

TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP) --

TAP is a New York State funded grant program that helps pay the tuition of eligible full-time students. If you receive a TAP award, the money comes directly to the College for payment of your tuition.

What are the eligibility requirements?

To be eligible for TAP, you must:

- Be a legal resident of New York State (that is, you must have lived in the State for at least one year prior to the first term for which you are seeking payment).
- Be a US citizen, permanent resident or hold an I-94 visa as a refugee, paroled refugee or conditional entrant.
- Be matriculated (enrolled in a program leading to a degree).
- Be enrolled full-time, that is, enrolled for at least 12 credits or equivalent credits that meet the requirements of your curriculum/major.
- Remain in good academic standing for New York State financial aid programs.
- Be free of debt from any defaulted student loan that HESC guaranteed.

How do you apply?

Apply for most types of federal and state financial aid by filling out a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). After your FAFSA is processed, you will be sent an email or postcard with a link to a TAP on the Web application. Check to see that NYCTCM [TAP School Code 0541(Undergraduate Level) or 5541(Graduate Level)] is listed as your college of choice. If you submitted your FAFSA on the web, you will arrive at a Confirmation Page that will give you a confirmation # and an estimate of your federal aid eligibility. You should print a copy of this page for your records. After that, click on the link for New York State residents located below the federal confirmation # on the Confirmation page. You will be linked to TAP on the Web. This allows you to file for New York State tuition assistance programs.

How do you know if you receive TAP?

About 8 to 10 weeks after submitting your application, you will receive an award certificate from New York State Higher Education Services Corporation (HESC). This certificate will indicate the amount of TAP you can expect to receive at NYCTCM each trimester. Keep this certificate for your records. You do not have to return it to the College. If you have not heard from TAP after 8 to 10 weeks, you may use HESC's TAP application status check.

What does receiving a TAP Award Certificate mean?

HESC issues an award certificate to every applicant who meets the eligibility criteria for TAP as reflected by a correctly filled out application. However, before a TAP award can be credited to your NYCTCM account for any given trimester, the College will first determine whether or not you meet the State's requirements for full-time enrollment and good academic standing. If you do not meet one or more of the school-based criteria for TAP eligibility, you will not be able to use your TAP award for that trimester.

How much TAP can you receive each trimester?

The amount of TAP you receive depends on your family income, the number of family members attending college full-time, the number of semesters or trimesters you have received TAP, and the size of the annual appropriation for the program. Maximum TAP awards can be equal to but not greater than the full tuition charge at NYCTCM. State budgetary restrictions can further limit TAP awards to a portion of your tuition.