

## DECEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

### Spring 2024 Disbursement Information

Spring aid will begin disbursing at the end of the week of January 8th.

Here are a couple of things you need to keep in mind:

- **If you have any financial aid To Do items or Holds on your Student Center, these may keep your aid from being awarded and/or disbursed.** Take care of them ASAP!
- **Financial aid is disbursed based on the number of units you are enrolled in** - waitlisted units do not count.
  - 12+ units = Full Time
  - 9-11 units = Three Quarter Time
  - 6-8 units = Half Time
  - 1-5 units = Less Than Half Time
- **Financial aid is finalized based on your enrollment as of Census, on February 14th.** To avoid any confusion or frustration, we recommend finalizing your schedule as early as possible.
- **The Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) process will run after fall grades are official.** Grades are due on January 2nd, and should be official a few days later. If you are not meeting our SAP policy, you will receive an email notification and a To Do Item on your Student Center for submitting an appeal. Financial aid cannot be disbursed until an appeal has been submitted and considered for approval. [Click here for more information about the SAP Policy and Appeal Process.](#)
  - **If you submitted a SAP appeal in the Fall 2023 semester and it was approved,** we will review your progress and ensure you are meeting the conditions of your approval before your spring aid can disburse. If you have not received an update by January 31st, please contact our office.
- **Middle Class Scholarship (MCS):** If you are eligible for the MCS, you will see a hold on your Student Center that is keeping your spring MCS from disbursing. We will begin disbursing MCS after census (February 14th), once financial aid is finalized based on enrollment.



### CHANGES FOR CONTACTING US

**At the beginning of the semester, we usually experience a high call volume.** With this, we know that waiting on hold for indefinite periods of time can be super frustrating. To help alleviate this, we are trying something new. We will not be accepting calls from January 2-12, but instead, you will be able to request a call back from our office at a convenient time for you. We wanted to share a couple of other options for getting in touch with us:

- **\*NEW\*** Request a call back at a specific time from [our website](#). This feature will be available January 2nd-January 12th!
  - After January 12th, you can call us at 559.278.2182
- Visit us in the North Lobby of the Joyal Administration building, Windows 1-3
- Chat with us directly from our webpage
- E-mail us at [financialaid@mail.fresnostate.edu](mailto:financialaid@mail.fresnostate.edu)

### 2024-2025 FINANCIAL AID APPLICATIONS

#### Update on 2024-2025 Financial Aid Applications

Both the 2024-2025 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the California Dream Act Application (CADAA) will be available by the end of December 2023.

There are MASSIVE CHANGES to the FAFSA, so it is important that you complete your application as soon as possible. We will be hosting workshops to help students and their families complete the application.

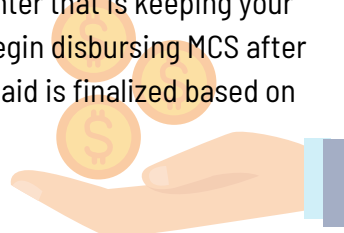
The priority filing deadline has been extended to April 2, 2024, because of the late release of the applications.

**Remember, the Fresno State General Scholarship Application is open now with a priority deadline of March 2, 2024.** There are hundreds of opportunities in this single application!

