# California Dream Act Application (CADAA) OVERVIEW

For The 2024-2025 Academic Year

CALIFORNIA
STUDENT AID
COMMISSION

# In Today's Webinar...

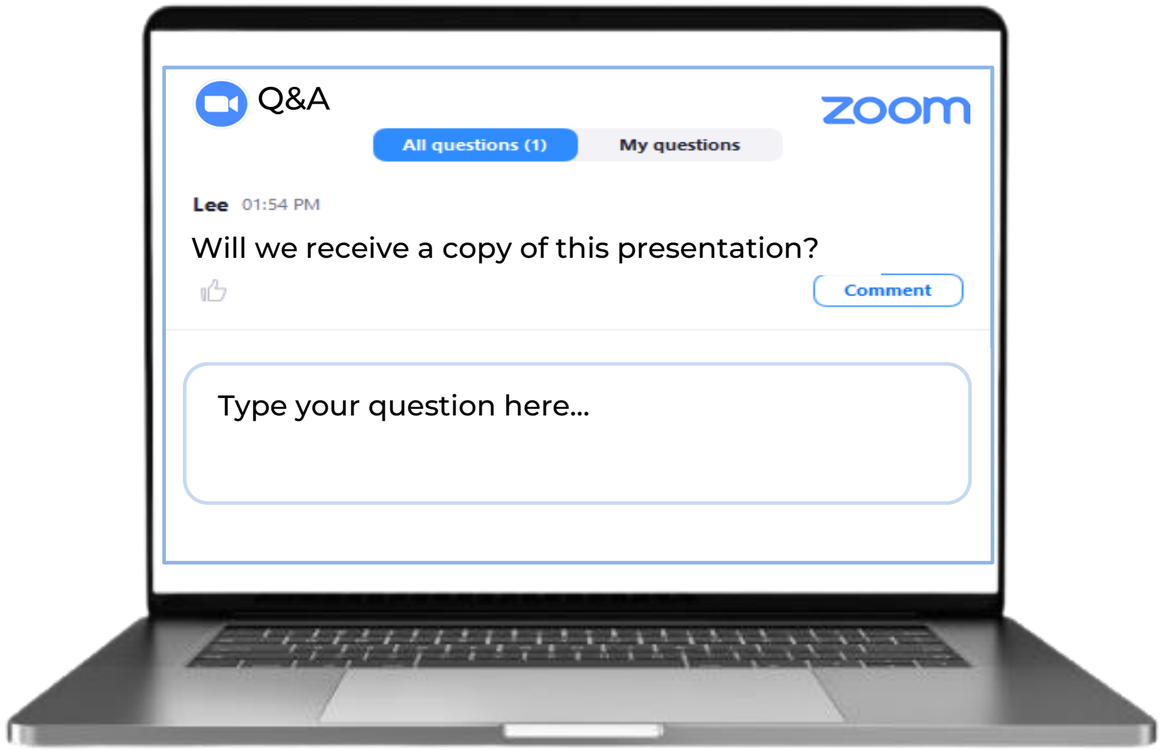
Attendee audio is muted to eliminate background noise

Please type your questions in the Q&A window vs the chat

Staff is available to answer your questions in real time in the Q&A window

The PDF of this webinar will be emailed to all attendees

This presentation will be recorded, and the recording will be made available to all registrants




| NOTE: Additional online trainings are scheduled | |
|---|---|
| 1/29/2024 | Full CADAA line-by-line |
| 2/5/2024 | FAFSA/CADAA updates |
| 2/22/2024 | FAFSA/CADAA updates |

Please contact the training team at **TRAINING@CSAC.CA.GOV** if you have any questions about this training

# Agenda

1. Quick review/AB 540 Eligibility
2. Changes to the 2024-25 Dream Act Application Home Page
3. Registering for an Account
4. Completing the Application
5. Signing the Application
6. Confirmation the Application is Complete

# Two Important Financial Aid Applications in California

- The FAFSA and the California Dream Act Application are both financial aid applications that do essentially the same thing for two different groups of students
- Both applications open the door to many types of important financial aid for college, including state aid, institutional aid, scholarships, loans and more depending on student eligibility
- It's vital that educators and other student advocates always talk about both applications when they are addressing students and their families
- Please remember that many students and families are reluctant to provide private information. Let them know that we are here to support them!

# Who Can Apply?

- Undocumented Students
- With or without DACA
- Temporary Protected Status (TPS)
- U Visa Holders

## Who is NOT eligible?

- Any visa holder (except U)
- US Citizens
- Legal Permanent Residents
- T-Visa holders
- Eligible Non-Citizens (per FAFSA) such as Refugee or Asylum Granted status

# AB 540 Eligibility

## PART ONE: Length of time & coursework completed per school

Three full-time (FT) years of attendance or attainment of part-time equivalent credits earned in a California:

- **High school**[1]
- **Adult school**[2] *(1 full-time year of attendance = min of 420 hrs/school year)*
- **Community College**
  - Credit courses[3] *(1 full-time year of attendance = 24 semester units or 36 quarter units)*
  - Noncredit courses *(1 full-time year of attendance = min of 420 hrs/school year)*
- **Or any combination of the above**

Or

Three years of high school coursework and three years of total attendance in a California:

- elementary school
- secondary school
- or any combination of these two.

## PART TWO: Degree completion, unit requirements, GED, etc.

Fulfill one of the following:

- Graduate from a CA high school
- Obtain a certificate of completion, GED, HiSet, or TASC in CA
- Attain an associate degree from a CA Community College
- Fulfill minimum transfer requirements for University of California or California State University

[1] California high schools must be established by the State Board of Education.

[2] California adult school must be established by: County Office of Education, Unified School District/High School District, or The Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

[3] SB 1141 removed the two year maximum for credit courses at CCCs.

# Why is the California Dream Act Application (CADAA) Changing?

The significant redesign to the 2024-2025 FAFSA required changes to the CADAA be made, such as calculating the Student Aid Index (SAI) in place of the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) and allowing students to list up to 20 colleges, etc.

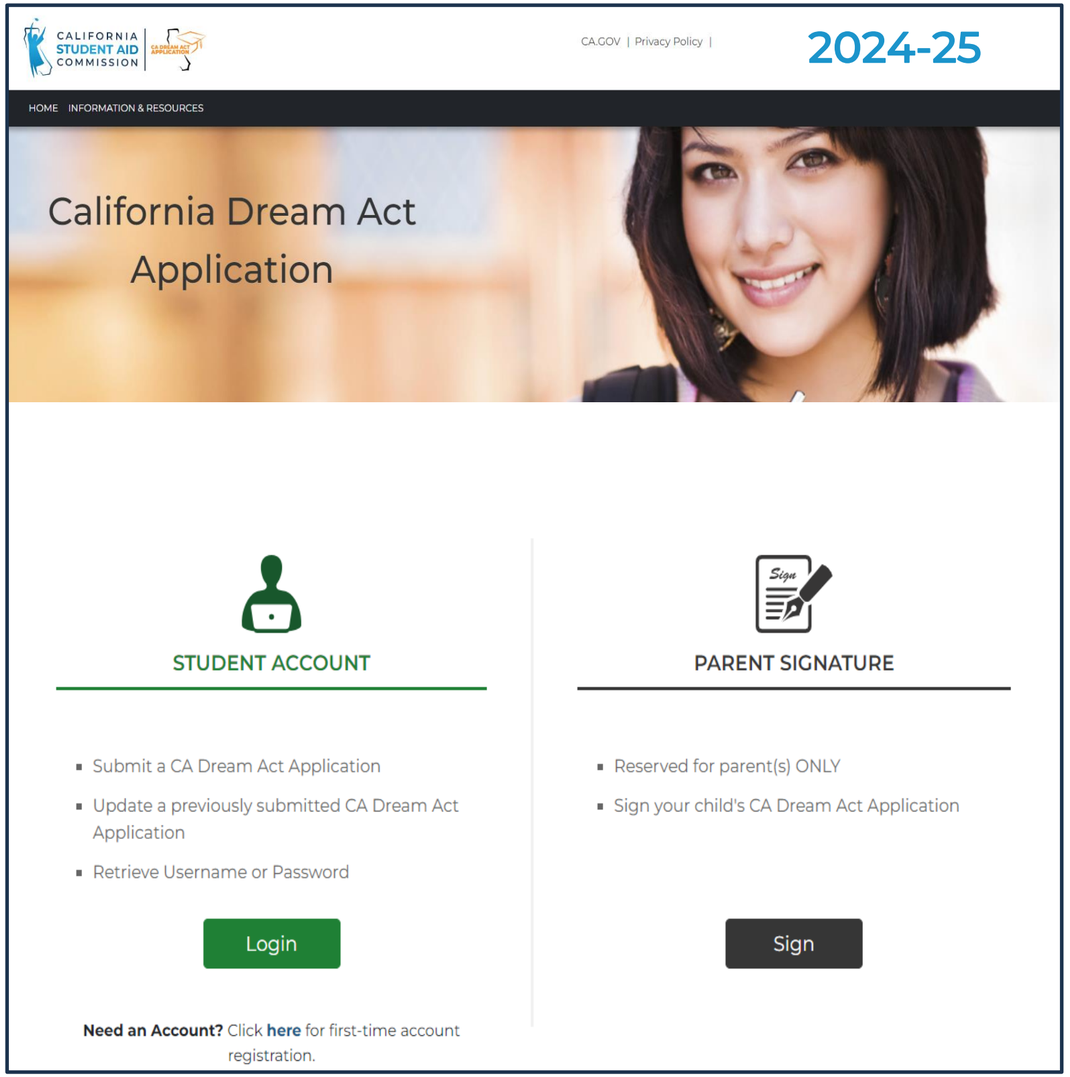
This also created an opportunity to make updates and enhancements to the application. For example:

- Streamlining the parent signature process
- Embedding the AB 540 affidavit into the application
- Creating a text message ‘opt-in’ question
- Allowing students to indicate interest in the California Dream Act Service Incentive Grant Program (DSIG)

