

10 Financial Aid Tips

# 1	Use our website www.csuchico.edu/fa to get your questions answered:		
	➤ Award Guide	➤ Steps to Financial Aid	➤ Videos
	➤ Types of Aid	➤ Enrollment & Eligibility	➤ Scholarships
# 2	Have questions? Go to the correct office in the Student Services Center for the help you need.		
	<u>Financial Aid & Scholarships</u> SSC 250	<u>Student Financial Services</u> SSC 230	<u>Career Center</u> SSC 270
	FAFSA/CADAA questions	Pay charges, tuition and fees	Handshake login (jobs search)
	Eligibility for all types of aid including Work-Study	Receive funds: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • e-Refund • By Mail 	Locate on-campus job if you have Work-Study
	Loans	Pick up short-term loans	Look for non-Work-Study and off-campus student jobs
Scholarship questions			
# 3	Submit an electronic Authorization to Release Information form electronically by going to the “Records” section of your Student Center and selecting “Authorization to Release”.		
# 4	Sign up for e-Refund (Direct Deposit), through your Student Center under the “Financials” section.		
# 5	<p>Use your Student Center for important information at Chico State.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial aid and University charges are located under the “Financials” section. • Check your “To Do List” & “Holds”. Follow the directions. • If assigned to your To-Do list, create account: www.csuchico.verifymyfafsa.com • Accept/decline/reduce your financial aid in order to receive your funds. • Review charges & pay the current term bill by the due date each semester. • Check your Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) status. <p>Financial aid recipients are required to pay the difference between all University charges and pending financial aid. University charges may include registration fees, on-campus housing and meal plan. View your pending aid through your Student Center under the Financials section. Also see “Using Aid to Pay Charges” at: www.csuchico.edu/fa/award-info/pay-charges.shtml</p>		
# 6	Educate yourself about loans.		
	Know the difference: Financial aid includes loans and grants. Loans have to be repaid. Grants are free aid, and are determined by your EFC (Expected Family Contribution calculated from FAFSA or CADAA).		
	If you are receiving loans as part of your financial aid package, you must complete both Loan Entrance Counseling and the Master Promissory Note. See your “To Do List” in the Student Center.		
	Watch videos about loans and responsible borrowing at: www.csuchico.edu/fa/fatv-videos/loans-and-responsible-borrowing.shtml		
# 7	Learn about Scholarships		
	Apply for Wildcat Scholarships at: www.csuchico.edu/fa/scholarships/wildcat.shtml . Chico State gives out \$1.5 million in scholarships each year. The online application is available January 2 through February 15 for the following academic year.		
	Apply for external (private) scholarships through your community, local and national foundations, state and federal agencies, fraternal organizations, and private donors. If you are a recipient of an external scholarship, you must notify our office and make sure we receive the check for processing.		
# 8	Budget, budget, budget! Learn how to manage your money and make it last for the semester. Use the Student Budget Calculator at: finaid.org/calculators/ .		
# 9	<p>Communicate with us. Use our customer service windows in Student Services Center 250 or:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telephone: 530-898-6451 or Email: finaid@csuchico.edu or scholarships@csuchico.edu • Schedule an appointment with a financial aid advisor or chat with us live on our website. 		
# 10	<p>Be involved in your own financial aid education. File the FAFSA or CADAA each year before the March 2 priority deadline. Regularly check your “To Do List.”</p> <p>Know your rights and responsibilities: www.csuchico.edu/fa/policies/rights.shtml</p> <p>Know financial aid terminology: www.csuchico.edu/fa/resources/glossary.shtml</p>		