Reminder: New Limits on Federal (PELL) and State (TAP) Grants

Beginning with the 2012-2013 academic year, the federal Pell Grant Program will be limited to a maximum of 12 full-time equivalent semesters or 600% (100% per academic year) of Pell Grant eligibility per student. This change affects all students regardless of when or where they received their first Pell Grant.

For example, if a student attended college for 6 years (12 semesters), received a full-time Pell Grant each semester, he/she would have exhausted their lifetime limit of Pell Grant eligibility for the upcoming 2013-2014 school year. If a student attended college and received the Pell grant for 3 years (6 full-time semesters) he/she would still be eligible for the 2013-2014 academic school year. A student must be aware of the lifetime limit for the Pell Grant when changing plans, subplans (majors) and/or revising the schedule of classes.

To learn more, please contact the Department of Education directly at 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243). A student may also view Pell Grant eligibility by logging into www.NSLDS.ed.gov. Your “Lifetime Eligibility Used” percentage will be displayed in the “Grants” section.

**New York State Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)** provides tuition assistance for full-time matriculated students who are U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents and who are New York State residents for a minimum of 12 months, as of the first day of class. In order to qualify, students must meet economic and academic guidelines. The family net taxable income, for New York State, is used as the economic guideline.

Students must register for a minimum of 12 credits/equated per semester and the coursework must meet the requirements of a student specific degree program. **A student enrolled in a two-year degree program cannot receive more than three years of TAP (equivalent to 6 semesters).** This applies to all course changes, plans, subplans (majors) or transfer to another college.

Apply for TAP via the internet by clicking the New York State link at the end of your FAFSA online application. The code for Bronx Community College is: 1400. You can check the status of your TAP award at: [www.hesc.com](http://www.hesc.com). Currently, the maximum TAP award is $2,100 per semester at Bronx Community College.

To learn more, please review the [Summary of Student Financial Aid Cuts in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2012](http://www.hesc.com).

To answer any additional questions, contact the Financial Aid Office, located in Colston Hall, Room 504 or send your email to: financialaid@bcc.cuny.edu