# Changes to the CADAA Home Page

OLD WAY

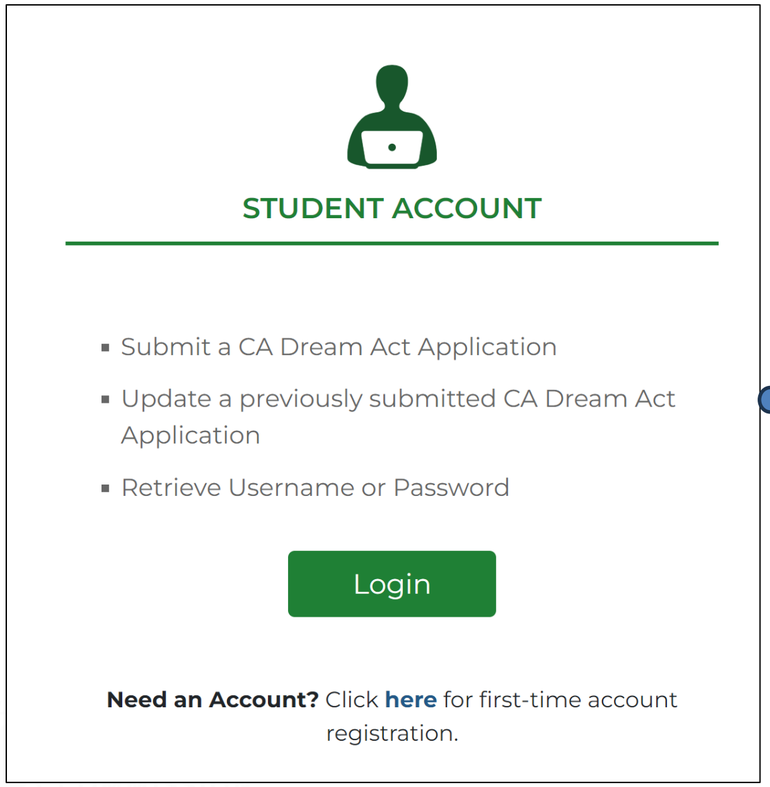
NEW WAY



# Changes to the CADAA Home Page

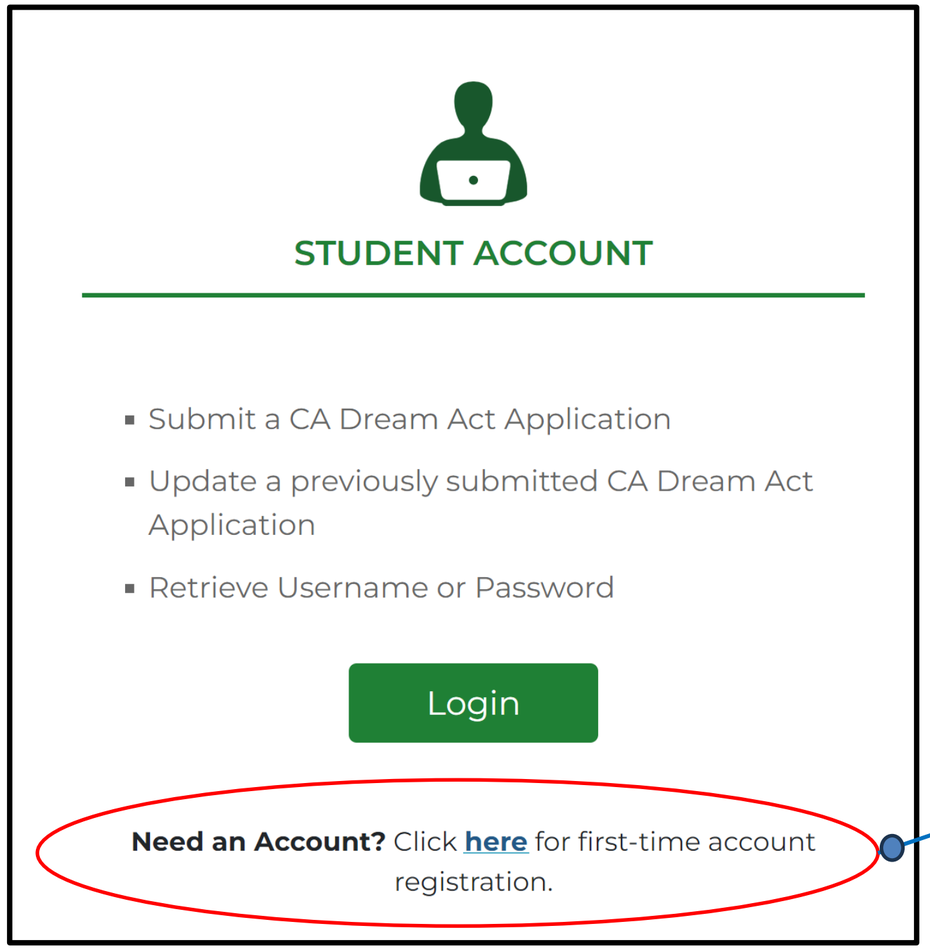
**Coming soon**

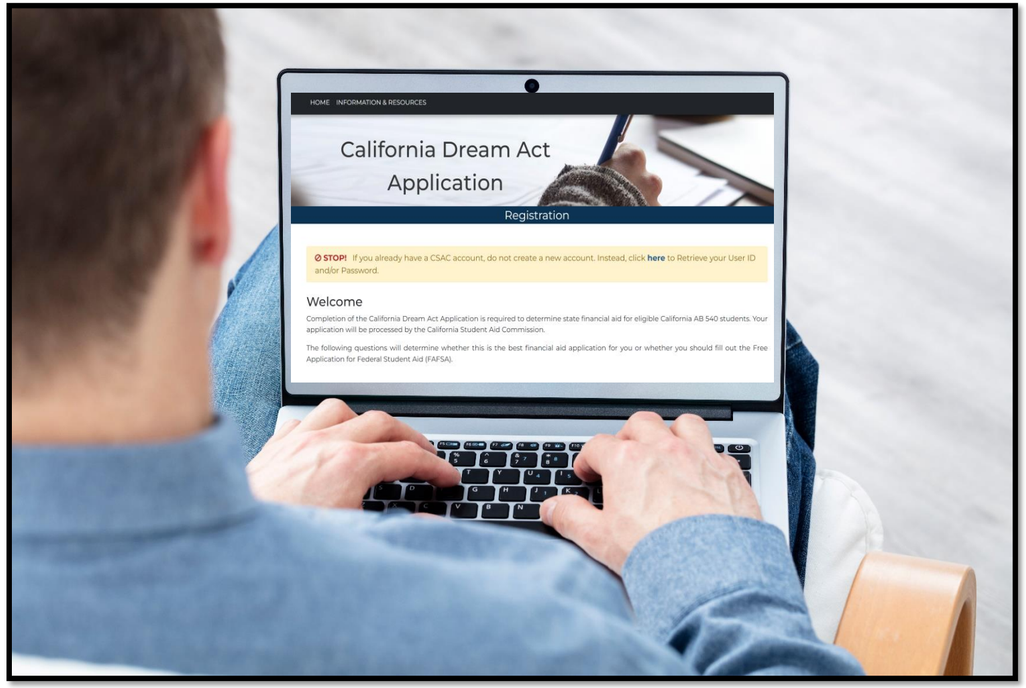
- 2024-25 English Paper Application
- 2024-25 Spanish Paper Application
- Additional CADAA Resources



The Parent signature link remains part of the CADAA home page

# Changes to the CADAA Home Page




Students will click here to start a new application

Applicants will be reminded not to create a new account if they already have a CSAC account

# 2024-25 California Dream Act Application

# Registration Process

# Completing the Registration

New applicants will click here to continue the application process

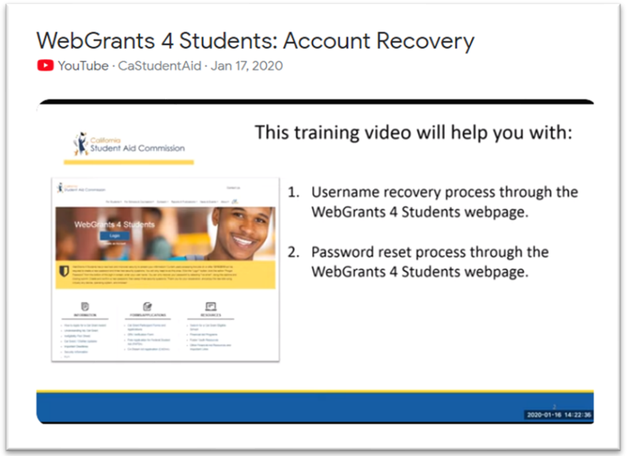
Clicking here will return the user to the CADAA home page

If a student has lost or forgotten their login information, they will need to contact CSAC Student Support

studentsupport@csac.ca.gov
888-224-7268

Available Videos

- Account Recovery
- Creating an Account



# Completing the Registration

If the student answers “Yes” to having a Social Security number, they will be asked if it is a DACA SSN on the following screen

Did you obtain your social security number after the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) granted you Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status **and** you received your social security number through an Employment Authorization Card **and** your card states it is for work purposes only?

○ Yes ○ No

Deferred Action refers to Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). More information on DACA can be found on USCIS website:

https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/consideration-of-deferred-action-for-childhood-arrivals-daca

and clicking the "Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Process" link.

Note: If you have Temporary Protected Status or hold a U Visa select "Yes"

# Completing the Registration

If the student answers **"No"** to having a Social Security Number, they will be asked if they meet AB 540 criteria on the following screen. If a student does meet the criteria, they should check **yes** on the AB 540 question.

Do you meet the AB540 criteria list below? ● Yes ○ No

1. Satisfaction of either of the following:
   A. High school attendance in California for three or more years, **OR**
   B. Attainment of credits earned in California from a California high school equivalent to three or more years of full-time high school coursework and a total of three or more years of attendance in California elementary schools, California secondary schools, or a combination of those schools. **OR**
   C. Attainment of credits earned at a California adult school, **OR**
   D. Credits earned at a California Community College, **OR**
   E. A combination of the schools listed above
2. Graduated or will graduate from a California high school, **OR**
   Attainment of General Education Development (GED), High School Equivalency Test (HiSET), Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC), **OR**
   Attainment of an associate degree from a California Community College, **OR**
   Fulfillment of minimum transfer requirements from a California Community College to a University of California or California State University, **AND**
3. Will register or enroll in an accredited and qualifying California college or university, **AND**
4. If applicable, complete(d) an affidavit to legalize immigration status as soon as you are eligible, **AND**
5. Do not hold a valid non-immigrant visa (F, J, H, L, A, B, C, D, E, etc.)*

*Note: If you have Temporary Protected Status or hold a U Visa select "Yes"

YES

If the student meets AB 540 criteria, based on how they responded to the skip logic questions, they will be able to start the application.

Note: If the student has indicated that they do not meet AB 540 criteria or CSAC is unable to determine their eligibility to complete a California Dream Act Application, they will receive the following message:

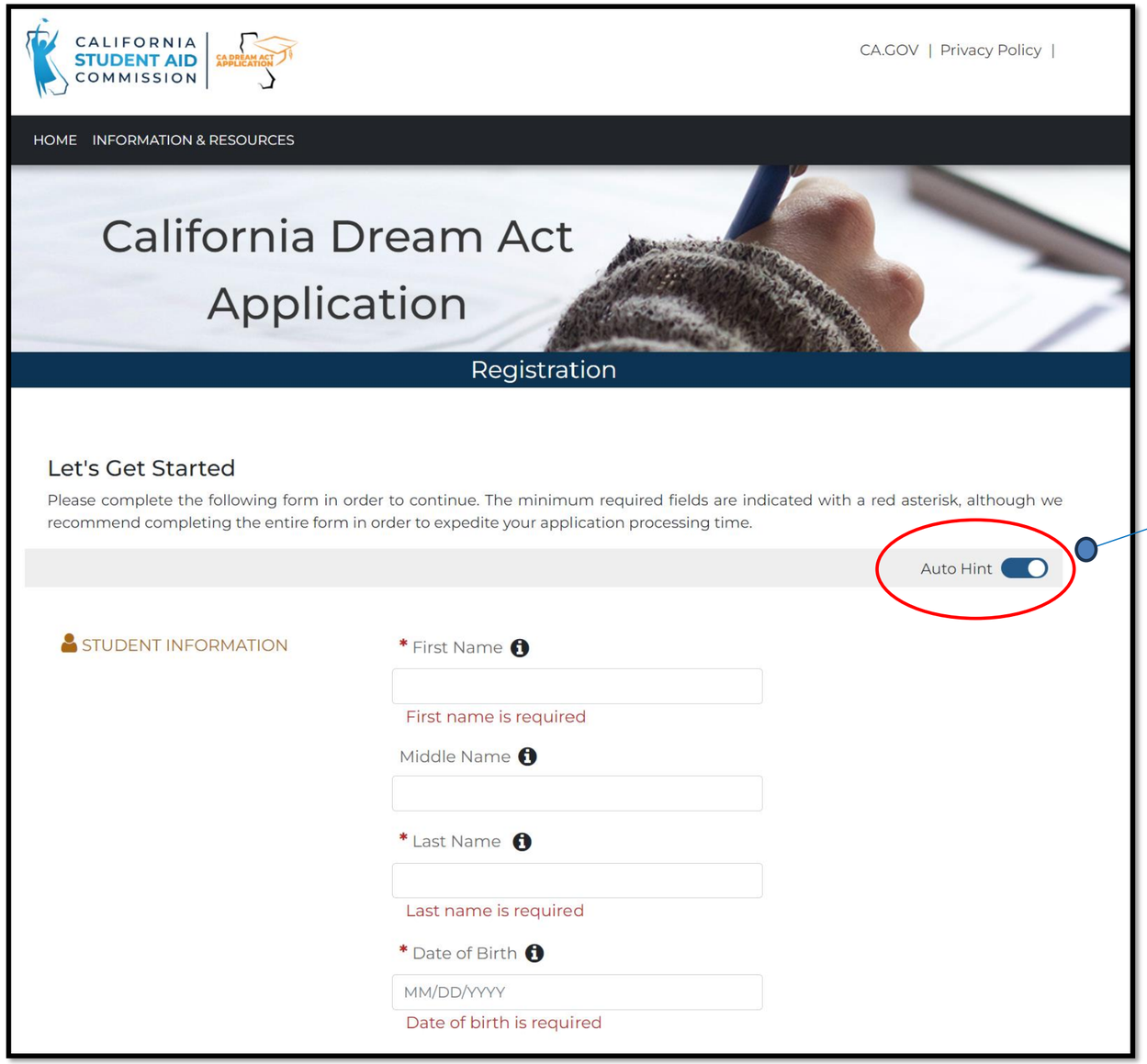
"*We encourage you to speak with your high school counselor or an administrator in the financial aid office at the college you plan to attend for guidance.*"

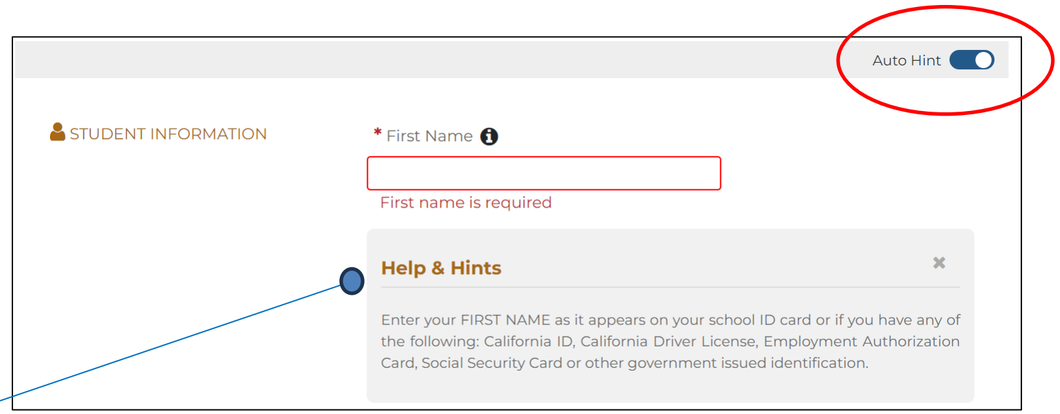
NO

If the student does not meet the criteria, based on how they responded to the skip logic questions, they will be unable to start the application. A link to the FAFSA is provided.

# Completing the Registration

# Completing the Registration



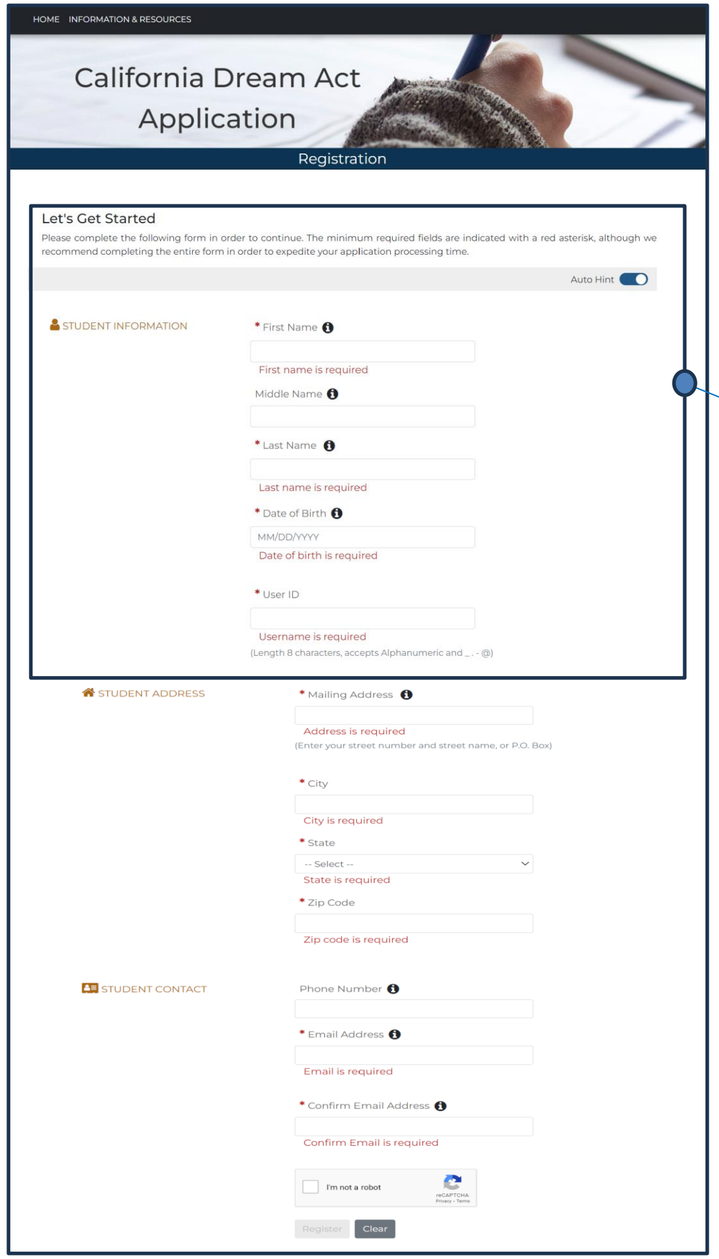

The **Auto Hint** feature can be toggled on and off. It defaults to ‘on’ in the CADAA registration section

