-round. Submitting the FAFSA is the first step. Check your file status and complete pending actions at the MVC StudentForms financial aid portal and follow up on all requests from SFS.

[APPLY NOW >](#)

CADAA

There are many financial aid options for undocumented/dreamer students. If you are undocumented and have been determined AB 540 eligible by Admissions and Records, submit the California Dream Act Application (CADAA) and include the MVC school code 04173500. CADAA information is private! The CADAA does not link applicant



information to federal government databases. The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) keeps CADAA applicant data confidential. CADAA data will not be shared with, or disclosed to, any federal agencies, including immigration enforcement.

[APPLY NOW >](#)

California has two primary financial aid applications. Students will only submit one or the other, never both.

Pro Tips For Completing the 2024-2025 FAFSA Form

FULL ARTICLE >



GET A STUDENTAID.GOV ACCOUNT BEFORE STARTING THE FAFSA

Before starting the FAFSA form, you'll need to [create a StudentAid.gov account](#) to access and fill out the 2024–25 form. Your contributors will each need their own StudentAid.gov account too and should also be created before they enter the FAFSA.

HAVE YOUR DOCUMENTS READY

Starting with 2024–25 form, you'll be able to provide consent and approval to have most of your financial information imported directly from the IRS, but you should keep your tax return handy for additional questions.

HAVE YOUR CONTRIBUTOR INFORMATION READY

To invite contributors to your FAFSA form, you'll be asked to provide their first and last name, SSN (if they have one), date of birth, and email address (or mailing address, if they don't have an SSN). To avoid issues with your FAFSA form, list contributor information exactly as it appears on their Social Security card or legal identification card.

THE STUDENT SHOULD COMPLETE YOUR SECTION OF THE FORM FIRST

If you don't start the form first, or if you and your contributors are working in your form at the same time, your contributors may have more difficulty completing their section or may even spend time providing information that's not required. Starting the form first will also prevent data entry mistakes, such as your parent accidentally entering their own information when they should be entering yours. Once you've completed your section, be sure to send invitations to all contributors to your form before saving and exiting.

READ QUESTIONS AND DEFINITIONS CAREFULLY

There've been major updates to the FAFSA form for the 2024–25 award year, and many questions and definitions have changed. When filling out your form, read each question and definition carefully. *Click the link above to view some terms that are new or have newly updated definitions for the 2024–25 form.

CONSULT IN-FORM RESOURCES IF YOU NEED HELP

Use the help text and help articles (accessible via the question mark icon) embedded in the form if you're not sure how to answer a question. Changing your answers to questions that impact your eligibility for aid may create errors in the form. If you change your answer to the Marital Status, Citizenship, State of Legal Residence questions, you may need to delete your form and start over to fix the error.

YOU CAN CORRECT YOUR FAFSA MISTAKES

You'll be able to correct the error as soon as your form is processed.



WebGrants for Students (WG4S)

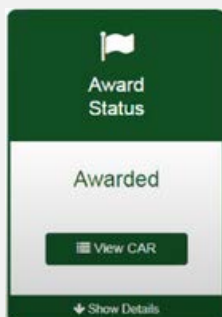
The WebGrants 4 Students (WG4S) portal is to provide students with the resources, information and tools needed to assist with the college financial aid process. (WG4S) will allow you to manage your Cal Grant and/or Chafee account(s) online by letting you view updates, make school changes, make address changes, and post leave of absence requests. Note: your WG4S account does not replace your School or FAFSA accounts. Each account must be monitored and managed independently.

Students should monitor their WebGrants 4 Students portal to confirm their award status for the Cal Grant and the Chafee Grant for foster youth. Follow the links to [Create Your Account](#) and [Accessing and Navigating WG4S](#).

TO-DO LIST

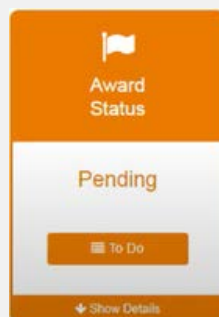
- Check your award status and award amount.
- Verify if there are any pending items or forms that still need to be completed.
- Confirm that your school of attendance is MVC. This refers to the college you plan to attend, not your high school.
- Verify that your GPA was received.
- Verify your high school graduation date. This will become available on the 1st day of the month of your planned graduation.
- Students with Dependents can certify your eligibility.
- Chafee Grant recipients can check that your "Department of Social Services Record" is complete to verify your foster youth status.

