What is the CADAA?

- The California Dream Act Application (CADAA) allows undocumented and nonresident documented students who meet certain eligibility requirements to apply for state financial aid such as the Cal Grant and Chafee Grant.

- Students who complete the CADAA are not eligible for federal financial aid, like the Pell Grant.

- It also allows qualified students to pay in-state resident fees (instead of higher out-of-state fees) at California's public colleges and universities.

Who is eligible to submit a CADAA?

Students who meet AB540 criteria, have Temporary Protected Status or hold a U Visa.

To qualify for AB 540 a student must satisfy ALL of the following criteria:

1. Three or more years of full-time attendance or attainment of equivalent credits earned in California from a high school, adult school or community college (credit or non-credit courses) or any combination of the three:
or
2. Three or more years of full-time high school coursework **and** attended a combination of elementary, middle and/or high school in California for a combined total of three or more years.

Satisfy one of the following:
A. Graduate from a California high school, **or**
B. Obtain a GED, HiSET or TASC in California, **or**
C. Attain an associate degree from a California Community College, **or**
D. Fulfilled the minimum transfer requirements to transfer from a California Community College to a University of California or California State University.

Will register or enroll in an accredited and qualifying California college or university

Does not hold a valid non-immigrant visa (F, J, H, L, A, B, C, D, E, etc.)

Does DACA status and having a social security number impact eligibility?

- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status is not required to apply for the CADAA. Students who never applied to DACA or lost DACA status may still be eligible.
- If you received DACA status and were issued a social security number, you must still fill out the CADAA.
- If you have a social security card, but it says "VALID FOR WORK ONLY WITH DHS AUTHORIZATION" you are not eligible to complete the FAFSA. You must meet the AB540 criteria on the prior slide to be eligible for the CADAA.
- Your parent's citizenship status does not impact your eligibility to receive financial aid under the CADAA.

CADAA Information is Private!

- CADAA information is not shared with the Federal government
- The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) protects the confidentiality of student records
- CSAC has never shared any information about a student's immigration status, documented or undocumented
- CSAC also complies with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which protects the privacy of student education records

CADAA Application Options

The online application is only available in English only at:
dream.csac.ca.gov

Paper applications are available in English & Spanish:
Call 1-888-CA-GRANT (1-888-224-7268) **or download a PDF version at**
dream.csac.ed.gov

TIP

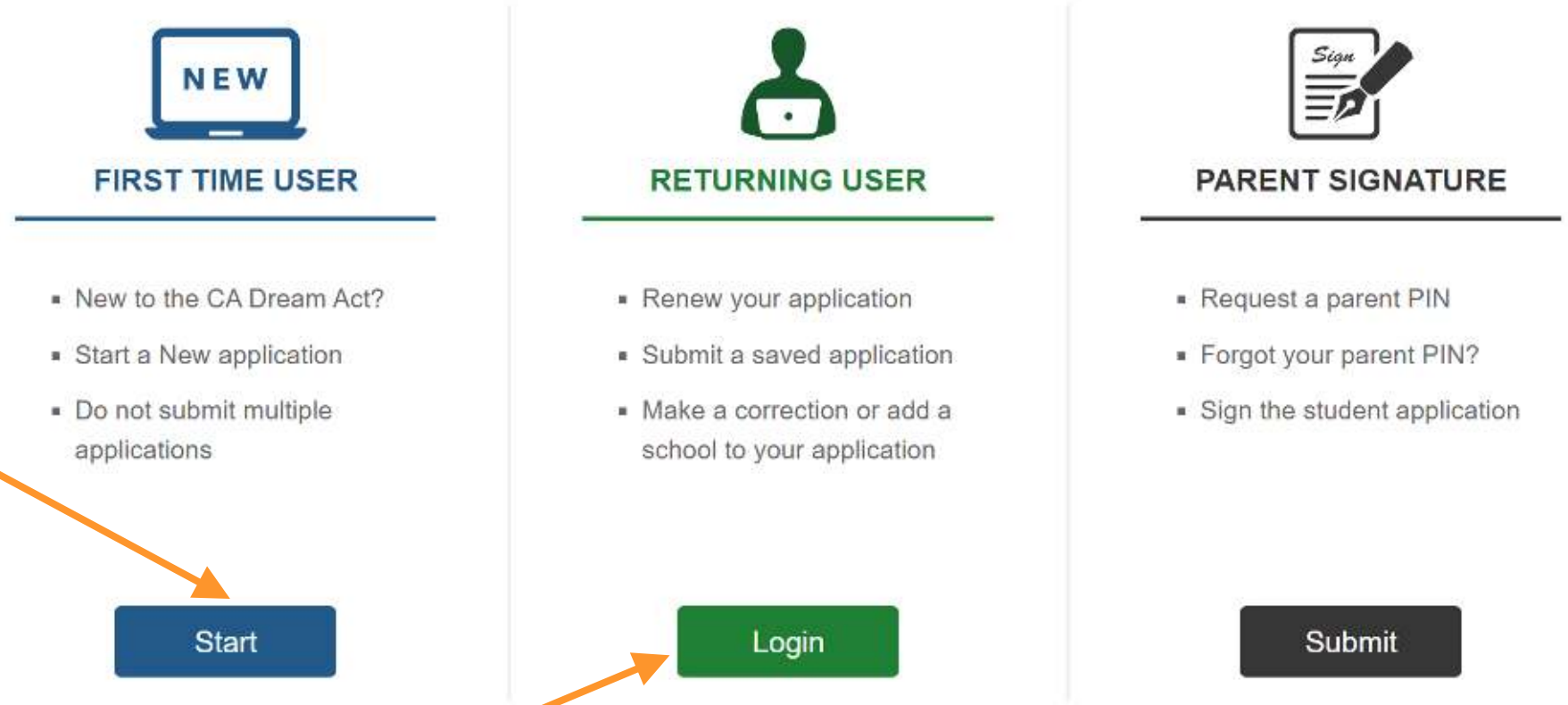
It is recommended to complete the online application to reduce any chances of errors.