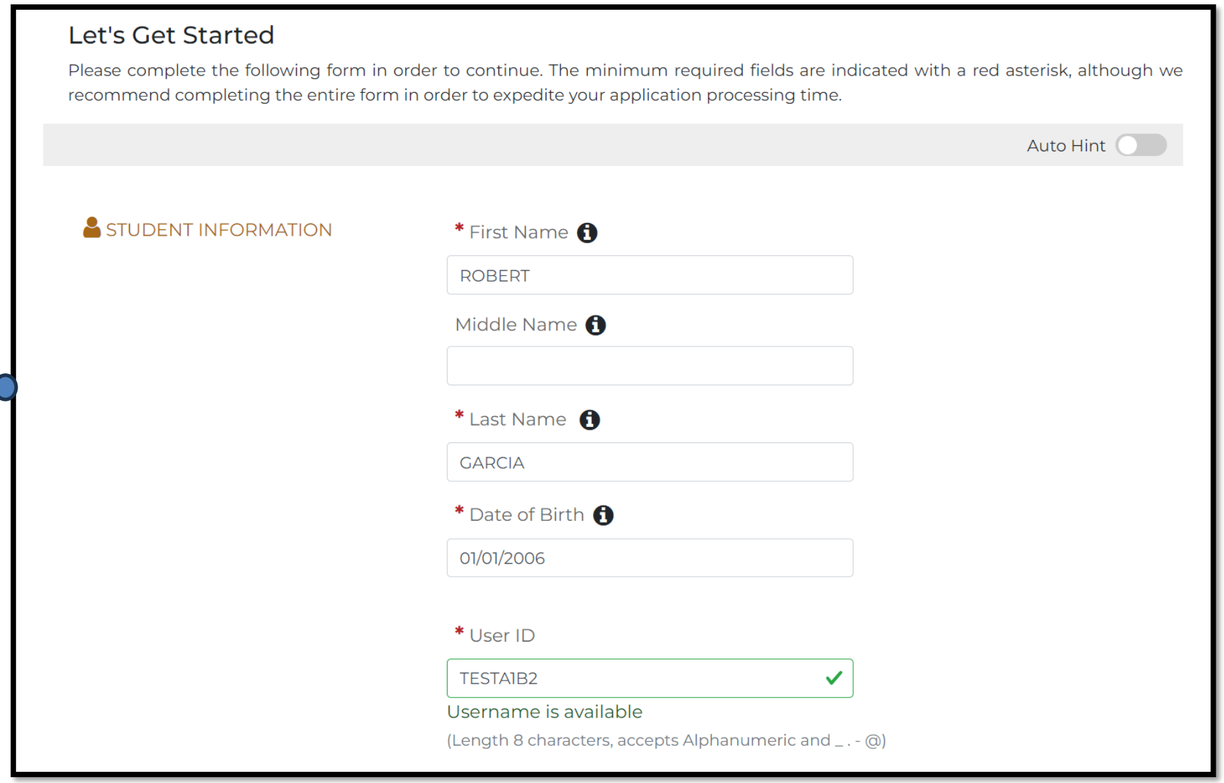
When on, Help & Hints will be provided for many of the questions asked

Clicking on the icon will also show Help & Hints for a particular question

Any question on the CADAA with a red asterisk requires an answer

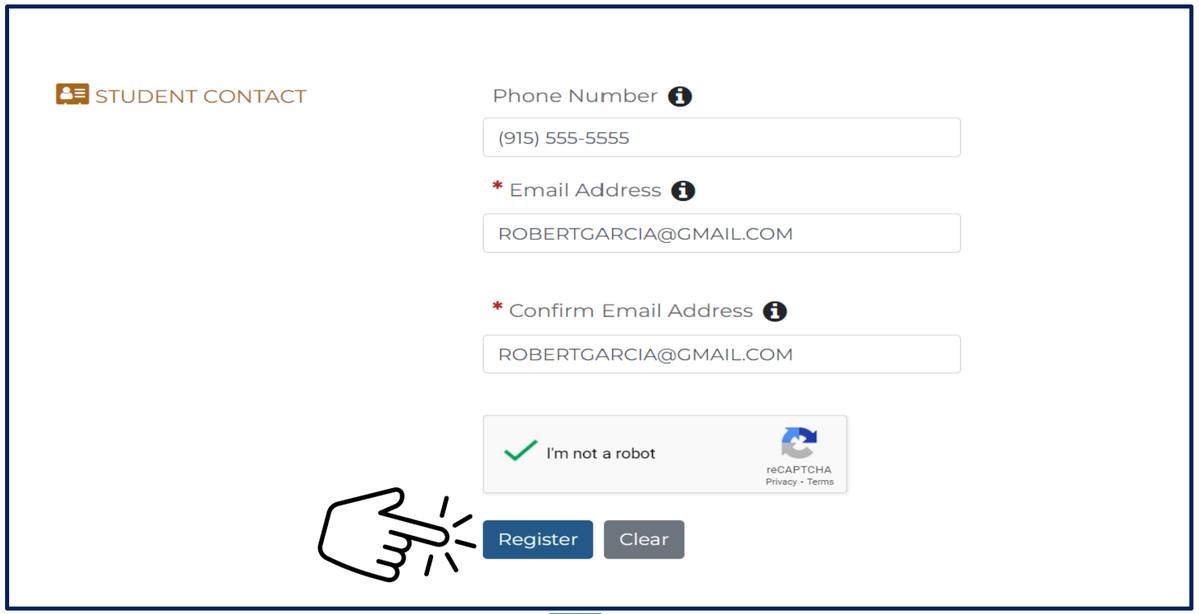
# Completing the Registration



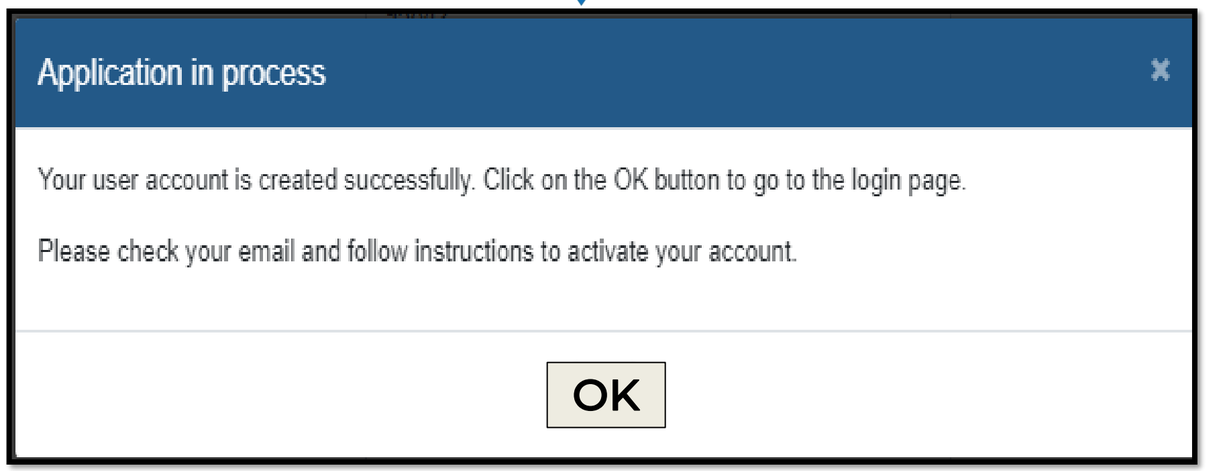

- Students should provide their proper, legal name as found on their documentation and/or birth certificate
- If the last name(s) exceed the space provided, students should just put as many letters as possible in that space
- The User ID will be confirmed as available by adding a green checkmark next to the provided name

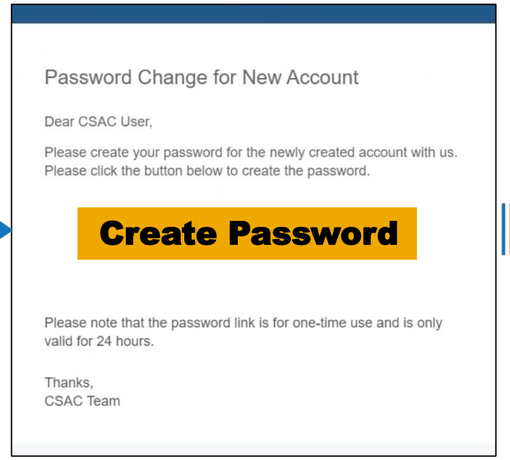
# Next Steps…

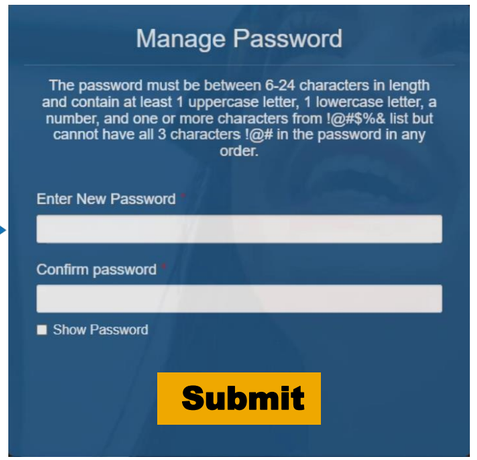



1. Once a student has successfully completed the registration process and established their User ID, they will see a pop-up window advising them that the account has been created
2. Next, students must check their email for a link to create their password. Please note that the password link is for one-time use and is only valid for 24 hours.
3. Students will click on the link in the email message to enter and confirm their password.

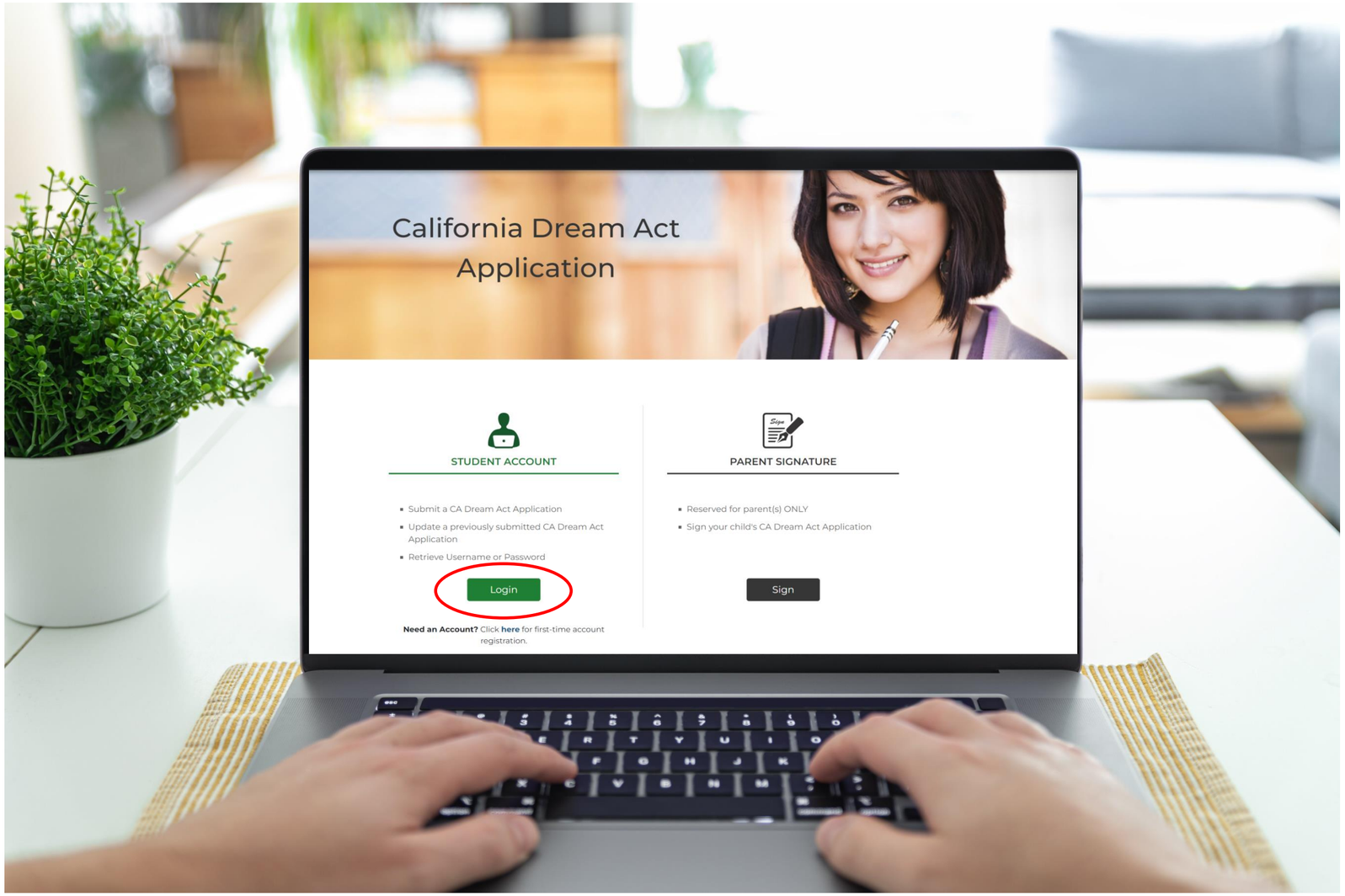
## Check e-mail & follow pop-up instructions



# Create Password & Security Questions

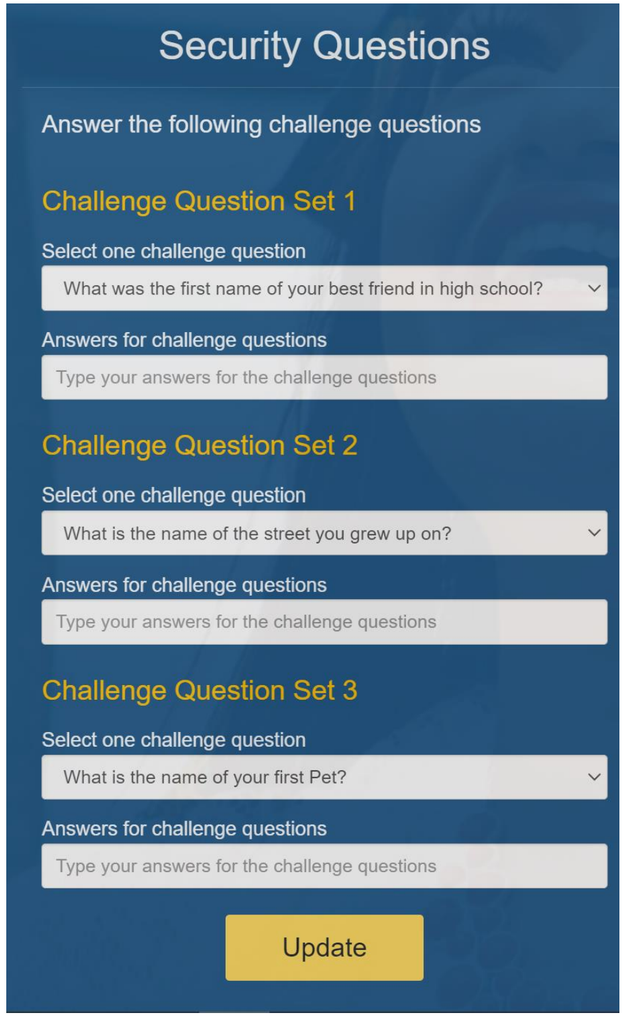


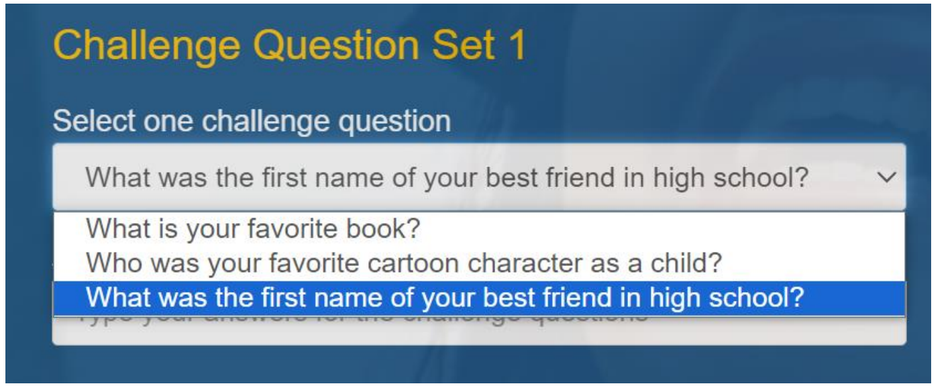
After creating the new password, students may log back into their online CADAA.

