

The University of the State of New York
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
Office of Postsecondary Access, Support and Success (OPASS)
Scholarships Unit
EBA, Room 960
Albany, New York 12234
Tel. (518) 474-3719

<http://www.nysed.gov/postsecondary-services/postsecondary-access-support-success>

**BULLETIN OF INFORMATION
FOR CANDIDATES**

2025 COMPETITION

**SCHOLARSHIPS
FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

DEADLINE:

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

This bulletin provides information about the Scholarships for Academic Excellence (SAE) to be awarded in 2025 for the 2024-2025 academic year. Pending the appropriation of State funds during the 2025 session of the New York State Legislature, 8,000 scholarships will be awarded. Of the 8,000 awards, 2,000 scholarships will have a value of \$1,500 each and 6,000 scholarships will have a value of \$500 each. Winners of this scholarship may concurrently receive any other New York State academic or general award for which they may be eligible. However, winners cannot be awarded a Scholarship for Academic Excellence in any amount when the combination of all awards would exceed their cost of attendance in college. Scholarship winners must attend a college or university in New York State. SAEs cannot be used for trade schools. Those who do not attend a college or university in New York State forfeit the award. Cost of attendance includes tuition, required fees, laboratory and other institution-related expenses, books, transportation, and room and board.

Awards are renewable for up to four academic years of undergraduate study or five academic years, if the program of study normally requires five(strGgs)8 tetu(e)r(th)-5e ned by

- a. have graduated from a New York State high school;

2. The student's permanent home is outside of NYS and the student is or has **ONE** of the following:
 - a. U.S. citizen
 - b. Permanent lawful resident
 - c. Of a class of refugees paroled by the attorney general under his or her parole authority pertaining to the admission of aliens to the U.S.
 - d. [U-Visa](#)
 - e.

To avoid forfeiture, a written request for a leave of absence must be submitted to the:

**Higher Education Services Corporation
Division of Grants and Scholarships
99 Washington Avenue, Room 1300B
Albany, New York 12255-**

Method A: Regents test scores

A high school which, prior to its students' senior year, has offered to all such students seeking Regents credit at the school either a Regents examination or a single approved alternative assessment (see <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/>), but not both, in each of the following subjects: comprehensive English, global studies, United States history/government, mathematics B, and in two or more of the following four sciences: earth science, living environment/biology, chemistry, and physics, shall select scholarship nominees on the basis of the following criteria:

The high school shall select their winner(s) by computing a weighted average of the scores on the Regents examinations and/or approved alternative assessments taken by its students prior to their senior year, in all of the following subjects:

The weighting of the scores shall be:

English Language Arts	weight of three
Algebra II	weight of three
Global studies and Geography	weight of one
United State History & Government	weight of one
Science:	

At least two, but up to four courses may be included weight of one for each course.

Individual schools must decide, in the science area, how many science courses to use in the calculation. They must use the same number of science courses for all students in the competition though they do not need to use the same courses.

If the approved alternative assessment is **not** scored on a one-hundred-point scale, the high school must convert the scores on the approved alternative assessment to a one hundred-point scale. **If a student elected not to take the Regents examinations listed, or an approved alternative assessment, then that student cannot compete or be selected as a scholarship winner.**

****Note:** The high school should use selection criteria described above for "Method A: Regents test scores" whenever possible; if "Method A: Regents test scores" is not possible, the school should then select between Methods

In the case of a tie, the high school may determine rank order by lottery among individuals having the same class rank.

OR

Method C: Locally developed examination of English and mathematics

For high schools that cannot determine class rank because of their grading system, a locally developed and administered assessment of academic performance which shall test the subjects of English and mathematics and shall be conducted prior to the end of the junior year.

In the case of a tie in the weighted average score that is used for the selection of a junior year to determine the priority ranking of tied scholarship nominees: if the high school cannot determine class rank because of the grading system of the high school or in case of a tie in class rank, the high school shall determine priority order by lottery among tied individuals.

In the case of a tie in class rank or in the score on the locally developed and administered assessment of academic performance that is used for selection of a scholarship nominee, the high school shall determine priority order b(re)-39lection of a

1. **Student Last Name (Required):** Type in the student's Last Name.
2. **Student First Name (Required):** Type in the student's First Name.
3. **Student Middle Initial (Optional):** Type in the student's Middle Initial. If the Student does not have a middle initial, please enter N/A.
4. **6 W X G H Q W ¶ V \$ G G U H V *:** Type in the Student's Address of Residence.
*** Applicants without lawful immigration status will not be asked for their home address and the nominee does not need to complete this section.**
5. **Student City or Post Office of Residence*:** Follow the same steps as for Address of Residence.
*** Applicants without lawful immigration status will not be asked for their home address and the nominee does not need to complete this section.**
6. **Student State of Residence:** You must enter and fill in the letters in the state column.

Term Definitions

Temporary Protected Status (TPS): allow foreign national to remain in the U.S. if during the time they were in the U.S. something catastrophic happened in their country of origin preventing their safe return – for example war, famine, natural disaster, or epidemic. TPS allow people to work legally and be protected from deportation.

T-Visa: allows the granting of lawful status to noncitizen victims of human trafficking, as well as their immediate family members, who assist in the prosecution of the trafficking. It allows people to remain and work temporarily in the U.S.

U-Visa: allows for the granting of lawful status to noncitizen crime victims who suffered significant physical or mental abuse (and their immediate family members) who assist in the prosecution of the crime. It allows people to remain and work temporarily in the U.S.

Without Lawful Immigration Status: living in the U.S. unlawfully either because lawful status never existed (including those with DACA status) or have ended.