# Santa Rosa Junior College Financial Aid Handbook

Academic Year 2025-2026

#### FINANCIAL AID GOALS

The primary goal of SRJC's Student Financial Services is to help students achieve their educational potential by providing students with access to a wide variety of financial resources and educating students on their eligibility and requirements for financial aid programs.

This handbook is a guide to financial aid, and every reasonable effort has been made to determine that the information provided is accurate. Since regulations are subject to change, some policies and procedures may not be reflected in this handbook. This handbook is reviewed regularly, and revised as appropriate, to reflect changes in statute, regulations, or institutional practice.

- 1. Types of Financial Aid
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#### I. TYPES OF AID

From grants to scholarships to tuition reimbursement to loans, a wide range of financial aid programs are available to help students meet the costs of higher education.

#### FEDERAL GRANTS AND PROGRAMS

#### **Federal Pell Grant**

The Pell Grant is awarded to eligible students with high financial needs; grant amounts are dependent upon the Student Aid Index (SAI), the cost of attendance, and enrollment status (full-time or part-time). By Federal regulation, students can only receive up to a lifetime limit of 600% (equivalent to six full-time years) of the Pell grant. The total usage is reported to the student as Lifetime Eligibility Usage (LEU) on their Student Aid Report (SAR).

#### Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)

FSEOG is awarded to Pell grant eligible students with the highest financial need by supplementing other financial aid sources. To be considered for FSEOG, students must submit their FAFSA by the state filing deadline, March 2, for priority consideration.

#### **Bureau of Indian Affairs Grant**

The Bureau of Indian Affairs Grant (BIA) is awarded to students who are at least one-quarter of Native American heritage. Students must fill out additional agency forms in order to qualify for these funds. For information, call (202) 208-6123.

#### **Federal Work-Study**

Federal Work-Study (FWS) program is a need-based form of financial aid that provides students an opportunity to work part-time to earn money to help pay for college expenses.

# **Federal Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans**

Federal Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans (Stafford Loans) are need-based and non-need-based loans awarded to students who submit a Direct Loan Request to the SRJC Financial Aid Office.

# STATE GRANTS AND PROGRAMS

#### **California College Promise Grant**

California College Promise Grant is a program that provides assistance to waive the \$46 per unit community college unit fees and 50% of the parking permit for eligible students.

#### **Cal Grant**

Cal Grants are funded by the State of California to help students pay for college expenses in California. There are three types of Cal Grant awards. Cal Grant A: Students attending 4-year colleges; Cal Grant B: Community College students can receive \$1,672 for the academic year. Cal Grant C: Students in vocational programs can receive \$1,094 for the academic year.

Note: Cal Grant A and B funding is limited to four academic years. In order to graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in four years, students must complete 15 or more degree-applicable units per semester. We encourage all students to create an education plan early on by meeting with an <u>academic counselor</u>.

# **Student Success Completion Grant**

The Student Success Completion Grant is a grant that is awarded to eligible Cal Grant B and C students who are enrolled full-time (12 or more units). A student can receive up to \$1,298 per academic year if the student is enrolled in 12-14 units each term. Students enrolled in 15 units or more each term will be eligible for up to \$8,000 per academic year. The purpose of this grant is to provide students with additional financial aid to help offset the total cost of community college attendance and to encourage students to attend full-time.

#### **Chafee Grant**

This grant applies to *current or former foster youth* in foster care between the ages of 16-18 and has not reached the age of 22. Students can receive up to \$5,000 for the academic year.

# **SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAMS**

- Frank P. and Polly O'Meara Doyle Scholarships
- SRJC Foundation Scholarships
- Business and Community Organization Scholarships

Learn more about SRJC's Scholarship Programs.

# **VETERANS BENEFITS AND SUPPORT SERVICES**

Benefits are paid to eligible veterans, dependents, reservists, and service members in an approved training program. Major benefit programs are:

- Post-9/11 GI Bill
- Montgomery GI Bill Active Duty (MGIB-AD)
- Survivors' and Dependents" Educational Assistance Program (DEA)

Learn more about student Veterans benefits and support services.