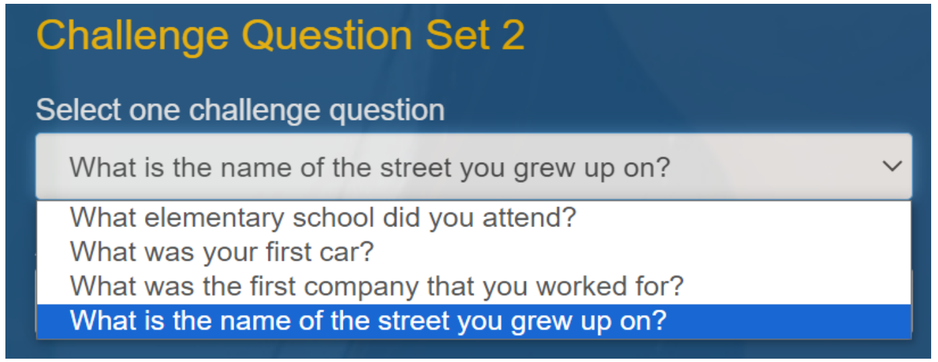
# Security Questions

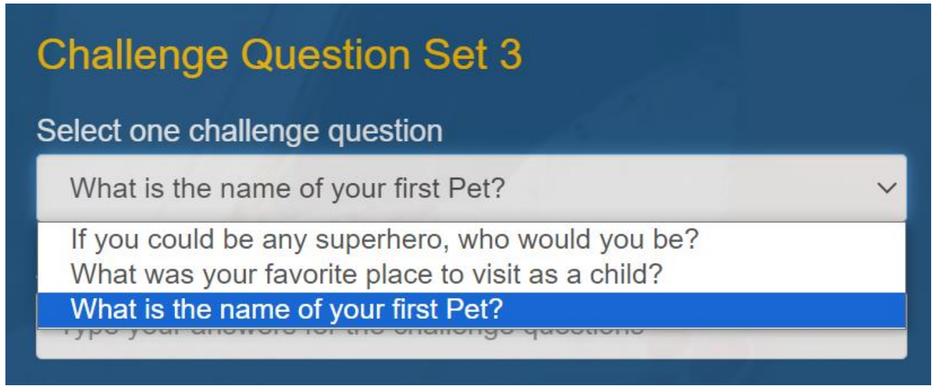
Students will be asked to provide answers to three security questions, which can be used to recover their account if they forget their password.

We recommend that students write down this information (questions and answers) so they can remember it later.

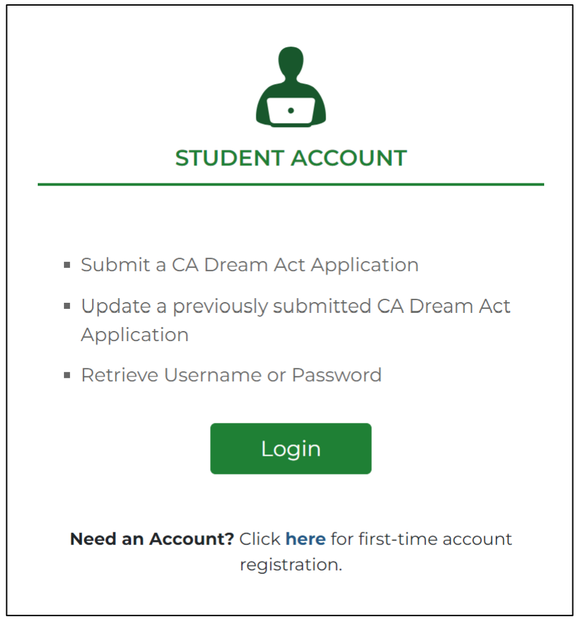


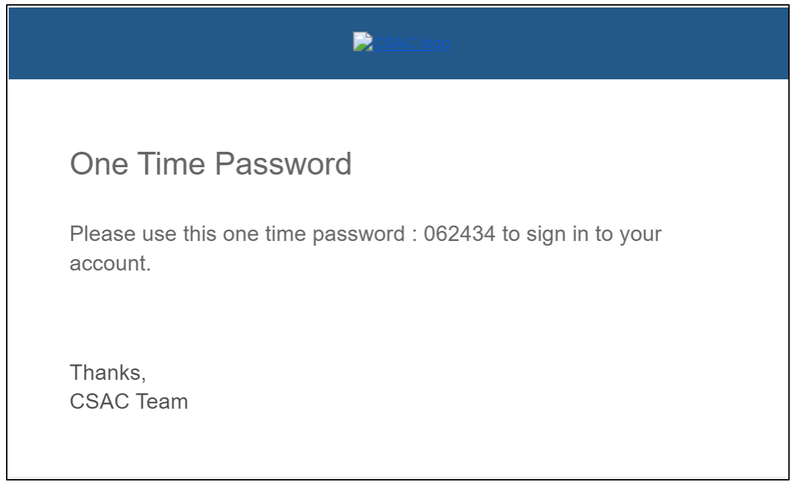



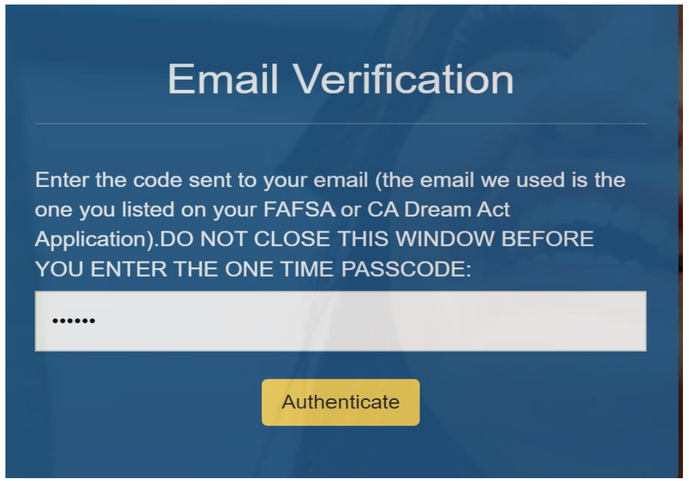



# CADAA Login Requires 2-Factor Authorization Every Time a Student Logs into Their Account



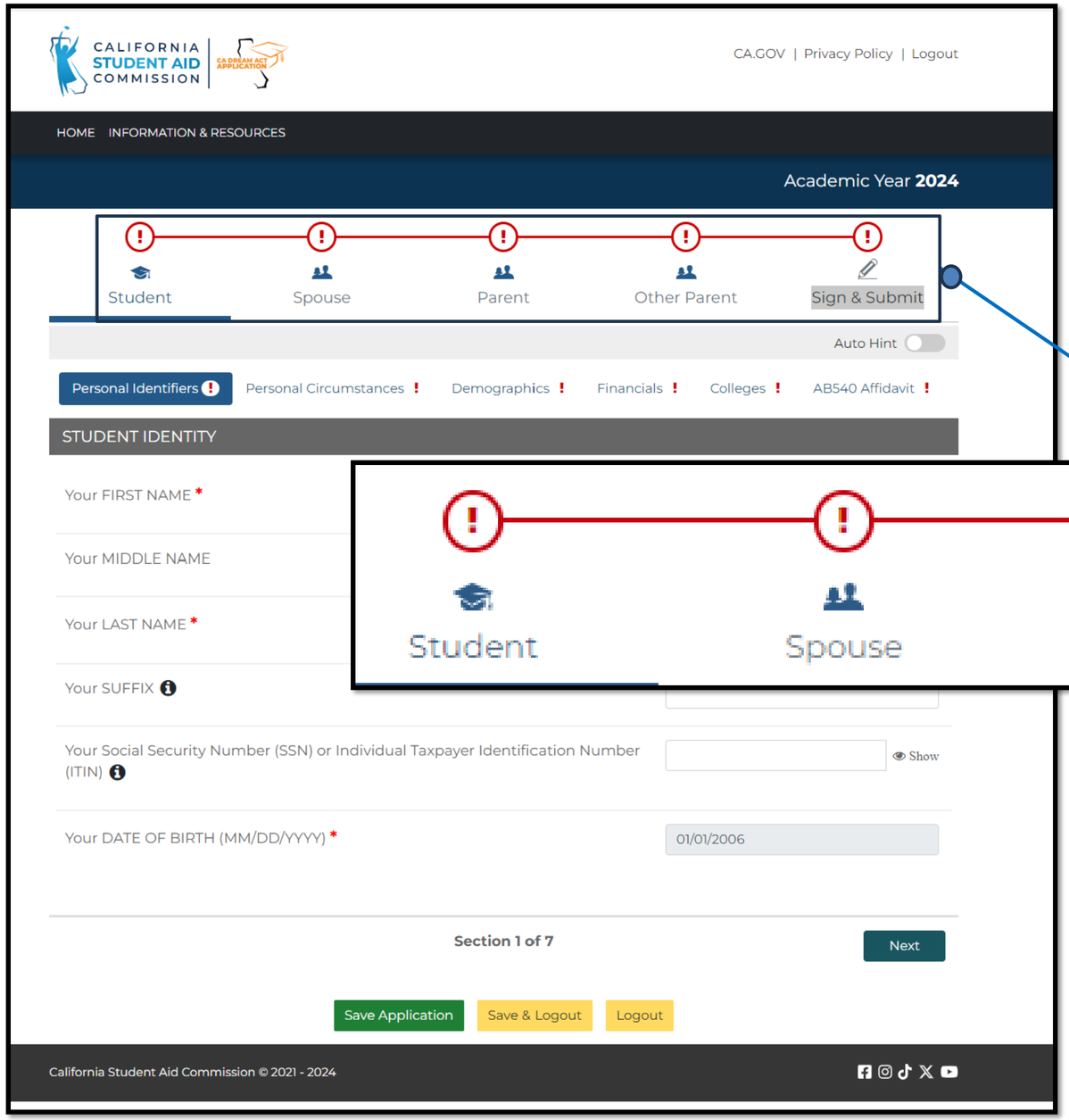

- 2-factor authorization is used each time the account is accessed
- A one-time password will be sent to the student every time they log into their California Dream Act Application
- Students will need to authenticate their account by providing the password they are sent into the space provided

# Completing the Application

Students need to indicate which academic year(s) they are applying for.

**NOTE:** The academic year is when a student will begin attending college.

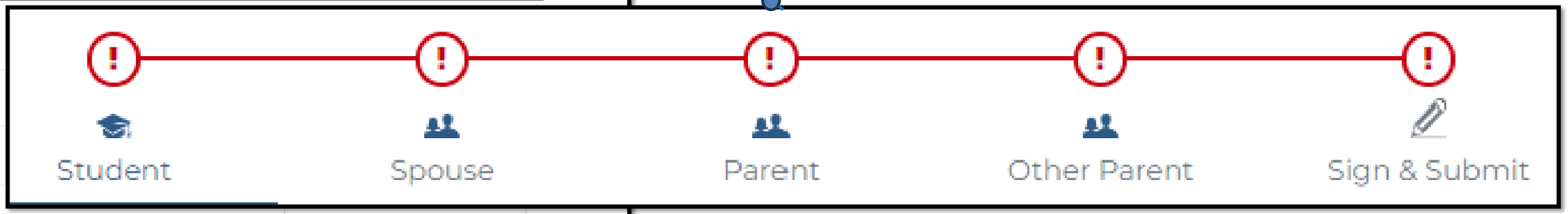
Current high school seniors will start college in the 2024-2025 academic year.




# Section 1 – Student

## Personal Identifiers

There are five sections to the CADAA, including the signature page. Not all sections may be need to be completed depending on the student's circumstances




A red exclamation point indicates there is an error(s) in a section or that it is incomplete

# Section 1 – Student

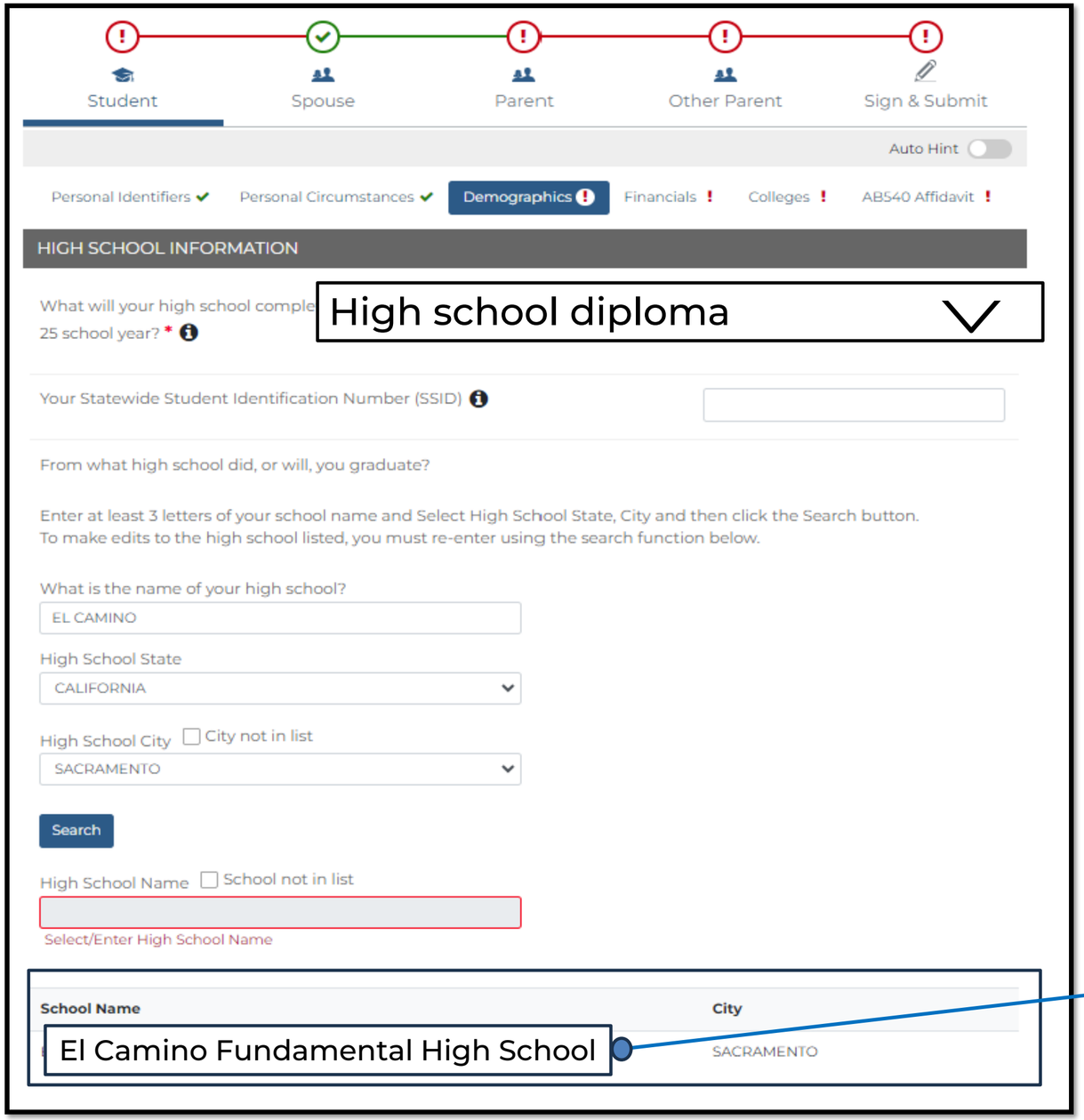
## Demographics

From what high school did you, or will you graduate?