STEP 1: BEGIN A NEW CADAA AT DREAM.CSAC.CA.GOV

Reminder:
The CADAA must be filled out EVERY year! This is a FREE application.

New to the CADAA Process:
Click "Start."

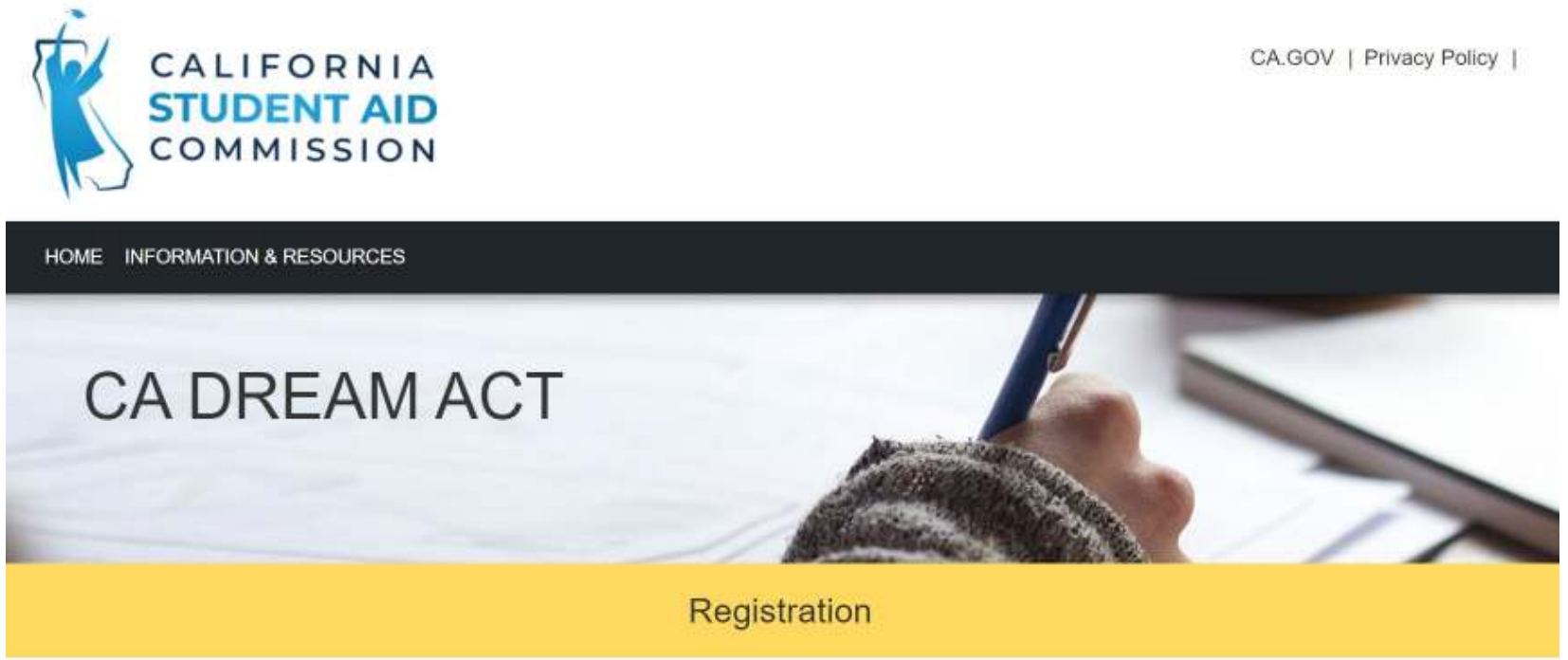
Returning User:
Click "Login." You can also login to make corrections or add a new college to your application.



