Process for completing all financial aid applications for which students are eligible

Does the student qualify for the NYS DREAM Act?
(see NYS DREAM Act criteria on page 28)

YES

STEP 1
Complete the NYS DREAM Act application. The student may qualify for New York State financial aid.

Is this student a citizen of the U.S., U.S. national, or eligible non-citizen?
(see FAFSA criteria on pages 27-28)

NO

STEP 2
Complete the NYS Application for TAP.

STEP 3
Complete additional financial aid applications for which the student qualifies (such as Excelsior Scholarships).

STEP 4
The student should respond promptly to any verification requests they receive regarding their financial aid applications.

YES

STEP 2
Complete the FAFSA.

STEP 3
Complete the NYS Application for TAP.

STEP 4
Complete additional financial aid for which the student qualifies (such as Excelsior Scholarships).

STEP 5
The student should respond promptly to any verification requests they receive regarding their financial aid applications.

NO

STEP 1
Complete the FAFSA. Once the student completes the application, they'll see a button to click to take them to the NYS Application for TAP site to begin the NYS Application for TAP.

STEP 2
Complete the NYS Application for TAP.

STEP 3
Complete additional financial aid applications for which the student qualifies (such as Excelsior Scholarships).

STEP 4
The student should respond promptly to any verification requests they receive regarding their financial aid applications.

NOTES

Please note that NYS Application for TAP and Excelsior Scholarship applications are different depending on whether a student is NYS DREAM Act-eligible or not. So it is important to complete the forms in this order to ensure students complete the correct version of those applications.

Students should closely track the status of their financial aid for college applications and follow up to ensure their application has been received and processed.