Enter at least 3 letters of your school's name, select High School State and City, and then click the Search button.

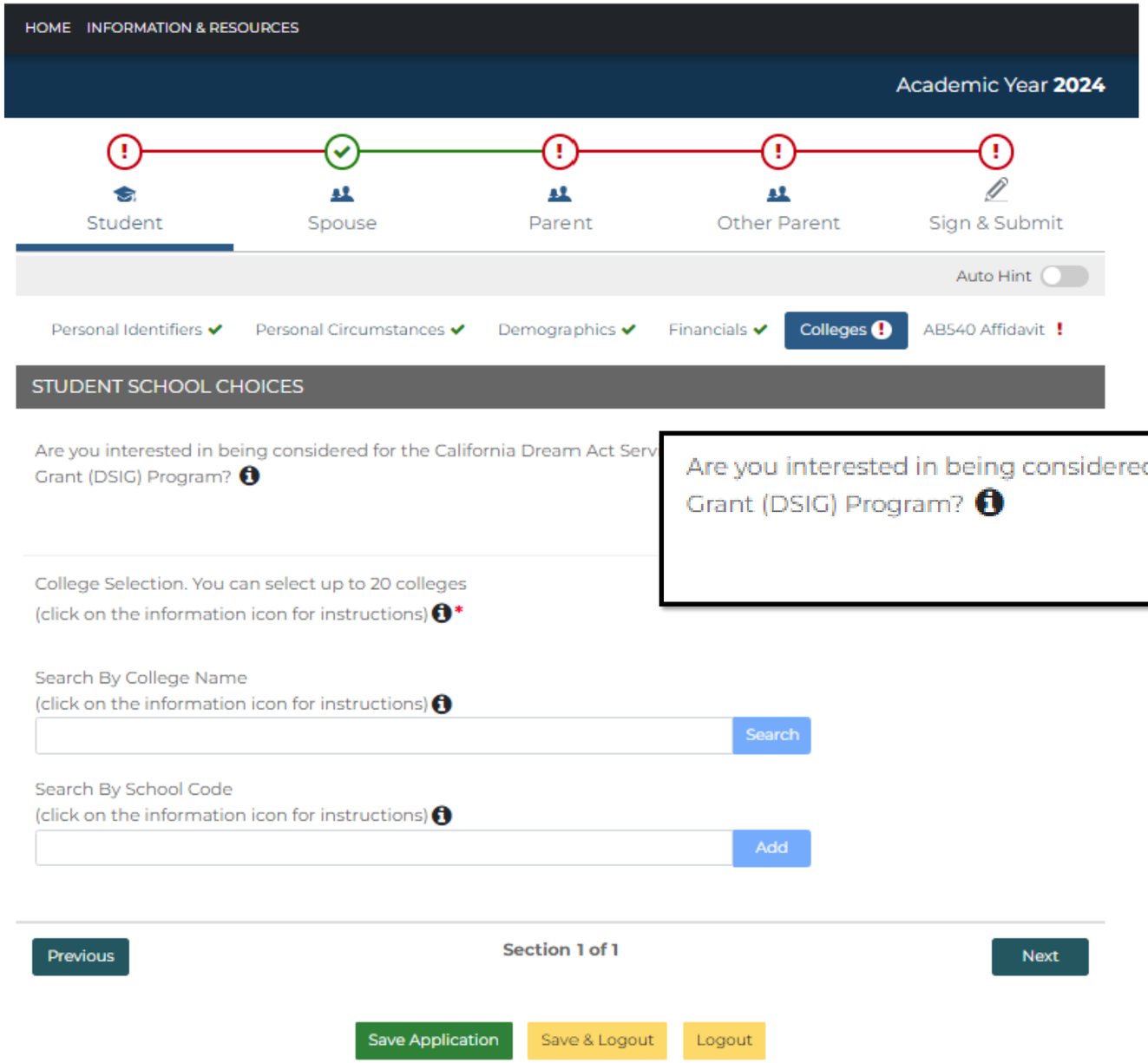
To make edits to the high school listed, you must re-enter using the search function below.

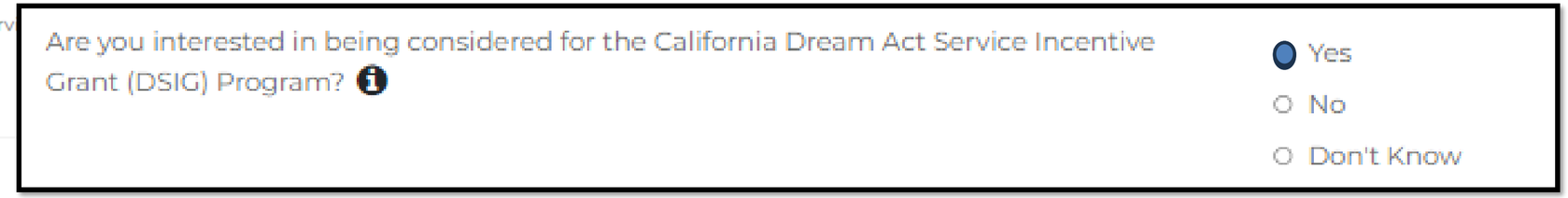
High school name should appear here



# Section 1 – Student

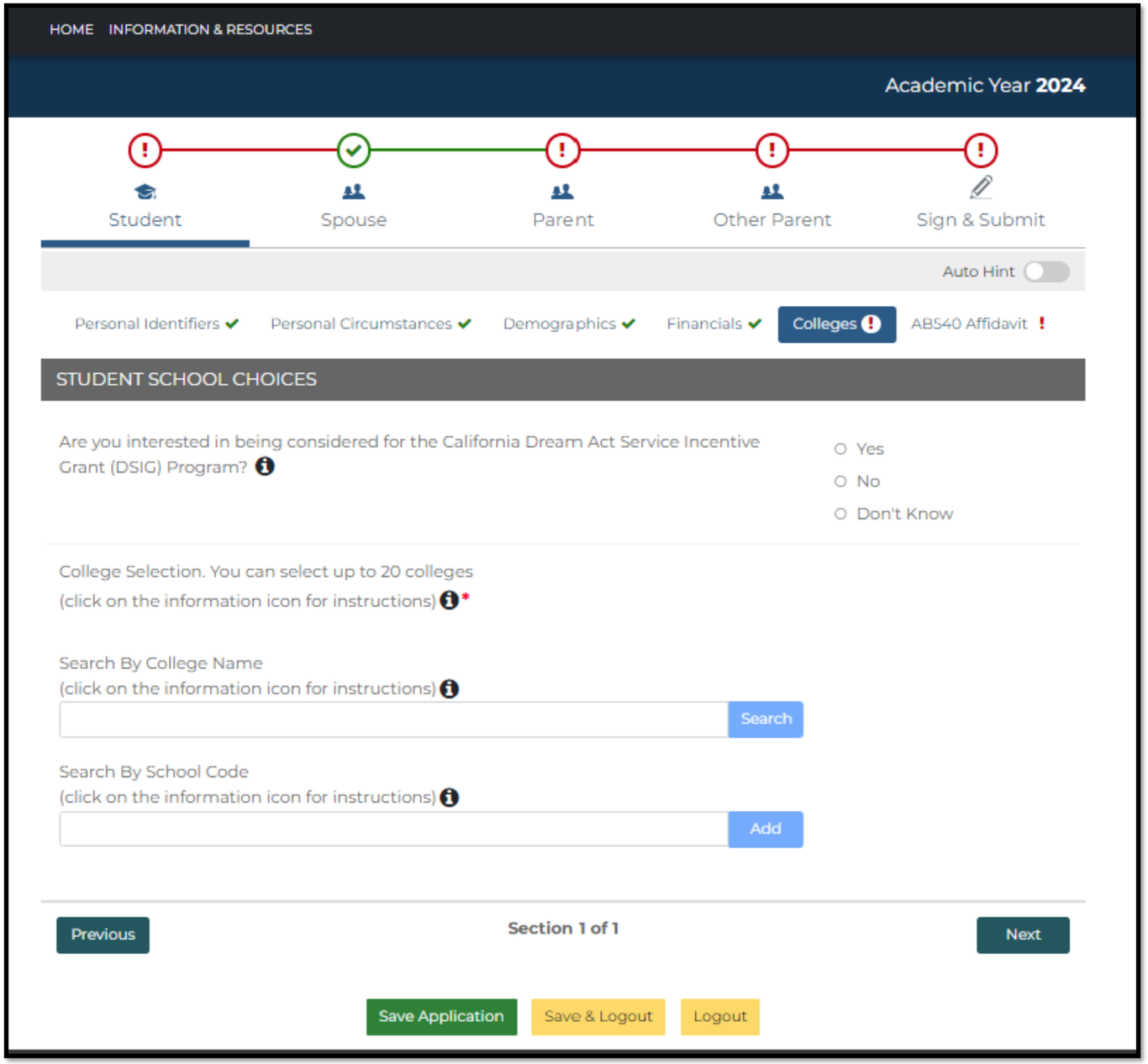
## Colleges - DSIG Option




The California Dream Act Service Incentive Grant (DSIG) Program allows eligible California Dream Act Applicant (CADAA) students with a Cal Grant B award (or a Cal Grant A with B eligibility) to perform community or volunteer service. Students will be awarded up to $4,500 per academic year.

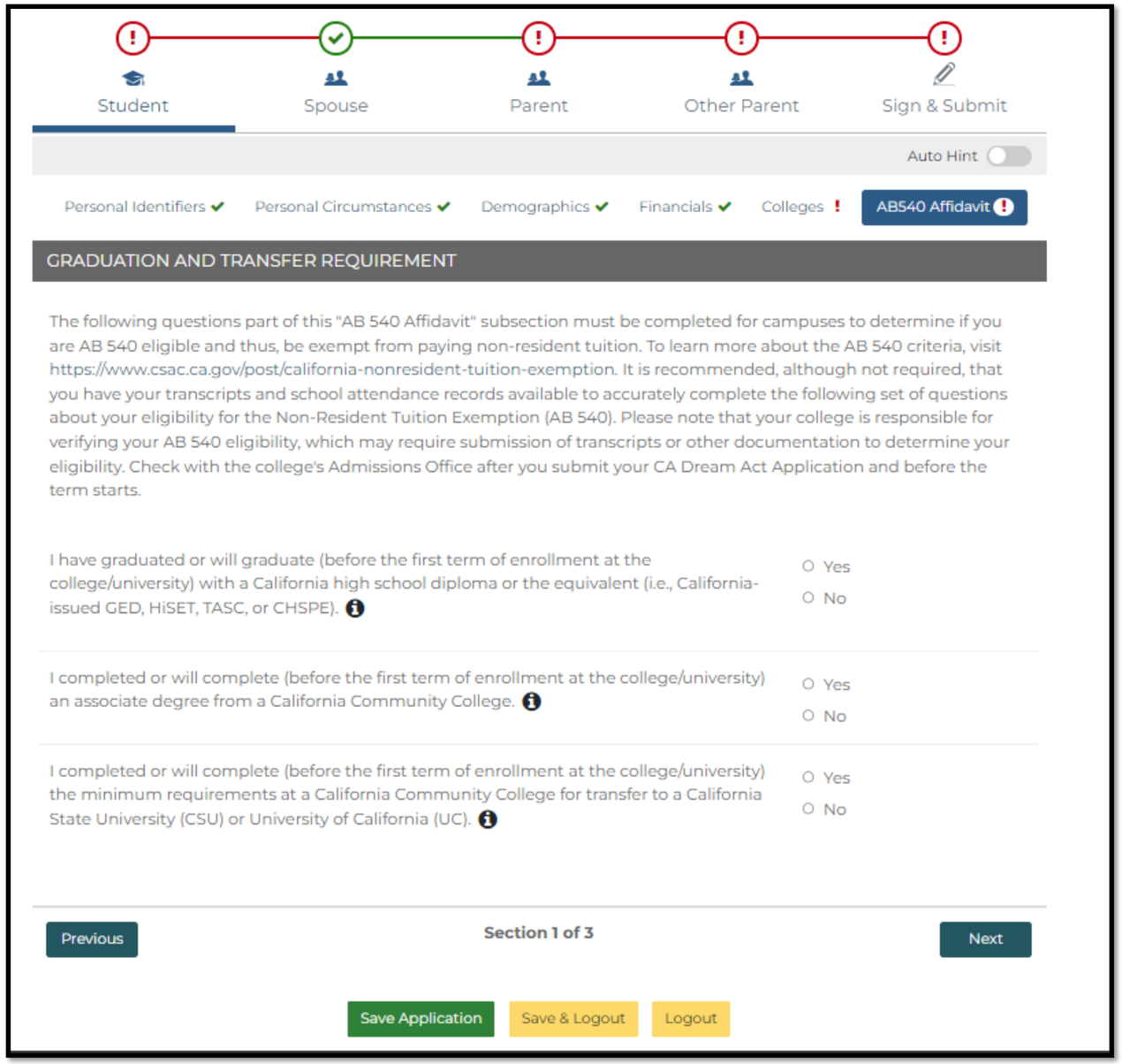
The grant will be available to students for up to 8 semesters or up to 12 quarters while they have an active Cal Grant A or B award.




