

# HEOP *Works*

OPPORTUNITIES AT  
INDEPENDENT COLLEGES  
AND UNIVERSITIES IN NEW YORK  
STATE THROUGH THE  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

Reprinted 2004

The University of the State of New York  
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT  
Collegiate and Professional Development Programs Unit  
Room 1071 EBA, Albany, NY 12234  
(518) 474-5313

# FOREWORD

We have developed this guide to inform you of the numerous opportunities at independent colleges and universities in New York State through the Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP).

I urge you to take advantage of one of the many programs available. If you are not eligible for HEOP, there are many other Federal, State, and institutional programs of student financial assistance, and some campus programs of academic support, for which you might well qualify. The local campus is your best source of information about these possibilities.

I appreciate your interest in furthering your college education. I hope this guide and the program it describes can help you achieve your goals.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

In 1966, the Governor and the Legislature approved a bill to provide access to higher education for the "educationally and economically disadvantaged" students in New York State. The program known as Search for Education, Elevation, and Knowledge (SEEK) was begun at The City University of New York (CUNY). The College Discovery Program which was already in existence at community colleges in New York City was continued, and the State University of New York (SUNY) started the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP). In 1969, legislation established the Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP) at independent colleges and universities in New York State.

These programs are designed to meet the special needs of students from disadvantaged backgrounds. Among the strategies available to meet these needs are testing, prefreshman summer programs, counseling, tutoring, coursework, and financial assistance.

In general, students in opportunity programs are individuals from families with low incomes, with high potential for successful collegiate experience but who have not acquired the verbal, mathematical, and other cognitive skills required for collegiate level work. Generally, their grades fall in the bottom half of their high school graduating classes. They are students who have not earned Regents diplomas, are assigned to high schools which have poor records for developing students, or have been tracked or scheduled into general, commercial, or vocational high school programs.

Students eligible for HEOP will generally rank low on such traditional measures of collegiate admissions as SAT scores, high school average, or class standing.

Opportunity programs are available for students living in urban and rural areas. They are available at two- and four-year levels, at public and independent colleges, and in every academic discipline and career field. Students are selected without regard to age, color, religion, creed, disability, marital status, veteran status, national origin, race, gender, genetic predisposition or carrier status, or sexual orientation.

## II. HIGHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

### What is HEOP?

The Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP) provides supportive services and financial aid to New York State residents attending independent colleges and universities in New York State.

### Who is Eligible?

To be eligible for HEOP you must meet all of the following conditions. You must:

1. Have been a resident of New York State for one year preceding your term of entry into HEOP.
2. Possess a high school diploma or a State-approved equivalency diploma or its equivalent. The equivalent of a general equivalency diploma is defined as being one of the following:
  - a) An Armed Forces Equivalency Diploma, with a minimum score of 40 on each test section and a minimum composite score of 225;
  - b) A level of knowledge and academic ability equal to the level required for entrance to the educational opportunity program at the institution to which the individual seeks admission.
3. Be educationally disadvantaged. An educationally disadvantaged student is a student who otherwise would not be accepted as a matriculated student under the institution's normal admissions standards in the degree program for which application is made. At open admissions institutions, an educationally disadvantaged student must meet one of the following criteria:
  - a) Possess a high school equivalency diploma; or
  - b) Possess the equivalent of a GED; or
  - c) Have no high school diploma; or
  - d) Meet other acceptable academic criteria, which differentiate the HEOP student from regularly admitted students (e.g., lower test scores, lower GED scores).
4. Have the potential and motivation for successful completion of college.
5. Be economically disadvantaged. Guidelines for determining economic eligibility begin on page 3.
6. Have been in an approved opportunity program (if a transfer student).

### How Do I Apply?

To apply for admission to a Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP), request an application from the institution that you are interested in attending. There are 61 HEOP programs throughout New York State, offering a wide variety of academic courses in major fields of study. Specific information can be obtained by writing to the HEOP program on that campus. A roster of HEOP programs is listed at the end of this brochure.

