NEVADA · STATE AID REFERENCE

Nevada State Aid Cheat Sheet (2027–2028)

A two-page reference for counselors and families. Free to copy, print, and share.

Nevada aid comes through three doors: the **FAFSA** (Pell and the Silver State Opportunity Grant), the **high school** (which reports Millennium Scholarship eligibility, with no application), and the **community college** (the Nevada Promise application and its chain of steps). Old handouts are wrong on several points: Promise service is **8 hours**, not 20; the Promise FAFSA deadline is **April 1**, not March 1; Millennium has a **test-score door**; and the FAFSA now reports a Student Aid Index (SAI), not an EFC. Written for the Class of 2027 (2027–28 aid year). Verified against the Nevada State Treasurer, NSHE, and college Promise offices, October 2026.

The Programs at a Glance

Program	What it pays and who qualifies
Millennium Scholarship (merit, no application)	$80 per credit at UNLV, UNR, and Roseman; $60 at Nevada State University; $40 lower-division / $60 upper-division at community colleges. Up to 15 credits a semester, $10,000 lifetime, used within 6 years of graduation. Qualify with a **3.25 GPA or a 21 ACT / 1070 SAT**, plus 4 English, 4 math (through Algebra II), 3 science, 3 history, and 2 years of residency. The high school reports eligible students; the student acknowledges the award online after the July or August letter.
Nevada Promise (last-dollar, community college)	Registration and mandatory fees left after Pell, FSEOG, Silver State, and Millennium, for up to 3 years at CSN, TMCC, WNC, or Great Basin. Nevada residents finishing high school, under 20 when it first pays, 12 credits the fall after graduation. No GPA or test minimum. Does not cover housing, books, or lab fees. Applied for through the college by **October 31** of senior year.
Silver State Opportunity Grant (need-based)	Up to **$5,500 a year at 15 credits**, $4,400 at 12, at community colleges and Nevada State University only. Residents with an SAI of 8,500 or less, college-ready in math and English. No separate application: the FAFSA. 15-credit students are funded first, lowest SAI up, until money runs out.
Kenny C. Guinn Memorial	Up to $5,000, four awards a year, for college seniors in teacher education with a 3.5 GPA and community service. Opens February; awarded in June.
Also worth knowing	UNLV and UNR scholarships (college deadlines below). Western Undergraduate Exchange discounts for Nevada students leaving the state. Nevada College Kick Start: a $50 college account every public school kindergartner can claim.

Deadlines to Post on Your Wall

Program	Deadline	Where it's submitted
Nevada Promise application	**October 31** of senior year, 11:59 p.m.	The community college's Promise application
UNLV first-year scholarships	**November 15** priority: admitted + FAFSA + Institutional Aid Application	UNLV + FAFSA
Nevada State University grants	January 15 priority	FAFSA
UNR first-year scholarships	February 15 for maximum consideration (2026–27 date; confirm)	UNR + FAFSA + MyNEVADA
Promise chain, Class of 2027	Training and admission Mar 1; FAFSA Apr 1; 8 service hours May 1; mentor and verification Jul 1 (all 2027)	The college's Promise office
Silver State Opportunity Grant	No set date; funds run out, so file early	FAFSA
Millennium Scholarship	No application; acknowledge after the summer letter	Treasurer's online Acknowledgement of Award

Say this out loud to every senior: the Nevada deadlines that matter fall in October and November of senior year, months before the April FAFSA date most handouts lead with.

The Rules That Trip Families Up

- **Fifteen credits, not twelve.** Silver State money goes to 15-credit students first, and NSHE reports all funds have gone to that tier so far. CSN cancels the award after census below 15 eligible credits. Millennium also pays for up to 15.
- **Two strikes on Millennium.** A 2.75 GPA every semester. One miss pauses the award; meeting the rules the next semester restores it; a second miss ends it. Minimum enrollment is 12 credits at a university or state college, 9 at a community college.
- **Promise is a chain, not a form.** Six deadlines from October to July, and missing any one ends eligibility unless an appeal is approved. Appeal deadlines are short and late appeals are denied.
- **Last-dollar means Promise can be $0.** Pell, FSEOG, Silver State, and Millennium are applied first. A $0 Promise line means the other grants already covered fees.