# II. STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

# General Student Eligibility Requirements for Federal Financial Aid

Students must meet a number of eligibility criteria to demonstrate the right to public funding for their higher education. Some eligibility conditions are confirmed when submitting the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (**FAFSA**), including database matches between the U.S. Department of Education and other federal agencies; other criteria must be documented and monitored by the school.

# **Eligibility for Federal Student Aid**

- US Citizen or Permanent Resident
- Have a valid social security number
- Have a high school diploma or a recognized equivalent such as a General Educational Development (GED) certificate
- Be enrolled in an eligible program of study
- Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress
- Have no defaulted loans or owe a grant repayment

# **Eligibility Requirements for State Financial Aid**

When submitting the FAFSA application, California residents are also reviewed for potential eligibility for the following State grant programs described in Section 1:

- 1. California College Promise Grant (CCPG)
- 2. Cal Grant
  - Student Success Completion Grant (SSCG)
- 3. Chafee Grant

# **California College Promise Grant Eligibility:**

Be a California resident or qualify for AB540 status and meet at least one of the following criteria:

- The student or the student's parent(s)\* are receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)/CalWORKs, Supplemental Security Income (SSI/SSP), or General Assistance
- The student or the student's parent(s)\* meet income standards
- The student has filed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act Application (CADAA) and has remaining financial need

#### AND

The student meets one of the following:

- Qualifies for a Dependent's Fee Waiver through the California Department of Veterans Affairs or the National Guard Adjutant General
- Is a dependent or a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor
- Is a dependent of a victim of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attack
- Is a dependent of a deceased law enforcement/fire suppression personnel killed in the line of duty

To maintain eligibility for the California College Promise Grant, students must meet these standards:

- Academic Maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or higher
- Progress Successfully complete more than 50% of all cumulative units attempted.

Exemption for Foster Youth: Foster youth up to 24 years of age are exempted from these standards.

# **Cal Grant Eligibility**

Cal Grant A and B funding is limited to four academic years. In order to graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in four years, students must complete 15 or more degree-applicable units per semester. We strongly encourage all students to create an education plan early by meeting with an academic counselor.

# **Eligibility Requirements**

- Be a California resident or have AB 540 status with Admissions & Records
- If selected for verification, must submit a verification form and provide tax documents and/or additional documentation to support the information reported on the FAFSA.
- Enroll in at least 6 units
- Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress

# **Student Success Completion Grant (SSCG)**

- Be a Cal Grant C or B recipient
- Enroll in 12 or more units

# **Chafee Grant for Foster Youth Eligibility**

- Be a current or former foster youth who was a ward of the court, living in foster care, for at least one day between the ages of 16 and 18
- If students are/were in Kin-GAP, a non-related legal guardianship, or were adopted, they are eligible only if they were a dependent or ward of the court, living in foster care, for at least one day between the ages of 16 and 18
- Have not participated in the program for more than 5 years (whether or not consecutive)
- Enroll in an eligible public or private college, university, or technical school
- Enroll at least half-time
- Enroll in a program at least one academic year long
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress
- Demonstrate financial need (FAFSA or CADAA)

# **State Financial Aid and Undocumented Students**

Signed into law in October 2001, California Assembly Bill 540 (AB540/SB68) is a bill that provides an exemption to the requirement to pay nonresident tuition. California Community College students granted an AB540/SB68 exemption will be charged in-state tuition and fees, not the supplemental tuition charged to nonresidents.

Undocumented students who are determined to be AB540 eligible can apply for state-sponsored aid by completing the California Dream Act Application (CADAA).

<sup>\*</sup>Parental information only applies to students who are dependent. Not sure if you are a dependent? Find out here.

