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 Chico State email.

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 financial aid available to you before the start of the fall semester.
- View your financial aid Holds in your Student Center and follow the directions to resolve them.
- Accept, reduce, or decline your financial aid 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 for undergraduate information and www.csuchico.edu/fa/eligibility-enrollment/post-baccalaureate.shtml for post-baccalaureate information.

When will financial aid funds be disbursed?
Most funds are disbursed in one lump sum payment per semester and the first possible disbursement of federal aid, state aid and scholarships is the Thursday prior to the first day of class. After that, if you receive additional financial aid it will be disbursed on a Thursday, as disbursements continue throughout the semester on Thursdays.

Check your Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) status to make sure you meet SAP standards. Also, if you have Hold or To-Do items, you must clear and complete these items before any funds can be disbursed to you.

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. Note: you must accept aid for it to be “pending”. The Registration and Tuition Fee Payment Deadline for fall is July 31, 2024.

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 deferred tuition payment plan option. Failure to pay fees or have sufficient pending financial aid will result in a $25 late fee being assessed, the inability to add classes during the open registration period, and your classed dropped for non-payment of fees.

What if I take fewer than full-time units?
Your financial aid offer is based on full-time enrollment. 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 University Census (the fourth week of the semester), your award will be based on the actual number of enrolled units.