

If You Pay for Immigration Assistance

If you are paying someone to help you with your immigration matter, know that you have the right to demand a written contract (in English and in your primary language) identifying all costs to be paid and services to be performed. The contract should include the name, address, and phone number of the person or business providing the immigration assistance to you. Also, you have the right to demand the return of any original documents that belong to you, including passports, green cards, and birth certificates. Additionally it is recommended that you ask for a copy of everything the lawyer is sending to USCIS on your behalf.

Be aware that there are immigration service providers, such as individuals who call themselves “notarios” or “experts”, who charge fees for services that they may not be qualified to provide. In some cases, these non-lawyers are practicing law illegally. It is common for such persons to file false or inaccurate applications with the USCIS on your behalf, and the consequences for you may be severe – you may even end up in removal (deportation) proceedings. To avoid these problems, if you need an immigration attorney call the NYC Bar Association Hotline at (212) 626-7373. If you already have an attorney, you can make sure that he or she is licensed to practice law in New York State by calling the NYC Bar Association Hotline, or by looking up the attorney’s name at: <http://iapps.courts.state.ny.us/attorney/AttorneySearch>.



Where to Get FREE Help with Your Immigration Issues

CUNY has centers that offer free assistance with immigration related cases. For the closest center in your area, see the list below. Contact us for an appointment.

CUNY Immigration Centers* Please call for an appointment

City College Immigration Center

(212) 650-6620
North Academic Center, Room 1-206
138th Street and Convent Avenue, New York, NY 10031

City Tech Immigration Center

(718) 260-5597
Department of Law and Paralegal Studies, Room N-622
300 Jay Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201

College of Staten Island, El Centro, and Project Hospitality Immigration Center**

(718) 273-6737
The Help Center, 514 Bay Street, Staten Island, NY 10301

CUNY Express Immigration Center

(212) 568-4692
560 West 181st Street, New York, NY 10033

Flushing Immigration Center

(718) 640-9223
39-07 Prince Street, 2nd Floor, Flushing, NY 11354

Hostos Community College Immigration Center

(718) 518-4395
427 Walton Avenue, T-501, Bronx, NY 10451

LaGuardia Community College Immigration Center**

(718) 482-5139
International Students Office, Room M-166
31-10 Thomson Avenue, Long Island City, NY 11101

Medgar Evers Immigration Center**

(718) 270-6294
1150 Carroll Street, Brooklyn, NY 11225

York College Immigration Center

(718) 262-2983
Welcome Center Atrium
94-20 Guy R. Brewer Boulevard, Jamaica, NY 11451

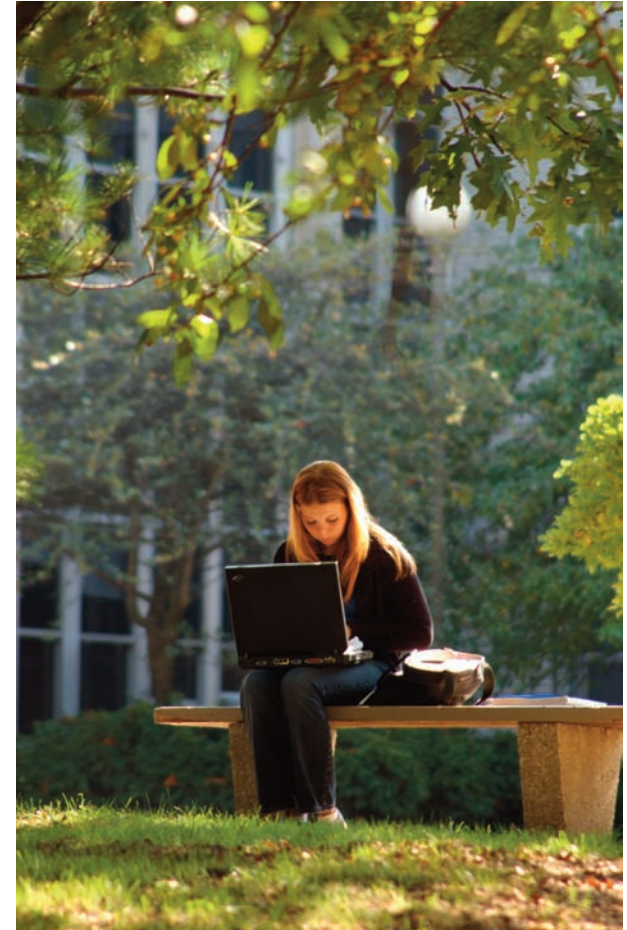
*All Services are FREE

**Part-time centers

For more information, please visit our website:

www.cuny.edu/citizenshipnow

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PAY IN-STATE TUITION AT CUNY