# Section 1 – Student

## Colleges

- Students can list up to 20 colleges
- Search by college name, or enter UC or CSU to search by those segments
- If you know the 6-digit Federal School Code enter that number, plus two zeros “00” at the end
- Example: UC Davis 001313 should be entered as 00131300




# Section 1 – Student

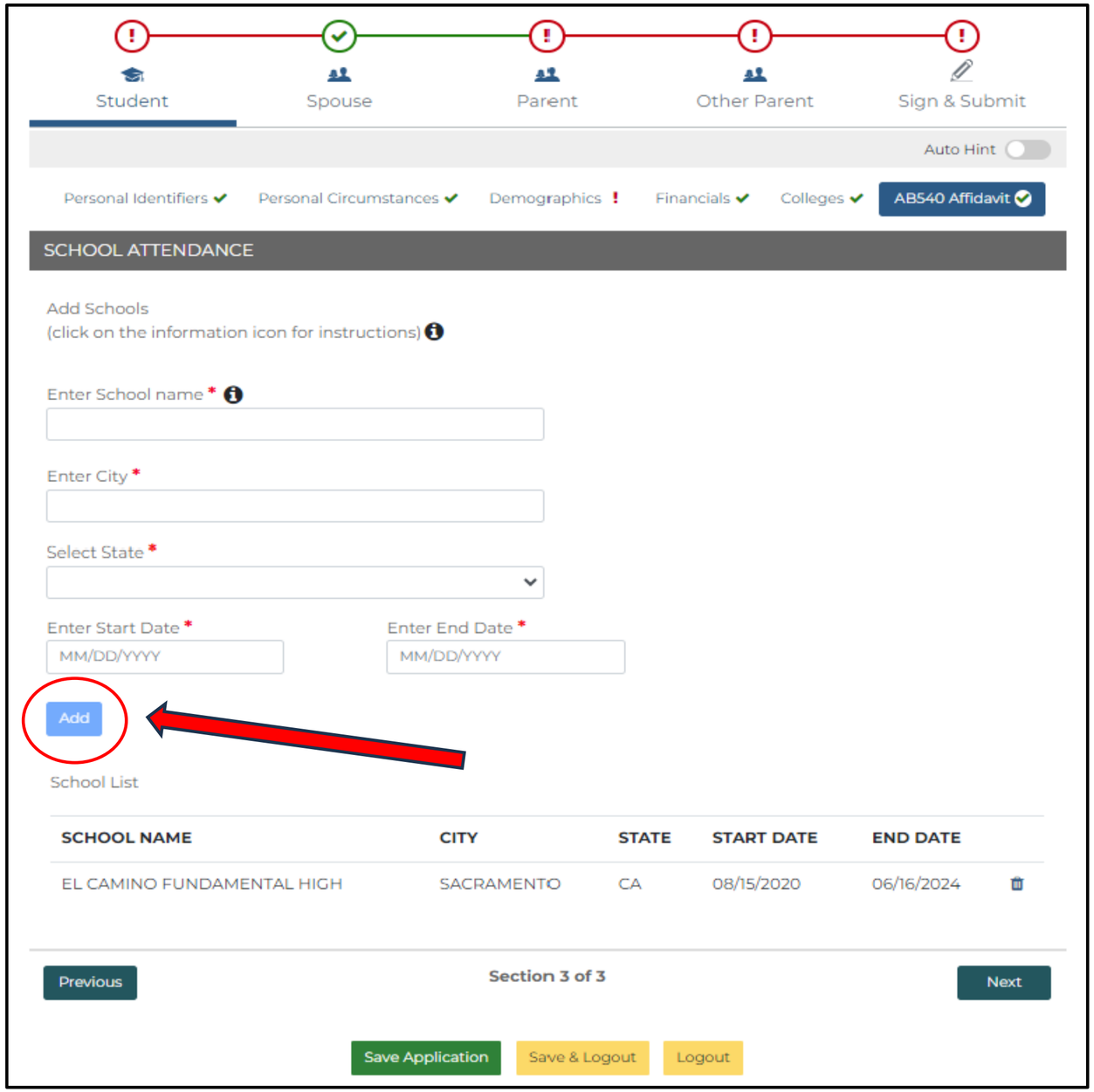
## AB 540 Affidavit

The AB 540 Affidavit is now imbedded in the California Dream Act Application. Students should complete it but will need to check with their college or university to see if additional steps are needed.

Students must meet graduation, time, and coursework requirements to fulfill affidavit

Note: All questions on each page must be answered to complete the section

https://www.csac.ca.gov/post/california-nonresident-tuition-exemption




# Section 1 – Student

## AB 540 Affidavit

You must manually enter:

- The full and official name of each school/campus exactly as they are listed on your transcripts
- The city and state of where the school/campus is located
- the date that you were enrolled in each school/campus
- Refer to your transcripts for accuracy
- Ensure that the school name(s) are listed
- Be sure to click the “Add” button to add your school!

https://www.csac.ca.gov/post/california-nonresident-tuition-exemption

# 2024-25 California Dream Act Application Parent Section

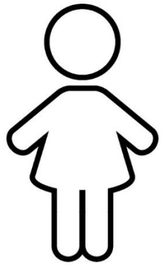
--SELECT- -

- Never married
- Unmarried, living together
- Married (not separated)
- Remarried
- Divorced
- Separated
- Widowed

# Section 3 – Parent

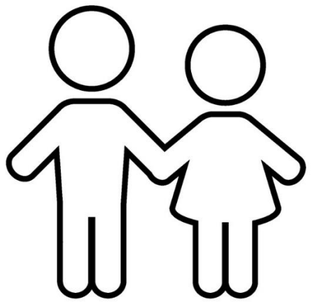
## Who needs to provide information?

## Only one parent's info needed:



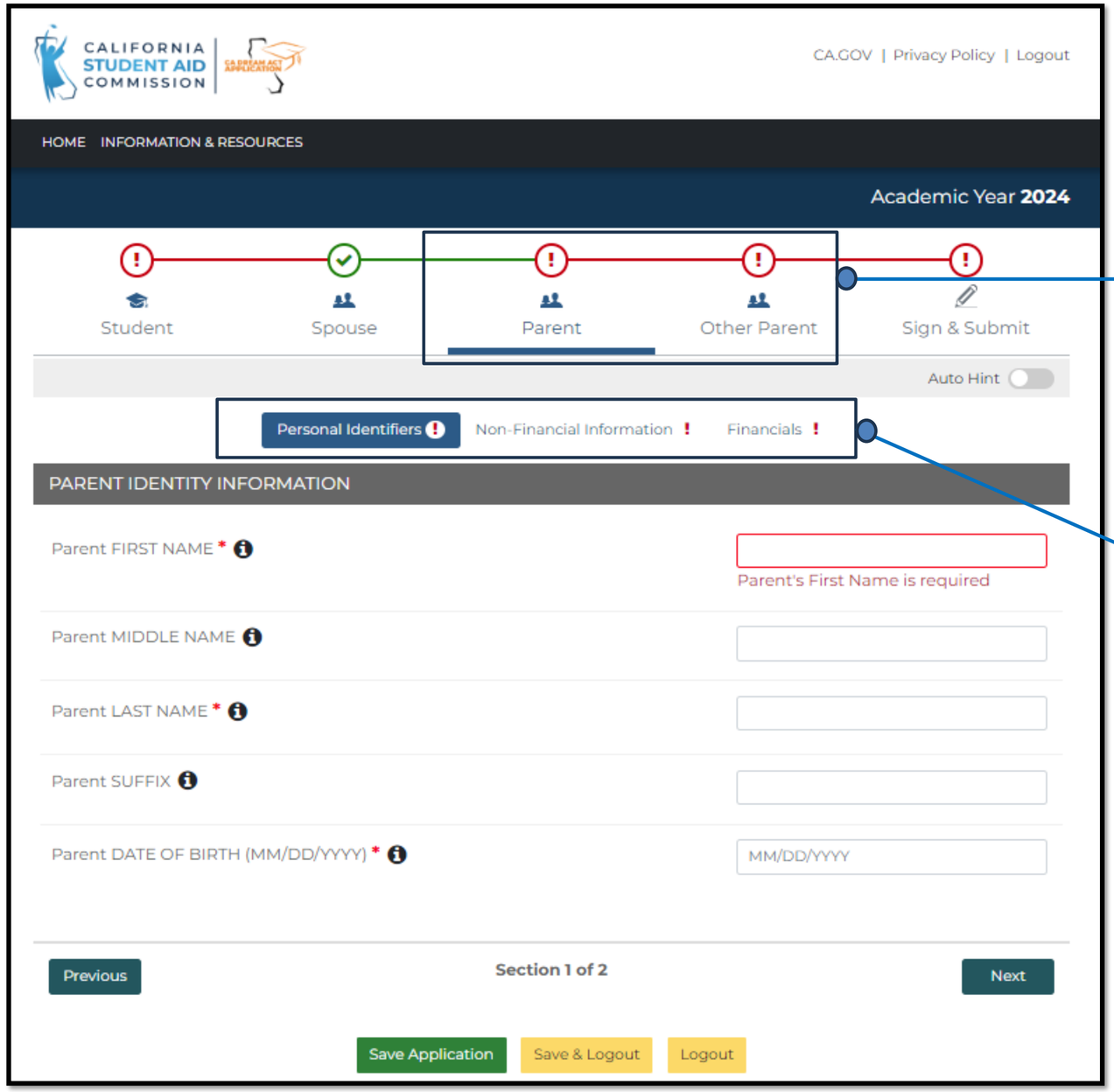
Student's parent is not married and not living with the other student's parent
Student's parent is divorced and has not remarried
Student's parents are separated and not living in the same household

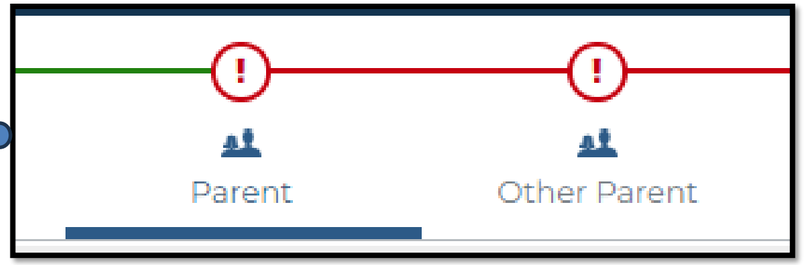
## Two parents' info needed:



Student's parents are not married, but are living together
Student's parents are married to each other
Student's parent is married/remarried to student's stepparent

# Section 3 – Parent




Note that the Parent section includes a 'Parent' and 'Other Parent' tab.

1. Parent(s) will first provide **PERSONAL IDENTIFIERS** (basic demographic information)

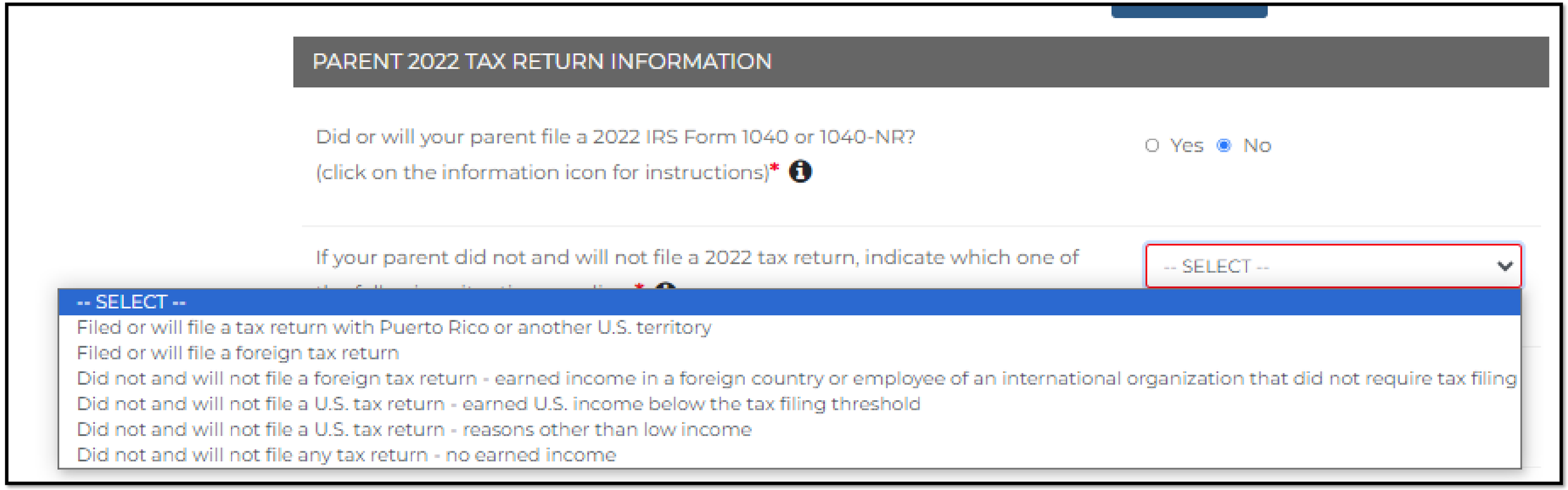
2. The parent or parents will next provide **NON-FINANCIAL INFORMATION**, such as marital status, state of residence and household size

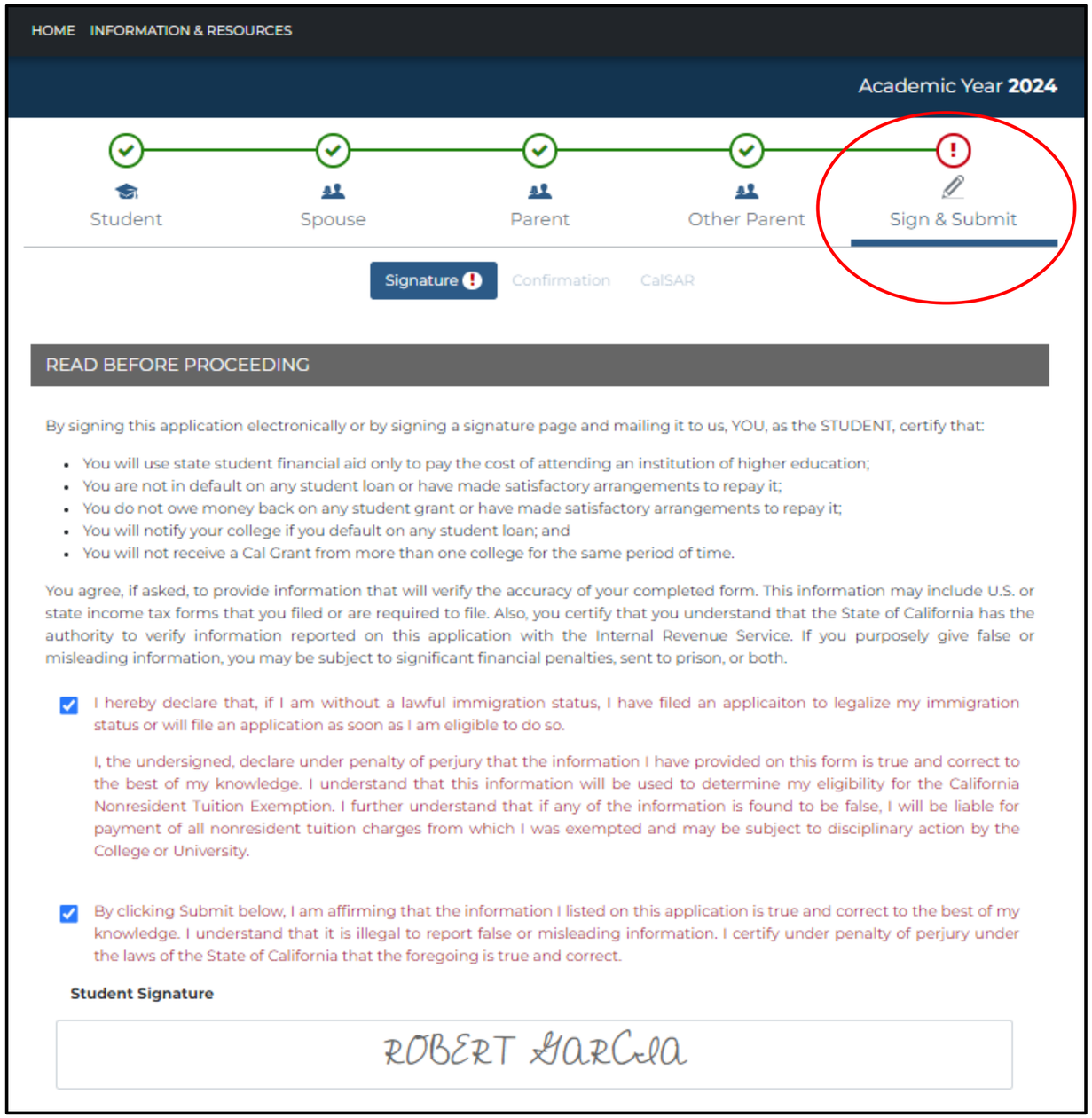
3. Finally, the parent(s) will provide **FINANCIALS** including tax filing details (if taxes were filed) and current income and asset totals

# Section 3 – Parent

## Financials

If the parent(s) indicates they did not or will not file taxes they must specify which situation applies. They will still need to provide income earned, if any, for 2022.






