Financial Aid Disbursement FAQs

How will I be notified of my financial aid offer?
An email with a link to your offer letter will be sent to your Wildcat email starting in March. New Chico State students will receive an earlier Preliminary notification.

How do I ensure I get my financial aid?
• Check your To Do List in your Student Center to see what actions are needed from you to receive your financial aid. If required, create your Financial Aid Account at csuchico.studentforms.com, where you will complete verification tasks and upload any required documents. If documents are required from you, upload them immediately to avoid a delay in receiving your aid. The priority deadline to submit required documents is June 1 in order to have any financial aid available to you before the start of school.
• View your financial aid Holds in your Student Center and follow the directions to resolve them.
• Accept, reduce, or decline your financial aid award in your Student Center.
• Enroll in the required number of units. For enrollment requirements visit www.csuchico.edu/fa/eligibility-enrollment/undergrad-eligibility-enrollment.shtml.

When will financial aid funds be disbursed?
The first possible disbursement is the week before the semester begins. After that, disbursements will be made on each Thursday as files are completed.

Check your Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) status to make sure you meet SAP standards. Also, if you have Holds or To Do items, you must clear and complete these items before any funds can be disbursed to you. The priority deadline to submit required documents is June 1 to receive your funding before the start of school.

How will I know when the review is complete? You will receive an email when review of your documents is complete.

How will I know if I have to pay fees?
Access your Student Center and scroll down to the Financials section to “What I Owe”. Financial aid recipients are required to pay the difference between all University Charges (including tuition fees and on-campus housing fees listed on your account) and pending financial aid. The Registration and Tuition Fee Payment Deadline is Wednesday, July 26, 2023.

How will I receive my financial aid disbursement?
If you have any financial aid remaining after your tuition, fees and any on-campus housing costs are paid, the balance of your financial aid will be refunded by direct deposit or a mailed check. E-Refund (direct deposit) is the quickest and most secure way to receive your money. You can “Enroll in e-Refund” through your Student Center. If you choose to receive your refund by mail, make sure your address is updated in the Student Center.

What if I can’t complete my financial aid tasks or clear my holds in time to receive a disbursement before school begins?
If you are unable to clear your Holds and To Do List items by the beginning of the term, you need to either pay your own fees or confirm through your Student Center that you have sufficient pending financial aid to pay fees in the future. If not, you must pay the difference by the Registration and Tuition Fee Payment Deadline, which is approximately one month before school starts. Contact Student Financial services to inquire about a payment plan option. If you fail to pay fees or do not have sufficient financial aid to pay fees you will be assessed a $25 late fee, will not be able to add classes during Registration Add/Drop period, and may have classes dropped for non-payment.

What if I take fewer than full-time units?
Your financial aid offer is based on full-time enrollment, even if you indicated on your FAFSA or CADAA that you plan to enroll in fewer units. Financial aid funds will be disbursed based on your actual enrollment. At University Census, four weeks after the start of the semester, your financial aid award will be updated to reflect the actual amount of aid you are eligible to receive for the semester. If we receive your financial aid application after the fourth week of the semester, your award will be based on the actual number of enrolled units.