

FINANCIAL AID

PAYING FOR COLLEGE





When you look at the quality and cost of a CUNY education, you see right away that it is a tremendous value. But still, the cost of a college education is a significant investment and one to be carefully considered.

If you think you will need assistance to pay for educational expenses, we recommend that you apply for financial aid. While you and your family have the primary responsibility of paying for your education, funding is available from the federal, state and city government and from CUNY to help you pay college expenses. These expenses include tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, and transportation.

An Affordable High-Quality College Education

CUNY Undergraduate Tuition

Type of Student	New York State Residents	Out-of-State Residents
Full-time at Four-Year College	\$5,430 per year \$230 per credit	\$14,550 per year* \$485 per credit
Full-time at Community College	\$3,900 per year \$165 per credit	\$7,800 per year* \$260 per credit

Fees at the various CUNY colleges range from \$300 to \$480 per year.

**Tuition based on taking 15 credits per semester.*



Types of Financial Assistance

Grants – Money that does not have to be repaid and is usually based on financial need.

Scholarships – Money that does not have to be repaid and usually is awarded on the basis of academic merit.

Loans – Money that is borrowed for college and must be repaid with interest.

Work-Study – Money earned from a job that is provided by the Office of Financial Aid at the college.

Financial Aid Applications

To determine whether you are eligible for financial aid, you must complete the following applications each year:

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) Visit www.fafsa.gov to apply for federal financial aid.

TAP (Tuition Assistance Program) Visit www.tapweb.org to apply for this New York State resident financial aid program.

Seven Steps to App

 1

Prepare to Apply

Collect your parents' and, if applicable, your income tax returns, Social Security numbers, W-2 form(s) and any other records of income and assets. Tax information can be estimated and corrected later if a tax return has not yet been completed. Get free information and assistance from a school counselor, the Financial Aid Office at the college you plan to attend, or the U.S. Department of Education at www.studentaid.ed.gov or call 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243).

2

Get a Federal Student Aid PIN - www.pin.ed.gov

Your PIN allows you to sign your FAFSA online and view and/or make corrections later. You and at least one of your parents will each need a PIN. Store this PIN in a safe place as you will need it to reapply and access your Student Aid Report (SAR) each year.

 3

Complete the FAFSA - www.fafsa.gov

Applying for federal student aid is free. You can apply before you have been admitted to CUNY, starting January 1 of your senior year of high school (or for the academic year you plan to attend). To apply visit www.fafsa.gov. For free help to complete your FAFSA or to obtain a paper FAFSA you can call the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1-800-4-FED-AID (433-3243).

IRS Data Retrieval Tool

The IRS Data Retrieval Tool allows you and your parents to access the IRS tax return information needed to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Students and parents may transfer the data directly into their FAFSA. It's available 1-2 weeks after you file your income tax return electronically. If you are eligible to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool, it is highly recommended that you use the tool for several reasons:

- It's the easiest way to provide your tax data.
- It's the best way of ensuring that your FAFSA has accurate tax information.
- You won't need to provide a copy of your or your parents' tax returns to your college if requested.

ly for Financial Aid

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Link to TAP on the Web From Your FAFSA Application (For New York State Residents)

After you complete the FAFSA you will be taken to a confirmation page; click on the state application link to apply for New York State-based financial aid. This will enable you to apply for TAP.

If you miss the link to the TAP application you will receive an email from the NYS Higher Education Services Corporation (HESC) after your FAFSA is processed, with information on how to apply for TAP.

 5

Receive a Student Aid Report (SAR)

A few days after you complete the FAFSA you will receive an email with a link to your Student Aid Report (SAR). The SAR contains a summary of your FAFSA information and a calculation of your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) – the number used to determine your federal student aid eligibility. Review your SAR to see if additional information or corrections may be needed. You can also access your SAR at www.fafsa.gov.

 6

Verify Your Data

The Federal Processor selects a certain number of applicants for a verification process. If you are selected (which will be indicated on your SAR), you will need to submit requested documents to the Financial Aid office at the CUNY college where you will be attending to verify the data you supplied on your FAFSA.

 7

Receive Your Financial Aid Award Notification

Once your financial aid applications are complete and you demonstrate financial need, your selected college will send you an award notification to indicate the financial aid programs for which you qualify.

Evaluate College Costs and Financial Aid Packages

One of the most important factors when selecting a college is whether the institution will meet your educational needs. Additionally, you and your family must consider the cost to attend college when deciding where to enroll.

CUNY Net Price Calculator

To help determine the financial aid you may receive, a Net Price Calculator is available on the CUNY website. This tool calculates an estimated financial aid award package along with an estimated cost of tuition and fees. The Net Price Calculator also helps compare costs at CUNY to other institutions so that you can determine which colleges are most affordable for you. To access the Net Price Calculator visit www.cuny.edu/financialaid.

