

## Financial Aid Checklist 2026-2027

<p><b>FAFSA:</b> Free Application for Federal Student Aid (PELL, SEOG, Federal Student Loans, Federal Work Study)          SUNY Ulster Code: 002880</p> <p>FAFSA Questions?          Call 1-800-433-3243</p>	<p>_____1. Go to <a href="http://www.studentaid.gov">www.studentaid.gov</a> and click “FAFSA Form,” then click <i>Complete the FAFSA Form</i>. Click the button that says <i>Start New Form</i>.</p> <p>First-time applicants will need to Create an Account. If you have already completed the FAFSA in the past – enter your Email, Phone, or Username and Continue.</p> <p>Contributors for <i>Dependent</i> students will need to create their own Account.</p> <p>_____2. Be ready to provide your Social Security number, your Alien Registration number (if you are an eligible non-citizen), your <b>2024</b> Federal income tax returns, W-2s, and other records of money earned, bank statements, records of investments (if applicable) and records of untaxed income (if applicable).</p> <p>*Dependent Students will need to invite at least one contributor to complete the parent portion of the FAFSA. You will need the following information to invite your contributor: parents full legal name, date of birth, Social Security Number (if they have one) and a valid email address.</p> <p>_____3. Dependent Students Only: Your FAFSA will not be submitted until the contributor you invited accepts the invitation and completes the parent portion of the FAFSA.</p>
<p><b>TAP/PT-TAP:</b> Tuition Assistance Program/Part Time Tuition Assistance Program          SUNY Ulster TAP Code: 2230</p> <p>TAP Questions?          Call 888-697-4372 or Schedule an Appointment:  <a href="https://www.hesc.ny.gov/get-help/schedule-call">https://www.hesc.ny.gov/get-help/schedule-call</a> for a HESC Representative to contact you.</p>	<p>After you have completed the FAFSA – you may be given a link to Continue to the New York State TAP Application – not all students will receive this option – if this link is provided, it should be used. If you are not given this link, continue with the following steps.</p> <p>_____1. After you have completed the FAFSA continue to the NYS TAP/PT-TAP application on <a href="http://www.hesc.ny.gov">www.hesc.ny.gov</a>.</p> <p>_____2. Scroll down to where it says “Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)” and click the button that says <i>Apply Now!</i></p> <p>_____3. Under where it says “Didn’t apply for TAP through the FAFSA?” click on “Apply for TAP” and click the button that says “Start my application.” Be ready to provide your (and if dependent, your parents) <b>2024</b> New York State income tax return information.</p> <p>First-time applicants will need to create a User ID and HESC Pin. This is NOT the same thing as your Federal Student Aid Account! Parents <i>do not</i> need to create an account with HESC.</p>
<p><b>Excelsior Scholarship:</b> Free Tuition for eligible full-time students</p>	<p>_____1. Apply at <a href="http://www.hesc.ny.gov">www.hesc.ny.gov</a> - this application is only available for a limited time each year (usually between May-June), sign up for text alerts online to be notified when the application becomes available.</p> <p>You must complete the FAFSA and TAP applications <b>first!</b></p>
<p><b>Federal Direct Stafford Loans (Student Loans)</b>  <b>*Optional*</b></p>	<p>_____1. Complete the FAFSA first!          _____2. Complete your Loan Entrance Counseling and Master Promissory Note (MPN) - Go to <a href="http://www.studentaid.gov">www.studentaid.gov</a>, click on <i>Grants and Loans</i>.          _____3. Complete a Student Federal Direct Stafford Loan cover sheet (available under <a href="#">Financial Aid Forms</a>). Sign and return form to the Financial Aid Office.</p>
<p><b>SUNY Reconnect:</b> Free community college for NYS Adults aged 25-55          *<a href="#">Limited to specific degree programs</a></p>	<p><b>There is no additional application for the SUNY Reconnect program!</b>          Complete the FAFSA and TAP Applications; eligibility and program requirements will be reviewed for every student. If you are eligible, it will be applied automatically.</p>

For more information on [Financial Aid Eligibility](#), [Financial Aid Forms](#), and [Financial Aid FAQs](#), please visit the [Financial Aid](#) page of SUNY Ulster’s website.

For more information on [Scholarships](#), please visit the Scholarships page of SUNY Ulster’s website. Scholarship applications are not processed in the Financial Aid Office, and questions regarding scholarship applications should be directed to the Foundation Office at [scholarships@sunyulster.edu](mailto:scholarships@sunyulster.edu).

For more information on [Tuition & Fees](#), [Residency Requirements](#), and [Payment Options & Plans](#), please visit the [Tuition & Fees](#) page of SUNY Ulster’s website.

Billing and payments are not processed in the Financial Aid Office, and questions regarding billing and payments should be directed to the Student Account Office at [studentaccountsinfo@sunyulster.edu](mailto:studentaccountsinfo@sunyulster.edu).

### Top “Do Not Miss This” Items

- FAFSA opens October 1 each year – apply early for maximum eligibility
- FAFSA must be completed *every academic year*

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### Common FAFSA Mistakes to Avoid

- Completing the FAFSA for the wrong year: If you are attending the Fall 2026, Spring 2027 or Summer 2027 semesters – you should complete the 2026-27 applications
- Using the wrong tax year (2026-27 applications will ask for 2024 tax information)
- Forgetting to sign the FAFSA (student *and* parent, if applicable)
- Forgetting to submit the FAFSA after signing
- Listing the wrong college or missing SUNY Ulster’s school code
- Ignoring emails about verification or missing documents

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### Continuing Students: Quick Reminders

- Aid does not automatically renew, you will need to apply every year
- Changes in enrollment, housing, or income can affect aid
- Withdrawing from classes may impact current or future aid

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### Check Your SUNY Ulster Email!

Students should regularly check their SUNY Ulster email and portal for financial aid updates, document requests, and important deadlines. Students may be randomly selected for “Verification” by the Federal Department of Education or the SUNY Ulster Financial Aid Office. Selected students will be notified by email and additional documentation may be required.

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### Still have questions?

Questions about aid? Financial Aid Office at [financialaid@sunyulster.edu](mailto:financialaid@sunyulster.edu)

Scholarships? Foundation Office at [scholarships@sunyulster.edu](mailto:scholarships@sunyulster.edu)

Bills & payments? Student Account Office at [studentaccountsinfo@sunyulster.edu](mailto:studentaccountsinfo@sunyulster.edu)

Admissions? Admissions Office at [admissions@sunyulster.edu](mailto:admissions@sunyulster.edu)