# California Dream Act Application (CADAA) Eligibility Requirements

- Undocumented students who meet AB540 status.
- Attended a school in California for 3 years
- Graduated from a California High School
- Be enrolled in an eligible program of study
- Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress

# By completing the California Dream Act Application, AB540 students may be eligible for the following California state aid and services:

- California College Promise Grant (CCPG)
- Cal Grant
- Student Success Completion Grant (SSCG)
- Chafee Grant
- Extended Opportunities Programs and Services (EOPS)

SRJC's Dream Center staff is available to help students navigate matters related to AB40 admissions, the California Dream Act Application, the California College Promise Grant, DACA Renewals, and other services and referrals. Visit the <a href="Dream Center online">Dream Center online</a> or call (707) 521-7947 for information and assistance. For current and complete information about AB540 eligibility requirements, visit Admissions & Records online.

#### III. APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES

#### **Financial Aid Applications**

The Student Financial Services Office works closely with all students to make education at Santa Rosa Junior College affordable. Our staff is here to guide students and their families through the financial aid process from start to finish. More information can be found on our web page.

- FAFSA Free Application for Federal Student Aid
- <u>CADAA</u> California Dream Act Application
- CCPG California College Promise Grant
- Chafee California Chafee Grant for Foster Youth
- AwardSpring SRJC Scholarship Application

#### FAFSA

Students who meet the Federal eligibility requirements are strongly encouraged to submit the FAFSA to be considered for Federal Aid and the CCPG tuition fee waiver. When completing the FAFSA annually, students are automatically considered for California State grant programs. *There is no need to complete separate State applications.* Students are directed to review the <u>FAFSA Checklist</u> before starting the application.

#### **FAFSA DEADLINES**

Oct 1 – June 30: FAFSA is available. Submit a NEW application for each new academic year.

March 2: This is the <u>priority deadline</u> for the upcoming academic year for 4-year schools. This is the priority deadline to qualify for a High School Entitlement Award and Competitive Cal Grant Awards.

Students can submit the FAFSA after March 2 for consideration for Federal financial aid, the CCPG fee waiver, and institutional grants.

April: Applications processing begins for the upcoming academic year. Processing can take approximately four weeks once the student's FAFSA has been received by SRJC.

September 2: This is the <u>priority deadline</u> for the upcoming academic year for community colleges. This is the priority deadline to qualify for a High School Entitlement Award and Competitive Cal Grant Award.

#### CADAA

Students who meet the AB540 eligibility requirements are strongly encouraged to submit the CADAA to be considered for State financial aid, including Cal Grants and the CCPG tuition fee waiver. When completing the CADAA annually, students are automatically considered for California State grant programs.

There is no need to complete separate State applications. Students are directed to review the CADAA Checklist before starting the application.

#### **CADAA DEADLINES**

Oct 1 – June 30: The CADAA is available. Submit a NEW application for each new academic year.

March 2: This is the priority deadline to qualify for a High School Entitlement Award and Competitive Cal

Grant Awards.

Students can submit the CADAA after March 2 for consideration for the CCPG fee waiver, and institutional grants.

June: CADAAs are processed beginning in mid-June for students who apply from October 1 to March 2

for the upcoming academic year. For students who submit an application after March 2,

processing will begin in July.

September 2: This is the priority deadline for the upcoming academic year for community colleges. This is the

priority deadline to qualify for a High School Entitlement Award and Competitive Cal Grant

Award.

# **CCPG**

Students who <u>will not</u> complete the FAFSA or CADAA can still qualify for this fee waiver by completing the California College Promise Grant Application. A new application is required for each academic year: <a href="https://financialaid.santarosa.edu/grants">https://financialaid.santarosa.edu/grants</a>

# **Chafee Grant**

Eligible students must complete a new financial aid application and Chafee grant application each academic year to be considered for aid:

- The California Chafee Grant Application AND
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act Application (CADAA)

#### INSTITUTIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

# FRANK P. AND POLLY O'MEARA DOYLE SCHOLARSHIPS

Qualified students who wish to be considered for a Doyle Scholarship must submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) OR the California Dream Act Application (CADAA) in order to be considered.

