WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

1. Determine your college choices and academic programs before starting your CUNY application. Find out about the 11 Senior Colleges and 7 Community Colleges [here](#). Research online, take virtual tours, and visit campuses in person. Find out more about tours [here](#).

2. Freshmen applicants can select up to 6 college choices and Transfer applicants can select up to 4 college choices on the CUNY application.

3. You must have an email address. You should check it regularly.

4. Your social security number. If you are undocumented, you can still apply by marking “don't have one”.

5. Your address. You can put a separate mailing address if needed.

6. OSIS# You can find this on your high school id or transcript.

7. APPLICATION DEADLINES:
   
   **Deadline for Fall Semester:** February 1

   **Recommended Deadline for Fall Semester:** November 1
   *Students applying to 4-year colleges for Fall should get their applications in by November 1st to make sure they’re in the best possible position to secure spaces in opportunity programs.*

   **Deadline for Spring Semester:** September 15

   **TIP!** Don't give up if you missed the deadline! Many CUNY schools accept applications on a rolling basis after the deadline, up until a few weeks before the semester starts. Find CUNY schools still accepting applications here: [cuny.edu/admissions/undergraduate/explore/closed-academic-programs/](http://cuny.edu/admissions/undergraduate/explore/closed-academic-programs/)

**Deadlines for Individual Schools:**

- Macaulay Honors College: December 1
- Queens College School of Music: December 1
- Brooklyn College: December 15
- The City College School of Architecture: January 1
- The City College School of Biomedical Education: January 8
- The City College School of Engineering: February 1
**HOW TO APPLY TO CUNY**

Have someone from your school or foster care agency help you complete the application.

Apply Online

**STEP 1:** Visit [www2.cuny.edu/admissions/undergraduate/apply/cuny-application](http://www2.cuny.edu/admissions/undergraduate/apply/cuny-application) to begin.

**STEP 2:** Select “Future Student” application if first time applicant or “CUNY Students” if previously enrolled at CUNY.

**STEP 3:** Create a CUNY application account or log into your CUNYFIRST account. This will ensure you can save your progress and finish your CUNY application at another time if needed.

**STEP 4:** Begin your application.

This will take some time! It's pretty straightforward but a few things to note:

- You must identify as a youth in foster care if you want to be eligible for certain financial and academic supports.
- Check the box on the application for consideration for Support Programs (SEEK/CD/ASAP). If you don't mark these going into your first year, you will not have access to these financial and academic supports.
- Be sure to note any supporting documents (letters of recommendation, SAT scores, etc) that your school or program requires. You can now upload them directly to your CUNY application and you must upload them prior to application deadlines.
- [Here is a video](#) that walks through each question on the CUNY application.

**Fee payment:** Youth in foster care are eligible for fee waivers.

Check the “pay later” box on the CUNY application. To ask for an application fee waiver, fill out CUNY's [foster care fee waiver request form](#).

**STEP 5:** Submit your application

After you submit your application, print or download a copy of your Application Summary.

Find your CUNYfirst ID number (an 8 digit number) on your Application Summary.

**You will need your CUNYfirst ID number to submit supporting documents.**

- You can return to see the status of your application using your CUNYFIRST account information.
- Check your email regularly. CUNY will give you next steps or alert you if additional documentation is needed, so you will need to reply by their deadlines!
- You will receive an admission decision from each college listed on your application.
ENROLL IN ALL RELEVANT CAMPUS SUPPORT PROGRAMS AT CUNY

To take advantage of all available supports at CUNY, you should do the following:

**STEP 1:** When filling out the CUNY application, check “yes” when asked if you are interested in SEEK/CD and ASAP

*See descriptions below.*

**STEP 2:** Complete an [FYCSI consent form](mailto:FCY4College@ocfs.ny.gov?subject=FYCSI consent form) and email the completed form to FCY4College@ocfs.ny.gov (cc'ing shirley.depena@cuny.edu).

This will ensure that you receive funding and support through the FYCSI program at CUNY.

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Support and Opportunity Programs at CUNY

**CUNY START** provides intensive preparation in academic reading/writing and math, as well as college success advisement for students entering CUNY with developmental/remedial needs. The goal of the program is to help students prepare for college-level coursework and to meet CUNY’s proficiency standards before starting college. Note that CUNY students now can take credit-bearing courses right away even if they have developmental needs due to CUNY’s new co-requisite course policy, which phased out remedial courses, and CUNY Start has a strict attendance policy, so it may not be for everyone.

**MATH START** is CUNY Start’s 8-week intervention that prepares students for success in college by fostering their full math potential. In a social, collaborative learning environment, students access the support they need to increase their understanding of math so that they can meet CUNY’s proficiency standards and thrive as CUNY college students.

**ACCELERATED STUDY IN ASSOCIATE PROGRAMS (ASAP)** is structured academic pathway designed to help participating students earn their associate degrees as quickly as possible, with the goal of graduating at least 50 percent of students within three years. ASAP is able to reach this goal by providing a range of supports including financial resources, comprehensive and personalized advisement, tutoring, and career counseling.

**SEEK** and **COLLEGE DISCOVERY** students receive one-on-one personal, academic and career counseling, financial assistance in the form of extra semesters of New York State Tuition Assistance Program (TAP), textbook stipends, and student activity fee waivers. Students also receive extra academic support, including pre-freshman summer classes that help prepare students for college courses, professional tutoring, and consolidated course schedules.

**FYCSI (FOSTER YOUTH COLLEGE SUCCESS INITIATIVE)** provides enhanced funding and support to students who were in foster care, orphaned, or a ward of the court at any point after turning 13.

For more information, contact: Shirley de Pena, P: 646-664-8786, shirley.depena@cuny.edu.