CHECK YOUR AWARD STATUS



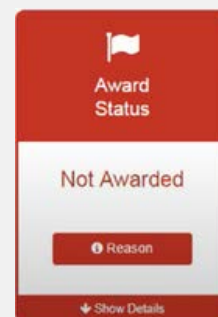
Awarded

Confirm your award status and amount for the Cal Grant and the Chafee Grant for foster youth.



Pending

If your status is Pending, click on the "To Do" list to determine next steps.



Not Awarded

If your status is Not Awarded, click the "Reason" button to learn more and consult with SFS or CSAC if for any errors.

Cal Grant Access Awards

Students With Dependent Children (SWD)

The Students with Dependent Children (SWD) Grant increases the Cal Grant award by up to \$6,000 for qualifying Cal Grant B recipients and up to \$4,000 for qualifying Cal Grant C recipients.

To qualify, the student must have dependent children under 18 years of age for whom they provide more than half of their financial support during the academic year and indicate they have a child/children on their FAFSA or CADAA. About a week after submitting your application, log in to your [WebGrants for Students account](#) to self-certify your dependent children to complete the certification for your award.



Cal Grant B for Foster Youth

This access award provides current and former foster youth increased Cal Grant eligibility of up to \$6,000 per year, renewal for the equivalent of eight years of full-time attendance in an undergraduate program, they have until age 26 to apply for the Cal Grant High School Entitlement Award, and they can apply for a High School Entitlement award through September 2, at a California Community College. Students can receive this access award in addition to the Chafee Grant.



24-25 Program Update

The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) announced significant changes to the state's Chafee Grant Program. Starting in the 2024-25 academic year, Chafee Education and Training Vouchers will no longer be treated as "other financial assistance" or be counted against the cap on how much financial aid a student can receive. This change will enable eligible Chafee Grant recipients to access the full \$5,000 award amount and, in some instances, receive a total financial aid package that exceeds their Cost of Attendance.



Student Success Completion Grant (SSCG)

The Student Success Completion Grant is administered by the California Community Colleges and provides a grant award to students that are enrolled in 12 or more units, receive the Cal Grant B or C, and are California residents or meet the requirements for a non-resident tuition exemption. Students must also meet Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) standards to receive the SSCG.

Eligibility for non-foster students:

- Students enrolled in at least 12 but fewer than 15 semester units receive **\$1298 per semester** (\$2596 annually).
- Students enrolled in 15 or more semester units receive **\$4,000 per semester** (\$8,000 annually).

SSCG Increase for Foster Youth

SB 117 increased the grant amount for current and former foster youth beginning with the 2023-2024 academic year. Current and former foster youth is defined as a person whose dependency was established or continued on or after the age of 13. Current and former foster youth students enrolled in 12 or more units receive **\$5,250** per semester.

CAL GRANT PRIORITY DEADLINE EXTENSION

The Department of Education has announced that due to the later than usual FAFSA and CADAA release date, the Cal Grant priority application deadline has been extended from March 2, 2024 to **May 2, 2024**. This change will allow students additional time to submit their FAFSA's and ensure their GPA has been submitted for 2024-25 Cal Grant consideration.

For more information about Cal Grant eligibility requirements, visit the [California Student Aid Commission \(CSAC\)](#) website and get answers to all of your Cal Grant questions in the [FAQ section](#).

The California Dream Act Service Incentive Grant (DSIG)

This program encourages CADAA students that have been awarded a Cal Grant A or B, to participate in a community or volunteer service activity. The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) will award up to \$4,500 per academic year (up to \$2,250 per semester) to eligible students, after completing 150 service hours per semester (a total of 300 service hours from July 1 through June 30).

Eligible students must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress standards, demonstrate sufficient financial need, be enrolled at least half-time, and complete any necessary verification for their Cal Grant A or B award. Applicant's should review the [DSIG Overview for Students](#) information page and contact Lorena.Valencia@mvc.edu.



Students can volunteer on campus here at Moreno Valley College! MVC centers and departments can host volunteers as well.



