What are Academic Opportunity Programs?

Brief Background: The Arthur O. Eve Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP) and the Hobart and William Smith Colleges Academic Opportunity Program (AOP) are college access and academic support programs. These programs promote and provide broad and varied educational experiences to capable students whose financial and academic environments have not allowed their full potential to come to fruition before college. HEOP/AOP gives students who possess strong personal initiative and potential for academic success, but do not meet the requirements for regular admission to the Colleges, the chance to attend an institution of higher learning.

HEOP was created by the New York State Legislature and is a partnership between Hobart and William Smith and the New York State Department of Education. The Colleges have also created a mirror education access program to HEOP called the Academic Opportunity Program (AOP) which provides almost identical services as HEOP.

We serve our program students by providing a support network of services that fosters academic, social and personal development, inspires students to become fully active members of the campus community and enhances their persistence toward graduation and success beyond HWS. Program students now exceed 80% graduation and retention rate.

Program Overview:

Students admitted to Hobart and William Smith Colleges through HEOP/AOP are provided a set of comprehensive support services aimed at helping students succeed toward a college degree and success beyond college through close advising and monitoring of their academic progress for their entire four-year college experience.

The first step in this process after admission is for all students to attend the Summer Institute (SI). SI is a five-week intensive academic experience which provides a "real-time" college academic experience prior to full matriculation for the fall term. Students have the opportunity to earn three college credits toward graduation and enhancement of their academic skills and potential to come to fruition before college. HEOP/AOP accommodates and/or enhances student's individual strengths and interests.

Academic-Year Services

- Center for Teaching and Learning Workshops in test-taking strategies, effective note-taking, study skills
- On-going academic advising in the areas of financial aid, academics, study strategies, course selection, career counseling and internships
- Concert with career services, graduate school selection and study abroad

Afro-Latino Alumni/ae Association's Spring Weekend featuring an Alumni/ae Career Panel, Dr. Alger L. Adams '32 Academic Excellence Awards Dinner and many co-sponsored academic enrichment events with the Office of Intercultural Affairs

Academic Year Services

- Comprehensive academic evaluations to best accommodate and/or enhance student's individual strengths and interests
- Academic tutoring and skill set development
- Mentoring component
- Academic advising
- PATHWAYS link through Career Services
- Academic credit towards graduation
- Residential five-week intensive academic experience
- Academic credit toward graduation
- Academic tutoring and skill set development
- Mentoring component
- Academic advising
- PATHWAYS link through Career Services
- Comprehensive academic evaluations to best accommodate and/or enhance student's individual strengths and interests

Services

Summer Institute
- Residential five-week on-campus academic experience
- Academic credit towards graduation
- Academic tutoring and skill set development
- Study skills enhancement
- Mentoring component
- Academic advising
- PATHWAYS link through Career Services
- Comprehensive academic evaluations to best accommodate and/or enhance student's individual strengths and interests

HEOP Economic Eligibility

For Students First Entering College on or after July 1, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number in Household</th>
<th>2016-2017 HEOP Income Eligibility Criteria</th>
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*Add $7,696 for each family member in excess of 7

Exceptions

The income guidelines noted above do not apply if a student falls into one of the following categories:

- The student or the student’s family is the recipient of Aid to Dependent Children (ADC), Home Relief, or Family Day Care payments through a New York state or a county department of Social Services.
- The student is living with foster parents who do not provide support for college, and no monies are provided from the natural parents; or
- The student is a ward of the State of New York or a county in New York State.

HEOP Economic Eligibility

New York State Opportunity Programs Income Eligibility Criteria

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General
HEOP applicants must be a resident of New York State for one year prior to the first term of enrollment. For additional information, please visit www.hws.edu/admissions/finedu_opprograms.aspx.

Academic
Must have a high school diploma or the equivalent, be non-admissible by the Colleges' regular admissions standards and demonstrate an ability to succeed despite academic under-preparation.

Economic
The applicant or his/her family must also meet one or more of the following economic requirements:

1) Earn a yearly income not in excess of New York State economic guidelines for HEOP on the opposite page. For more information, please visit www.hws.edu/admissions/finedu_opprograms.aspx.
2) Receive or be a dependent of an individual receiving either Aid to Dependent Children, Home Relief or Family Day Care payments through a New York State or county Department of Social Services.
3) Live with foster parents who do not provide economic support for college.
4) Be a ward of the court.

www.hws.edu/admissions/finedu_opprograms.aspx