#### Who Qualifies?

- Recent High school graduates for Doyle Scholarship awards
- Unweighted High School GPA of 2.0 or greater
- Must submit the FAFSA or CADAA application if eligible to do so\* regardless of financial need
- Enroll in a minimum of 6 units at SRJC\*\*
- Be fully matriculated
- International and continuing SRJC students apply through <u>AwardSpring</u>

PRIMARY APPLICATION PERIOD: October 1 - March 2. Applications are accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis until September 2. Students are encouraged to submit their FAFSA/CADAA for consideration of awards for the academic year, depending on available funding.

- \* Students who cannot complete either application (no SSN/not AB540 eligible) should contact the SRJC Scholarship Office directly for assistance.
- \*\*Award amounts are pro-rated at 6, 9, 12, and 15+ units up to a maximum of \$1,700 for the academic year.

#### FOUNDATION CONTINUING STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are available for students who will continue their studies at SRJC during the next academic year. Scholarship criteria vary, but **most** scholarships require:

- At the time of application, be enrolled in 6 units or more at SRJC
- Minimum overall SRJC GPA of 2.0 (2.5+ recommended).
- 12 or more units completed at the time of application
- Meet Satisfactory Academic Progress requirements
- Be enrolled at SRJC at the time of scholarship disbursement (unit requirement varies by scholarship)

#### FOUNDATION TRANSFERRING STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

This program is designed for Santa Rosa Junior College students who will be transferring to a four-year school after completing the transfer requirements at SRJC.

- Completed at least 24 units at SRJC
- Will complete 60 transferable units at the time of transfer
- Will transfer to a four-year institution in the next academic term.
- At the time of application, be enrolled in 6 or more units at SRJC
- Have a minimum overall GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Prior to disbursement, provide verification of enrollment at a transferring institution

# **Application and Timeline**

SRJC Foundation Scholarships are accessed via the student's **AwardSpring Account**.

The common application offers the greatest opportunity for students to apply for scholarship support to continue their education. The primary application period is from mid-January to March 2. A secondary application cycle runs from mid-August to October 1. A small number of scholarship opportunities may become available outside of the primary and secondary cycles. Students who submit their applications by the priority deadlines may be considered for opportunities that become available after these dates and within the current application cycle.

# IV. ACCOUNTING REQUIREMENTS

In compliance with federal regulation of the separation of functions, as outlined in Volume IV of the Federal Student Aid Handbook, the Chief Business Officer and/or designee, shall be responsible for disbursing all financial aid and performing all other general accounting procedures.

# V. PACKAGING AND DISBURSEMENTS

#### PACKAGING/AWARDING

When a student applies for financial aid, funds usually come from more than one source (federal, state, private, etc.). The process of awarding is referred to as *packaging* and the sum of the award is referred to as the *award package*. Once the financial need is determined, the student will be awarded aid until the need has been met or until no additional funds are available. All award packages are initially estimated based on full-time (12 units minimum) enrollment. Awards are re-packaged based on the student's actual enrollment status prior to disbursement. Some awards may be reduced (pro-rated) or canceled for less than full-time enrollment. Students who drop classes after their first payment in the term may not be eligible to receive their second payment or may have their second payment reduced (see SRJC's Payment Calendar below). In some cases, students may be required to return a portion of already disbursed Federal financial aid.

# FINANCIAL AID DISBURSEMENT (REFUND)

**Disbursements** of financial aid and/or scholarship funds are first applied to the student's college account balance paying for any outstanding debt.

A refund is any remaining funds due to the student after disbursement, and the student has a zero balance in their student college account. BankMobile processes these refunds and can take up to 3-5 business days after disbursement.