Free Legal Assistance for MVC Dreamers

The Perris-based legal center provides local residents with free DACA renewal application, legal and USCIS fee help. Take advantage of their free services by filling out [the online application form](#). A TODEC staff member will follow up with your request. You will receive a telephone call from their scheduling department 1 to 4 business days after your request is received, excluding Holidays observed and Weekends Support is available in both English and Spanish.

Public Benefit Finder for California Students

California Competes

We know college expenses can pile up fast, from tuition to rent and groceries. But, numerous public benefit programs, such as student financial aid, cash aid, and food assistance, can help students lighten the load. Use the [Public Benefit Finder for California Students](#) to identify key supports and resources that can make college costs manageable.



Think of this tool as a personal guide to over 30 different programs designed to meet the financial needs of California students. This tool makes it simple to find the benefits to which students are entitled. Start using the Public Benefit Finder today to ensure financial worries do not hold students back from realizing their college dreams.

Accessing Vital Documents for Youth Experiencing Homelessness

If you were born in California, find out how you can [access your free birth certificate and ID](#), if any one of these situations applies to you:

You are staying in a home that is not yours, your parent's or legal guardian's because you had to leave your home.

You are in an unstable living situation, without a safe or steady home.

You are sleeping in a motel, car, tent, abandoned building, or public place.

You are staying in a shelter or transitional living program.



FREE!



NO SIGNATURE REQUIRED!

Need a birth certificate or ID for free?

California state laws give children and youth experiencing homelessness the right to get their birth certificates and IDs at no cost and without the signature of a parent or guardian.



Foundation Scholarship Update

Foundation Scholarship offers for 2024-25 will be announced late May. Be sure to log into the scholarship site promptly to accept scholarship offers. Recipients will begin receiving disbursements in the 2024 fall term.

Scholarships

MVC encourages all students to regularly apply for scholarships to help ease the financial burden of attending college. Scholarships are financial aid awards designed to help you pay for your education. Scholarships can be a one-time award or renewable and may require that certain academic or demographic qualifications be met.

Visit the [Scholarship page at MVC.edu](#) to explore your options including:

- Annual scholarships offered by the RCCD Foundation
- Scholarships for transfer students
- Scholarships from external sources and community organizations
- Scholarships available directly to MVC students
- Scholarships for High School Seniors (application open January 1 to April 30, 2024)

What's Next?



If you have been selected as a RCCD scholarship recipient for the 2024-2025 academic year, there are steps you will need to take to accept your award. Visit [Accepting Awards and Disbursements](#) to learn about your next steps, including information about the recognition events and the disbursement of scholarship funds.



Dependency and EFC Appeals

SFS Consumer Guide

If you are unable to provide parent information on the 2024-2025 financial aid application, contact SFS at MVC to discuss your options. Students with unusual circumstances that prevent them from providing parent information will benefit from the simplified questions on the 2024-2025 FAFSA that more efficiently determine their independent status. Students who indicate unusual circumstances on their FAFSA form will

be granted provisionally independent status and will need to follow up with a financial aid administrator at MVC. The final determination of a student's dependency status will be evaluated based on an appeal submitted with official supporting documentation provided by the student, or a financial aid administrator may perform their own personal assessment.

A student cannot be determined to be independent for the following reasons: parents do not want to provide information on the FAFSA/CADAA due to privacy concerns, parents do not feel it is their responsibility to provide financial assistance for college, parents no longer claim you as a dependent on their taxes, or you are self-supporting and/or no longer live with your parents.

An EFC Appeal is also an option for students that have had a drastic change in income due to an unforeseen or special circumstance. If you feel you may qualify to have your income re-evaluated based on a more recent year, contact SFS to discuss your options.

For more information on Dependency and EFC Appeals, view the [SFS Consumer Guide](#).

In some circumstances, the Department of Education and Moreno Valley College will allow you to have your financial assistance eligibility re-evaluated.





Understanding Tax Credits

myfreeTaxes.org

Did you know that by simply filing your taxes, you may be eligible to unlock thousands of dollars in state and federal tax credits? Tax credits reduce the amount of tax you owe, and depending on the tax credit, may give you cash back even if you don't owe any taxes or earned any income. Whether you're filing your taxes online on your own, with virtual help, or with in-person help, you may be eligible to receive multiple tax credits – so make sure you file both your state and federal tax returns for the 2023 tax year by the April 15, 2024, deadline to maximize your money back this year!