STEP 1: BEGIN A NEW CADAA AT DREAM.CSAC.CA.GOV

Starting a new CADAA begins with registration to verify your eligibility for the CADAA.

-Click Continue.

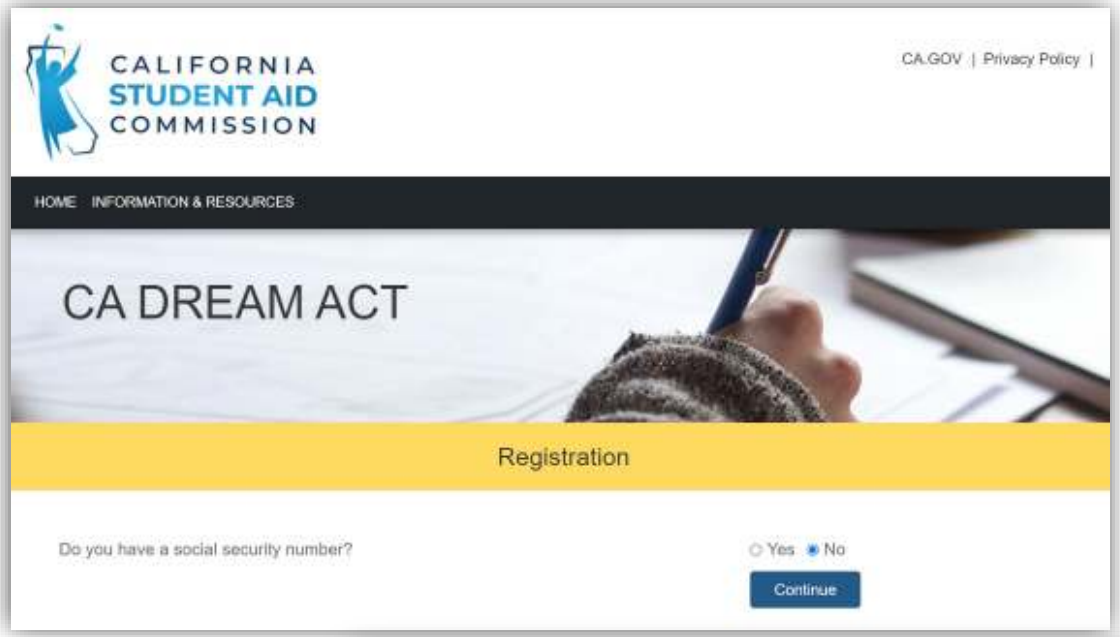


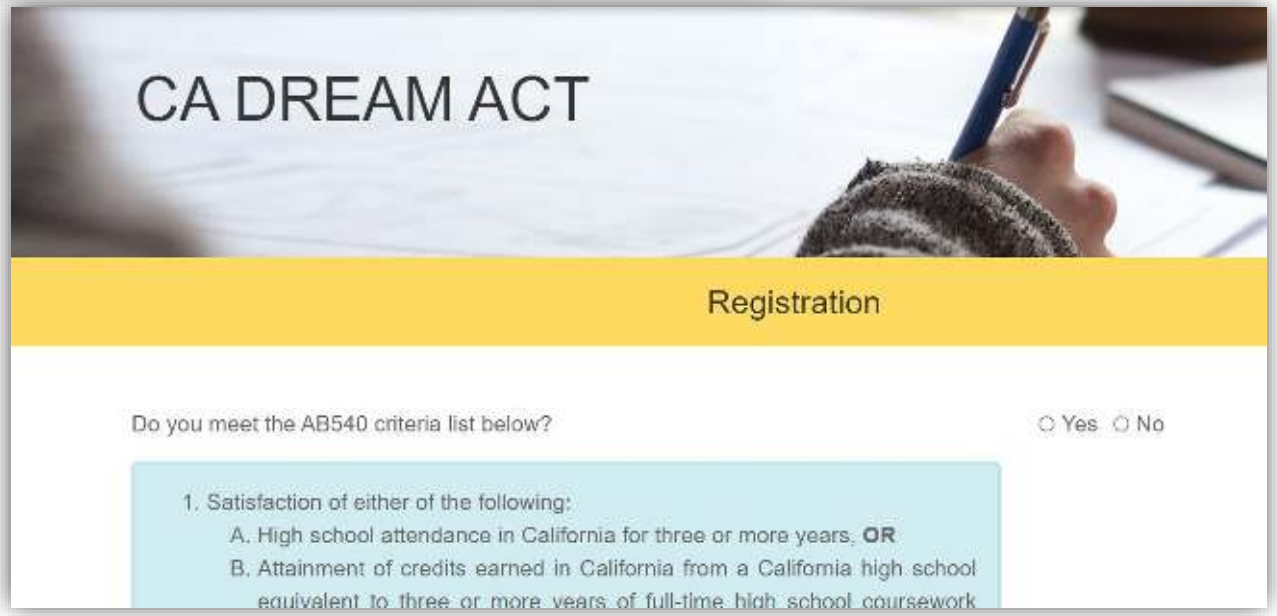
STEP 1: BEGIN A NEW CADAA AT DREAM.CSAC.CA.GOV

