ORSAA Application & Resources for Undocumented and DACAmented Students

Portland State University

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Office of Student Access and Completion
Helping Oregon Students Plan and Pay for College
Building Trust with Students

• What are students’ experiences in schools? During the college process and beyond?

• How can we normalize the conversation about college and financial aid? How can we build trust?
How Do You Process Aid?

What does processing and awarding for ORSAA students look like?

- Do you import ORSAA data into your Financial aid management system?
- Do you use the ISIR format or Excel?
- Do you still require FAFSA in some format for DACA/undocumented students?
How Do You Process Aid?

What does processing and awarding for ORSAA students look like?

• How do you follow up?
• What is your timeline?
  • Same timeline for FAFSA & ORSAA?
• Same steps for FAFSA & ORSAA students?
Oregon Financial Aid Overview
What types of financial aid can undocumented/DACA students receive?

- Oregon Opportunity Grant
- Oregon Promise Grant
- Scholarships
- Institutional Aid
- Tuition Equity
Oregon Opportunity Grant

- Largest need-based state grant
- Submit ORSAA as soon as possible after 10/1 and meet EFC/SAI limit

- Must live in OR for 12 months and meet 4 specific criteria:
  1. Attend K-12 school in US for 5 years
  2. Attend K-12 school in OR for 3 years
  3. Graduate from high school (or equivalent) in OR
  4. Intention to become citizen or legal permanent resident
Undocumented students may be eligible for in-state tuition rates at public universities as long as they meet the additional eligibility requirements listed below. To apply, undocumented students must either:

- Complete an Affidavit and Request for Exemption from Nonresident Tuition and Fees, available at the Admissions Office of each Oregon public university; OR
- Submit an official copy of application for registration with a federal immigration program or federal deportation deferral program.

**Eligibility Requirements**

To be eligible for in-state tuition rates as well as the Oregon Opportunity Grant, undocumented students must meet all of the following tuition equity requirements:

- Student attended an elementary or secondary/high school in Oregon during all three years immediately prior to earning a high school diploma or leaving school before earning a diploma
- Student attended an elementary or secondary/high school in the United States for at least five years immediately prior to earning a high school diploma or leaving school before earning a diploma
- Student received a high school diploma or GED® in Oregon
- Student certifies intention to become a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident
Oregon Promise Grant

- For new/recent high school graduates and GED® test graduates
- Only for Oregon community colleges
- Submit ORSAA & complete OPG application by appropriate deadline
- Student (and parent) must live in Oregon for at least 12 months – *No other residency requirements*
Scholarships & Institutional Aid

• Wide variety of privately funded scholarships available - including over 80% of OSAC Scholarships

• Colleges and universities may have additional financial aid available. What is your scholarship application process for institutional scholarships?
ORSAA Tips & Resources
ORSAA What is the ORSAA?

For Oregon residents only (12 months+)

For DACAmented & other undocumented students

State of Oregon’s alternative to the FAFSA

ORSAA opens October 1

OregonStudentAid.gov
• If you know the FAFSA, you’re already an expert!

• ORSAA asks same questions as FAFSA and uses the same methodology
Tips to Complete the ORSAA

• Not sure which application to complete? Start with the pre-filter tool for all students.

• https://oregonstudentaid.gov/orsaa-filter.aspx
ORSAA Account Creation

- Student should use a permanent email (not school email)
- Remember your Secret Answer
- SSN is optional
• 4 tuition equity questions

• Student must answer YES to all 4 questions, to be considered for Oregon Opportunity Grant and The Ford Family Foundation Scholarships (not required for Oregon Promise)
ORSAA Signature Process

• If dependent student, parent and student must e-sign

• After student e-signs, they must send parent an invite via email

• Parent checks email, creates account, reviews & e-signs
Most Important: Get to SATISFIED!
Tips to Complete the ORSAA

- Submitting a revision, adding a college, etc.

- Student should *FIRST* download PDF of the ORSAA

- Student will need to re-enter financial information

- Be sure to e-sign again!
• OSAC emails students within 1-2 weeks to confirm ORSAA submission.

• OSAC emails students about potential errors on their submitted ORSAA.

• Completed PDF of ORSAA shows the student’s EFC. (Student can request letter from OSAC.)
• Email notification about Oregon Opportunity Grant typically starts in March/April (if student is awarded).

• Students should complete other aid applications (OSAC Scholarships, Oregon Promise, campus, etc).
Understanding the ORSAA
Oregon Student Aid Application

The ORSAA is the alternative to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for undocumented students in Oregon, including students with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status. The ORSAA gives students access to state grants and scholarships.

WHO SHOULD SUBMIT AN ORSAA?
You should submit the ORSAA if you’re an undocumented student, including DACA, TPS, or UV-Visa status, and you are a new or continuing college student. You must currently live and study in Oregon.

WHY SHOULD I SUBMIT AN ORSAA?
By submitting the ORSAA - early, and each year you attend college - you can gain access to financial aid through the state of Oregon such as the Oregon Promise Grant, Oregon Promise Grant*, and OSAC Scholarships. You must meet eligibility criteria for each program. Financial aid helps you meet the costs of attending college.

DO I NEED TO SUBMIT THE ORSAA AND THE FAFSA?
First, submit the ORSAA if you are an undocumented, DACA, TPS, or UV-Visa student. Next, talk to the financial aid office at your school. Ask if you can complete anything else to apply for campus-based aid.

CONTACT OSAC WITH ANY QUESTIONS:
Email: ORSAAHelp@hecce.oregon.gov
Phone: (800) 452-8837
Support available 8:00am - 4:30pm, Monday-Friday
OregonStudentAid.gov

Entendiendo la ORSAA
Solicitud de Ayuda Estudiantil de Oregón

La ORSAA es la alternativa a la Solicitúd Gratuita de Ayuda Federal para Estudiantes (FAFSA) para estudiantes indocumentados en Oregon, incluyendo estudiantes con la Acción Diferida para los Llegados en la Infancia (DACA). La solicitud de ORSAA les da acceso a estudiantes a subvenciones y becas estatales.

¿QUÉ NECESITO PARA SOMETER LA ORSAA?
Debes reunir la siguiente información para ti mismo (y tus padres si estás en ese caso):
- Dirección de correo electrónico diferente para el estudiante y el padre.
- Fecha de nacimiento, número de teléfono, dirección.
- Declaración de impuestos y otros ingresos de los estudiantes.

¿QUÉ NECESITO PARA SOMETER LA ORSAA?
Debes cumplir con el siguiente formulario de solicitud de la universidad.
- Debes tener los siguientes documentos:
- Certificados de escolaridad.

OREGONSTUDENTAID.GOV
Applying for Scholarships
Applying for Scholarships

- OSAC Scholarships
- Institutional Scholarships
- Local Scholarships
- National Scholarships
- Ask scholarship providers about including undocumented applicants
OSAC Scholarship Application

- 600+ Scholarships Available
- Over $10 million awarded
- Average award
- Awardees
Student Scholarships

Steps

- Research
- Essays
- Resume
- Letter(s) of Recommendation
- Proving financial need
What do you need?

• What can OSAC do to make this easier for you and your students?

• What can high schools and college access programs do to make this process easier for students and for you?
Questions? Feedback?

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