



The NYS Dream Act allows for certain undocumented students to apply to in-state financial aid in the State of New York including TAP, Excelsior and Enhanced Tuition Support.

Who created it:

Youth from the New York State Youth Leadership Council and community members created and advocated for the NYS DREAM Act to become a reality for 10 years.

How to apply:

To apply, you do not need to fill out the FAFSA form (unless requested by a college), instead, you can create an account with HESC.

You can apply here: <https://www.hesc.ny.gov/dream/>

Available Financial Aid Programs:

- Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) covers your tuition but not your Student Fee. Each CUNY has a different student fee.
- The Excelsior Scholarship. Requirements include: not taking any breaks in between semesters, must be a full-time student, and need to reside in NYS several years after graduating college.
- Tuition Enhanced Program is available for students attending a private college in NYS.

Who can apply:

Anyone with the following immigration status can apply:

- U.S. citizen
- Permanent lawful resident
- Of a class of refugees paroled by the attorney general under his or her parole authority pertaining to the admission of aliens to the U.S.
- U-Visa
- T-Visa
- Temporary protected status, pursuant to the Federal Immigration Act of 1990
- Without lawful immigration status (including those with DACA status)

Confidentiality

Information submitted to the NYSDA will remain confidential. When submitting the required documentation for your application block addresses, and personal information. This helps keep your information safe and confidential.



Students might be asked to submit:

- Household income
- Affidavit to their university that they will adjust status as soon as they become eligible.
- High School Transcript, GED Certificate, or proof of in-state tuition rate

Requirements:

Step 1: Determining Your Eligibility If you fit one of the descriptions below, you may be eligible for one or more NYS student financial aid awards under the DREAM Act:

If you currently reside in New York State:

- You attended a NYS high school for 2 or more years, graduated from a NYS high school

OR

- You received a NYS high school equivalency diploma
- You are or will be charged the NYS resident in-state tuition rate at a SUNY or CUNY college for a reason other than residency.
- You are applying for an award for an UNDERGRADUATE study at a NYS College within 5 years of receiving your NYS High School diploma/Equivalency diploma

OR

- You are applying for an award for a GRADUATE study program within 10 years of receiving your NYS diploma or equivalency diploma.

Your permanent home is outside of NYS:

- You attended a NYS high school for 2 or more years, graduated from a NYS high school
- You received a NYS high school equivalency diploma
- You are or will be charged the NYS resident in-state tuition rate at a SUNY or CUNY college for a reason other than residency.
- You are applying for an award for an UNDERGRADUATE study at a NYS College within 5 years of receiving your NYS High School diploma/Equivalency diploma

OR

- You are applying for an award for graduate study at a NYS college within ten years of receiving your NYS high school diploma.