The CADAA will confirm your eligibility by asking if you have a Social Security Number.

→ Choose "No" if you have a work-only Social Security Number through DACA.

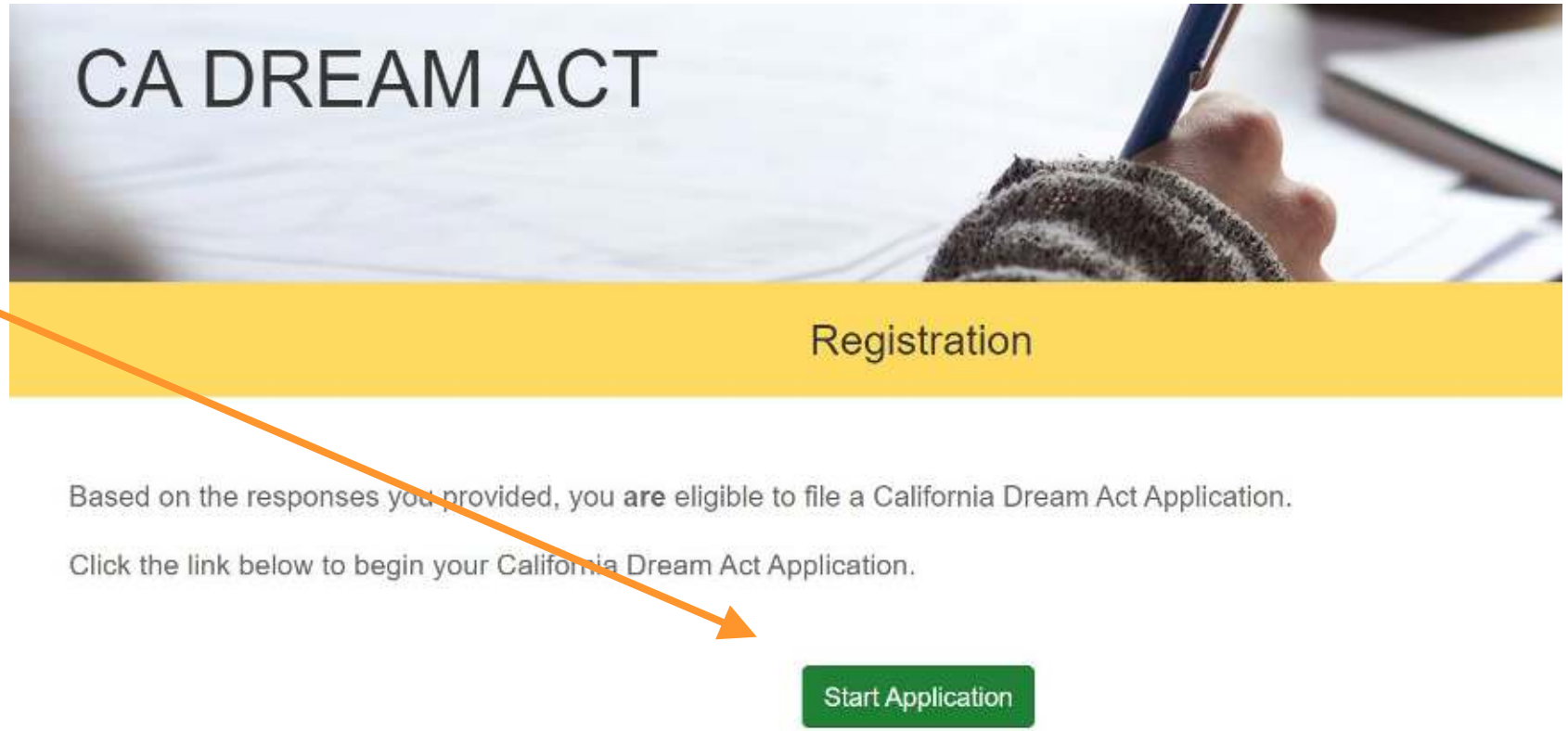
Next, it will ask if you meet the AB540 criteria and list the various eligibility requirements. For more information about eligibility, see pages 8 & 9.





