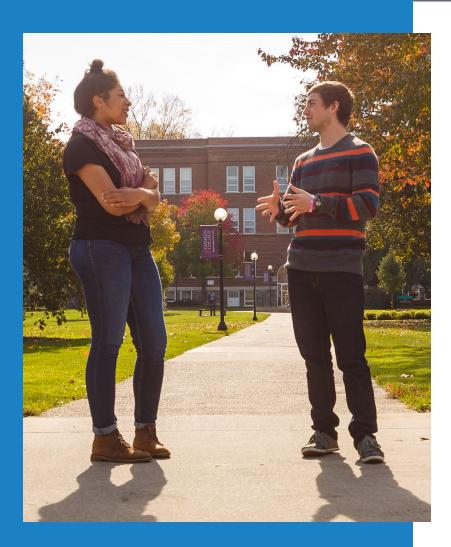
The Foster Youth College Success Initiative

## WHAT IS THE FYCSI?

The Foster Youth College Success Initiative (FYCSI) was established in 2015 to increase the population of foster youth, orphans, and wards of the court who apply, attend and graduate from college in New York State.

By providing financial assistance and support services, FYCSI also makes college completion a reality for eligible students.



## How Can the FYCSI Program Help You?

FYCSI was designed to remove financial barriers that may prevent students from completing college as attending college can be very expensive, funding through the Foster Youth College Success Initiative supports the cost of college attendance including, but not limited to:

- Tuition and Fees
- Meals & Housing, including
- recess/intersession housing
- Books & Supplies
- Transportation
- Advisement, Tutoring, and Academic Support
- Personal Expenses





## **Am I Eligible?**

All students — regardless of immigration status — are eligible to access funding and resources through FYCSI, if they meet the eligibility criteria defined below:

- 1. Are currently resident of New York State;
- Became a foster youth, orphan, or ward of the court at any time after your 13th birthday. Students will have to present official documentation from the family court, a school official, a caseworker, or a foster care agency

or death certificates in order to confirm they are/were a foster youth, orphaned, or a ward or the court; and

 Are admitted and enrolled in a SUNY or CUNY college or university, <u>or</u> at a private college or university that participates in the FYCSI program. <u>It</u> is recommended that you check. with the Financial Aid and/or the Opportunity Program Office to determine if the college that you are interested in attending participates in FYCSI.

# How do I participate in the FYCSI?

FYCSI operates as part of New York State's opportunity programs. An opportunity program is designed to provide college access to students who are considered academically underprepared and financially disadvantaged, but demonstrate the potential to complete college. Opportunity Program students receive a variety of services to help them achieve success. Services include counseling, tutoring/ academic support, skill development workshops (time management, organizational skills, and study skills) and developmental instruction.

Not all colleges and universities in New York State offer an Opportunity Program. However, based on recent changes to the law, there may be opportunities for students attending schools without Opportunity Programs to access FYCSI funding and services. Interested students should check with a school's Financial Aid and/or Opportunity Program Office to determine if that college participates.

## Participating colleges and universities include, among others:

### **Private Colleges/Universities**

Alfred University Bard College Barnard College Boricua College Canisius College of Buffalo Cazenovia College **Clarkson University Colgate University** College of Mount Saint Vincent College of Saint Rose Columbia Univesrity **Cornell University Daemen College Dowoling College** D'Youville College **Five Towns College** Fordham University Fordham University: Rose Hill Campus Hamilton College Hobart and William Smith Colleges Hofstra University Ithaca College Keuka College LeMoyne College Long Island University Manhattan College Maria College

Marist College Marymount Manhattan College Mercy College Molloy College Mount Saint Mary College Nazareth College New School New York Institute of Technology New York University Niagara University Nyack College Paul Smith's College Polytechnic University Pratt University Rochester Institute of Technology **Russell Sage College** Sage College of Albany St. Bonaventure University St. John Fisher College St. Lawrence University St. Thomas Aquinas College Siena College Syracuse University **Trocaire College** Union College University of Rochester Utica College Vaugh College of Aeronautics & Technology Most students who receive FYCSI support will apply and be admitted to an Opportunity Program. For students participating in an Opportunity Program there is no separate application for FYCSI. New York State Opportunity Programs include:

- College Discovery (CD) & Search for Education Elevation Knowledge (SEEK)-City University of New York (CUNY)
- Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) - State University of New York (SUNY)
- Higher Educational Opportunity Program (HEOP) - Private Colleges and Universities

Recent changes to the Foster Youth College Success Initiative program provide access to students who either attend colleges that do not participate in Opportunity Programs or attend colleges with Opportunity Programs but are not enrolled in them. If you attend a private college or university that does not offer an Opportunity Program, or they do offer one but you are not enrolled, reach out to your school's Financial Aid office to learn if you may be eligible for funding. For more information about the FYCSI and the eligibility requirements to participate in an opportunity program, please follow the instructions based on where you plan to attend college.

- CUNY Students or Applicants: Contact Shirley DePena, Director of Youth Matter. Shirley.depena@cuny.edu
- SUNY Students or Applicants: Contact the EOP office at the SUNY college(s) to which you are applying or Osei Agyeman, Foster Youth College Success Initiative Coordinator and Campus Liaison.
  Osei.Agyeman@suny.edu
- SUNY Non-EOP Students or Applicants: Contact the financial aid office at the school you are attending or plan to apply to.
- Private Colleges/Universities Students or Applicants: Contact the HEOP office and/or Financial Aid Office at the private college(s) to which you are applying.

Some college applications may ask if you are a foster youth, orphaned, or ward of the court. Although not mandatory, identifying yourself on the application will increase the likelihood that you will be considered for participation in the FYCSI.

For additional information or questions relating to the statewide policy that established the FYCSI please contact: FYSA@childrensaidnyc.org

#### CUNY

**Baruch College** BMCC Bronx Community College **Brooklyn College** City College of New York College of Staten Island Hostos Community College Hunter College John Jay College Kingsborough Community College LaGuardia Community College Lehman College Medgar Evers College New York City College of Technology Queens College Queensborough Community College York College

### SUNY

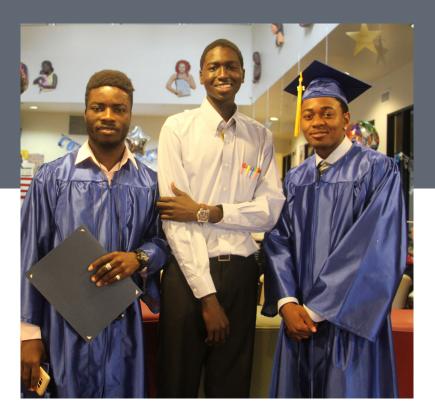
University Centers and Doctoral Degree Granting Institutions Albany Binghamton University at Buffalo Stony Brook SUNY Polytechnic Institute NYS Ceramics at Alfred University NYS Colleges at Cornell University Environmental Science and Forestry

#### University Colleges

Brockport Buffalo State Cortland Fredonia Geneseo New Paltz Old Westbury Oneonta Oswego Plattsburgh Potsdam Purchase Colleges of Technology Alfred State Canton Cobleskill

Delhi Farmingdale Martime Morrisville

**Community Colleges** Adirondack Broome Dutchess Erie Fashion Institute of Technology **Finger Lakes Fulton Montgomery** Genesee Hudson Valley lefferson Monroe Nassau Niagara Onondaga Orange Schenectady Suffolk Ulster Westchester





For questions about the production of this brochure, please contact FYSA@ChildrensAidNYC.org