



Excelsior Scholarship info sheet

Eligibility Requirements:

- Be a NYS resident with legal status in the U.S
- Register as a full-time student at CUNY or SUNY and successfully complete 30 credits per year (min. 12 per semester) including Winter and Summer terms (many colleges apply summer credits toward the following year's credit requirement)
- Have a PPY -household income of less than:
 - \$100,000 for 2017 based on 2015 income
 - \$110,000 for 2018 based on 2016 income
 - \$125,000 for 2019 based on 2017 income
- Have tuition costs that are not covered by Pell, TAP, or scholarships
- Sign a promissory note agreeing to live and work in NYS for a period of time equal to the number of years the student receives Excelsior

Credit/GPA Requirements:

- Students who fail to complete 30 credits per year will lose their award for the second semester and will owe the college for that semester's tuition cost
- Remedial courses will not count towards the 30 credit requirement
- SEEK & EOP are considered 5-year programs. EOP & SEEK students will have 5 years of eligibility for Excelsior and must complete at least 24 credits per year
- Students with disabilities may attend part-time and receive pro-rated award amounts and pro-rated years of eligibility
- College credits earned in high school will count towards the 30 credit per year accumulation and may be applied at any time during the course of the student's college program
- There are no specific GPA requirements, but students must stay on track to graduate on time in accordance with their college's program requirements

Residency Requirements:

- If award recipients fail to stay in NYS for a period of time equal to the number of years they received Excelsior, the award money will be converted to a 10-year, interest free student loan
- Students who either transfer to a college or attend graduate school outside NYS will receive a deferment until after they leave college
- Former award recipients who are still enrolled as undergraduates, graduate students, or completing medical residencies in NYS will be credited for that time lived in the state

Adapted from CUNY, Dean of Enrollment information session on Excelsior scholarship

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- Award recipients who are in the military after college are still considered to be living in NYS and fulfilling residency requirements while they are serving

Losing/Regaining Eligibility:

- Students who lose eligibility for academic reasons will be ineligible for future awards
- Students, who take a leave of absence, stop out, or risk falling below credit accumulation requirements due to family emergency or health reasons, may appeal to the college to regain eligibility. Documentation will be required.
- If an appeal is granted, the student will be eligible for future awards but will not receive payment for the semester in which they withdrew or failed to complete the required amount of credits
- Students who lose awards due to income change can regain eligibility if their household income falls back below the eligibility threshold