

Student Financial Aid

What Students & Parents Should Know

What is Financial Aid?

- Financial aid helps pay the cost of attending college
- Financial aid may be awarded based on
 - Financial need (need-based)
 - Other criteria, such as academic or athletic ability (merit-based)



Different Types of Aid

Scholarships



- Grants
- Work Study
- Loans





Sources of Financial Aid

- Federal government
- New York State
- Colleges institutional aid
- Other sources
 - Businesses
 - Foundations
 - Clubs/organizations



How to Apply

- To be considered for financial aid, you may need to complete many different applications
 - Federal application, FAFSA
 - State application(s): NYS TAP Application,
 Excelsior Scholarship
 - Institutional application, e.g. the CSS Profile
 - Other forms as required



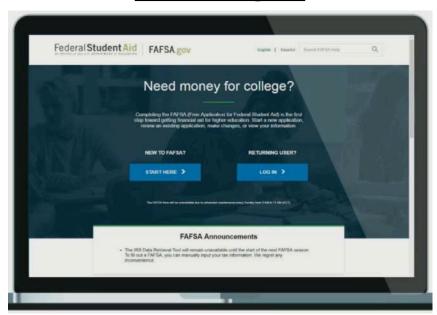
Applying for Aid: FAFSA

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid
- The new application will be available starting October 1st of senior year
 - Applying online is easy and allows for corrections
 - Be sure to apply for the right academic year!
- Deadlines to submit are set by each college's financial aid office

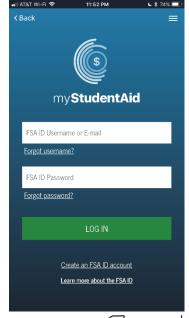


Apply on the Web or Use the Mobile App

FAFSA.gov



myStudentAid





Before Applying for FAFSA: The FSA ID

- Student <u>and</u> at least one parent each obtain Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID) at FSAID.ed.gov
 - Used to access and electronically sign FAFSA

Create a New FSA	D		
An FSA ID gives you acce	ess to Federal Student Aid's online systems and can serve as your legal	signature.	
	sing your own personal information and for your own exclusive use. Y including a family member. Misrepresentation of your identity to the l		
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Questions the Student Answers on FAFSA

- Demographic info (name, address, etc.)
- Eligibility for aid and dependency status
- Names of up to 10 colleges student is applying to
- 2017 tax return info and income, if applicable
- Asset values, if applicable



Questions the Parent Answers on FAFSA

- Demographic info (marital status, names, dates of birth)
- Household size and number of children in college
- 2017 tax return information and income
- Asset values, if required



FAFSA: Common Question

- If parents are divorced or separated, and not remarried, which parent needs to provide their information and income?
 - The custodial parent, based on who the student resided with the most over the previous 12 months
 - Non-custodial parent's info is not required



FAFSA: Common Question

- What if both parents are living together but file taxes separately?
 - Both parents are required to report their information and income
- What if a custodial parent is remarried?
 - The stepparent must provide their information and income along with the student's parent

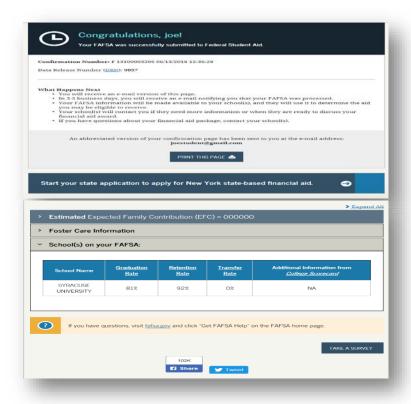


FAFSA: Common Question

- What kind of assets are reported on the FAFSA?
 - Total cash, savings/checking accounts balances
 - Custodial (UGMA, UTMA) accounts are considered assets of the student
 - Investments and real estate net worth
 - Tax deferred retirement accounts, annuities, life insurance and value of primary residence is excluded
 - 529 plans must be reported as a parent asset
 - Business value, if more than 100 employees



FAFSA: Confirmation Page



- Review carefully for
 - Estimated ExpectedFamily Contribution(EFC)
 - Federal student aid estimates
 - Next steps