STEP 1: BEGIN A NEW CADAA AT DREAM.CSAC.CA.GOV

If you meet the eligibility requirements, you will be informed that you are eligible to file a CADAA and can click "Start Application."



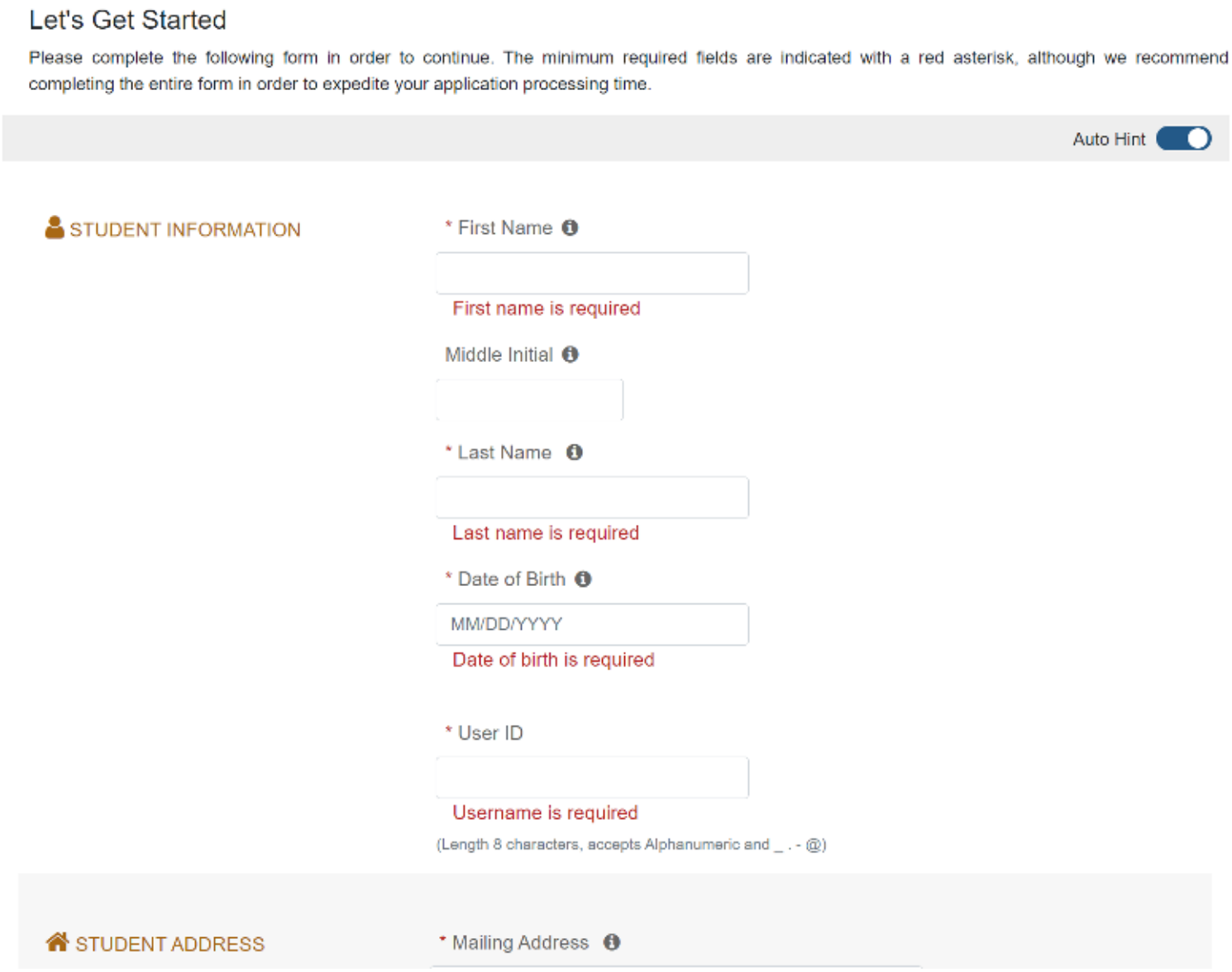
STEP 1: BEGIN A NEW CADAA AT DREAM.CSAC.CA.GOV

Create a user account (PART I):

You will need to provide your name and date of birth, and create a User ID.

