

## **Federal Academic Competitiveness Grants (ACG)**

Application Form: Completion of the FAFSA

Residency and Citizenship: Must be a U.S. citizen. Eligible non-citizens cannot receive an ACG.

Award Amounts: An eligible student may receive an Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG) of up to:

**\$750** for the first academic year of study

**\$1,300** for the second academic year of study

A student may not receive more than one ACG or National SMART Grant award in each academic year for which the student is eligible.

The amount of the grant, in combination with the Federal Pell Grant, other resources and estimated financial assistance, may not exceed financial need (*cost of attendance* minus *EFC* equals *financial need*).

### **Qualifying Programs and GPA requirements:**

Student must:

- be a Federal Pell Grant recipient for the same period
- be enrolled full-time in a degree program
- be enrolled in the first or second year of your program of study at a two-year or four-year degree-granting institution (such as CUNY)
- have completed a rigorous secondary school program of study after January 1, 2006 if a first-year student and after January 1, 2005, if a second-year student
- if a **first-year** student, not have been previously enrolled in an undergraduate program
- if a **second-year** student, have had at least a cumulative 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale for the first academic year
- No enrollment in a specific major is required

Options for Program Eligibility: There are three options for eligibility for a student from New York.

**1. The New York Regents Diploma with Honors or Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation**

or

**2. Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) courses and test scores** This program requires a minimum of two Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) courses in high school and a minimum passing score on the exams for those classes. Students must score 3 or higher on AP exams and 4 or higher on IB exams.

or

**3. Taking the following prescribed set of courses and receiving a passing grade:**

- 4 years of English
- 3 years of Math (Algebra I and a higher level course such as Algebra II, Geometry or Data Analysis and Statistics)
- 3 years of science (Including at least 2 courses from Biology, Chemistry or Physics)
- 3 years of social studies
- 1 year of a foreign language

Further information can be obtained from the website: [www.federalstudentaid.ed.gov](http://www.federalstudentaid.ed.gov)