Cost of Attendance (COA)

When planning for college, you need to review the total Cost of Attendance (COA), which includes tuition and fees, housing (room and board), transportation, books, supplies and personal expenses. If you plan to live at home, the estimated cost for attending CUNY full-time for nine months includes tuition and fees plus approximately \$6,800 for all other costs. If you plan to live away from home, the estimated cost is approximately \$18,100.

Expected Family Contribution (EFC)

Your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) is the amount you and your family can reasonably contribute

toward yearly educational costs based on the information you supply on your FAFSA. Factors such as your family's income, size, certain assets, taxes paid and the number of family members who will be attending college are used to compute your EFC.

For federal financial aid, your EFC is calculated in the same way for every college. Your EFC is used to determine the amount of federal financial aid for which you are eligible, such as Pell, Federal Work-Study and subsidized federal loans. In addition, the EFC can be used to determine your eligibility for various college scholarships.



Financial Need

Financial need is the difference between Cost of Attendance and your Expected Family Contribution.

$$\text{COA} - \text{EFC} = \text{Financial Need}$$

Financial Aid Package

Based on your financial need, CUNY constructs a financial aid package for you. Each financial aid package is made up of various types of financial aid to help cover all or part of your college costs. If you have financial need, you may be eligible for grants, work-study and subsidized loans.



The following pages contain information on the financial aid programs that may be included in your financial aid package based on your eligibility.

Programs to Help Finance Your Education

CUNY Programs

Individual College Scholarships www.cuny.edu/scholarships

Each CUNY College offers a variety of academic and merit-based scholarships. To apply for scholarships at individual CUNY colleges, students are generally required to complete a FAFSA and, sometimes, an individual scholarship application. Information about these scholarships can be found at the website listed above.

Tuition Payment Plan

CUNY colleges participate in the TuitionPay monthly installment payment plan to help families budget tuition and fee expenses. For details about the program visit www.tuitionpay.com/cuny or the Office of the Bursar at your CUNY college.

Outside Scholarships

There are thousands of private organizations that provide scholarship assistance to college students. These scholarships are based on a variety of factors. To search for scholarships, you should use free search services such as fastweb.com or collegeboard.com. You do not need to pay someone to help you with your scholarship search.

New York State Programs for New York State Residents www.hesc.org

To be considered for New York State programs you must:

- Be a New York State resident.
- Submit the FAFSA and TAP applications.
- Be admitted into a degree program.
- Make academic progress toward your degree.
- Not be in default on a federal student loan or owe a refund of financial aid.

Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)

TAP is a grant for New York State residents who attend a college in New York State full time. TAP grants are based on the applicant's and his/her family's New York State net taxable income. Undergraduate TAP annual awards range from \$500 to \$5,000 annually. Prior to completing your TAP application you must first file the FAFSA.

Part-Time Assistance for New York State Residents

New York State provides two financial aid programs for students pursuing a degree while taking from 6 to 11 credits: the Part-Time Tuition Assistance Program and the Aid for Part-Time Study Program. The amount of each grant is determined

by the student's family income, number of credits taken and the availability of funds from New York State. In addition to the TAP application you must submit a CUNY supplement form which is available on the CUNY Portal in the financial aid section.

CUNY Opportunity Programs: SEEK/CD and ASAP

SEEK (Search for Education, Elevation and Knowledge) is a New York State program available at CUNY four-year colleges designed to assist students who are both academically and financially disadvantaged. CD (College Discovery) is the companion program funded by New York City at community colleges. Admission into the SEEK or CD program is part of the CUNY admission process.

ASAP (Accelerated Study in Associate Program) is offered at CUNY community colleges to allow motivated associate degree students to complete their degree more quickly and efficiently.

Other State Scholarships and Awards

New York State offers a number of special scholarships for students who excel in high school or plan to pursue particular academic objectives. For information about these scholarships visit www.hesc.org.

Federal Government Programs

www.FederalStudentAid.ed.gov

To be eligible for federal financial aid programs, students must:

- Be a United States citizen or eligible noncitizen.
- Fill out a FAFSA.
- Gain admission to a degree-granting program.
- Maintain good academic standing and make satisfactory progress toward the completion of a degree.
- Register with the Selective Service (for males between the ages of 18 and 25).
- Not be in default on a federal student loan or owe a refund of financial aid.
- Register for at least six credits except for Pell Grants, which can be awarded if you are registered for as little as one credit.

Federal Pell Grants

For the 2012–2013 academic year, Pell Grants provide up to \$5,550 per year and are awarded to part-time and full-time undergraduate students who have not yet earned a bachelor's or graduate degree. Students are eligible to receive a Pell Grant for up to 12 semesters or the equivalent.

