



ONONDAGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS PROGRAM



Onondaga Community College
4585 West Seneca Turnpike
Syracuse NY 13215- **Whitney 317**



<https://www.sunyocc.edu/occadvantage>

High School Requirements

Freshmen Year

- ☐ Sign up for OCC Advantage by March 1st with guidance counselor. All are welcome

Sophomore Year

- ☐ Maintain a GPA of at least 73%
- ☐ Do not exceed 8 unexcused absences
- ☐ Complete all required college readiness programming

Junior Year

- ☐ Maintain a GPA of at least 75%
- ☐ Do not exceed 7 unexcused absences
- ☐ Complete all required college readiness programming

Senior Year

- ☐ Maintain a GPA of at least 75%
- ☐ Do not exceed 6 unexcused absences
- ☐ Complete all required college readiness programming
- ☐ Apply to OCC by March 1
- ☐ Complete the FAFSA, apply for TAP, and apply for the Excelsior Scholarship by May 15.

Requirements for Students Eligible for Program Funding

First Year (2 semesters)

- ☐ Participate in OCC welcome activities and orientation programs prior to starting first semester
- ☐ Maintain fulltime enrollment in a degree program (15 credits per semester)
- ☐ Earn a GPA of at least 2.2 each semester
- ☐ Complete the FAFSA, apply for TAP, and apply for the Excelsior Scholarship by May 15
- ☐ Participate in at least one Onondaga service event or OCC Advantage event
- ☐ Complete 30 credits per academic year at continuous full-time status

Second Year (2 semesters)

- ☐ Maintain fulltime enrollment in a degree program (15 credits per semester)
- ☐ Earn a GPA of at least 2.5 each semester
- ☐ Participate in at least one Onondaga service event or OCC Advantage event
- ☐ Complete 30 credits per academic year at continuous full-time status



About OCC Advantage

The OCC Advantage program through Onondaga Community College is a college and career-readiness program that supports the development of skills, behaviors, and habits that prepare a student for success in high school, college, and career. All district students are eligible to participate.

Students who successfully complete the OCC Advantage program (see requirements on back) and meet financial aid eligibility rules will be eligible to receive program funding toward the direct costs of attendance, excluding housing and meal plan costs, at Onondaga Community College for up to 4 semesters or until a degree is completed, whichever comes first!



QUESTIONS?



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Eligibility Requirements

- Households must have an annual adjusted gross income of \$125,000 or less
- Students must be eligible to apply for and receive federal and state financial aid
- Students must meet annual high school and Onondaga Community College requirements (see back)
- Students must matriculate (enroll in a program of study upon entry to OCC) within one year of their high school graduation

How It All Works

OCC Advantage provides students with program funding that is applied after their financial aid is awarded. Once grants and scholarships have been applied, OCC Advantage program funding will be applied to cover other direct costs of attendance. Funding lasts a maximum of two academic years (4 semesters), or until a degree is completed, whichever comes first!

Financial Aid Requirements Explained



To be eligible for Federal Grants, you must complete the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** each academic year.

For State Grants, you must complete the **New York State Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) application** each academic year. Grants do not need to be repaid. Grants are usually given to students based on demonstrated financial need.

The Excelsior Scholarship covers any remaining gap in tuition expenses, after other federal and state grants and scholarships are applied, up to \$5,500.