Your name and date of birth must match your high school or college records. If you use a different name on your college admissions applications than what was used in high school, you should contact your college/university.

Required fields are marked with a red asterisk (*).



STEP 1: BEGIN A NEW CADAA AT DREAM.CSAC.CA.GOV

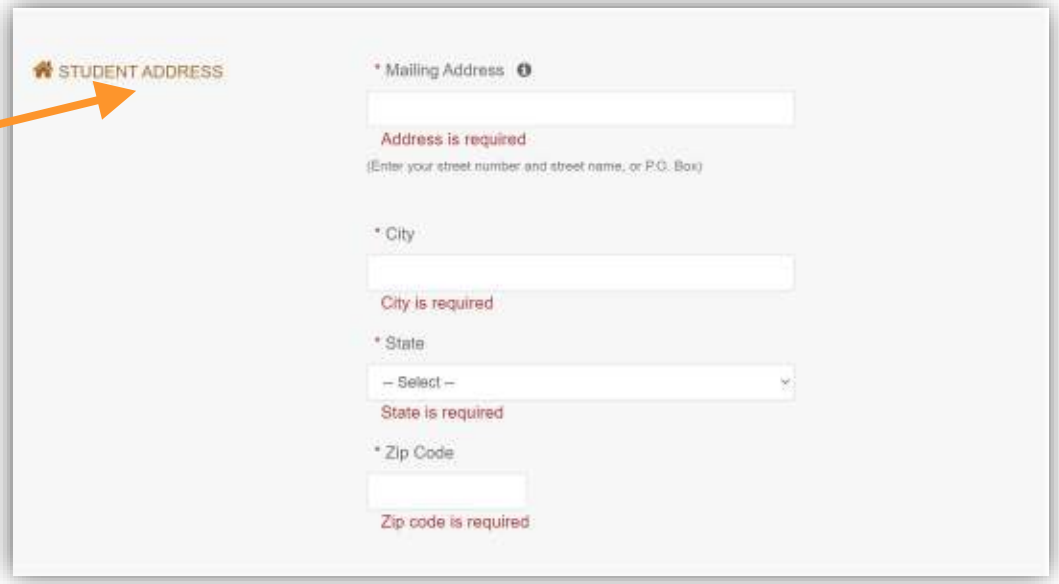
Create a user account (PART II):

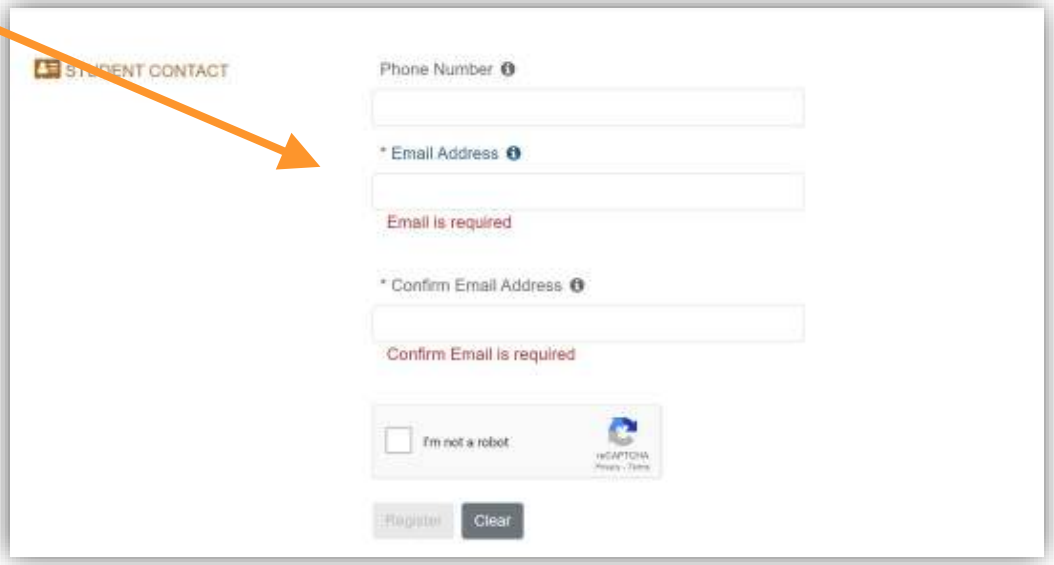
Student Address: Do not provide a temporary mailing address. If you don't have a permanent mailing address, ask your college's financial aid administrator for help.

Email Address: You must provide an email address, as this is used for communication from CSAC and your college.

Double-check the email address to make sure there are no typos. Avoid using high school emails that can expire.

