



# I Applied. What's Next?

Congratulations! You are now on the path to college. Here's what you can expect next.

## Follow-up

Make sure you have taken care of all supporting documents required for your college applications:

- Mailed or submitted your application fee (or a fee waiver or deferral form)
- Asked your school counselor to send your official transcript to the college
- Submitted your additional essays as required
- Asked your references or school counselor to send letters of recommendation
- Requested official transcripts you might have from any other college courses you may have taken outside of high school
- Requested official test scores required -- SAT, ACT, AP, IB or TOEFL

## Apply for Financial Aid

You'll need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, the FAFSA, which is your key to aid to help pay for college. This should be done as soon as possible after October 1 when it is available online at [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov).

You can find FAFSA help available beginning in October at **StartHereGetThere.ny.gov**, when you can also learn about types of federal and New York State financial aid that may be available to you.

Look for FAFSA completion workshops and College Goal New York events that can provide one-on-one assistance for completing your FAFSA. They'll be scheduled in many locations across New York with dates and times posted on **StartHereGetThere.ny.gov**.

## Eligible for the NYS DREAM Act?

The NYS DREAM Act gives undocumented and other students access to New York State-administered grants and scholarships that support their higher education costs. For more information and to apply, visit [hesc.ny.gov/dream](http://hesc.ny.gov/dream).

## When You Will Hear from the Colleges

You should receive acceptance letters and financial aid award letters by April.

## Know Your Deadlines

Make sure you know **all** your college deadlines so you don't miss any important decisions that may impact you later. There are deadlines for:

- Financial Aid (varies by college)
- Acceptance (usually by May 1<sup>st</sup>)
- Residence choices (varies by college)

## While You Are Waiting

Spring seems far away, but take some time to thank those people who have helped you on your path to college...counselors, your recommenders, mentors, coaches or anyone else who has been an inspiration for you to go to college. **Be proud! You are going to college!**



Visit [StartHereGetThere.ny.gov](http://StartHereGetThere.ny.gov) to:

- learn what you need to know about getting student financial aid
- get tips for filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid – FAFSA
- find local FAFSA completion event locations, dates and times

Get your FSA ID at [fsaid.ed.gov](http://fsaid.ed.gov)

The student and one parent need Federal Student Aid Identification Numbers (FSA IDs) to complete and electronically sign the FAFSA and other federal student aid documents. Get it before completing the FAFSA!

#### What to Bring to Complete the FAFSA

- Student's social security number – bring the card to ensure number is correct
- Parents' social security numbers – bring the card to ensure number is correct
- Parents' date of birth
- Student's driver's license number, if student has one
- Student's Permanent Alien Registration Number, if not a U.S. citizen
- Copy of student's 2019 Federal Income Tax Return
- Copy of parents' 2019 Federal Income Tax Return
- Records of student's 2019 untaxed income from these sources:
  - Child support received for any of the student's children; do not include foster care
  - Tax exempt Interest income
  - Veterans' non-education benefits (disability, death pension, etc.)
  - Money received by or paid on the student's behalf (e.g., bills)
- Records of parents' 2019 untaxed income from these sources:
  - Child support received for all children. Do not include foster care
  - Tax exempt Interest income
  - Veterans' non-education benefits (disability, death pension, etc.)
  - Untaxed portions of pensions; exclude rollovers
  - Untaxed payments to tax deferred pensions and retirement savings plans (on W-2)
  - Untaxed portion of IRA distributions; exclude rollovers
  - Untaxed portion of IRA deductions
  - Housing, food and other living allowances pd. to members of the military, clergy & others
  - Workers' compensation benefits
  - Disability benefits
- FSA ID
  - Student and one parent
- An email address – required to reset your FSA ID should you forget it

The FAFSA links directly to the New York State Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) application. Be sure to complete that, too!