



# 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:**

- Meet eligibility requirements as a NYS resident or qualify under the NYS DREAM Act.
- Meet family income limits of \$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 2022-23 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](https://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 \$7,070) or CUNY (currently \$6,930) 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](https://hesc.ny.gov/excelsior) to find the Excelsior Scholarship application and deadline information.
- If you qualify under the NYS DREAM Act, apply at [hesc.ny.gov/dream](https://hesc.ny.gov/dream).

It's easier than ever to register to vote. Learn more at [ny.gov/vote](https://ny.gov/vote).



Kathy Hochul, Governor  
Dr. Guillermo Linares, President

Visit [hesc.ny.gov](https://hesc.ny.gov) for more information about student financial aid and other NYS awards and scholarships.