Here are some tax credits you may qualify for:

- **Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)**
- **CA Earned Income Tax Credit (CalEITC)**
- **Child Tax Credit (CTC)**
- **Young Child Tax Credit (YCTC)**
- **Foster Youth Tax Credit (FYTC)**
- **Nonrefundable Renter's Credit**
- **Child and/or Dependent Care**
- **and more!**

View the [Understanding Tax Credits Guide](#), which discusses eligibility requirements for these and other tax credits.



Curious about what tax credits you may qualify for?

Explore the [Tax Credit Calculator](#) at [myfreeTaxes.org](#) to get your tax credit estimate!

\$1,117 Tax Credit for Current & Former Foster Youth



File your taxes to claim the new \$1,117 California Foster Youth Tax Credit!

Claiming the new Foster Youth Tax Credit:

✔ File Your CA State Return

Check “Yes” on the Foster Youth Tax Credit boxes stating that you qualify.

✔ Age

You were 18-25 years old on December 31, 2023.

✔ Identification

You have a Social Security Number or Individual Tax Identification Number.

✔ Foster Care

You were in foster care on or after your 13th birthday.

✔ Income

You earned between \$1 - \$30,931 from any work in 2023.

✔ Residence

You lived in California more than half of 2023.



FREE filing support available.
Scan or **click** to learn more.

<https://jbay.org/resources/fytc/>





SFS Outreach

Canvas Student Resources

SFS has joined Canvas with its own shell, where students will find straight-forward access to financial aid tutorials, videos, announcements and other valuable information. Interested students can enroll using the link below. Access the [SFS Canvas Shell Link](#).

Canvas Faculty Resources

We have designed an MVC Financial Aid Module that instructors can download from *Canvas Commons* and upload to their shells. This module will be updated each semester to guarantee it provides the most accurate information available.

You also have the option to include Financial Aid Statements to any syllabus. The long and short versions each has its own QR code. Choose the option that best fits your syllabus' needs and format. Email carolina.arriaga-sosa@mvc.edu for assistance.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Do You Have Class Time To Spare?

Request a **Financial Aid Class Presentation**, and help us educate students about financial aid benefits and resources. Contact the SFS Outreach Specialist at carolina.arriaga-sosa@mvc.edu



Student Employment

What Is It?

Part-time opportunities to work on campus, earn money to pay for educational expenses, gain work experience, and have a flexible work schedule.

What Are The Requirements?

- MVC is your Home College
- Enrolled in 6 units (fall/spring)
- Enrolled in 3 units (winter/summer)
- Maintain a minimum cumulative 2.0 GPA
- Have a valid Social Security card and picture ID

Federal Work-Study positions also require:

- A complete FAFSA application and financial aid file
- Meet SFS Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

How Do I Apply?

- View the [RCCD Job Board](#) on the **Information for Students** menu tab
- Select Student Employment (District Jobs/Federal Work Study Jobs)

Can't find the job you're looking for? Try our new online option!

The Share Your Interest form allows you to provide education and employment history, along with your current major, career goals, and abilities to the Student Employment office. We will use this form to try and match you with an available Student Employment position on or off-campus. You will need to complete a new form every year by visiting mvc.edu/se and selecting the [Share Your Interest](#) link.



**CURRENT POSITIONS
AVAILABLE**

Tutor

Peer Mentor

Student Aide



CONTACT US



(951) 571-6294



StudentEmployment@mvc.edu



Welcome Center , Student Employment Desk

Understanding Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

SAP REQUIREMENTS AND FINANCIAL AID ELIGIBILITY

**2.0
GPA**

To remain eligible for financial aid, you must meet the minimum cumulative GPA requirement.

**67%
Completion**

You must, at a minimum, receive satisfactory grades in 67% of cumulative credits attempted.

**150%
Timeframe**

You must complete your program of study before attempting 150% of the credits required for your program.

SAP STATUSES



SATISFACTORY

You meet all requirements and are eligible for financial aid.

Keep up the good work!

