



Great Neck Student Aid Fund, Inc.

P.O. BOX 1067 GREAT NECK, NY 11023-1067

A PROGRAM OF FINANCIAL AID FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES WITH DEMONSTRATED FINANCIAL NEED SEEKING TO FURTHER THEIR EDUCATION

Outright grants are made to a select number of students with demonstrated financial need who reside in the Great Neck School District and who plan to attend college or vocational school in the year following high school graduation.

Financial need, not academic achievement, is the basis for the selection of recipients.

Grants are available for meeting **first year** expenses of college or vocational school only.

Privacy is maintained in the consideration of awards. No public announcement of grant recipients is made.

Choice of school is made by the student. Realism should be exercised since the financial burden will generally continue for four years. **For this reason, we recommend that all students apply to at least one (1) SUNY and one (1) CUNY school.**

OVERVIEW OF GREAT NECK STUDENT AID FUND FINANCIAL PROGRAM

To assure the greatest availability of all financial aid, the Fund requires that applicants apply for financial aid from the schools to which they seek admission. It should be noted that funds from Federal programs such as the Economic Opportunity Program (EOP), Pell Grants and Stafford Loans are administered through the colleges. Students attending New York State schools must also apply for the New York State Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) grants. The Great Neck Student Aid Fund (GNSAF) is a community supported organization. The sources of its funds are (1) private contributions including memorial and honorary donations, (2) Great Neck Community Fund, and (3) cooperating community organizations: PTOs, and student organizations.

PREREQUISITES

In order to be considered for a grant an applicant *must*:

1. Be a resident of the Great Neck Union Free School District #7.
2. Complete a high school program.
3. Make an application for admission to the colleges, vocational or other schools of the student's choice.
4. Make a formal and **timely** application to GNSAF at www.gnsaf.com.
5. Apply for financial aid from all schools a student is applying to.

INITIAL STEPS TO TAKE IF YOU THINK YOU WILL NEED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

1. Read this information carefully to make sure you are eligible.
2. By **March 15**, fill out the Preliminary Application Form on our website: www.gnsaf.com. Applications will not be accepted after March 15.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

1. Upon receipt of the Preliminary Application Form, each student will be assigned a GNSAF director who will serve as his/her advisor.
 - The applicant will complete the Biographical Questionnaire that is available on our website and email it to the advisor by **March 15**.
The purpose of the questionnaire is to give the Selection Committee background information concerning the applicant.
2. Financial Aid Forms
 - Each applicant is required to complete a **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®)**, if eligible. Its purpose is to establish the financial need of the applicant and to provide a confidential report which will help guide all schools and GNSAF in making its awards. Applicants who are not eligible for Federal student aid due to DACA or other non-citizenship status may, however, be eligible for New York State-administered financial aid, grants, scholarships and in-state tuition rates under the New York State DREAM Act: <https://www.hesc.ny.gov/dream/>
 - To ensure that GNSAF receives its data on time, be sure that the FAFSA is submitted by **March 15**. The Student will then get back a Student Aid Report (SAR) from FAFSA, a copy of which should be emailed to his/her advisor as soon as it is available.

3. A **complete** copy of the most recent parent/guardian Federal Income Tax return (including all Schedules) must be emailed to applicant's advisor no later than **April 15**.
4. Applicants must notify GNSAF of the school to be attended and provide his/her advisor with a copy of the financial aid package.
5. **Applicants must have submitted all required documents by May 15 in order to be considered for an award.**
6. The final award decisions are made by the Board of Directors of GNSAF, usually by the end of July. Notification will be made by letter to the applicant as soon as possible thereafter.
7. Payment of the award will normally be made directly to the school in which the applicant is enrolled. Grants are awarded in two installments, Fall and Spring. Instructions on the procedure to be followed will be given to recipients with the letter notifying them of their award.

OBLIGATIONS OF RECIPIENTS OF AWARDS

Each recipient:

1. Must enter the school of his/her choice within the first semester of the academic year following the granting of the award.
 2. Must notify GNSAF promptly if he/she decides not to attend the school as planned or to attend a different school.
 3. Will be expected to cooperate with GNSAF in furnishing the required information.
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RECAP OF DEADLINES TO MEET

By March 15

- Preliminary Application Form must be completed on the GNSAF website **Preliminary Application**. No applications will be accepted after March 15
- **THE FAFSA FORM MUST BE COMPLETED** (if student is eligible to file for Federal financial aid) **FAFSA FORM**
- Biographical Questionnaire must be completed and emailed to the advisor **Biographical Questionnaire**

By April 15

- **A COMPLETE COPY OF PARENT/GUARDIAN'S 2023 FEDERAL INCOME TAX RETURN** (including all Schedules and attachments) must be emailed to the advisor

By May 15

- **APPLICANTS MUST HAVE PROVIDED ADVISOR WITH:**
 - (1) Biographical Questionnaire
 - (2) Complete Federal income tax return
 - (3) Student Aid Report (FAFSA)
 - (4) Financial Aid package from student's college of choice