Important to Know: The EFC

- The Expected Family Contribution, or EFC, provides a guideline for schools to determine a student's need-based aid eligibility
 - Calculated using a federal formula based on the answers to questions on the FAFSA
 - Stays the same regardless of college selected

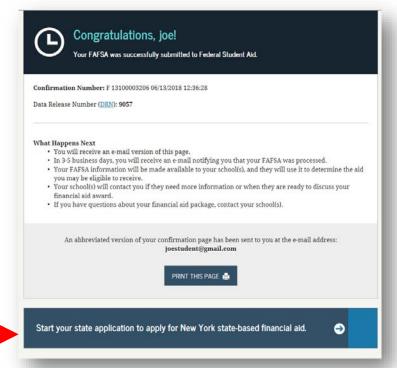


Federal Student Aid Programs

- Pell Grant (currently up to \$6,095)
- Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)
- Work-Study
- Direct Stafford Loan
 - Subsidized or Unsubsidized
- Direct PLUS Loan

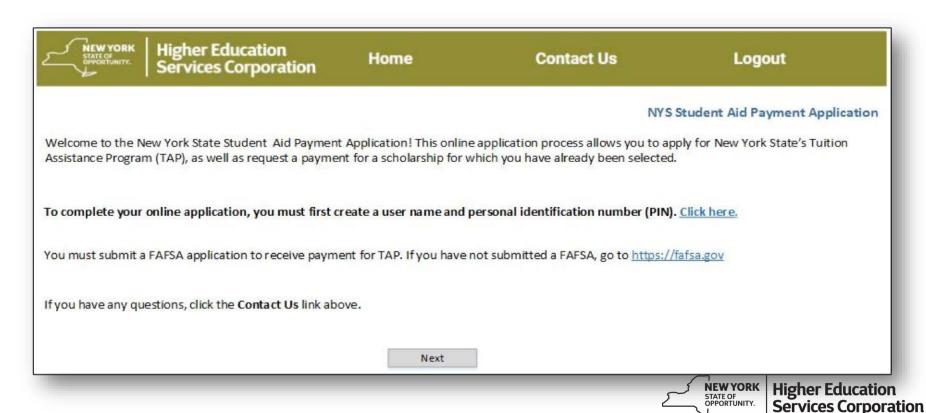


From FAFSA to New York State Aid





NYS Student Aid Payment Application



NYS Student Aid Programs

- Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)
- Excelsior Scholarship
- Enhanced Tuition Award
- STEM Incentive Program
- More programs and info at hesc.ny.gov



NYS Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)

- Provides undergraduate students with grant funding to help pay tuition at colleges in NYS
 - Need-based, up to \$5,165/year
 - Full-time and part-time study
 - Based on 2017 NYS income tax information



Higher Education

Excelsior Scholarship

- Provides full in-state tuition coverage for students attending SUNY or CUNY
 - Less Pell, TAP, or other aid covering tuition
- Applicants for 2019-20 must have combined federal adjusted gross income of \$125,000 or less for tax year 2017
- Must file FAFSA and NYS TAP applications prior to applying

Enhanced Tuition Awards (ETA)

- Provides tuition awards up \$6,000 to NYS residents attending participating private colleges in NYS
 - Award reduced by TAP grant
 - List of participating schools available online
- Same income qualifications and application requirements as Excelsior Scholarship

Higher Education

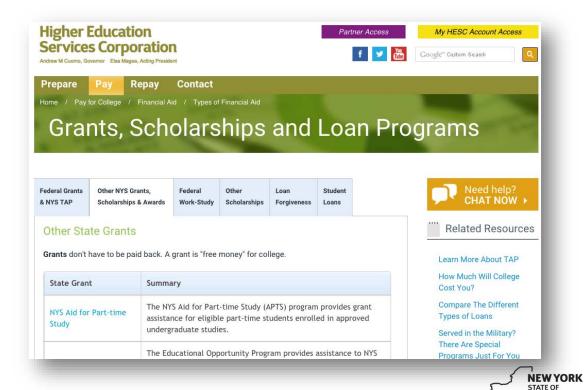
NYS STEM Incentive

- Provides tuition scholarships for undergraduate students at SUNY, CUNY, private colleges in NYS
 - Up to annual tuition charged to NYS residents at SUNY
- Must pursue degree in science, technology, engineering or mathematics
- Merit-based, no income restrictions
 - Students ranked in top 10% of senior class

In-school and Post-award Requirements

- Excelsior, ETA require students to earn 30 credits per year, graduate on-time
- Former Excelsior and ETA recipients must live and work, if employed, in NYS for same period of time award was provided
- STEM recipients agree to live and work, if employed, in NYS for five years after college

For More Financial Aid Info: HESC.ny.gov



NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY.