Millennium Scholarship: Check These Things Early

1. Which door is your student already through? Either one qualifies:

- **Door 1:** an overall GPA of 3.25, weighted or unweighted.
- **Door 2:** a 21 ACT or a 1070 SAT. A 3.1 GPA with a 22 ACT qualifies.
- **Both doors:** 4 years of English, 4 of math including Algebra II or higher, 3 of science, 3 of history, and 2 years of Nevada residency.

2. Is the core course list complete by junior year? A missing fourth year of math cannot be fixed senior spring. The Treasurer does not say whether ACT superscores count; call 888-477-2667 before relying on one.

3. Does the high school have a current mailing address? Award letters arrive by mail in July or August. No letter? Look up the MSID online and complete the Acknowledgement of Award.

Where the student enrolls	Per credit	Per year at 15 credits a semester
Community college (CSN, TMCC, WNC, Great Basin)	$40 lower-division, $60 upper-division	$1,200 to $1,800
Nevada State University	$60	$1,800
UNLV, UNR, other eligible institutions	$80	**$2,400**

Lifetime cap $10,000. No remedial or graduate courses. Used within 6 years of high school graduation, with exceptions for military service, missions, and documented disability.

Counselor Calendar: What to Tell Students When

When	What has to happen
Sophomore and junior year	Check the four Millennium core courses, especially Algebra II and a fourth year of math. Plan an ACT or SAT if the GPA may land under 3.25: a 21 ACT or 1070 SAT opens the second door.
Senior fall, by Oct 31	Every student who might attend community college submits the Promise application. It does not enroll anyone. Create FSA IDs; file the FAFSA when it opens October 1.
November	UNLV priority November 15: admitted, FAFSA, and Institutional Aid Application. Missed Promise? CSN takes late-application appeals through December 31.
January to March	Nevada State University grant priority January 15. UNR scholarship materials by February 15. Promise training and admission by March 1.
April to July	Promise FAFSA by April 1, 8 service hours by May 1, mentor meeting and verification by July 1. Register for 15 credits that count toward the program.
July and August after graduation	Watch for the Millennium award letter; complete the online Acknowledgement of Award.

Three Mistakes That Cost Nevada Students Money

- **Telling a 3.1 student they missed the Millennium Scholarship.** A 21 ACT or 1070 SAT qualifies them. Ask about the test score before closing the door.
- **Skipping Promise because the student is "going to a university."** The application does not enroll anyone, and the October 31 date cannot be recovered in spring when four-year offers disappoint.
- **Filing only the FAFSA for UNLV.** First-year scholarship consideration needs the Institutional Aid Application too, by November 15.

The 15-credit line

Twelve credits is full time for federal aid, so most students register for 12. In Nevada that is the expensive choice: the Silver State grant funds 15-credit students first, Millennium pays for up to 15, and UNR's four-year scholarships require 15 completed credits each semester to renew. Check enrollment before census, and email financial aid before dropping any class.

Free Resources: No Account, No Cost, No Data Collection

Millennium Scholarship rules, MSID lookup, acknowledgment	**nvigate.gov** (Nevada State Treasurer)
Silver State Opportunity Grant	**nshe.nevada.edu** (search: Silver State Opportunity Grant)
Nevada Promise steps and appeal dates	**csn.edu/promise** and each community college's Promise page
Our Nevada state aid guide	**collegereadyparent.org/nevada**
Scholarships at 400+ colleges, all 50 states	**collegereadyparent.org/college-scholarships**

Produced by CollegeReadyParent.org, an independent, parent-built resource. No paywall, no accounts, no lead forms, no student data collection. Counselors and educators: you may freely copy, print, and distribute this sheet. Questions or corrections: leo@collegereadyparent.org. Verified against the Nevada State Treasurer, NSHE, and the CSN and Great Basin College Promise offices, October 28, 2026. Promise dates and appeal deadlines are set by each college, and Millennium funding is reviewed by the Legislature each session, so confirm current details with the official pages and the college's financial aid office before making decisions.