

# UCSD STUDENTS RECEIVE FINANCIAL AID.

## DO YOU KNOW YOUR OPTIONS?



### The Five Myths of Financial Aid

#### MYTH 1: ONLY STUDENTS FROM LOW-INCOME FAMILIES QUALIFY FOR FINANCIAL AID.

**False:** All families are encouraged to apply for aid, whether they think they qualify or not. Many are surprised to find they are eligible for grants or scholarships and almost all will qualify for low-cost educational loans for parents and students. In fact, **about two-thirds of UC undergraduates receive some form of financial support.**

#### MYTH 2: APPLYING FOR THE FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA) IS TOO COMPLICATED.

**False:** Now it's easier than ever to complete and submit your FAFSA form! While applying for financial aid can seem intimidating for the first time applicant, millions of people successfully navigate the process each year. The online FAFSA form was recently reduced from 27 pages to seven and now low-income students no longer have to report parental assets on the FAFSA form. Submit your FAFSA in January of your senior year in high school to meet the March 2 deadline. Also, request that your high school submit your Cal Grant GPA Verification form by March 2.

#### MYTH 3: I CAN'T AFFORD TO ATTEND UC SAN DIEGO NOW WITH THE INCREASE IN FEES.

**False:** UC San Diego still remains accessible and affordable for students. Our campus offers a myriad of financial aid resources for low-income and other students on an ongoing basis. Recently ranked the best-value public university in California by *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* magazine, UC San Diego's financial aid programs will help you pay for college through a combination of grants, loans, scholarships or work-study jobs to help reduce the cost of college.

#### MYTH 4: I AM A TRANSFER STUDENT, SO I'M NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FINANCIAL AID.

**False:** Transfer students are eligible for financial aid at the University of California. In fact, many community college students lose out on free money for college by not applying for financial aid. Students who plan to go to community college before attending UC San Diego should adhere to the March 2 deadline for the Cal Grant and FAFSA as they prepare to transfer. Contact the UC San Diego Financial Aid Office to make sure you know all the deadlines that apply to you.

#### MYTH 5: EACH DOLLAR MY PARENTS SAVE HURTS MY CHANCES TO QUALIFY FOR GRANTS.

**False:** The amount in a parent's saving accounts and other assets are indeed used in the federal formula that determines a family's ability to contribute to college costs. However, a large portion of those savings are protected from consideration; it may be only a small percentage of the remaining amount that is considered an asset in the calculation of a student's financial aid eligibility. UC San Diego students can estimate how much financial aid they're eligible for through the budgeting tools and calculators on the Financial Aid Office website at <http://fao.ucsd.edu>. By answering a few simple questions on the financial calculator, students can discover how much aid they'll probably receive.

**FINANCIAL AID.  
GET YOURS.  
APPLY BY MARCH 2!**