TIP: Emails from CSAC may go to your junk or spam folder, so be sure to check these folders and add csac.ca.gov as a "safe sender."



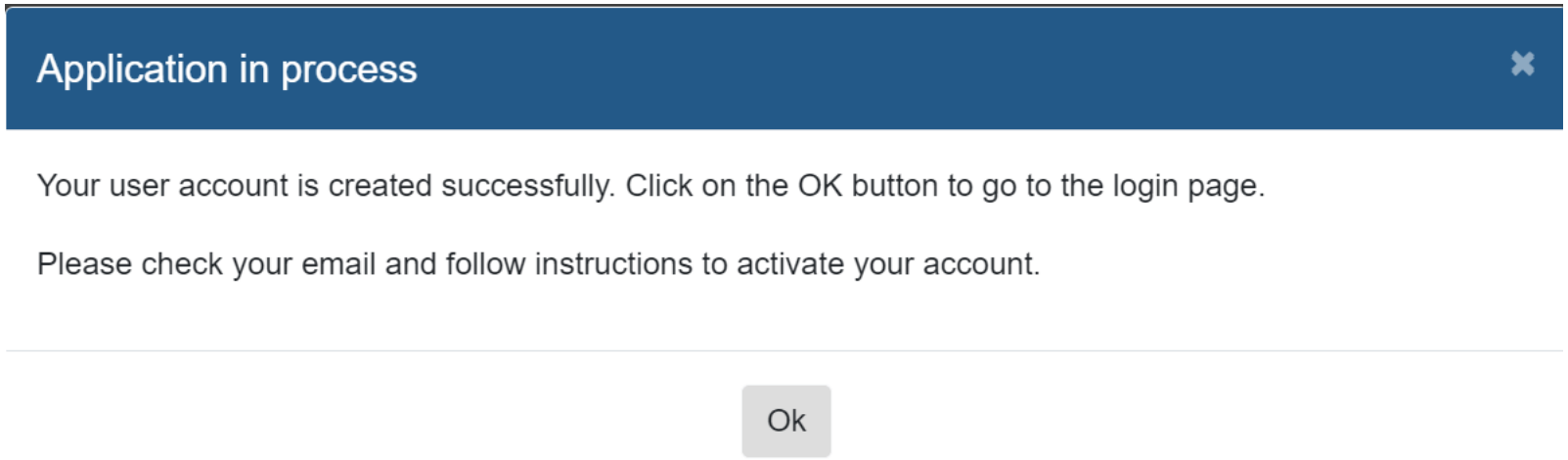


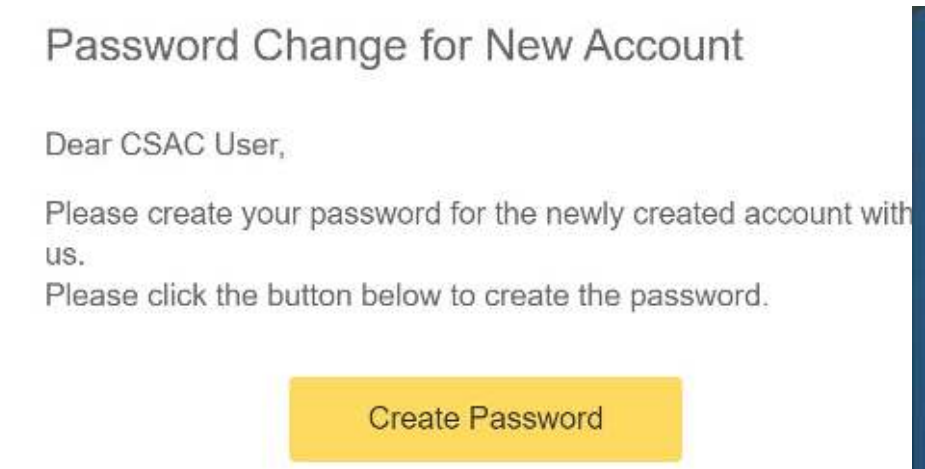
STEP 1: BEGIN A NEW CADAA AT DREAM.CSAC.CA.GOV

