

# A Guide to Your DREAM Provisional Award Letter (PAL)

In the near future, you will be making a paramount decision about where your academic journey will begin. We are honored that you are considering becoming a Bruin. When considering UCLA, you and your family may have questions about costs. The Financial Aid and Scholarships team is here to assist you. We view the financing of your educational costs as a partnership between you (the student), your family and the University. Our financial aid programs are designed to ensure that your family's economic circumstances will not prohibit you from enrolling at UCLA.

We are excited to offer you a Dream Provisional Award Letter (PAL) to assist you and your family in making your dream of attending UCLA a reality. It is our hope that your academic journey will begin at UCLA. Now let us walk you through the process of understanding your Dream Provisional Award Letter (PAL).

Your Dream Provisional Award Letter (PAL) reflects our best estimate of the aid that you are eligible to receive based on the information that you provided on your financial aid application. The provisional offer of aid is intended to cover a portion of your Cost of Attendance with a combination of gift aid, work and loan.



## **Net Cost Approach**

When reviewing your Dream PAL, you will notice that your financial aid award offers have been separated into four sections:

- Grants & Scholarships: Gift aid that does not have to be repaid
- Work Options: Non-federal on-campus or off-campus employment opportunities
- (Visit the UCLA Career Center for job opportunities if you have a valid DACA Work Permit.)
- Loan Options: Federal loan options are not currently available for Dream students. The California DREAM Loan
   Program allows for UC and CSU campuses to administer non-federal loans to undocumented students who meet the
   DREAM Act Application requirements.
- Other Options: Savings, internships, etc.

You can find additional information about your award by clicking on the name of each award listed on your Dream PAL. Gift aid such as grants and scholarships are subtracted from the UCLA Cost of Attendance in order to determine your Net Costs.

#### Official Offer of Financial Aid

After you submit your Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) confirming your intent to enroll at UCLA, Financial Aid and Scholarships will provide you with an official financial aid offer. UCLA calls the official financial aid offer a Dream Financial Aid Notification (FAN) Your Financial Aid Notification will be made available on your MyUCLA Portal during the summer.

#### Cost of Attendance

A standardized set of budgets is used to determine your Cost of Attendance at UCLA. Cost of Attendance is comprised of reasonable costs for:

- University Fees
- Room & Board
- Books & Supplies
- Transportation
- Personal and Miscellaneous expenses
- Health Insurance





Please note that, while some of these costs (i.e. tuition and fees will be fixed, others are based on average expenses for a UCLA student and may not be representative of your actual expenses.



Cost of Attendance varies according to your living arrangements while in school based on the following three categories:

- Residence Halls
- Off Campus
- Living with parents or relatives

Financial Aid and Scholarships may confirm that the housing status you report on your financial aid application is accurate. As a review of this information may take place at any time during the year, please make sure that you keep your dorm contract, rental or lease agreement, and cancelled checks or other forms of proof of rent payments. Billing can result from an improperly reported housing status.

Cost of Attendance also varies based on whether you are considered a California Resident or Non-Resident (Out of State student). Non-Resident students pay Non-Resident Tuition. Students who qualify for AB540 status may be eligible for a Non-resident Tuition Exemption (commonly known as an AB 540 Tuition Exemption). The 2021-22 Cost of Attendance figures can be found at: financialaid.ucla.edu/Prospective-Student/Cost -of-Attendance

# **Verification or Requests for Additional Information**

In some cases, students may be selected for a process called verification. If you are selected for verification, you will be asked to submit a verification form and 2019 federal tax documents. Financial Aid and Scholarships may request additional information necessary to determine your eligibility for financial aid. If your financial aid application contains inconsistent information, Financial Aid and Scholarships must resolve any inconsistencies before you can be awarded financial aid. Submit any forms requested by Financial Aid and Scholarships in a timely manner to avoid delays in your official financial aid offer and/or disbursements.

If the information on your financial aid application changes, your award offer (either provisional or official) is subject to change. Awards are also subject to change if the California state budget and/or institutional aid allocation changes, which may not take place until late spring or summer.

## **Correcting Information on the CA Dream Act Application**

If you made an error when filing the California Dream Act application, make appropriate corrections as soon as possible at <a href="https://">https://</a> dream.csac.ca.gov/.

#### **Special Circumstances**

The UCLA Financial Aid and Scholarships team understands that circumstances may change over the course of the year which may affect a family's ability to contribute toward educational costs. Your eligibility for financial aid can be reevaluated based on certain circumstances. Some examples include:

- Loss of employment
- Catastrophic illness
- Divorce or separation
- Death of a parent or spouse
- Medical and dental costs not covered by insurance
- Costs associated with special education needs of a family member
- Reasonable costs of repair for damages caused by a natural disaster such as a flood or earthquake (not covered by insurance)
- Changes in marital status of the student or parent

To assist Financial Aid and Scholarships with documenting these circumstances, students should submit a Petition to Use

### **Reporting Outside Agency Awards**

If you receive outside agency scholarships, fee waivers, veteran benefits etc. These outside awards must be reported to Financial Aid and Scholarships. Please notify Financial Aid and Scholarships if you expect to receive awards that are not included on your Dream PAL so that we can update your award. Typically, outside awards will reduce loans and/or workstudy eligibility, but there may be exceptions. You can report outside agency awards directly on the Dream Financial Aid Notification (FAN). Remember, if the award is not reflected on the Dream PAL or the Dream FAN, we do not know about the award and your financial aid offer may need to be revised.

#### **Costs Before Financial Aid Disburses**

Financial aid disburses 10 days prior to the start of each quarter. You and your family should be prepared to cover costs that are due before your financial aid disburses. **Some costs include:** 

- \$250 deposit due with your Statement of Intent to Register (SIR)
- University housing deposit
- Orientation fee

We hope this provisional offer of financial aid will assist you in making the decision to attend UCLA. If you have additional questions, visit the Financial Aid and Scholarships office located in Murphy Hall, A-129J.

Learn more about the various financial aid programs offered at UCLA by viewing the 2021-22 Financial Aid Handbook and CA Dream Act Guide on our forms and publications page: financialaid.ucla.edu/Forms-and-Publications

# **Directory**

Financial Aid and Scholarships
A-129 Murphy Hall
www.financialaid.ucla.edu
Message Center
http://www.financialaid.ucla.edu/
Contact-Us
(310) 206-0400

Scholarship Resource Center 233 Covel Commons www.scholarshipcenter.ucla.edu (310) 203-2875

Student Accounts
1121 Murphy Hall
www.sfs.finance.ucla.edu
www.finance.ucla.edu/business-financeservices/student-accounts/contact-us
(310) 825-9194

Housing Services Office 360 De Neve Dr. www.housing.ucla.edu uclahousing@housing.ucla.edu (310) 206-7011

California Student Aid Commission P.O. Box 510845 Sacramento, CA 94245-0845 www.csac.ca.gov (888) CA GRANT

Bruin Resource Center
AB540 Undocumented Student
Program

http://www.usp.ucla.edu/ (310) 206-2980