SRJC has partnered with a third-party servicer, BankMobile, to deliver financial aid disbursements, including Doyle and Scholarship awards, to SRJC students.

The following options are available for student refunds:

- Deposit to an existing bank account
  - Note: BankMobile processes pending "refunds" daily. Once the refund is processed, students will
    receive the ACH electronic deposit within 3-5 business days, depending on their bank's policies.
- Deposit to a BankMobile Vibe checking account. (Refund is deposited to the Vibe checking account the same day that BankMobile receives funds).

For Pell, SRJC will reissue refunds returned as "Recipient Unknown" if we can resolve the reason BankMobile rejected the student's record. Otherwise, the student must request a reissue.

Note: Students who <u>do not</u> select a refund preference will be issued a check from BankMobile after attempts have been made to contact them to select their refund preference.

Students who receive a paper check and allow the check to stale-date must request a reissue. It is the student's responsibility to cash refund checks in a timely manner.

#### SRJC'S PAYMENT CALENDAR

Federal financial aid and Doyle scholarship awards are issued in four payments over the period of the academic year (August/October for the Fall term and January/March for the Spring term) to eligible students. Other financial aid awards, including loans, State grants, and scholarships, may have different timing and requirements for the release of funds. These dates are listed on the payment calendar.

#### VI. RETURN TO TITLE IV

Federal regulations require the Financial Aid Office to perform a *Return to Title IV Calculation* for students receiving federal financial aid who withdraw from all of their classes before the 60% point of the term. This calculation assesses the financial aid that is *earned* vs. *unearned* and can result in the student being required to repay all or a portion of their previously disbursed financial aid. This calculation is also required when a student receiving federal financial aid does not complete or pass any of their registered courses (this includes all of or a combination of W/EW/F/NP grades).

Santa Rosa Junior College's Return to Title IV Policy.

# VII. SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (SAP)

<u>Satisfactory Academic Progress</u> applies to all students, including students who are not currently receiving financial aid. SAP policy requires that students maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0, earn at least 66.67% of their attempted units, and finish their program before reaching 150% of the program's length. If a student does not meet any one of these criteria, they risk losing eligibility for financial aid.

#### **SAP POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

Financial aid regulations (34 CFR Sec. 668.34) require Santa Rosa Junior College to establish, publish, and apply qualitative, quantitative, and incremental standards by which SRJC can determine whether a student requesting and/or receiving financial aid is maintaining Satisfactory Academic Progress in their course of study. Financial Aid requires a declared educational goal and enrollment in a Title IV eligible program (16 or more units in length).

**Qualitatively**: The quality of a student's academic progress is measured by the overall Grade Point Average (GPA). Students must achieve and maintain an overall GPA of 2.0 on a scale of 4.0. Courses completed with a grade of A, B, C, D, P, or CR will be considered acceptable for Satisfactory Academic Progress. All units taken at SRJC and/or transferred into SRJC are considered.

**Quantitatively**: The SRJC Financial Aid Office measures academic progress by the number of units a student has attempted and completed. All students must complete a minimum of 66.67% of the units they attempt (for example, 60 units completed/90 units attempted = 66.67%). Grades of "P", "NP", "CR," "NC," "I," "W", and "EW" are included in the total course units attempted. In addition, students must complete their course of study within 150% of the program (Degree/Certificate) length as published in the SRJC catalog. For example, 60 units are required to receive an AA/AS degree; 150% of 60 units is 90 units. Therefore, a student has a timeframe of 90 units to obtain an Associate's Degree. Students who have attempted 90 or more units will be reviewed on a case-bycase basis by the Financial Aid Office if the student chooses to participate in the appeal for Financial Aid Eligibility process. Students who have Bachelor's or higher-level degrees will be considered over the 150% limit. All units taken at and/or transferred into SRJC are counted.

