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!

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 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)