



WHAT IS THE EXCELSIOR SCHOLARSHIP?

The Excelsior Scholarship is a New York State funded grant program. The goals of this program are to promote on-time degree completion, increase graduation rates, lower student out-of-pocket tuition costs, and reduce the need for student loan borrowing. For an associate degree student, on-time graduation means completing your degree in no more than 4 traditional full-time semesters.

The Excelsior Scholarship is a "last dollar" tuition only scholarship. It is applied to your awards package after accounting for TAP, Pell Grant, ASAP tuition waivers and other tuition-based scholarships, grants or waivers you may be receiving. It will make up the difference in tuition if charges are not fully covered by other financial aid programs.

WHAT ARE THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS?

- Be a legal resident of New York State (must have lived in the State for at least 12 continuous months prior to the first term for which you are seeking payment)
- Be a US citizen, permanent resident or hold an I-94 visa as a refugee, paroled refugee or conditional entrant
- Be enrolled in a program leading to a degree
- Have a combined federal adjusted gross income of \$125,000 or less
- Have a high school diploma from a U.S. high school, a recognized GED certificate, or receive a passing score on an approved ability-to-benefit test
- Not be in default status on a student loan made under any federal or New York State education loan program

WHAT ARE THE ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS?

You must enroll full-time and complete 30 degree credits by the end of your first year of college to receive the scholarship. Winter and summer session classes can be included as part of your total enrollment to meet the 30 credit requirement (The Excelsior scholarship will not pay the tuition for summer or winter sessions classes).

The credit accumulation requirement is measured starting from the first semester you began college. You must continue to meet the requirement to receive the scholarship in subsequent years. An associate degree student will be expected to accumulate 60 degree credits in 4 semesters.

Remedial coursework is not included in the semester to achieve the full-time enrollment requirement and does not count towards meeting the annual 30 credits requirement. Excelsior pays for degree credits only.

DO I HAVE TO MAINTAIN A CERTAIN GPA?

No but you will need to achieve a passing grade in every course covered by the scholarship. If you fail one or more of your required courses and are not able to meet the 30 credit completion requirement each year, you will lose eligibility for the scholarship and could be asked to repay some or all of the funds received.

Keep in mind that you may have other awards which also carry academic standards that differ from those required for the Excelsior Scholarship.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE 2022/2023 EXCELSIOR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM SCAN HERE



HOW DO I APPLY?

- Must submit a FAFSA and TAP application each year
- Must submit an Excelsior Scholarship application each year by an established deadline

HOW MUCH WILL MY AWARD BE EACH SEMESTER?

The amount depends on how much other grant aid you receive each semester but cannot exceed the full-time NYC resident tuition charge. You must apply for and accept any grant assistance offered before you may be considered for an Excelsior Scholarship award. The program does not cover other non-tuition costs, such as school fees, room and board, etc.

HOW MANY SEMESTERS CAN I RECEIVE THE SCHOLARSHIP?

You may receive the Excelsior Scholarship for up to 2 years (4 semesters) as an associate degree student. You can receive an additional 2 years to earn a bachelor's degree at a CUNY or SUNY.

You will have 8 potential semesters of eligibility beginning from the first semester you start college and lasting up to 4 consecutive years.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I GRADUATE?

You will have to commit to live in New York State for a period of time equal to the length of time you received Excelsior support. If you are working, you must also be working in New York State.

If you do not fulfill this requirement, the Excelsior assistance will turn into a loan, which you will have to repay.

WHAT IF I'M A TRANSFER STUDENT?

If you are a transfer student, you may be eligible for an Excelsior Scholarship if you are on track to complete your current academic program on time based on the number of credits accepted by the college.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP AS YOU MAKE DECISIONS ABOUT YOUR EDUCATION AND FUTURE.

Visit or virtual office hours to speak with a Panther Station Representative. **Hours:** Monday & Thursday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. , Tuesday & Wednesday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Friday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.



Call (212) 220-1430 to get connected with a financial aid representative.



Visit us at <https://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/enrollment-management/> and click the "Ask Me" feature to search for an answer to an Admissions, Financial Aid, or Registration question. If you don't find the information you need with a search, start a live chat with a staff member.