



APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID

Financial aid comes primarily from the federal and state governments.

Federal aid includes Pell Grant, Work-Study, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, and federal student loans.

New York State financial aid includes the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP), Aid for Part-Time Study (APTS), scholarships and other numerous special awards.

IT ALL STARTS WITH COMPLETING THE FAFSA—THE FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID

WWW.FAFSA.GOV

NEW FOR 2017–2018

- **FAFSA & TAP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE BEGINNING OCTOBER 1ST, 2016**
- **USE YOUR 2015 TAX INFORMATION**



HOW TO APPLY

Get Your FSA ID

- Both you and a parent need Federal Student Aid Identification Numbers (FSA IDs) to complete and electronically sign your FAFSA and other federal student aid documents.
- Visit www.fsaid.ed.gov to get your FSA ID

**GET
YOUR
FSA ID
EARLY!**

Gather these Materials

For both student /spouse and parent(s), if dependent:

- **2015** Income tax returns
- **2015** W-2 forms and other records of money earned
- **Current** bank statements and records of investments
- **2015** Records of other untaxed income, such as child support received, IRA/pension deductions, veteran's benefits, or military allowances

Complete the FAFSA at www.fafsa.gov

Be sure to use the **IRS Data Retrieval Tool** (if eligible)

- Instantly transfer information from the IRS with the click of a button
- Accurately fills in tax data fields
- Will not need to provide tax documents to the Financial Aid Office for verification

**CSI Federal School
Code 002698**

Verification

- The US Department of Education randomly selects a certain number of applications for Verification. Comply promptly with all requests for additional information or documentation by the Office of Student Financial Aid. If you fail to comply with any such request, the processing of your application will be suspended.
- If you are selected for Verification and did not use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool, you will need to request your and/or your parents 2015 IRS Tax Return Transcript at www.irs.gov/transcript.

Apply for the New York State Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)

**CSI TAP School
Code 1417**

- If you are a New York State resident, you should also apply for New York State aid online by using the New York State resident link on the FAFSA Submission Confirmation page.
- You must apply for TAP by completing the FAFSA every year.
- You can check the status of your TAP and other NYS applications online at www.hesc.ny.gov.

PRIORITY DEADLINE MARCH 31ST EVERY YEAR

APPLYING FOR FEDERAL DIRECT LOANS

For matriculated students taking at least 6 equated credits with fully processed FAFSA on file and must be eligible to receive federal aid

***All loans are processed as 2 semester loans - Fall and Spring unless CUNYfirst indicates a Fall graduation*

To Apply for a Student Direct Loan:

First-time Borrowers

- Complete Entrance Counseling at <https://studentloans.gov>
- Sign your Direct Subsidized/ Unsubsidized Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN) at <https://studentloans.gov>

All borrowers

- Complete loan application at www.csi.cuny.edu/finaid and click on [CSI Federal Direct Loan Application](#)

Remember, your loan request will not be processed until you file your FAFSA, all steps above are complete, and all your outstanding Financial Aid "To Do" items are complete in your CUNYfirst Student Center.

LOAN LIMITS PER YEAR

Grade Level	Dependent	Independent
Freshman 0-29.9 credits	\$5,500 (up to \$3,500 subsidized)	\$9,500
Sophomore 30-59.9 credits	\$6,500 (up to \$4,500 subsidized)	\$10,500
Junior/Senior 60+ credits	\$7,500 (up to \$5,500 subsidized)	\$12,500
Graduate*		\$20,500 (*unsubsidized only)

Subsidized Loan: Interest paid by government while in school

Unsubsidized Loan: Interest billed once loan is disbursed

DIRECT PARENT PLUS LOANS (PLUS)

A Plus loan allows parents of dependent students with good credit ratings to borrow up to the cost of their child's education, minus any other financial aid the student is receiving. These loans are not need-based, but students who have parents wishing to take a Plus Loan must file the FAFSA and be eligible for federal aid.

To Apply for a Plus Loan:

- Complete a Plus Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN) at <https://studentloans.gov>

Note: Parents will need their own verified FSA ID in order to sign in to student loans.gov

- Complete paper Plus loan application available in person at Enrollment Services, 2A-106 or online at <http://www.csi.cuny.edu/finaid> under Direct Loan Forms in the Downloadable Forms section

Important Note

Loan process includes a credit check. If the parent is *denied*, the student may request an additional \$4000 unsubsidized loan.