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG)

If you demonstrate exceptional financial need, CUNY may award you funds from FSEOG. Preference is given to students who receive a Pell Grant. In addition

to exceptional need, CUNY requires that you demonstrate a willingness to assist in financing your education through part-time employment or by loans.

Federal Work-Study (FWS)

The Federal Work-Study program provides you with an opportunity to be placed into a part-time job that accommodates your academic schedule. If you are awarded Federal Work-Study, you may be placed in an eligible off-campus or on-campus job. Each college's Financial Aid Office can help you find a Federal Work-Study job.

Loans

Federal Direct Loans

CUNY participates in the Federal Direct Loan program in which you may borrow funds directly from the federal government to help cover the costs of college. Like all other loans, these loans must be repaid with interest. If you have financial need you are eligible for a subsidized Federal Direct Loan and interest will not be charged as long as you maintain half-time enrollment.

To apply for a Federal Direct Loan, you must:

- Complete the FAFSA.
- Request the loan directly from the Office of Financial Aid at the college.
- Complete an entrance interview, which provides you with

information regarding the loan's terms and conditions.

Additional information:

- You must sign a promissory note.
- If you request a Federal Direct Loan you may decline the loan later by notifying the Office of Financial Aid at the college.
- You do not need a co-signer to qualify for a Federal Direct Loan, and there is no credit check.
- Interest rates for Federal Direct Loans issued through June 30, 2013:
 - Subsidized Loans = 3.4%
 - Unsubsidized Loans = 6.8%
- Repayment periods vary from 10 to 30 years.
- Repayment begins six months after you graduate, leave college or drop below half-time study.

Maximum Loan Amounts for Federal Direct Loans¹

	Subsidized	Total Subsidized & Unsubsidized
Dependent Undergraduate		
1 st Year	\$3,500	\$5,500
2 nd Year	\$4,500	\$6,500
3 rd Year and Beyond	\$5,500	\$7,500
Independent Undergraduate		
1 st Year	\$3,500	\$9,500
2 nd Year	\$4,500	\$10,500
3 rd Year and Beyond	\$5,500	\$12,500

¹Maximum loan amounts are based on eligibility.

Federal Perkins Loans

Federal Perkins Loans are low-interest loans available to students who have exceptional financial need. CUNY serves as the lender and funding is limited. The interest rate is set at 5 percent and repayment begins 9 months after the loan is disbursed. To apply for a Federal Perkins Loan you must complete the FAFSA.

Federal PLUS Loans for Parents

Your parents may be eligible to apply for a Federal Plus Loan to help pay your college expenses. You, the dependent student, must complete the FAFSA before your parent(s) can apply for a PLUS Loan.

Additional information:

- PLUS loan borrowers are subject to credit checks.
- For the 2012–2013 academic year the interest rate on Federal PLUS Loans is 7.9 percent.
- The interest rate may be recalculated on July 1 each year.
- Contact the Office of Financial Aid at the college for more information about Federal PLUS Loans.
- Repayment on PLUS Loans begins 30 days after disbursement. Your parent(s) can defer payment as long as you are enrolled at least half-time, although interest will continue to accrue.

Veteran Education Programs

CUNY welcomes and supports veterans, reservists and survivors and their family members. There are programs to help veterans finance their education from the federal and New York State governments. For more information on these benefits and how to apply for them, visit www.cuny.edu/veterans and choose “Financing Your Education.”

Federal Income Tax Credits and Deductions

There are tax credits available to help you offset the costs of higher education by reducing the amount of your income tax. Certain borrowers can receive a tax deduction for the interest actually paid on student loans for postsecondary education expenses. For information on both benefits, see IRS Publication 970, *Tax Benefits for Education* at www.irs.gov.

Information contained in this booklet is accurate at the time of publication.

FAFSA and TAP School Codes

When filling out your FAFSA and TAP application, you must provide a college code for **each CUNY college** where you wish to have your information sent. The FAFSA and TAP codes for the individual CUNY colleges are listed below.

College Name	Federal / FAFSA Code	New York State / TAP Code
Four-Year Colleges		
Baruch College	007273	1409
Brooklyn College	002687	1410
The City College of New York	002688	1411
College of Staten Island	002698	1417
Hunter College	002689	1413
John Jay College of Criminal Justice	002693	1414
Lehman College	007022	1412
Medgar Evers College	010097	1415
New York City College of Technology	002696	1405
Queens College	002690	1416
York College	004759	1418
SPS/CUNY Online Baccalaureate	004765	1420
Community Colleges		
Borough of Manhattan Community College	002691	1404
Bronx Community College	002692	1400
Hostos Community College	008611	1401
Kingsborough Community College	002694	1402
LaGuardia Community College	010051	1403
Queensborough Community College	002697	1407

CUNY Offices of Financial Aid Contact Information

Visit www.cuny.edu/financialaid and click on “Financial Aid Offices”