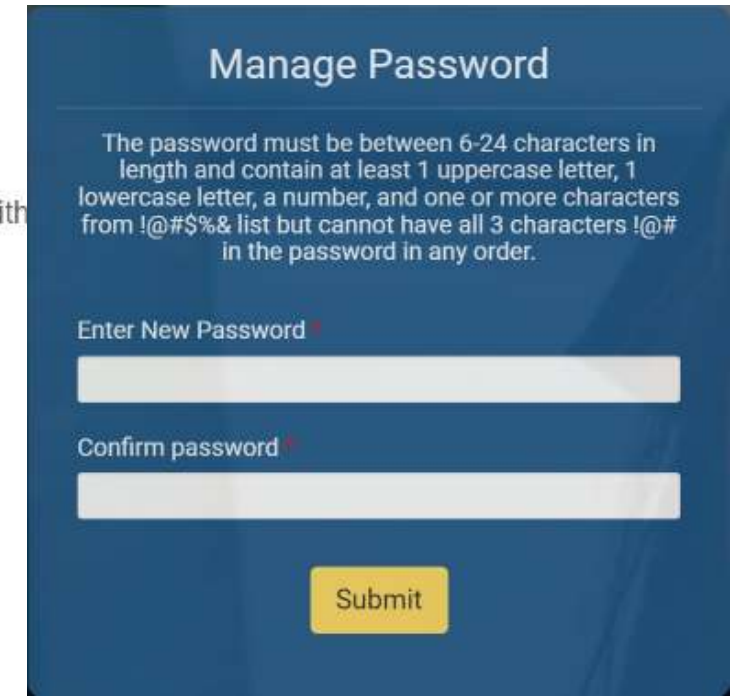
You will receive an email message to confirm your email address.

Click on the link in the email message to activate your account.

You will be asked to create a password and can then login to the account.

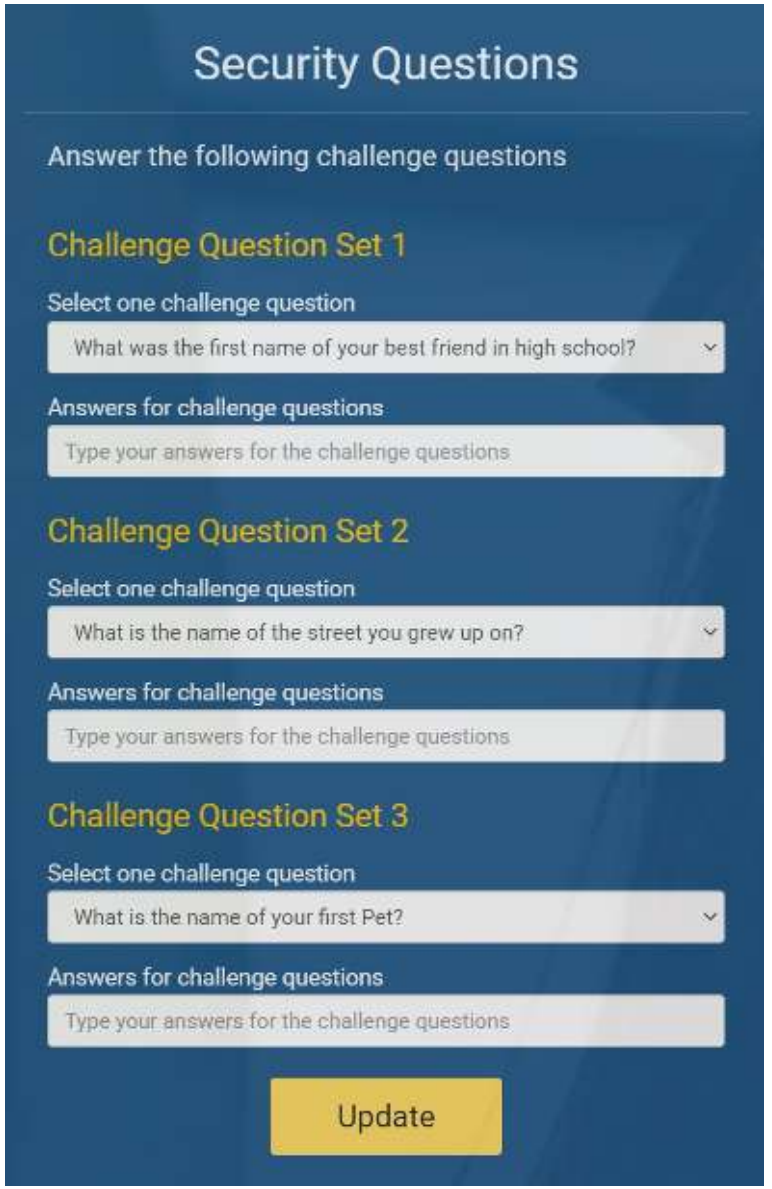






STEP 1: BEGIN A NEW CADAA AT DREAM.CSAC.CA.GOV

You will be asked to provide answers to three security questions, which can be used to recover your account if you forget your password.



TIP

Write down these item somewhere safe so you don't forget:

- ❑ Username
- ❑ Password
- ❑ Email Address & Password
- ❑ Challenge Questions & Answers