



The Excelsior Scholarship

Attend College Tuition-Free at SUNY and CUNY Schools

The Excelsior Scholarship gives eligible New York State students the opportunity to attend college tuition-free at SUNY and CUNY schools — making college possible for hundreds of thousands of students across the state.

Students currently attending college who are on track to complete their degrees on time and first-year college students are eligible.

Who Is Eligible?

To be eligible, you must:

- Be a NYS resident
- Meet family income limits:
 - For 2018-19, \$110,000 or less
 - Beginning in 2019-20, \$125,000 or less
- Pursue an undergraduate degree at a SUNY or CUNY college, including community colleges
- Have earned at least 30 credits each year, successively, applicable towards degree program prior to applying for an Excelsior Scholarship, if attended college prior to 2018-19 academic year
- Be enrolled in at least 12 credits per term and complete 30 credits each year successively
- After completing your degree, you must live in New York State for the number of years equal to the awards you received

Visit hesc.ny.gov/excelsior for complete eligibility requirements.

What is the Excelsior Scholarship Amount?

Recipients may receive up to \$5,500 each year. Amounts are awarded for two years for students pursuing an associate's degree program and four years for a bachelor's degree program.

To determine the award amount, the resident tuition rate charged by SUNY (currently \$6,470) or CUNY (currently \$6,330) is reduced by the amount of certain other student financial aid awards received for the year, including a NYS Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) award and/or Federal Pell Grant. The Excelsior Scholarship covers any remaining tuition liability up to \$5,500, and a tuition credit covers any remaining tuition expenses.

How to Apply

- First, complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and NYS's Tuition Assistance Program (TAP).
- Then, visit hesc.ny.gov/excelsior to find the Excelsior Scholarship application and deadline information.

It's easier than ever to register to vote. Learn more at ny.gov/Vote.



Higher Education
Services Corporation

Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor
Dr. Guillermo Linares, Acting President

Visit hesc.ny.gov for more information about student financial aid and other NYS awards and scholarships.