Financing Your Education
2018-19

Financing your education is an important and sometimes complicated process. Making informed decisions and managing your finances are crucial to your education and life.

**Filing for Financial Aid**
File for Federal Financial Aid through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) accurately, and on-time to be considered for all the aid you can. You can apply for the 2018-2019 FAFSA online.

**FAFSA Web Site**

You will need a FSA Username and password to file your FAFSA. If you don’t already have one, go to: [https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/filling-out/fsaid](https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/filling-out/fsaid)

**Equal Opportunity Program (EOP) for Undergraduate Students**
Students who are in an EOP or SEEK program at another institution may qualify for EOP. [https://www.suny.edu/attend/academics/eop/](https://www.suny.edu/attend/academics/eop/)

**Graduate Opportunity Program (GOP)**
Undergraduates who were previously in an EOP or SEEK program may qualify for GOP funding.

**SUNY Downstate Scholarship for Graduate and Medical Students:**
Professional Study Tuition Program for Economically Disadvantaged (EDPS) undergraduate and graduate and medical students. Application, criteria, and details are online at the financial aid web site: [http://sls.downstate.edu/financial_aid/2012-13SUNYDownstateApplicationforFinancialAid.html](http://sls.downstate.edu/financial_aid/2012-13SUNYDownstateApplicationforFinancialAid.html)

**What Happens Next?**
SUNY Downstate receive your FAFSA electronically and determine your eligibility for federal financial aid, including: grants, scholarship, and loan programs. The Financial Aid Office will notify you via an award letter of your eligibility for federal financial aid and any additional documents we require.

**What Do I Do Next?**
You must then decide what awards to accept/ decline and submit any additional documents we request before we finalize your financial aid.

If you are planning to borrow student loans, you will be required to complete the online student loan counseling entrance interview and Master promissory Note (MPN) at the Federal Direct Loan site: [www.studentloans.gov](http://www.studentloans.gov) for each type of loan that you are borrowing.

*The loan proceeds will not be disbursed until the MPN is completed, and all other requirements are met.*
**Additional Financial Aid Information**
FAFSA federal school code: **002839**

HESC TAP code for undergraduates: **4886**. There is no TAP available for graduate/medical students.


Part time undergraduate students may be eligible for the NYS Aid for Part Time Studies Application (APTS). Once the application is available, it will be posted on the Financial Aid website.

**Financial Aid Office Web Site:** [http://sls.downstate.edu/financial_aid/](http://sls.downstate.edu/financial_aid/)

Visit the Financial Aid Office web site to find information on how to view your aid online, policies, forms, and a wealth of Financial Aid related topics.

**Managing Your Finances**
Evaluate your own financial status

How financially fit are you? Obtain your credit reports. Alternative loan and Graduate PLUS Loan approval are based upon your credit history. Review your credit card bills, cell phone, personnel expenses, loans, car payments, insurance payments, etc. What part of these expenses do you truly need?

Financial aid is meant to assist with your educational expenses. Federal aid does not cover car payments, credit cards, and other consumer debt obligations.

Investigate what resources you have at your disposal to help pay for your education. Have you saved or invested for your education? Do family members have resources you can utilize for your education? Do you have tuition remission from your employer?

If you find difficulty in resolving your current debt/credit issues, it is better to identify and resolve personal financial issues sooner rather than later.

**Other Important Links**

HESC (TAP & Excelsior Scholarship) [https://www.hesc.ny.gov/](https://www.hesc.ny.gov/)

Federal Student Aid [https://studentaid.ed.gov](https://studentaid.ed.gov)


AAMC First Facts [https://www.aamc.org/services/first/first_factsheets](https://www.aamc.org/services/first/first_factsheets)


**Tuition and fees:**
[http://sls.downstate.edu/bursar/tuition_fees.html](http://sls.downstate.edu/bursar/tuition_fees.html)

Visit the Bursar’s Office website to find information on tuition and fees for your program of study.