**FREE Immigration
Services for the
People of New York**

www.cuny.edu/citizenshipnow

IN-STATE TUITION ISSUES

All Students

All CUNY students, including undocumented students, benefit from a 2001 New York State law that expanded who can qualify for in-state tuition. That law allows anyone to pay in-state tuition if **any** of the following apply:

- They were enrolled in the City University of New York (CUNY) for the Fall 2001 semester, and qualified for in-state tuition at that time.
- They attended a New York State high school for two or more years, graduated, and applied to attend a CUNY institution within five years of receiving a New York State diploma.
- They attended an approved New York State program for the General Educational Development (GED) test preparation, received a GED from New York State, and applied to attend a CUNY institution within five years of receiving the New York State GED.

Individuals qualifying based on the 2001 state law are eligible for in-state tuition even if they have not resided in New York State for one year. Note: To get in-state tuition, undocumented immigrants must file an affidavit (a sworn, written statement signed by the applicant) stating that they will apply to legalize their status as soon as they are eligible. At CUNY, the admissions office can provide you with samples of the affidavits.

Others Eligible for In-State Tuition

If you do not qualify under the rules described above, you still may qualify for in-state tuition if you have resided in New York State for at least one year, **and** one of the following applies:

- You are a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or have a permanent resident application pending (you must have filed Form I-485 Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status. It is not sufficient to have solely a pending or approved I-130 Petition for Alien Relative or I-140 Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker).
- You have asylum, withholding of removal, or refugee status.
- You have temporary protected status (TPS).
- USCIS granted you deferred action status.
- You are a “late amnesty” applicant, a NACARA applicant, or a Cuban or humanitarian parolee.

- You are in one of the following nonimmigrant statuses: A, E, G, H-1B, H-1C, H-4 (where the primary status holder is here in H-1B or H-1C status), I, K, L, N, O, R, S, V, or U.

For more information on tuition or admission issues at CUNY, go to www.cuny.edu or call (800) CUNY-YES or (212) 286-9937.

F-1 Students

Students in lawful F-1 nonimmigrant status **do not** qualify for New York in-state tuition even if they meet the high school graduation or GED requirement. If they maintain lawful F-1 student status, they will qualify for in-state tuition only if they apply to become a permanent resident by filing Form I-485 Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status or change to another qualifying status, **and** meet the high school graduation, GED, or residency requirements as listed in the “All Students” and “Others Eligible for In-State Tuition” sections.

High school students on an F-1 visa who fall out of status, as defined below, **and** meet the high school graduation or GED requirements as listed in the “All Students” section, qualify for in-state tuition. **F-1 students with college I-20s can never qualify for in-state tuition by falling out of status.**

High School Students Falling Out of Status

Students who register for high school in F-1 status have a Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant (F-1) Student Status, better known as an I-20 form, issued by their high school. The I-20 indicates an anticipated end-of-studies date. A student with a high school I-20 will be considered out of status when that student’s end-of-studies date passes, plus 60 days, unless the student registered for college and received a college I-20 within those 60 days.

WARNING TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS REGARDING FALLING OUT OF F-1 STATUS

If you are considering falling out of F-1 status just so you can qualify for in-state tuition, **beware!** Out-of-status students are not eligible for employment authorization. Falling out of status makes you deportable and may make it difficult for you to obtain permanent residence.

Financial Assistance for Undocumented Students

CUNY has limited scholarships available for undocumented students. If you graduated from a New York City high school, public or private, with a B average or better, you may qualify for a Peter F. Vallone-New York City Council, Academic Scholarship. To get a Vallone scholarship, you must enroll in a CUNY college within two semesters of your high school graduation. To keep the scholarship, you must maintain a B average or better in college. Also, some schools offer scholarships based on merit. Speak with an admissions counselor for further information on the Vallone scholarship, other scholarships, financial assistance, and how to apply to CUNY. Applications are also available on the CUNY Web site www.cuny.edu, and from the Office of Admission Services—call toll-free: 1-800-CUNY-YES.

CUNY undocumented students and international students are eligible to apply to the Macaulay Honors College, which offers a full tuition scholarship, laptop, and a stipend. The Honors College is available only to the most outstanding students.

For additional information about the Macaulay Honors College contact:

Macaulay Honors College
35 West 67th Street
New York, NY 10023
Phone: (212) 729-2900
Fax: (212) 580-8130
Email: info@mhc.cuny.edu