TAKE ACTION

- Strive for a grade of C or better in all of your courses.
- Before you drop a class, check with Student Services.
- Maintain good study habits and continue towards your goal!



WARNING

You haven't met one or more requirements for one term. You're eligible for aid but you must meet all requirements by the end of the next term.

TAKE ACTION

- Evaluate what is preventing you from meeting academic requirements.
- Take advantage of your resources and visit with your instructors, financial aid, counseling, and tutorial services.



INELIGIBLE

You haven't met requirements for two consecutive terms and are no longer eligible. You may appeal to reinstate your financial aid.

TAKE ACTION

- File a SAP Appeal through your financial aid portal at StudentForms.
- Meet with a Student Financial Services Counselor.
- Speak with Student Financial Services for assistance.

Financial Aid Awareness Week

April 22-25

APRIL
22

Help Completing FAFSA
or CA Dream Act

12:50 - 1:50 pm
WC 103

APRIL
23

Satisfactory Academic
Progress (SAP) Appeal

12:50 - 1:50 pm
WC 103

APRIL
24

Financial Aid 101 &
Resources for Dreamers
12:50 - 1:50 pm in SAS 103

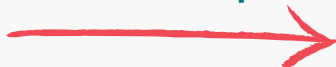
Satisfactory Academic
Progress (SAP) Appeal
6 - 7 pm, Online via Zoom

APRIL
25

Help Completing your
FAFSA or CA Dream Act

Noon-2 pm in SAS 103

Save Your Spot



CELEBRATE WITH MUSIC, FOOD AND PRIZES!

Students who start or complete their
2024-25 FAFSA or CA Dream Act
Application will receive LUNCH!

TUESDAY, APRIL 23
Ben Clark Education Center

Noon - 2 pm

THURSDAY, APRIL 25
Coudures Plaza

Noon - 2 pm

CONTACT US

(951) 571-6139

STUDENTFINANCIALSERVICES@MVC.EDU



MVC Student Voices

Financial aid has positively impacted the lives of many MVC students. Their experiences have the power to uplift and inspire current and future Mountain Lions!



“With the assistance of financial aid, I have been able to prevail in my academic journey. From the moment I applied for financial aid, the MVC financial aid team has continued to be incredibly supportive and responsive. The FWS program has also been an incredible experience that has not only provided me financial support but valuable hands-on experience. I am very grateful for financial aid as it has provided the opportunity to grow both academically and professionally.

- GISELLE PINEDA

Financial aid has been a tremendous help during my college journey. It has helped me by removing the stress of tuition, student fees, textbook prices, and even reducing student parking prices. It has helped me not have to worry about working in order to pay the cost of attendance and allowed me to focus on studying and getting good grades in order to transfer and succeed in achieving the career I want for myself. It has truly helped me a lot.

- ERIC ALVAREZ

It has been a harsh couple of months living out in the streets and trying to still make time for full time college. Everything was looking bleak and then I decided, what if the people at my college understood what I am going through and the things I am constantly trying to fix? I couldn't be the only one, right? I had pretty much given up all hope and knew this way was my only option. By the grace of God these wonderful people put me back on my feet. It was insane to see my whole world switch up and all my plans go flying out the door. It was horrifying and really does little for one's own health. I managed to speak to admissions and they were very helpful and trying to understand my current situation. I was out of money, no food or help from anyone and I was giving up. But that's when a certain therapist Hannah from college and human resources all agreed to help me out. They gave me a place to stay for a few weeks to get my life together. They provided shelter, food, water, money, and hope so I do not quit on my life. It paid off because to this day I am a better person for it. If it wasn't for Juan Carlos in Financial Aid, Admissions, and Ms. Hannah I don't know what I would have done. My life literally flipped around and I could get back to my studies. They even let me borrow a laptop. These people are a godsend and a blessing. A reminder to keep trying and stay motivated, no matter what. Regardless how hard things are, or how many tears are shed, or if anybody is there for you or not, MVC will always have their arms open and are ready to help. Right now, I have a 3.04 GPA on my transcript for my second year and that speaks for itself. Never quit on yourself, your goals, or MVC. A special thanks to Juan Carlos and the entire A&R staff. You are wonderful people, never change unless it's for the better. Thank you for being you and helping all of us truly in need.

- BRANDON CABRERA