**Please note:** Many independent colleges require you to apply by February 1 of the year you intend to begin. This date varies at each campus. Please plan to apply as early as possible.

### If I Am Accepted - What Next?

**Summer Program.** Entering students usually are required to take part in a prefreshman summer program. The summer program is designed to orient the student to college life, initiate a program of academic skills building, and acquaint the student with the services available through HEOP.

**Supportive Services.** During the summer and academic year, supportive services take many forms:

- a. **Remedial and Developmental Courses.** If you need additional academic assistance to prepare you for college-level work, HEOP can meet your academic needs. Before you begin your classes, the HEOP professional staff will evaluate your academic strengths and weaknesses, and design a specific academic program to help eliminate your academic deficiencies. You will have the opportunity to take noncredit and credit remedial/developmental courses. These courses provide instruction in basic skills, reading, writing, vocabulary, mathematics, and other areas of study.
- b. **Tutorial Services.** HEOP provides you with tutorial services to assist you with your academic courses. Tutorial services are conducted on a one-to-one basis or in groups, depending upon your needs. Some tutors are competent, experienced HEOP students and some are professional tutors.

- c) **Counseling Services.** Counseling services are provided by the HEOP staff on an individual or group basis to assist you with any problems which may interfere with your academic work. You will receive the following types of counseling:

**Academic** - The HEOP counselor will assist you in selecting your academic major and courses. You can take a reduced course load during your first semester. You are also given an extra year of eligibility to graduate.

**Personal** - Adjustment to college life often presents many new problems for HEOP students. Counseling helps you develop your self-confidence, identity, and a positive attitude about learning.

**Career** - Students are often undecided about what to do after graduation. The HEOP staff will assist you in making career choices. Career counseling will help you in selecting the necessary courses to prepare you for employment or postgraduate study.

## Can I Afford To Attend College?

HEOP provides colleges with funds to help meet the cost of your education. You will also be eligible for other State, Federal, and institutional financial aid awards. Students are required to apply for the State's Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) and the Federal Pell Grant.

The amount of financial aid and the application procedures vary from campus to campus. HEOP students are expected to contribute to the cost of their education from family savings or summer earnings. Specific information can be obtained by contacting the HEOP Office or Financial Aid Office at the college you are interested in attending. For general questions about HEOP, please feel free to call or write to:

Collegiate and Professional Development Programs Unit  
NYS Education Department  
Room 1071 Education Building Addition  
Albany, NY 12234 (518) 474-5313

## Economic Eligibility Criteria for Opportunity Programs

Family Income Scale for the Purpose of Determining Eligibility for Supplemental Financial Assistance for First-time Students Enrolled in Opportunity Programs.

1. A student is economically disadvantaged if he or she is a member of a household supported by one member thereof with a total annual income which does not exceed the applicable amount set forth in the following table; or a household supported solely by one member thereof who works for two or more employers with a total annual income which does not exceed the applicable amount set forth in the following table by more than \$1,800; or of a household supported by more than one worker thereof or of a household in which one worker is the sole support of a one-parent family, if the total annual income of such households does not exceed the applicable amount set forth in the following tables by more than \$4,800. For the purposes of this subdivision, the number of members of a household shall be determined by ascertaining the number of individuals living in the student's residence who are economically dependent on the income supporting the student.

FOR STUDENTS FIRST ENTERING COLLEGE ON OR  
AFTER JULY 1, 2005

| <u>Number in household (including head of household)</u> | <u>Total annual income in preceding calendar year</u> |
|--|---|
| 1  | \$14,100  |
| 2  | 19,600  |
| 3  | 22,350  |
| 4  | 27,800  |
| 5  | 32,850  |
| 6  | 38,550  |
| 7  | 42,900  |
| 8  | 47,250  |
| 9  | 51,600  |
| 10   | 55,950  |
| 11   | 60,300  |
|  | plus \$4,350 for each family member in excess of 11   |

