Financial Aid for Fall Transfer

Make sure you’re taking all necessary steps to receive financial aid grants and loans at your university of transfer!

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| **January 1**  **to**  **March 2** | **Submit a financial aid application**   * + US Citizens and Permanent Residents: complete FAFSA at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)   + DACA, U Visa, and TPS holders, Undocumented Students: complete California Dream Act (CDA) at [www.caldreamact.org](http://www.caldreamact.org)   NOTES:   * FAFSA applicants: get a FSA (Federal Student Aid) ID before applying for FAFSA; it can take up to 3 days until you can use it to sign your application * Complete your application as early as possible, using last year’s tax information * List all schools you may be attending in the next year: LMC plus every college and university you applied to transfer to. * You should NEVER be asked to pay to apply for financial aid- if you are, you’re on the wrong website! |
| **March** | * **Create a WebGrants account to manage Cal Grant Award**   + Extra steps are needed to receive the Cal Grant Award: create a student account at [www.webgrants4students.org](http://www.webgrants4students.org)   + LMC will automatically send your GPA information (for GPA-based awards), but if you want to include other college units/GPA, a GPA verification form must be submitted to that school. * **File taxes and submit updated FAFSA or Dream Act Application** * **Check school portals and email daily for messages from universities**   + It is common to receive a request for Income Verification from universities. If this happens, there are three ways to provide this information:   + Use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool on your FAFSA form (try this first!)   + Request a “Tax Return Transcript” online at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) (may take 1-3 weeks to receive transcript in mail)   + Request a “Tax Return Transcript” in person at the closest IRS office (receive immediately)     - Closest IRS office to LMC: 185 Lennon Lane, Walnut Creek, CA, 94598     - “Tax-Payer” must be present to request own transcript (i.e. Your parent must go to request their own transcript) |
| **April** | * **Financial Aid award letters become available in student portals**   + Create a budget to make sure you’re on track to cover all school expenses (try FinAid’s at [www.finaid.org/calculators/](http://www.finaid.org/calculators/)) * **Update your WebGrants4students account to reflect the university you’re transferring to- it will automatically list the first school listed on your FAFSA/CDA** |
| **May**  **through**  **August**  **May**  **Through**  **August**  *continued* | * **Accept financial aid at your university of transfer**   + Done through the school’s student portal   + Only accept financial aid you’ll be using- if loans are not necessary, do not accept them * **If using loans, begin loan requirements to be eligible for distribution**   + Loan budgeting, information, and approval can be found at [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov)) * **If receiving Work Study, begin searching for on-campus jobs**   + Work study is not a grant, but income you’re eligible to earn on campus through a student job. You MUST be working on campus to be payed that money!   + Often, campuses’ Career Services/Career Centers are a great place to start looking * **Contact school to confirm what needs to be paid NOW, and what can be deferred until AFTER financial aid funds are distributed**   + CHECK FEE DEADLINES. Many schools require some fee payment before you receive a financial aid check, and will revoke admission if the payment is missed (you’ll be kicked out!). Fee deadline information is available at LMC’s Transfer & Career Services, or on your school’s website |

**Resources:**

1. **I CAN Afford College** ([www.icanaffordcollege.com](http://www.icanaffordcollege.com)): California Community Colleges’ site for financial aid resources
2. **FinAid** ([www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org)): lots of information about financial aid, loans, scholarships, and paying for school.
3. **Federal Student Aid Commission** ([www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov)): Info on federal student aid and loan management.
4. **Los Medanos College Financial Aid** ([www.losmedanos.edu/financialaid](http://www.losmedanos.edu/financialaid)): financial aid information, forms, and lab hours

Los Medanos College Financial Aid Lab Hours

Tuesdays 10:00am-12:00pm

Wednesdays 10:00am-12:00pm

Thursdays 2:00-4:00pm

**Los Medanos College Transfer Financial Aid Workshops**

Talk about how to receive financial aid, budget for school, and access grants and scholarships with Rachel Anicetti, Transfer Services Coordinator. All workshops will meet at the Transfer & Career Services front desk in the Student Services Center

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| Wednesday, January 27, 2:00-3:00pm | Tuesday, February 2, 1:00-2:00pm |
| Wednesday, February 10,  12:00-1:00pm | Thursday, February 18, 9:00-10:00am |
| Tuesday, February 23, 4:00-5:00pm | Tuesday, March 1, 1:00-3:00pm |

Check Transfer & Career Service’s website for more workshop times:

[www.losmedanos.edu/transfer/TransferWorkshops.asp](http://www.losmedanos.edu/transfer/TransferWorkshops.asp)