Incrementally: A student's Satisfactory Academic Progress will be reviewed after each academic term, including summer. If a student does not meet the qualitative (GPA) and/or quantitative (units completed/attempted) for that term, they may be placed on Warning or Probation status or may lose financial aid eligibility completely. Warning or Probation status will require certain academic standards to be met the next term. If the student is unable to meet the Warning or Probation requirements, they will then be ineligible to receive further financial aid. Students are allowed to appeal when financial aid eligibility is denied. The Director and/or designee's decision is final.

# Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Summary:

- Academic: Cumulative GPA of 2.0 or above
- Progress: Cumulative Completion of 66.7% or above
- Maximum timeframe: 150% of the program, previous BA, AA, or Certificate.

SAP is measured whether a student received Title IV funds in a previous year or not.

If it is determined mid-semester that a student did not meet SAP and the funds have already been disbursed, the student is ineligible for the following term.

Paying for one's classes or sitting out one or more academic terms does not affect a student's academic progress status, so neither is sufficient to reestablish aid eligibility.

# **Good Standing**

Good Standing indicates that the student is meeting all SAP requirements. To remain in good standing, students must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0, complete at least 66.67% of all attempted units, and finish their program before reaching 150% of the program's length.

# Warning

Warning status is assigned when a student does not meet Satisfactory Academic Progress for the first time. This status lasts for one payment period only (one academic term), during which the student may continue to receive Title IV financial aid funds. Students are informed that they are at risk of losing eligibility, should their next term remain unsatisfactory. The warning term is the student's opportunity to re-establish their Good Standing status. Students who fail to make satisfactory progress after the warning period will lose their aid eligibility and be placed in an ineligible status.

# Ineligible

Ineligible status is assigned when the student did not meet the minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA, unit completion of 66.67%, or after reaching the maximum timeframe. The student is not eligible for financial aid in this status unless they have an approved appeal. Eligibility can be automatically regained (without appeal) once the student meets the minimum 2.0 GPA, unit completion meets 66.67%, and has not exceeded the maximum timeframe.

#### Probation

Probation status is assigned when a submitted appeal is approved, resulting in reinstatement of financial aid eligibility for <u>one</u> payment period (academic term) only. Probation is assigned if the Financial Aid Office determines that the student should be able to meet the SAP standards by the end of the probationary term. If SAP requirements are not met within the probationary term, the student will become *ineligible post-probation* for financial aid.

#### **Approved Appeal with Education Plan**

Approved Appeal with Education Plan status is assigned when the student's appeal for financial aid eligibility is approved, resulting in reinstatement of aid eligibility for a designated period of time. In this status, students are required to complete 100% of all attempted units (whether approved for financial aid or not) and be able to meet the SAP requirements within the approved timeframe.

#### **Ineligible Post-Probation**

Ineligible Post-Probation status is assigned when the student does not meet the conditions specified in their approved appeal. This includes not completing 100% of all attempted units and/or earning a GPA of less than 2.0 for the academic term.

#### APPEAL PROCESS

Santa Rosa Junior College allows students to participate in an appeal process. Students may submit an appeal to have their financial aid eligibility reconsidered if they have extenuating circumstances that have hindered their academic performance. Submission of an appeal does not guarantee reinstatement of financial aid. If approved, the student will receive financial aid for the semester at the soonest payment date following approval.

The appeal form is available online through StudentForms, the confidential and secure student portal. If the appeal is approved, financial aid will be reinstated, and the student will be placed on *probation* for either one academic term or be assigned to an educational plan for a specified period. If the student does not meet the terms and conditions of the approved appeal while on financial aid probation or the approved education plan, they will lose financial aid eligibility at SRJC. All of the steps listed below are required before an appeal will be reviewed.

#### Step 1: SAP Workshop

Complete an online SAP Workshop (available through the Student Portal under the section called Online Classes/Workshops, then click "SAP Workshops").

