

October 1, 2025

Dear Seniors and Parents/Guardians of Seniors:

This letter is to inform you of a new initiative from New York State's Office of Postsecondary Access, Support, and Success that pertains to Seniors and their access to financial aid. The new law, effective August 15, 2024, requires that each school district shall ensure verification from the parent or guardian of a student who is a senior (or from the student where the student is 18 years of age or older or legally emancipated) that the student either:

1. complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid ([FAFSA](#)) or, if applicable, the Jose Peralta New York State Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act application; or
2. complete the [Waiver Form](#) indicating that the parent or guardian (or student, as applicable), understands the nature of the FAFSA or, if applicable, the DREAM Act application and has chosen not to file such application.

Starting July 1, 2025, each school district must annually report to the Department data for all enrolled seniors, which includes:

1. the total number of students who completed the FAFSA or, if applicable, the DREAM Act application;
2. the number of students who completed a waiver; and
3. the total number of seniors enrolled.

In order for the school district to be compliant with the new law, Dansville Central School District will be required to request information related to your student's completion of either the FAFSA or the waiver form.

Additionally, all school districts must notify each high school senior of all state-sponsored scholarships, financial aid, and assistance available to students attending college or post-secondary education no less than two times during each school year. Additionally, school districts must provide referrals for support or assistance to complete the FAFSA or, if applicable, the DREAM Act application. This information will be disseminated in a variety of formats, including, but not limited to, being posted online on our [Counseling Office- Senior Financial Aid Update](#), sent via email and posted in the Class of 2026 Counseling Office Google classroom.

Included in this letter is a link to the [Verification of Postsecondary Financial Aid Form or Waiver memo](#) as well as the [Waiver Form](#) for your review. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your student's School Counselor or Administrator.

Sincerely,



Dave Moodie
High School Principal

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Andrew Leyden, Assistant Principal (7-8)
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