Four-Year Colleges

Baruch College
151 E. 25th St.
Room 880
New York, NY 10010
(646) 312-1360
www.baruch.cuny.edu

Brooklyn College
2900 Bedford Ave.
West Quad Bldg.
Room 308
Brooklyn, NY 11210
(718) 951-5051
www.brooklyn.cuny.edu

**The City College of New York
& The Sophie Davis School of
Biomedical Education**
160 Convent Ave.
Administration Bldg.
Room 104
New York, NY 10031
(212) 650-5819
www.ccny.cuny.edu

College of Staten Island
2800 Victory Blvd.
N. Administration Bldg.
Room 401
Staten Island, NY 10314
(718) 982-2030
www.csi.cuny.edu

Hunter College
695 Park Ave.
Room 241 North
New York, NY 10065
(212) 772-4820
www.hunter.cuny.edu

**John Jay College of
Criminal Justice**
524 West 59th Street
New York, NY 10019
(212) 237-8149
www.jjay.cuny.edu

Lehman College
250 Bedford Park Blvd. West
Shuster Hall
Room 136
Bronx, NY 10468
(718) 960-8545
www.lehman.cuny.edu

Medgar Evers College
1637 Bedford Ave.
Room S110
Brooklyn, NY 11225
(718) 270-6141
www.mec.cuny.edu

**New York City College
of Technology**
300 Jay St.
Namm Hall Room
NG-13
Brooklyn, NY 11201
(718) 260-5700
www.citytech.cuny.edu

Queens College
65-30 Kissena Blvd.
Jefferson Hall, Room 202
Flushing, NY 11367
(718) 997-5100
www.qc.cuny.edu

York College
94-20 Guy R. Brewer Blvd.
Room 1M08
Jamaica, NY 11451
(718) 262-2230
www.york.cuny.edu

**SPS/CUNY Online
Baccalaureate**
101 W. 31st St.
Room 905
New York, NY 10001
(212) 652-2869
www.cuny.edu/online

Community Colleges

**Borough of Manhattan
Community College**
199 Chambers St.
Room N340
New York, NY 10007
(212) 220-1430
www.bmcc.cuny.edu

Bronx Community College
2155 University Ave.
Colston Hall
Room 504
Bronx, NY 10453
(718) 289-5700
www.bcc.cuny.edu

Hostos Community College
120 E. 149th St.
Room B112-115
Bronx, NY 10451
(718) 518-6555
www.hostos.cuny.edu

**Kingsborough
Community College**
2001 Oriental Blvd.
Room U201
Brooklyn, NY 11235
(718) 368-4644
www.kbcc.cuny.edu

LaGuardia Community College
31-10 Thomson Ave.
Room C107
Long Island City, NY 11101
(718) 482-7218
www.lagcc.cuny.edu

The New Community College
50 West 40th Street
New York, NY 10018
(646) 313-8011
www.ncc.cuny.edu

**Queensborough Community
College**
Springfield Blvd. & 56th St.
Library Bldg.
Room 409
Bayside, NY 11364
(718) 631-6367
www.qcc.cuny.edu



Have a Question?

If you have questions about the financial aid application process or want to learn more information about the Financial Aid programs available, visit www.cuny.edu/financialaid or contact the Office of Financial Aid at the CUNY college you plan to attend. For help with your FAFSA or TAP application, refer to the websites and phone numbers listed below.

Useful Websites and Phone Numbers

The City University of New York (CUNY)

CUNY Financial Aid Information

www.cuny.edu/financialaid | www.cuny.edu/scholarships

Federal Government Resources

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) - www.fafsa.gov

Federal Student Aid Information

1-800-4-FED-AID | www.StudentAid.ed.gov

Federal Student Aid Forecaster - www.FAFSA4caster.ed.gov

College Planning - www.college.gov

Federal Student Loan Services - www.studentloans.gov

New York State Higher Education Services Corporation

General Information on the TAP Grant

1-888-NYS-HESC (1-888-697-4372) | www.hesc.org

COLLEGES

Four-Year Colleges

BARUCH COLLEGE
BROOKLYN COLLEGE
THE CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK
COLLEGE OF STATEN ISLAND
HUNTER COLLEGE
JOHN JAY COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE
LEHMAN COLLEGE
MEDGAR EVERS COLLEGE
NEW YORK CITY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
QUEENS COLLEGE
YORK COLLEGE

Community
Colleges

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE
HOSTOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
KINGSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
LAGUARDIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
THE NEW COMMUNITY COLLEGE
QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Honors College
and Graduate &
Professional
Schools

MACAULAY HONORS COLLEGE
CUNY GRADUATE CENTER
CUNY GRADUATE SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM
CUNY SCHOOL OF LAW
CUNY SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES
CUNY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Welcome Center

www.cuny.edu/undergraduate