#### **Step 2: Detailed Explanation**

Must provide a detailed explanation describing the extenuating circumstances that prevented the student from meeting the SAP standards. The explanation must include the following elements:

- Explain how extenuating circumstances affected the student's academic progress
- Include dates or a timeline of when the extenuating circumstances occurred and how long it lasted
- Describe how the situation has been resolved
- Describe how your satisfactory progress will be achieved and maintained in future semesters

**Extenuating Circumstances**: Circumstances that may be considered for a lack of academic progress are personal illness, serious illness or loss of an immediate family member, or other serious or compelling situations beyond the reasonable control of the student. Documentation will be required and qualifying circumstances must be non-recurring. SAP is reviewed at the end of every semester and student will be notified after their SAP status has been determined.

Supporting documentation is required to verify the extenuating circumstances described in the explanation. Documentation must be provided by an official third party.

Examples of acceptable documentation include (but are not limited to):

- Legal or court reports
- Insurance or medical records
- Verification of support services received
- An official letter from a third-party professional (examples include: current or former employer, sponsor, religious leader, or licensed therapist). An official letter must have the third party's letterhead, include their contact information, and be signed and dated.

# **Step 4: Financial Aid Education Plan**

Upload a current Financial Aid Education Plan to StudentForms. Counseling appointments are strongly encouraged and are available through the Counseling Office. By uploading the Education Plan to StudentForms, the student agrees that this Education Plan is the one that will be considered for financial aid purposes.

# **DEADLINE FOR SAP APPEALS**

Appeals for financial aid eligibility are only considered for the *current* academic term (*future* terms are to be included only with an approved education plan). *Prior* academic term(s) will not be eligible for financial aid.

To allow the Financial Aid staff time to review appeals in the current academic term, all appeal documents must be submitted by the dates below:

- Fall Semester November 30
- Spring Semester April 30
- Summer Term July 30

Approved appeals may not be amended. If a student has a new, non-recurring extenuating circumstance, the Financial Aid Office will review these on a case-by-case basis. Students should contact the Financial Aid Office for consultation.

# ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

**Student Status**: Only regularly enrolled students can be eligible for financial aid. Students on Academic Dismissal, Progress Dismissal, or High School Concurrent Enrollment students are not eligible for financial aid.

**Students enrolled in English as a Second Language (ESL) courses**: English as a Second Language courses are eligible for funding only if recommended on a long-term student educational plan by an academic counselor that shows when the student will begin an eligible certificate, Associate's Degree, or transfer preparation program. English as a Second Language coursework is then considered preparation for students to work at the post-secondary school level. All students receiving aid must have an eligible, declared educational goal.

**Students enrolled exclusively in Remedial coursework (numbered 300 – 399**): Under Title IV regulations, students may receive federal financial aid for up to 30 semester credit hours of remedial coursework, provided the courses are:

- Required by the institution as a prerequisite for enrollment in a degree or eligible certificate program, and
- Part of an eligible program offered by the institution
- These classes must be part of your educational plan developed with an academic counselor

**Student Borrowers**: Students who are receiving student loans must enroll in and complete at least six required units toward their goal with a 2.0 GPA each semester and must achieve a 2.0 or above semester GPA. Student borrowers must be in an eligible SAP status to receive loans.

**Academic Transcripts**: All college work on record at SRJC must be reviewed for maximum timeframe (quantitative) and GPA (qualitative) evaluation. Units taken at other colleges that have been transferred into SRJC do count toward the 150% limit. Students who have completed Bachelors or higher-level degrees will be considered as being over the 150% limit.

**Withdrawal - Refunds**: A student who withdraws from school completely or receives all F, W, EW, and/or NP grades in a term may be required to repay a prorated portion of the student aid funds received for that semester, and may be ineligible for further aid.

# VIII. CONSUMER INFORMATION

The Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 (HEOA) requires institutions participating in federally funded financial aid programs to make information about the institution available to current and prospective students. The <u>Consumer Information</u> page serves as a central location for parents, students, employees, and the campus community to obtain information and resources.