The income figures in the table of this section apply to the student applicant's income only when he or she is an independent student. For purposes of this part, an independent student:

- (i) is a student who is 24 years of age or older by December 31 of the program year; or
- (ii) is an orphan or ward of the court; or
- (iii) is a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States; or

- (iv) is a married individual; or
  - (v) has legal dependents other than a spouse; or
  - (vi) is a student for whom opportunity program and financial aid administrators have made a satisfactorily documented determination of independence by reasons of other extraordinary circumstances.
2. A maximum of 15 percent of the students admitted to a HEOP program may come from households whose income exceeds the scale listed in the preceding table when unusual and extenuating circumstances warrant. Documentation of these circumstances shall be kept on file by the institutions at which such students are enrolled, and shall be corroborated by a disinterested, reliable third party. Categories into which the exceptions may fall are limited to the following:
- a) Serious mismanagement of the family income, with little accruing to the interest of the student; or
  - b) A one-time fluctuation in household income, where there is a history of low income; or
  - c) Households with substantial long-term, nonreimbursed medical obligations such as maintenance of physically or mentally handicapped children; or
  - d) Families which must maintain two households, one for the wage earner and one for the dependents in order to maintain employment; or
  - e) Families where the family contribution as computed from base year financial data by a United States Department of Education approved needs analysis system indicates no contribution other than the minimum expectation from student income for independent students, or a zero parental contribution for dependent students.