# Section 5 – Signature

## Student

Now that all sections are “green” (complete and error free) the student and the parent can sign the application.

Only one parent will sign the application. If they are not available to sign immediately, they may do so by logging back into the application from the home page.

Student must check the declaration box that states the student will move forward to legalize their immigration status.

Then, the student will check the second box that affirms the information on the application is correct.

At this point, the electronic student signature will populate.

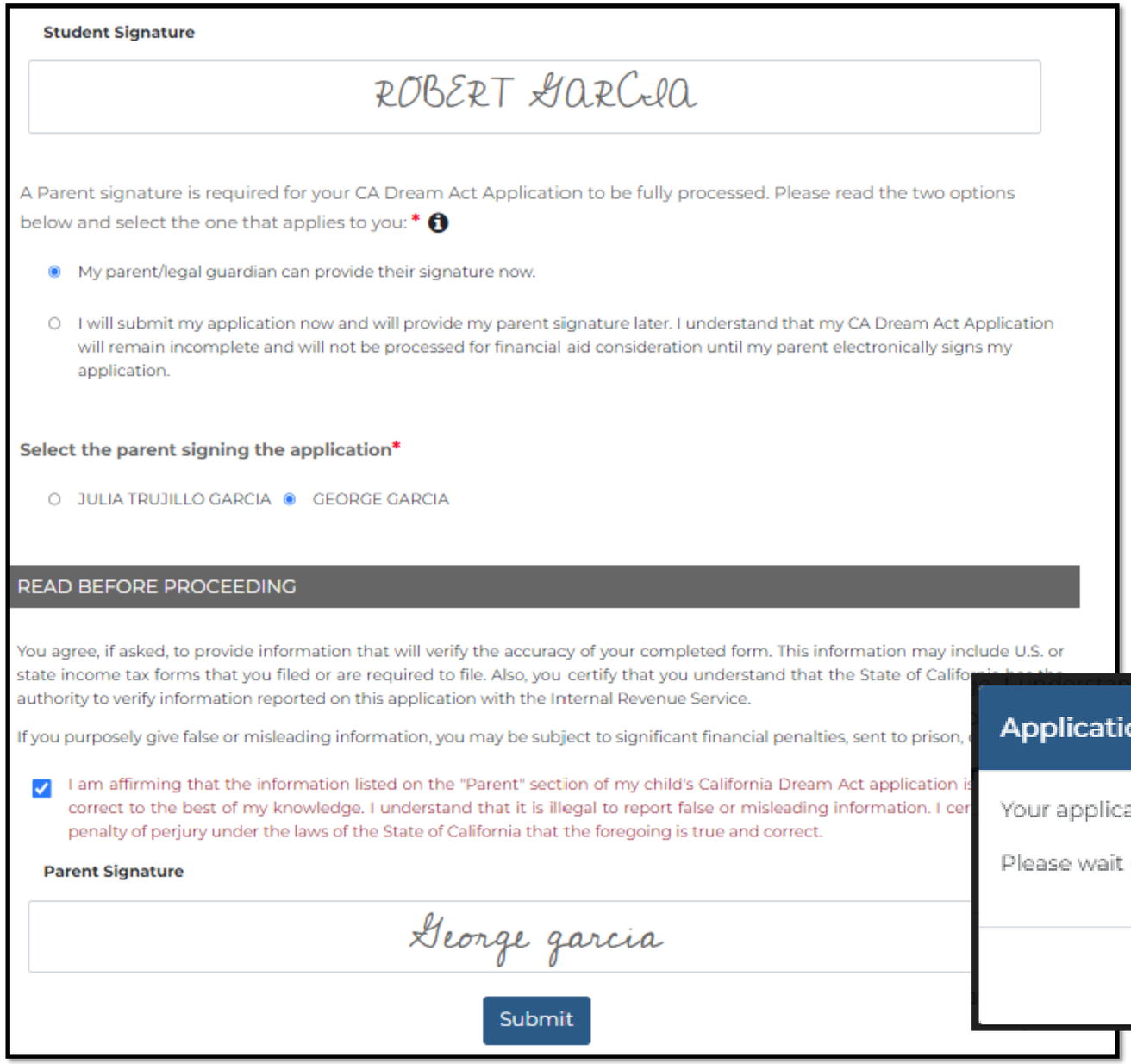
# Section 5 – Signature

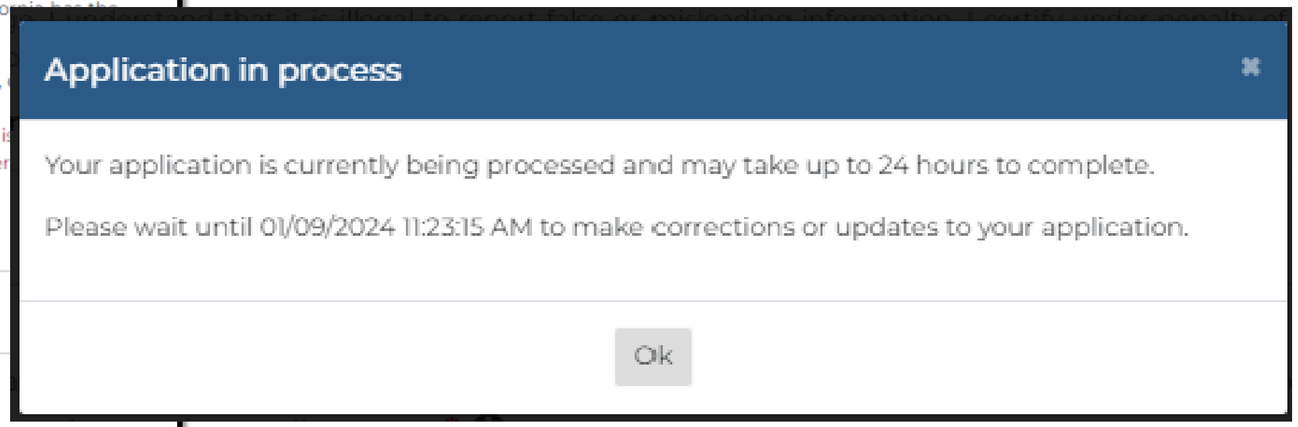
## Parent

Next, the parent can sign. This process is greatly improved from previous versions of the California Dream Act Application.

Once signed and successfully submitted, students should see a pop-up confirming the application is being processed.

The application may take a full 24-hours to process, or more in some cases.



# Email Confirmation that the CADAA was Received

2 of 6

California Dream Act Application Received Inbox ×

**caldreamact@csac.ca.gov** 11:23 AM (11 minutes ago)

This email notification is for informational purposes only, please **do not reply** to this automated message.

Dear California Dream Act Applicant,

This email is being sent to you from the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC), the state agency responsible for administering the California Dream Act Application and Cal Grant programs.

We have received your Application for the 2024-2025 academic year. To keep up to date on your application and award status, please go to WebGrants for Students and login using the same user name and password created for the California Dream Act Application website.

CSAC communicates with students using their **email** address on file, so it is important that your contact information is current in WebGrants for Students. **Make sure you periodically visit your WebGrants for Students account where you can manage your account, contact information, and find important award updates.**

If you have questions regarding this notification or need additional information about the California Dream Act Application, you may contact us or visit the California Dream Act website.

CSAC Logo

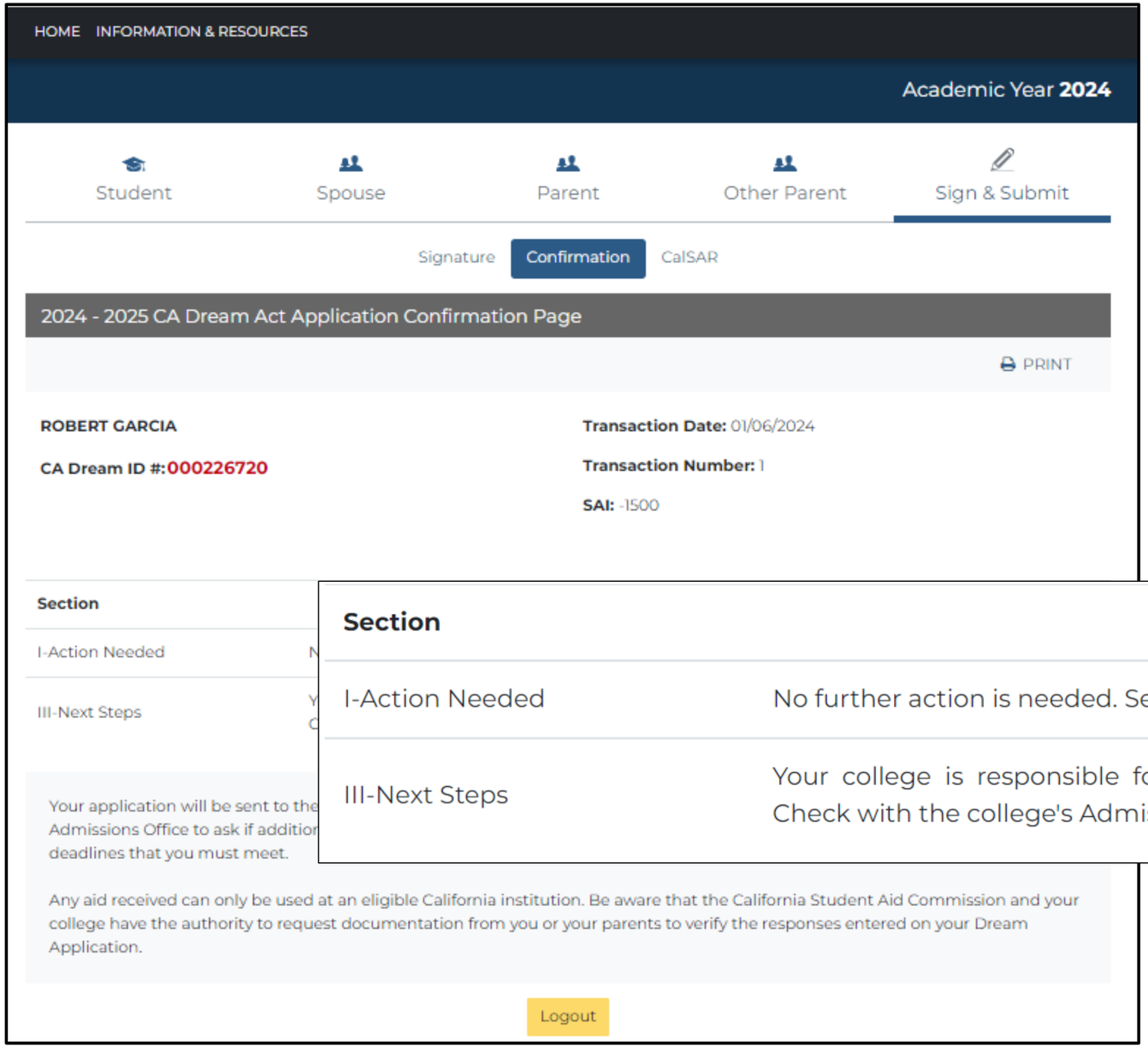
This e-mail and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual to whom they are addressed. If you are not the named addressee you should not disseminate, distribute or copy this e-mail. If you have received this message in error, please contact us and delete this message.