Higher Education Services Corporation

Applying for Institutional Aid

- Depends on each college's requirements
 - Admissions application for merit-based awards
 - FAFSA for need-based institutional aid
- Does the college require the CSS Profile?
 - Available starting October 1st at CSSProfile.org
 - Requires a fee but fee waivers may be available



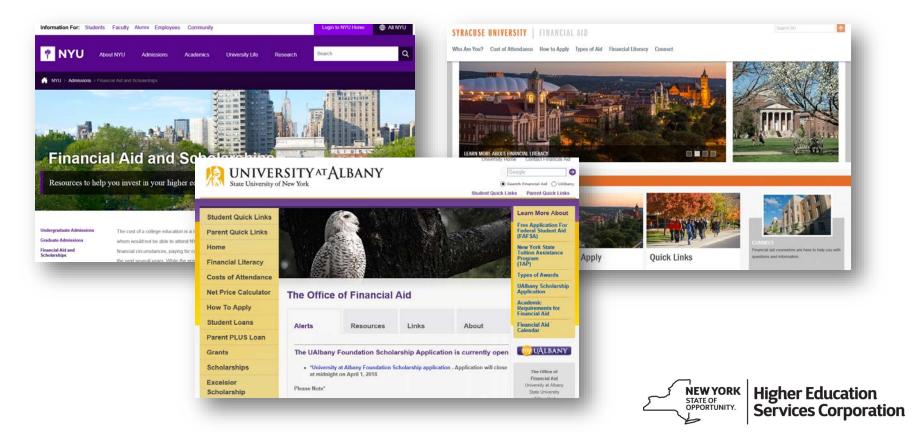
What is the CSS Profile?



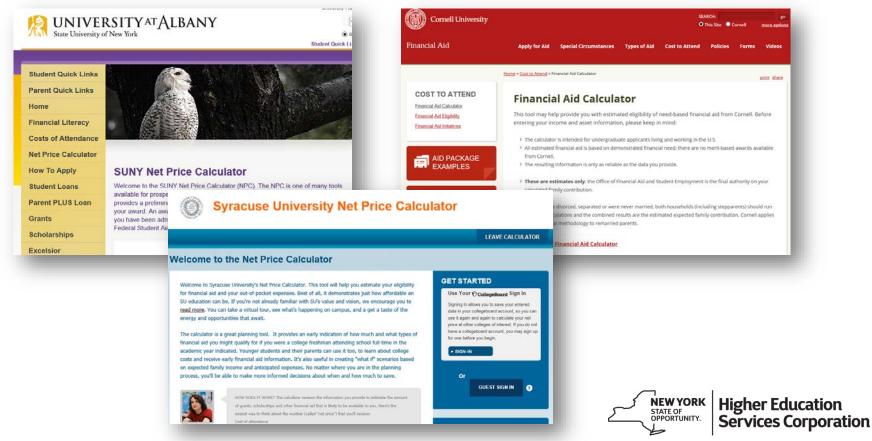
- More detailed questions
- Collects asset values excluded by FAFSA
 - Home
 - Retirement accounts
- Non-Custodial Parent Supplement



Research College Financial Aid Websites



Use Net Price Calculators



Other Sources of Aid: Private Scholarships

- Online scholarship search websites
 - Fastweb.com
 - Collegeboard.org
 - Scholarships.com
- Check local library, employer or union
- Avoid scams
 - Unnecessary fees, ID theft
 - Go to studentaid.ed.gov/types/scams for retipination Services Corporation

Financial Aid Tips

- Apply for private scholarships now!
- Review/update your list of colleges on the FAFSA, TAP application
- Respond quickly to any request for missing information, verification
- The financial aid office is the best place to get questions answered



Questions?

NYS Higher Education Services Corporation 99 Washington Avenue Albany, NY 12255

HESC.ny.gov

1-888-NYSHESC (1-888-697-4372)

