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
   - **Deadline for Spring Semester:** September 15

   **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: [https://youtu.be/-mF8cQws13Q](https://youtu.be/-mF8cQws13Q)

**Tip!** **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, contact Elizabeth Romain, CUNY Enrollment Systems Manager at (646) 664-3643 or Elizabeth.Romain@cuny.edu

**STEP 5:** Submit your application
After you submit your application, print or download a copy of 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 ask you next steps or need documentation, 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 AVAILABLE CAMPUS SUPPORT PROGRAM AT CUNY

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

**STEP 1:** Complete the CUNY application process and identify interest in the General Support Programs. See descriptions of the general support programs below.

**STEP 2:** Complete the Foster Care Initiative (FCI) Referral Form to have access to enhanced student support programs for foster youth.

- Fill out the FCI referral form [here](#) and apply as early as possible.
- Attend a CUNY Start, Math Start, ASAP or ACE Information Session (see below).
- Verify completion of the campus-based enrollment steps. Check out the Enrollment Pathway Flow Chart to make sure all steps have been completed.
- Watch these short videos with youth to make sure you understand all requirements! [FCI in 2 Minutes](#) and [How to Apply](#)

General Support Programs at CUNY

**CUNY START** provides intensive preparation in academic reading/writing, academic math, and “college success” advisement for students entering CUNY with significant remedial needs based on the results of their CUNY Assessment Tests. The goal of the program is to help students prepare for college-level coursework and to meet CUNY's proficiency standards prior to starting credit-bearing courses.

**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.

**YOUTH MATTER** provides enhanced services and supports to SEEK and CD youth with a history in foster care as well as Orphans and Wards of the Court.

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