



New York State  
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT  
Knowledge > Skill > Opportunity

# NYSIA

## New York State Indian Aid for Higher Education

New York State Education Department  
Office of Indigenous Education

[IndigenousEducation@nysed.gov](mailto:IndigenousEducation@nysed.gov)

(518) 474 - 0537



Scan this code  
for NYSIA forms.

*Information is current as of April 25, 2025.*

*For the most up-to-date program information, please visit us online.*

# What is NYSIA?

**NYSIA** is a grant program administered by the New York State Education Department's Office of Indigenous Education. It provides financial assistance to students who:

- Are on an official tribal roll of one of the Indigenous Nations\* located within New York State boundaries, or have a parent who is on an official tribal roll of one of those Nations;
- Reside within the boundaries of New York State or within one of the aforementioned Indigenous Nations;
- Attend an accredited post-secondary school located in New York State;
- Have graduated high school or have attained a New York State High School Equivalency diploma;
- Are pursuing an associate's, bachelor's, master's, or doctorate degree, or a trade/technical certificate requiring at least 1,440 hours of classroom time to complete;
- And maintain at least a 2.00 GPA for each semester while pursuing their credential.

*\*Cayuga, Oneida, Onondaga, Seneca (incl. Cattaraugus, Allegany, and Tonawanda Band), Shinnecock, St. Regis Mohawk, Tuscarora, & Unkechaug.*

**NYSIA is a grant, not a student loan or competitive scholarship!**

**All qualifying applicants will receive aid.**

## If I qualify for NYSIA, how much aid can I get?

NYSIA provides qualifying applicants with up to four school years of aid (eight fall/spring semesters, plus optional summer/winter semesters) unless their course of study requires five years to complete. Aid is based on credits taken:

- Full-time undergraduate students (12 or more standard credits per semester) receive \$1,000 per semester.
- Part-time undergraduate students (less than 12 standard credits per semester) receive \$85 per credit per semester.
- All graduate-level students receive \$1,000 per semester.

Aid is sent directly to your school's Financial Aid, Student Accounts, or Bursar's Office and is sent one semester at a time.

## I'm interested and I qualify! What do I need to do?

Students who are new to NYSIA must complete and send a **New Student Application** with all required supporting documents for their first semester of aid. For every following semester, students must complete and send a **Request Form** instead, which requires less documentation. Each form's required supporting documents are outlined on their third pages.

The Office of Indigenous Education can accept forms and supporting documentation via email, fax, or postal mail if they are sent before each deadline: **July 16 (Fall), November 30<sup>th</sup> (Winter), January 4 (Spring), or May 20 (Summer).**

## What if I don't have some of my supporting documents available in time for the deadline?

Your New Student Application or Request Form **must** be sent before the deadline, so make sure you complete it in full and send it even if you don't have anything else to go with it! We will follow up via e-mail to secure missing or valid documentation in cases where insufficient documentation is received, so keep an eye on your inbox and spam folder.

If you have any questions, feel free to email us at:

**IndigenousEducation@nysed.gov** or call us at **(518) 474 - 0537**

Learn more about NYSIA by visiting:

[nysed.gov/indigenous-education/new-york-state-indian-aid-higher-education](https://nysed.gov/indigenous-education/new-york-state-indian-aid-higher-education)