## INSTITUTIONAL ROSTER OF HEOP PROGRAMS

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| <p><b>Alfred University</b><br/>Alfred, NY 14802<br/>(607) 871-2283</p> <p><b>Bard College</b><br/>Annandale-on-Hudson, NY<br/>12504<br/>(845) 758-7491</p> <p><b>Barnard College</b><br/>11 Lehman, 3009 Broadway<br/>New York, NY 10027-6598<br/>(212) 854-3583</p> <p><b>Boricua College</b><br/>3755 Broadway<br/>New York, NY 10032<br/>(212) 694-1000 Ext. 608</p> <p><b>Canisius College of Buffalo</b><br/>2001 Main Street<br/>Buffalo, NY 14208-1098<br/>(716) 888-2575</p> <p><b>Cazenovia College</b><br/>Cazenovia, NY 13035<br/>(315) 655-7161</p> <p><b>Clarkson University</b><br/>316 Science Center<br/>Potsdam, NY 13699-5512<br/>(315) 268-7974</p> <p><b>Colgate University</b><br/>Office of Undergraduate<br/>Studies<br/>Hamilton, NY 13346<br/>(315) 228-7375</p> <p><b>College of Aeronautics (The)</b><br/>LaGuardia Airport<br/>86-01 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue<br/>Flushing, NY 11369<br/>(718) 429-6600 Ext 160</p> <p><b>College of Saint Rose (The)</b><br/>432 Western Ave.<br/>Albany, NY 12203<br/>(518) 454-5280</p> | <p><b>Columbia University:<br/>Columbia College &amp; School<br/>of Engineering &amp; Applied<br/>Science</b><br/>530 SW MUDD<br/>Mail Code 4747<br/>New York, NY 10027<br/>(212) 854-7052</p> <p><b>Cornell University</b><br/>227 Day Hall<br/>Ithaca, NY 14853<br/>(607) 255-6384</p> <p><b>Daemen College</b><br/>4380 Main Street<br/>Amherst, NY 14226-3592<br/>(716) 839-8249 or 839-8255</p> <p><b>Dowling College</b><br/>Idle Hour Boulevard<br/>Oakdale, NY 11769<br/>(631) 244-3262 or 244-3263</p> <p><b>D'Youville College</b><br/>320 Porter Avenue<br/>Buffalo, NY 14201-1084<br/>(716) 881-7775</p> <p><b>Five Towns College</b><br/>305 North Service Road<br/>Dix Hills, NY 11746<br/>(631) 656-2129 or 2128</p> <p><b>Fordham University:<br/>College at Lincoln Center</b><br/>New York, NY 10023<br/>(212) 636-6238 or 636-6235</p> <p><b>Fordham University:<br/>Rose Hill Campus</b><br/>Freeman Hall, Room 102<br/>Bronx, NY 10458<br/>(718) 817-4205</p> <p><b>Hamilton College</b><br/>Clinton, NY 13323<br/>(315) 859-4399 or 859-4398</p> | <p><b>Hobart &amp; Wm Smith<br/>Colleges</b><br/>Geneva, NY 14456<br/>(315) 781-3319</p> <p><b>Hofstra University</b><br/>113 Hofstra University<br/>Gallon Wing, Room 132<br/>Hempstead, NY 11550-1090<br/>(516) 463-6982 or 463-6976</p> <p><b>Ithaca College</b><br/>Danby Road<br/>Ithaca, NY 14850<br/>(607) 274-3381</p> <p><b>LeMoyne College</b><br/>LeMoyne Heights<br/>Syracuse, NY 13214<br/>(315) 445-4190</p> <p><b>Long Island University<br/>Brooklyn Campus</b><br/>One University Plaza<br/>Brooklyn, NY 11201<br/>(718) 488-1043</p> <p><b>Web site:<br/><a href="http://www.liu.edu">www.liu.edu</a><br/>(Brooklyn/Educational<br/>Resources/HEOP)</b></p> <p><b>Long Island University<br/>C.W. Post Campus</b><br/>Brookville, NY 11548<br/>(516) 299-2241 or 299-2397</p> <p><b>Long Island University<br/>Southampton Campus</b><br/>Southampton, NY 11968<br/>(631) 287-8356</p> <p><b>Manhattan College</b><br/>Manhattan College Parkway<br/>Riverdale, NY 10471-4098<br/>(718) 862-8000 Ext 7958</p> <p><b>Manhattanville College</b><br/>2900 Purchase Street<br/>Purchase, NY 10577<br/>(914) 694-2200</p> | <p><b>Marist College</b><br/>82 North Road<br/>Poughkeepsie, NY 12601-1387<br/>(845) 575-3204</p> <p><b>Marymount Manhattan<br/>College</b><br/>221 East 71<sup>st</sup> Street<br/>New York, NY 10021<br/>(212) 517-0591 or 517-0592</p> <p><b>Mercy College</b><br/>555 Broadway<br/>Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522<br/>(914) 674-7212</p> <p><b>Molloy College</b><br/>1000 Hempstead Avenue<br/>Rockville Center, NY 11570-<br/>1199<br/>(516) 678-5000 Ext 6241</p> <p><b>Mount Saint Mary College</b><br/>330 Powell Avenue<br/>Newburgh, NY 12550<br/>(845) 569-3245</p> <p><b>Nazareth College</b><br/>4245 East Avenue<br/>Rochester, NY 14618<br/>(585)389-2513</p> <p><b>New School University</b><br/>66 Fifth Avenue<br/>New York, NY 10011<br/>(212)229-8996</p> <p><b>New York Institute of<br/>Technology:-Metropolitan<br/>Center</b><br/>1855 Broadway<br/>New York, NY 10023<br/>(212)261-1545</p> <p><b>New York Institute of<br/>Technology:-Old Westbury<br/>Campus</b><br/>Wheatley Road<br/>Old Westbury, NY 11568<br/>(516) 686-7574</p> |
