



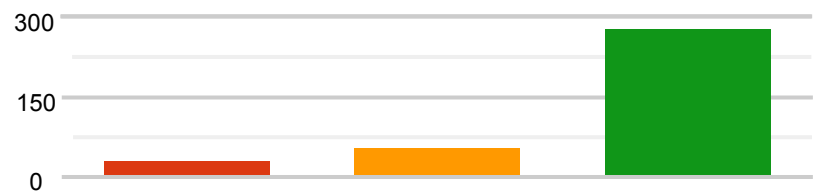
[CaliforniaColleges.edu](https://californiacolleges.edu) provides all middle and high school students with free financial aid lessons and tools that help them learn about, plan for, and apply for financial aid. Managed by the [California College Guidance Initiative](#), CaliforniaColleges.edu also allows districts and educators to track student progress and intervene to support those who need more help.

The [Financial Aid Feature](#) on CaliforniaColleges.edu helps students navigate the financial aid system, allows educators to monitor student progress and craft targeted interventions, and helps districts ensure compliance with AB 2015 and AB 469. We surveyed **371 high school seniors** who have used the Financial Aid Feature on CaliforniaColleges.edu to learn about their experiences and how it helped them understand and apply for financial aid.

Disagree/Strongly Disagree Neither Agree or Disagree Agree/Strongly Agree

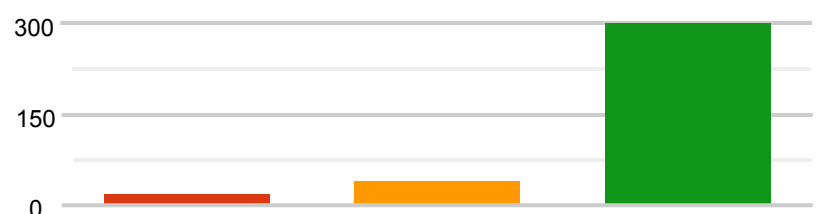
Starting as early as 6th grade, students access lessons that help them understand college costs, financial aid options, and the application process. The lessons can be independently navigated by students. Educators can view all their students' progress at a glance, so they can quickly identify those who might need support.

It was easy to understand the information in the financial aid lessons.



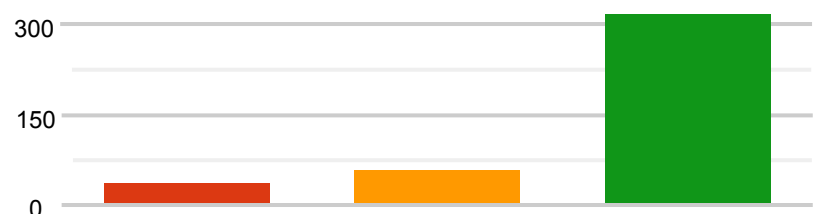
Lessons walk seniors step-by-step through the financial aid application process. First, students determine whether they are eligible to submit the FAFSA or CADAA application. They are then taken through a series of lessons customized to their chosen application type, which ensure the student has the information they need to prepare and submit their application.

It was easier to choose the right application for me (FAFSA/CADAA).



By launching FAFSA or CADAA applications through CaliforniaColleges.edu, students and their counselors can then independently monitor application status and see if their Cal Grant GPA has been submitted to the California Student Aid Commission. After applying, lessons guide students through comparing financial aid packages and determining which best meet their needs.

It was easier to complete the FAFSA or CADAA.



What Students Are Saying:

"My favorite thing was the simplicity of it. There were quick lessons and short, easy steps to help prepare and complete the FAFSA/CADAA."

"It provided simplistic explanations that made financial aid easy to understand for a first-generation student like myself."

"By the time you click the button to open your application, you already have your parents' taxes, your household information - everything that you need to fill it out."

To learn more about how the Financial Aid Feature on CaliforniaColleges.edu benefits students, educators, and districts, contact California College Guidance Initiative President Tessa De Roy at tderoy@californiacolleges.edu.