Privacy Policy Copyright 2024, California Student Aid Commission

Reply Forward

Students should look for the confirmation email they will receive when the CADAA is successfully submitted

# Confirmation




| Section | | Comment Codes |
|---|---|---|
| I-Action Needed | No further action is needed. See Section III - Next Steps below. | 000 |
| III-Next Steps | Your college is responsible for verifying your AB 540 eligibility. Check with the college's Admissions Office before the term starts. | 405 |

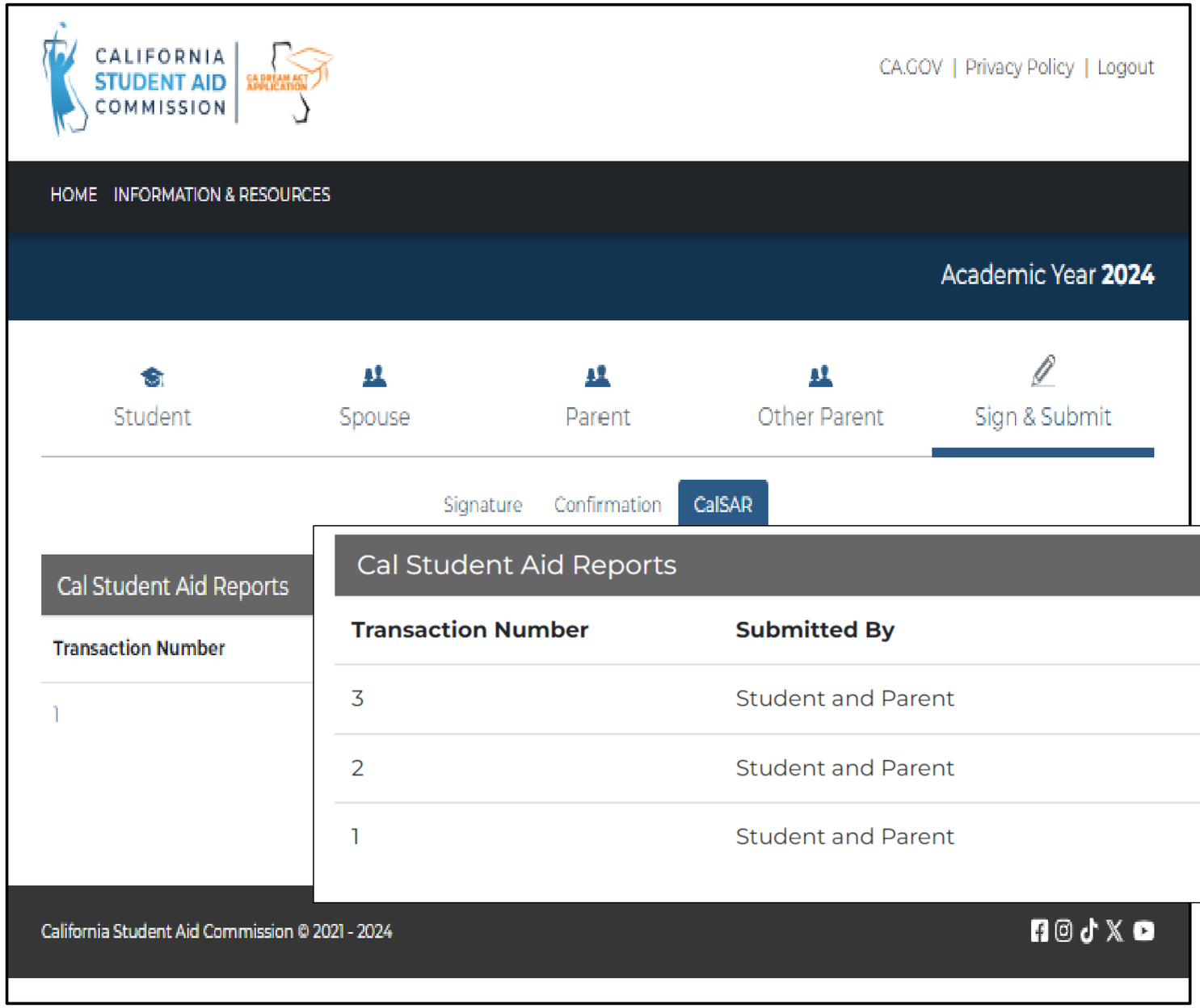
The Confirmation Page will indicate if there are any additional steps the student must take. It will also show the student Dream Act ID, the pseudo-SSN used to administer aid at colleges and universities.

# Confirmation

## Cal Student Aid Report Page (CalSAR)

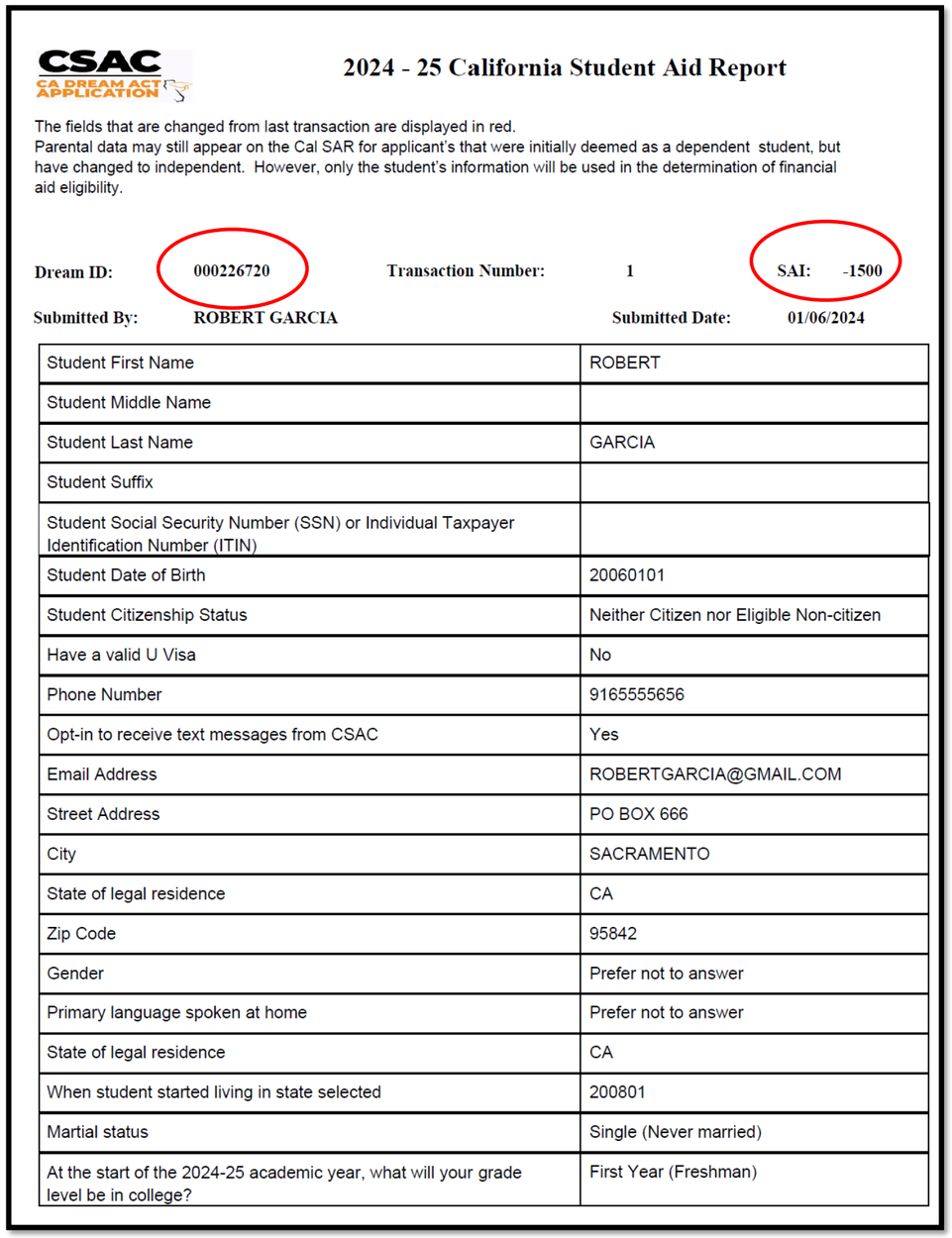
The CalSAR report will show each ‘Transaction’ i.e., when the application was updated.

Students can print a copy of any transaction.




### Cal Student Aid Reports

| Transaction Number | Submitted By | Processed | Print |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | Student and Parent | 01/15/2024 | |
| 2 | Student and Parent | 01/08/2024 | |
| 1 | Student and Parent | 01/08/2024 | |



CSAC CA DREAM ACT APPLICATION

**2024 - 25 California Student Aid Report**

The fields that are changed from last transaction are displayed in red.
Parental data may still appear on the Cal SAR for applicant's that were initially deemed as a dependent student, but have changed to independent. However, only the student's information will be used in the determination of financial aid eligibility.

**Dream ID:** 000226720 **Transaction Number:** 1 **SAI:** -1500

**Submitted By:** ROBERT GARCIA **Submitted Date:** 01/06/2024

| | |
|---|---|
| Student First Name | ROBERT |
| Student Middle Name | |
| Student Last Name | GARCIA |
| Student Suffix | |
| Student Social Security Number (SSN) or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) | |
| Student Date of Birth | 20060101 |
| Student Citizenship Status | Neither Citizen nor Eligible Non-citizen |
| Have a valid U Visa | No |
| Phone Number | 9165555656 |
| Opt-in to receive text messages from CSAC | Yes |
| Email Address | ROBERTGARCIA@GMAIL.COM |
| Street Address | PO BOX 666 |
| City | SACRAMENTO |
| State of legal residence | CA |
| Zip Code | 95842 |
| Gender | Prefer not to answer |
| Primary language spoken at home | Prefer not to answer |
| State of legal residence | CA |
| When student started living in state selected | 200801 |
| Martial status | Single (Never married) |
| At the start of the 2024-25 academic year, what will your grade level be in college? | First Year (Freshman) |

# Confirmation

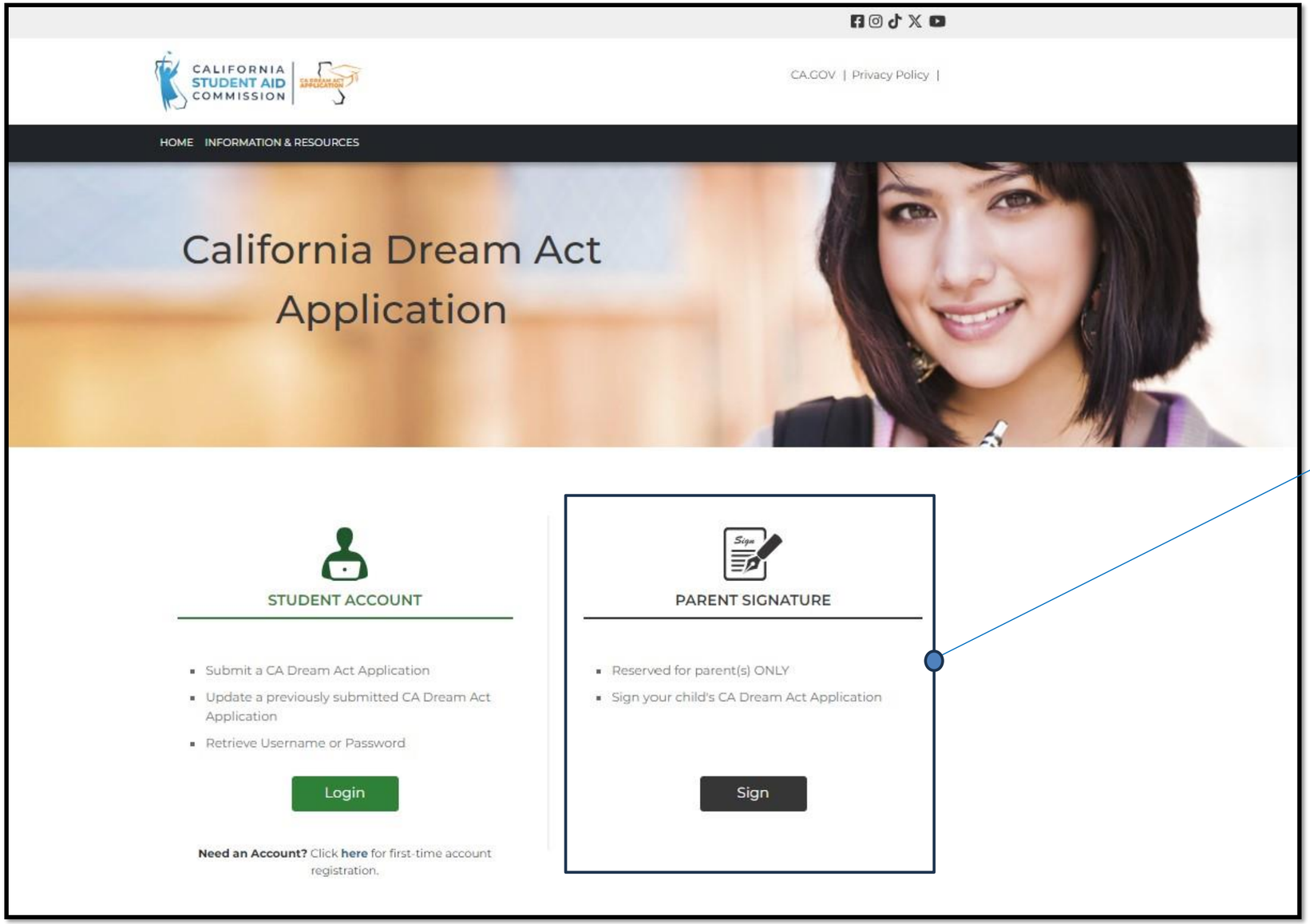
## California Student Aid Report

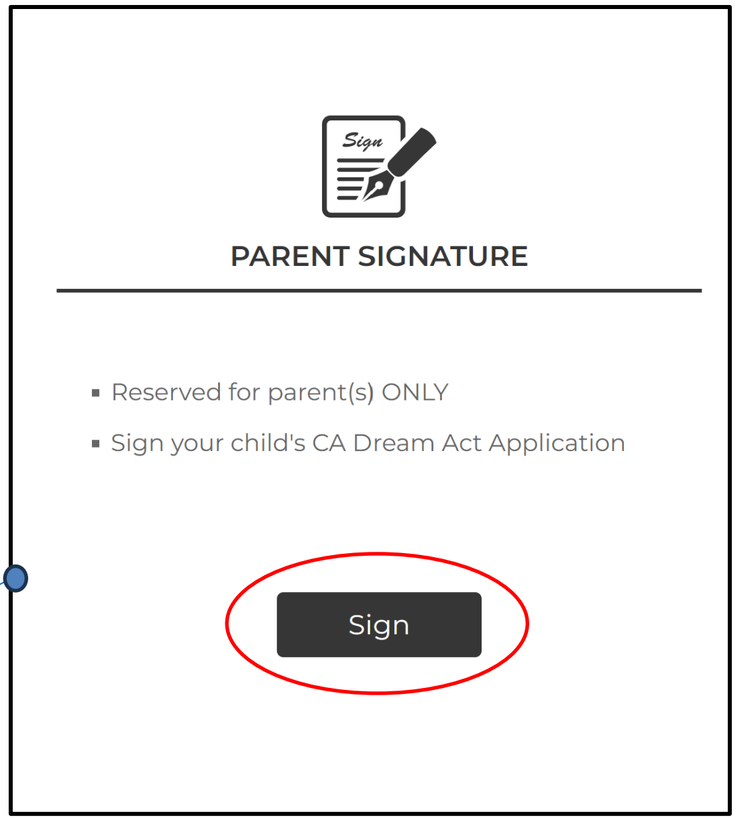
The California Student Aid Report (Cal SAR) is available after the application has been submitted. It contains all the information that was submitted on the application, including:

The Dream ID 000226720

SAI (Student Aid Index) -1500

We recommend that students download and/or print a copy for their records




- The Parent signature link remains part of the CADAA home page
- Parent(s) can access the signature section here if they need to sign the application

## Student Support
888-224-7268
studentsupport@csac.ca.gov

## School Support Unit
888- 294-0153
schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov

## Training Unit
training@csac.ca.gov

Subscribe to receive e-mail updates from CSAC! With our LISTSERVE you'll receive only the CSAC e-mail communications and updates you want and need.

# Thank you!

@CASTUDENTAID

VISIT US AT WWW.CSAC.CA.GOV