

2026-2027

Where do I start?

Use this checklist to plan what you need to do to apply for and receive financial aid.

- First, apply for a Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID online at studentaid.gov. Your contributor will also need to apply for their own FSA ID in order to electronically sign the FAFSA and Federal Loans. Keep in mind you can't use the same email address or mobile number as your contributor to create your FSA IDs.

The Application Process—October / November / December 2025

- Apply for scholarships using the SUNY Canton online scholarship form.
- Look for private sources of aid including scholarships. Check with your Guidance Counselor, school, libraries, local businesses, local organizations, and parent employers/unions. Check online at free sources like fastweb.com and remember that fee-based searches may be scams.
- Complete the FAFSA application (available **October 2025**) online at studentaid.gov to apply for federal aid
Preferred Deadline = February 1, 2026
- NYS RESIDENTS ONLY: Complete the NYS TAP application online at hesc.ny.gov. You can link directly to this website from the confirmation page after completing the FAFSA application online.

The Follow-up Process—April / May / June 2026

- Watch your mail, email, and monitor your account online through your UCanWeb account. Contact the Financial Aid staff with any questions you have.
- NYS RESIDENTS ONLY: Complete the NYS Excelsior Scholarship application online at hesc.ny.gov/excelsior. This may cover the full cost of your tuition only. Be sure to apply by the deadline, the Fall 2026 application should open in May.
- Submit any requested documentation timely to prevent delays. Documentation not submitted timely may result in cancellation of financial aid award offers.
- Accept or decline your financial aid award offers online through your UCanWeb account. Awards that are not accepted in 30 days may be cancelled and re-awarded to other students.
- May 1: Deadline to make your deposit for the Fall 2026 semester. Notify any colleges you decide not to attend to prevent financial aid payment and refund delays.

The Registration and Billing Process—June / July / August 2026

- Complete any additional requests for information as soon as you receive them.
- Notify us of any outside scholarship, grant, or other types of aid you expect to receive.
- Complete the online billing process through UCanWeb each semester by the due date, including the parking, and any payment or payment plan.

All dates are RECOMMENDED, you can still apply even if you miss these deadlines.

Contact the One Hop Shop at 315-386-7616 with any questions!