# 1 **Use our website** [www.csuchico.edu/fa](http://www.csuchico.edu/fa) **to get your questions answered:**

- Award Guide
- Types of Aid
- Steps to Financial Aid
- Enrollment & Eligibility
- Scholarships
- Videos

# 2 **Have questions?** Go to the correct office in the Student Services Center for the help you need.

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# 3 Submit an electronic **Authorization to Release** information form by going to the “Student 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 **Use your Student Center for important information at Chico State.**

- Financial aid and University charges are located under the “Financials” section.
- Check your “To Do List” & “Holds”. Follow the directions.
- If assigned on your To-Do list, create account: [http://csuchico.studentforms.com](http://csuchico.studentforms.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.

Financial aid recipients are required to **pay the difference between all University charges and pending financial aid.** You must accept aid for it to be “pending”. 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 [www.csuchico.edu/fa/award-info/pay-charges.shtml](http://www.csuchico.edu/fa/award-info/pay-charges.shtml)

# 6 **Educate yourself about loans and only borrow what you need!**

**Know the difference:** Financial aid includes loans and grants. **Loans** have to be repaid. **Grants** are free aid, and are determined by your SAI (Student Aid Index 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.


# 7 **Learn about Scholarships**

**Apply for Wildcat Scholarships at:** [www.csuchico.edu/fa/scholarships/wildcat.shtml](http://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 and you receive the check, take it to Student Financial Services, SSC 230.

# 8 **Budget, budget, budget!** Learn how to manage your money and make it last for the semester.

Use the Financial Wellness Clinic in Glenn 202B, email: financialwellness@csuchico.edu

# 9 **Communicate with us.** Use our customer service windows in **Student Services Center 250** or:

- Telephone: 530-898-6451 or Email: finaid@csuchico.edu or scholarships@csuchico.edu
- **Schedule an appointment** with a financial aid advisor.

# 10 **Be involved in your own financial aid education.** File the FAFSA or CADAA each year before the March 2* priority deadline.  

**Note: Priority deadline for 2024/25 extended to April 2, 2024.**  

**Know your rights and responsibilities:** [www.csuchico.edu/fa/policies/rights.shtml](http://www.csuchico.edu/fa/policies/rights.shtml)  

Know financial aid terminology: [www.csuchico.edu/fa/resources/glossary.shtml](http://www.csuchico.edu/fa/resources/glossary.shtml)