### PLEASE BE PATIENT...

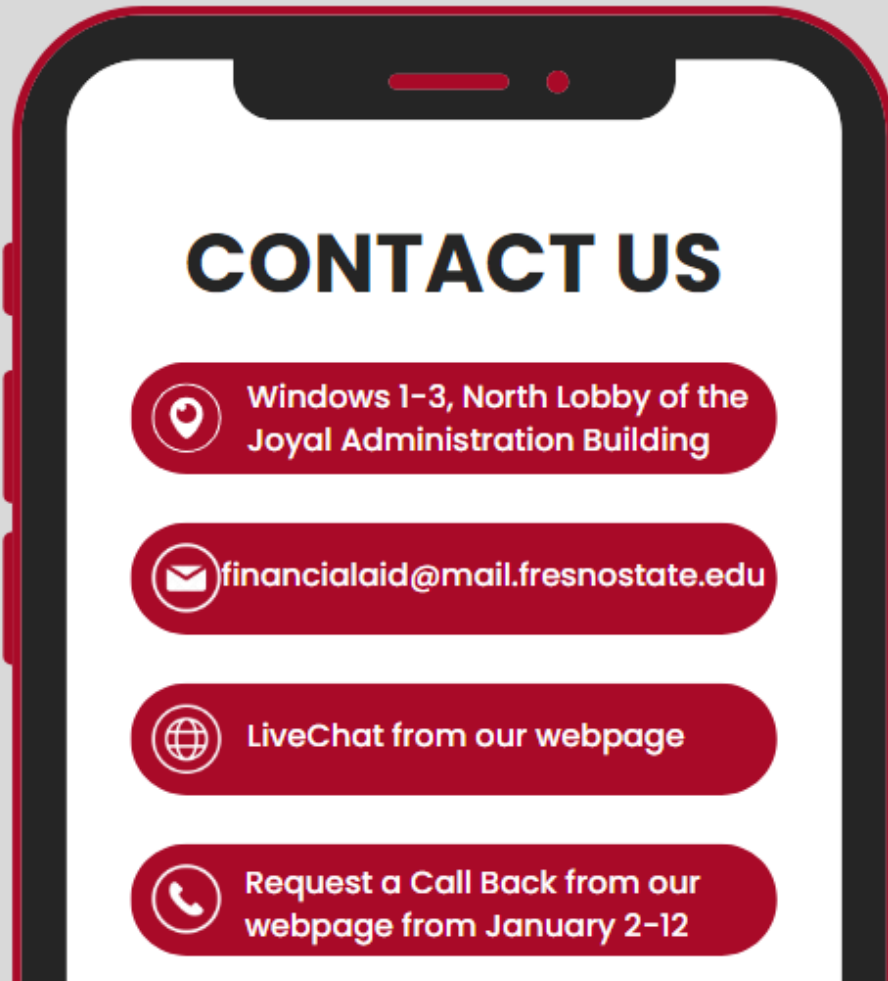
As the spring semester gets kicked off, the wait time for email responses will likely increase. Please be patient with us as we work to answer your questions!

**FOLLOW US TODAY!**  
**@FSFINANCIALAID**



# WE'RE TRYING SOMETHING NEW!

IN AN EFFORT TO BETTER SERVE OUR STUDENTS AND ELIMINATE  
LONG WAIT TIMES, WE HAVE EXPANDED OUR CONTACT OPTIONS



From January 2-12, we will not be taking phone calls. Instead, you can book a time for a callback from our staff to help reduce long wait times!

After January 12, you will be able to call us at 559.278.2182

# Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

## Spring 2024 and what to expect

Fall 2023 grades are official around January 8, 2024. After that, once we get the green light from the Registrar's Office, we will evaluate everyone enrolled in the Spring 2024 semester to ensure they are maintaining their financial aid eligibility through the SAP requirements.

### Meeting SAP?

Sometimes no news is good news - We will not notify you if you are meeting SAP. There is no action needed on your part and your financial aid eligibility is not impacted due to SAP.

### Not meeting SAP for the first time?

No worries! You'll have an opportunity to resolve the SAP issue. For this semester, you are put in a warning status and your financial aid is not impacted. For the following semester, if you are able to meet SAP requirements, your aid eligibility is not impacted, however, if you do not meet SAP requirements for a second semester, you would lose financial aid eligibility.

### Not meeting SAP after the warning semester?

Since you have not met SAP requirements for more than one semester, you are ineligible for financial aid. You will see a "SAP Fail Appeal" To Do item pop up on your Student Center and you will have the opportunity to appeal your eligibility if you have extenuating circumstances that impacted your ability to meet the SAP requirements.

### Did you have an approved SAP appeal in Fall 2023?

We will review your progress and ensure you are meeting the conditions of your approval before your spring aid can disburse. If you have not received an update by January 31st, please contact our office.

**As always,  
if you have any  
questions,  
please don't hesitate to  
reach out!**