



ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

SUBJECT: The Excelsior Scholarship and the Enhanced Tuition Awards Programs

PURPOSE: To examine the implementation of the scholarship programs included in the 2017-18 State Budget, the Excelsior Scholarship and the Enhanced Tuition Awards Program, and to examine the impact they are having on New York State families and institutions of higher education.

**Albany, New York
Tuesday
December 12, 2017
10:00 a.m.
Roosevelt Hearing Room C
Legislative Office Building**

The Excelsior Scholarship and the Enhanced Tuition Awards Programs were established as part of the 2017-18 State Budget. The Excelsior Scholarship Program allows New York State residents to attend any State University of New York (SUNY) or City University of New York (CUNY) college tuition free. The Enhanced Tuition Awards Program provides a \$6,000 scholarship (through a combination of a student's TAP award, an Enhanced Tuition Award, and a match from the private college) to New York State residents attending independent colleges. To be eligible for an Excelsior Scholarship or Enhanced Tuition Award, students must have a federal adjusted gross income of \$100,000 or less, pursue an undergraduate degree, complete at least 30 credits each year, and meet minimum grade point average (GPA) requirements. Upon graduation, students would be required to live in New York and not work outside the state for the same number of years such student received an Excelsior Scholarship or Enhanced Tuition Award. The income thresholds for both scholarship programs will increase to \$110,000 in the 2018-19 academic year and \$125,000 in the 2019-20 academic year.

The purpose of this hearing is to examine the implementation of the Excelsior Scholarship and the Enhanced Tuition Awards Programs and the impact they are having on New York State families and institutions of higher education. Specifically, this hearing is seeking testimony from students on the overall experience of applying for an Excelsior Scholarship or an Enhanced Tuition Award and any impact it has had on a student's ability to attend college in the 2017-18 academic year. The committee is also seeking testimony from colleges and universities on the impact the Excelsior Scholarship and the Enhanced Tuition Awards Programs are having on the higher education sector in New York State.

Persons wishing to present pertinent testimony to the Committee at the above hearing should complete and return the enclosed reply form as soon as possible. It is important that the reply form be fully completed and returned so that persons may be notified in the event of emergency postponement or cancellation.

Oral testimony will be limited to 10 minutes' duration. In preparing the order of witnesses, the Committee will attempt to accommodate individual requests to speak at particular times in view of special circumstances. These requests should be made on the attached reply form or communicated to Committee staff as early as possible.

Ten copies of any prepared testimony should be submitted at the hearing registration desk. The Committee would appreciate advance receipt of prepared statements.

In order to meet the needs of those who may have a disability, the Assembly, in accordance with its policy of non-discrimination on the basis of disability, as well as the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), has made its facilities and services available to all individuals with disabilities. For individuals with disabilities, accommodations will be provided, upon reasonable request, to afford such individuals access and admission to Assembly facilities and activities.

Hon. Deborah J. Glick
Member of Assembly
Chairperson
Committee on Higher Education

PUBLIC HEARING REPLY FORM

Persons wishing to present testimony at the public hearing on The Excelsior Scholarship and the Enhanced Tuition Awards Programs are requested to complete this reply form as soon as possible and mail, email or fax it to:

Charlotte Moller
Committee Assistant
Assembly Committee on Higher Education
Room 513M, The Capitol
Albany, New York 12247
Email: mollerc@nyassembly.gov
Phone: (518) 455-4881
Fax: (518) 455-7250

- I plan to attend the following public hearing on The Excelsior Scholarship and the Enhanced Tuition Awards Programs on December 12, 2017.
- I plan to make a public statement at the hearing. My statement will be limited 10 minutes, and I will answer any questions which may arise. I will provide 10 copies of my prepared statement.
- I will address my remarks to the following subjects:

- I do not plan to attend the above hearing.
- I would like to be added to the Committee mailing list for notices and reports.
- I would like to be removed from the Committee mailing list.
- I will require assistance and/or handicapped accessibility information. **Please specify the type of assistance required:** _____

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

FAX TELEPHONE: _____