

Syracuse Say Yes to Education – Student Certification Form

Instructions: Syracuse City School District (SCSD) High School graduates applying for Say Yes awards must complete this form upon deciding which college they will attend. When Say Yes receives this completed form, we will contact the college to determine your eligibility (see www.SayYesSyracuse.org for more details). Students must enroll in an eligible Say Yes college within 1 academic year of high school graduation to be considered for a Say Yes award. This form only has to be completed once if the student maintains continual enrollment at the college listed. If the student changes their college or misses a semester, an updated form must be completed and sent to Say Yes. This form must be filed no later than 8 weeks prior to the beginning of the term to insure Say Yes award processing for the term.

New College Enrollment:

_____ I am currently admitted and plan to enroll at the following college: _____ (college name) for the following term and year (check term and complete year) Fall 20____ Spring 20____

College Transfer:

Say Yes students need to follow the same transfer process as all other students, contact your college for more information.

_____ I am currently admitted to college and plan to transfer to: _____ (college name) for the following term and year (check term and complete year) Fall 20____ Spring 20____

Student Name

Date of Birth

Street Address

City, State, Zip Code

Cell Phone

Home Phone

Student E-mail Address (**REQUIRED**)

Parent E-mail Address

High School

SCSD Student Number

I certify that I was a resident of Syracuse while attending a SCSD High School for 10th, 11th, and 12th grades.

I authorize the college(s) where I enroll to release academic and financial aid award (such as FAFSA data) information to the Syracuse Say Yes to Education Program for the duration of my college enrollment.

X

Student Signature

Date

Note: Say Yes will communicate by email whenever possible. Student is responsible for keeping Say Yes up to date with any changes to student's contact information

Return completed form to:

Syracuse Say Yes to Education, Higher Education Compact
109 Otisco St., 2nd Floor
Syracuse, NY 13224

Fax: (315) 443-5177
Phone: (315) 443-4260
Email: SayYesCollege@syr.edu



Syracuse Say Yes to Education



Student Responsibilities

Students who qualify for the Syracuse Say Yes to Education (SYTE) college scholarship program receive a guarantee that the cost of tuition at a participating college will be paid for by financial aid grants and scholarships or Syracuse Say Yes to Education will award a grant to make up the difference. Say Yes eligible students have a responsibility to read the following information about this program, know it, and ask questions if there is anything they do not understand. **Students who receive Say Yes Awards are responsible for informing SYTE of any changes in their college plans or contact information (including an active email address).**

Eligibility

To be eligible for the Syracuse SYTE financial aid guarantee, a student must meet the following qualifications:

- Be a resident of the city of Syracuse.
- Have continuous enrollment in a SCSD High School for 3 years, 10th, 11th, and 12th grades [or be legally designated as having refugee status on an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)].
- Graduate from one of the SCSD high schools on or after June 2009.
- Enroll as a full time student* in a Say Yes eligible college within one academic year after graduation.

*In addition students must apply for and otherwise be eligible for federal and state financial aid programs. Therefore students may be considered ineligible if they are in default on a student aid program, refuse to register for the Selective Service as required by law, or are ineligible non-citizens.

Partner Colleges

Students who in enroll in most of the colleges in the State University of New York (SUNY) and City University of New York (CUNY) systems are eligible to receive the Say Yes financial aid guarantee. In addition, over 20 private colleges and universities participate in the program. For a list of partner colleges, please visit www.SayYesSyracuse.org.

Family Income and the Say Yes Tuition Guarantee

Students may enroll in most of the colleges of the State University of New York (SUNY) or the City University of New York (CUNY) systems and be guaranteed that their tuition will be paid for by scholarships and/or grants regardless of family income. The majority of the private colleges limit the full tuition guarantee to admitted students with family incomes of less than \$75,000 per year. However, [Syracuse University](#) and [Cooper Union](#) do not have income restrictions. For a list of partner colleges, please visit www.SayYesSyracuse.org.

Say Yes Opportunity Grant

Syracuse SYTE has established an “Opportunity Grant” program to assist high need students enrolled at Say Yes public colleges with room and board costs. Students from families with low income who have high remaining need for financial aid assistance are automatically considered for the Opportunity Grant (up to \$2,000 for those eligible for the maximum Federal Pell Grant). Eligibility for the Opportunity Grant is determined by Say Yes after all other financial aid has been awarded. If awarded an Opportunity Grant, students will be notified by e-mail the summer before the start of their fall semester.

Choice Grant

Students from families with incomes of more than \$75,000 who are attending a Say Yes Private Compact College (and are not receiving a Tuition Guarantee Grant) may receive the Choice Grant. The Choice Grant provides up to \$5000 per year based on the difference between other financial aid awarded and the cost of full time tuition. Choice Grants, in addition to other financial aid awarded by the college and/or private grants/scholarships, are not to exceed the cost of full time undergraduate tuition.



Syracuse Say Yes to Education



Length of Study and Funding Availability

Say Yes funding is available for 4 semesters at a community college or 8 semesters at a 4-year college. While students will need to maintain full time status (at least 12 credit hours a semester) for fall and spring, most students will need to complete at least 15 credit hours a semester to complete their degrees during the time requirement of Say Yes. Say Yes funding is not available for summer semesters.

Requirements to Remain Eligible for Say Yes Once Admitted to College

It is important that students remain on track to complete their degrees in a timely manner. Students must:

- Maintain satisfactory academic progress at their college by completing a minimum of 12 credit hours for each semester (fall and spring) and maintain a GPA of 2.0 or better. A student's academic record will be reviewed at the end of each academic year. If a student completes less than 12 credit hours in the fall or does not have a 2.0 GPA, then he/she can make up for it by taking additional credits in the spring and/or bringing their grade point average up. If, at the end of the spring semester, the student has not completed the required 24 credit hours and does not have a 2.0 or better, then the student will not be eligible for Say Yes funding for the following year. Students that do not meet the standards of academic progress at the end of an academic year can enroll over the summer to make up their deficiencies. Remember that no Say Yes funding is available to students over the summer.
- Apply for financial aid each year and complete the financial aid process at their college.
- Inform Say Yes of any changes in college plans. If a student withdraws from college or takes a semester off he/she may not remain Say Yes eligible. Students should contact Say Yes regarding the circumstances of their situation.

Transferring Between Say Yes Colleges

Students should inform Say Yes immediately of any changes to their college enrollment. Say Yes students need to follow the same transfer process as other college students. Most colleges list their transfer procedures on their website. If a student has questions regarding the process, he/she should call or visit the college's admissions office. Say Yes students need to follow the regular financial aid process and meet all of the financial aid deadlines at the college to which they are transferring. It is the student's responsibility to inform Say Yes of the name of the college to which they are transferring. Say Yes will then contact the (transfer) college and determine the student's Say Yes eligibility, and inform the student.

Requirement to Keep Say Yes Informed

All Syracuse Say Yes to Education students must notify SYTE of any changes in their enrollment status. Students need to provide a valid and active e-mail address so that SY can notify students of process and procedures that will impact their access to Say Yes higher education initiatives. Students need to be aware that SYTE grants are considered "last dollar" awards. Students are required to inform SYTE of any additional grants and scholarships that the student is receiving that were not taken into consideration in calculating the SYTE grant awards. Student may have their SYTE awards reduced by additional financial aid that the student receives from other sources.

Contact Us At:

109 Otisco St., 2nd Floor
Syracuse, NY 13244
315.443.4260
SayYesCollege@syr.edu