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| <p><b>New York University</b><br/>Opportunities Programs<br/>239 Greene Street<br/>New York, NY 10003-6674<br/>(212)998-5670</p> <p><b>Niagara University</b><br/>PO Box 1916<br/>Niagara University, NY<br/>14109-1916<br/>(716) 286-8068<br/>Program Website:<br/><a href="http://www.niagara.edu">http://www.niagara.edu</a></p> <p><b>Nyack College</b><br/>Nyack, NY 10960<br/>(845) 358-1710 Ext. 560</p> <p><b>Paul Smith's College</b><br/>P.O. Box 265<br/>Paul Smiths, NY 12970-0265<br/>(518) 327-6480</p> <p><b>Polytechnic University</b><br/>6 Metro Tech. Center<br/>Brooklyn, NY 11201<br/>(718) 260-3031<br/>Program Website:<br/><a href="http://www.poly.edu/heop">http://www.poly.edu/heop</a></p> <p><b>Pratt Institute</b><br/>200 Willoughby Avenue<br/>Brooklyn, NY 11205<br/>(718) 636-3524</p> <p><b>Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute</b><br/>110 Eighth Street<br/>Troy, NY 12181<br/>(518) 276-6272</p> | <p><b>Rochester Institute of Technology</b><br/>One Lomb Memorial Drive<br/>Rochester, NY 14623<br/>(585) 475-2221 or 475-6617</p> <p><b>Russell Sage College</b><br/>45 Ferry Street<br/>Troy, NY 12180<br/>(518) 244-2208</p> <p><b>Sage College of Albany</b><br/>140 New Scotland Avenue<br/>Albany, NY 12208<br/>(518) 292-1764</p> <p><b>St. Bonaventure University</b><br/>St. Bonaventure, NY 14778<br/>(716) 375-2402 or 375-2404</p> <p><b>St. John Fisher College</b><br/>3690 East Ave.<br/>Rochester, NY 14618<br/>(585) 385-8036</p> <p><b>St. John's University</b><br/>Grand Central &amp; Utopia Prkwy<br/>Jamaica, NY 11439<br/>(718)990-1371</p> | <p><b>St. Lawrence University</b><br/>Canton, NY 13617<br/>(315) 229-5580</p> <p><b>St. Thomas Aquinas College</b><br/>Route 340<br/>Sparkill, NY 10976<br/>(845) 398-4026</p> <p><b>Siena College</b><br/>Loudonville, NY 12211<br/>(518) 783-2335<br/>Program Website:<br/><a href="http://www.siena.edu/heop/">http://www.siena.edu/heop/</a></p> <p><b>Skidmore College</b><br/>Saratoga Springs, NY 12866-1632<br/>(518) 580-5770</p> <p><b>Syracuse University</b><br/>804 University Ave, Suite 009<br/>Syracuse, NY 13244<br/>(315) 443-3867<br/>or 443-4260</p> <p><b>Syracuse University Continuing Education</b><br/>700 University Avenue<br/>Syracuse, NY 13244-2530<br/>(315) 443-3257</p> <p><b>Trocaire College</b><br/>360 Choate Avenue<br/>Buffalo, NY 14220-2094<br/>(716) 827-2476<br/>Program Website:<br/><a href="http://www.Trocaire.edu">http://www.Trocaire.edu</a></p> | <p><b>Union College</b><br/>Schenectady, NY 12308<br/>(518) 388-6115</p> <p><b>University of Rochester</b><br/>310 Morey Hall<br/>PO Box 270445<br/>Rochester, NY 14627-0445<br/>(585) 275-0651<br/>Program Website:<br/><a href="http://www.rochester.edu/College/OMSA/HEOP">http://www.rochester.edu/College/OMSA/HEOP</a></p> <p><b>Utica College</b><br/>Burrstone Road<br/>Utica, NY 13502-4892<br/>(315) 792-3209</p> <p><b>Villa Maria College of Buffalo</b><br/>240 Pine Ridge Road<br/>Buffalo, NY 14225-3999<br/>(716) 961-1853</p> |
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FOR INFORMATION ABOUT SIMILAR PROGRAMS AT PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES, YOU MAY WRITE TO:

**SEEK & College Discovery Programs**

The City University of New York  
535 East 80<sup>th</sup> St.  
New York, NY 10021

**Educational Opportunity Program**

State University of New York  
State University Plaza  
Albany, NY 12246