



Excelsior Scholarship

"FREE TUITION"

Up to \$6,470 per year
toward SUNY tuition

Excelsior is a "last dollar" scholarship; the award is reduced by TAP, Pell and other scholarships. Tuition is locked in at 2016-17 rates for Excelsior recipients.

Financial Eligibility

Family AGI cannot exceed:
\$100,000 for 2017-18
\$110,000 for 2018-19
\$125,000 for 2019-20

Residency Requirement

Students must live in New York for the same number of years they receive Excelsior; if a student loses eligibility, the residency requirement can begin while a student is still enrolled in college.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT ARE THE ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS?

- Students must complete 30 credits that work in their degree each year (24 credits for EOP students)
- A student's "year" will depend on when they first became matriculated
- Students must enroll in at least 12 applicable credits during the fall and spring semesters
- Students can use winter and summer terms to make up their 30 credits, but Excelsior is only available for fall & spring semesters
- Remedial courses don't count toward the 30 credits
- Changes of major can hurt eligibility if all previously earned credits do not apply to new degree
- Final semester: Students must take 12 credits, but only 3 credits need to work in degree; 30 credits are still needed for the year

DO CONTINUING STUDENTS QUALIFY?

- Continuing students must have completed 30 credits toward their degree for each year since they first became matriculated (without taking any time off)
- There is a 6 credit "catch-up" provision for continuing students. If a student took at least 12 credits each semester, but is 6 credits or less shy of the 30 credit per year requirement, they can use 2017-18 to "catch-up." For example, a student started in 2015-16 and earned 54 applicable credits; They won't qualify for Excelsior in 2017-18, but can use 2017-18 to "catch-up" and receive it in 2018-19

CAN EXCELSIOR ELIGIBILITY BE RESTORED?

- Students who fail to meet the academic requirements are not eligible for any further payments
- Students who fail to earn 30 credits at the end of the spring semester (assuming fall matriculation) will have Excelsior removed from their spring bill. Excelsior can be restored only if the student completes 30 credits by the end of the following summer.
- There are limited allowable exceptions for students who interrupt their study

CAN COLLEGE CREDITS EARNED IN HIGH SCHOOL COUNT TOWARD EXCELSIOR?

- AP or IB credits can be "banked" (can be applied in any manner that results in 30 credits per year)