ABOUT HUNTER COLLEGE

For many New Yorkers seeking a college degree, Hunter College within the CUNY system offers the best, most affordable option available. It is the first choice among many applicants. In many ways, a Hunter education is a no-frills experience: Classes can be overcrowded, bureaucratic tasks can be maddeningly complicated, and facilities are often subpar. Even so, Hunter has a lot to offer beyond its miniscule tuition. The school’s faculty is a huge asset, for one. Students agree that professors are expert and that they work hard to accommodate undergraduates. Location is another major plus, as New York City is a virtually limitless source of valuable internship opportunities. For the best possible Hunter experience, apply to the Honors College, where smaller classes create something closer to a conventional undergraduate experience.

Hunter inhabits one the nation’s most diverse cities, and its student body reflects this diversity. Many are first-generation college students, first-generation Americans, or both. The population is peppered with lots of nontraditional students as well. Like its home city, Hunter is more hospitable to left-leaning students than to conservatives. For most students, campus life begins and ends with classes and study groups. The Hunter campus consists of three buildings on New York’s East Side, the facilities are spartan, and extracurricular activities are relatively rare. Fortunately, there’s plenty to do in the immediate area. Those with a few hours to kill between classes can walk to Central Park, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Frick Collection, or window-shop the high-end retailers along Fifth Avenue.

BANG FOR YOUR BUCK

An extraordinarily low tuition rate keeps Hunter relatively affordable for all. A combination of work-study jobs, prestigious external grants and scholarships, a diverse group of need-based scholarships, and credit-bearing internships further helps students fund their educations. Each year, Hunter administers over $30 million in federal, state, and institutional need-based aid to undergraduates.
Hunter provides need-based assistance to 96 percent of all aid applicants who demonstrate need, and 95 percent of the school’s need-based aid packages include some form of need-based grant or scholarship. On average, the school meets 92 percent of aid recipients’ demonstrated need and is able to meet 100 percent of demonstrated need for 93 percent of aid recipients.

Hunter College offers a variety of scholarship programs for entering freshman who have maintained a high level of academic achievement while in high school and who demonstrate potential for superior scholarship at the college level. The most prestigious award is the Dormitory Scholars Award, which consists of full in-state tuition plus free housing for four years at the Hunter College Residence Hall. Other awards offered are the Scholars Award, which consists of $4,000 a year for four years, and the Athena Award, a $5,000 a year for a four-year scholarship. The Athena Award is based on academic achievement as well as economic qualifications.

Getting In

Achievement on the SAT/ACT and a student’s GPA in college-prep classes are the two most important components of an application to Hunter. The Admissions Office also takes into consideration the total and type of academic credits, such as AP courses. All undergraduates are admitted to the college of Arts and Sciences as undeclared majors. Only after completing core requirements can students apply for admission to specific programs and schools (e.g., education or nursing). Admissions standards to these programs vary; check the school’s website for details.

What Do Graduates Do?

Hunter alumni career paths are as varied as New York City itself. Hunter students prepare for their future careers by obtaining internships in all fields. Extensive internship opportunities include but are not limited to the following: broadcast journalism, education, government regulatory agencies, international relations, investment brokerages, museums, nonprofit organizations, nursing, professional athletic teams, publishing, social work, the arts, and urban planning. Many internships help pave the path for a related career, some even resulting in post-graduation job offers.

Students Say

“Hunter offers an excellent education without the ridiculous and uncalled-for elitism or cost.”

Very Important Admission Factors

Secondary school record, standardized test scores.

Average HS GPA 2.9
Range SAT Verbal 470–570
Range SAT Math 500–590
Minimum TOEFL (paper/computer) 500/173

Application Deadlines

Regular admission 3/15
Regular notification rolling

# of transfer applicants 5,623
% of transfer applicants accepted 42

Academics

Student/faculty ratio 15:1
% faculty teaching undergraduates 100

Most Popular Majors

• English language and literature
• Psychology
• Sociology

Education Requirements

Arts/fine arts, English (including composition), foreign languages, history, humanities, mathematics, sciences (biological or physical), social science. Students must fulfill a pluralism and diversity requirement.
THE BOTTOM LINE

In 2005–2006, full-time undergraduates from New York paid $4,000 in tuition and another $329 in required fees. Most students here commute; those who live in the residence hall pay $3,250 per academic year. There is no meal plan at the residence hall, but there is a café and each floor has its own kitchen. Students should anticipate spending at least $832 per year on books and approximately $816 on transportation, plus various personal expenses. Hunter evaluates all aid applications individually to compile a package of grant and scholarship aid that will minimize the amount of loans.

FUN FACTS

Notable Hunter alums include actors Rhea Perlman (Cheers) and Ruby Dee (Do the Right Thing), former member of Congress Bella Abzug, and Nobel Laureates Gertrude Elion and Roslyn Yalow.

Hunter students come from 150 countries and speak more than 100 different languages.

Since 1990, Hunter Athletics has amassed 99 City of New York Athletic Conference (CUNYAC) championships, more than any other member in the Conference.

FINANCIAL INFO

In-state tuition $4,000
Room $3,250
Average book expense $832
Required fees $329
Average freshman need-based grant $6,225
Average freshman need-based loan $2,309
% of graduates who borrowed 35
Average indebtedness $8,500

FINANCIAL AID FORMS

Students must submit FAFSA, state aid form, institutional direct loan request form from DL applicants.

POSTGRAD

CAREER SERVICES
Alumni network, alumni services, career-/job-search classes, career assessment, internships.
Off-campus job opportunities are good.

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