



## Need-based aid rises with student enrollment

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There are 300 more students at NYU this year than last, but according to the university, need-based financial aid has increased with enrollment.

NYU spokesman John Beckman said the average student's financial aid package also increased by almost \$1,500 — from about \$12,665 last year to about \$14,100 this year.

Because NYU is a tuition-dependent school, an increase in student enrollment also increases the number of students who need financial aid, Beckman added.

Steinhardt freshman Andrea Maylath said she was offered more financial aid from NYU than the other schools she applied to. Still, she is concerned she will receive less in the future because of the increase in enrollment.

According to Beckman, this will not be the case.

"[The increase in enrollment] also means additional tuition from those who do not require aid, some of which is used for financial aid for needier students," he said.

Though students' financial circumstances do not affect admission decisions, NYU cannot meet students' full needs, and many students who are accepted cannot attend because of a deficiency in their aid package, Beckman said. He added that need is the priority for deciding who should receive financial aid.

Currently, NYU's budget for undergraduate financial aid, including both scholarships and grants, is over \$160 million, about \$150 million of which is allocated toward need-based aid. The budget for financial aid has been increased by 54 percent in the last five years, including a \$20 million increase from last year's budget.

But tuition has also increased. During the last five years, tuition rose by 22.3 percent.

CAS junior and transfer student Cristina Nichols said she almost declined her acceptance to NYU because she is not receiving any financial aid from the university and had a full scholarship at her former school, the University of Louisville.

Though she really wanted to go to NYU, the decision still made Nichols uncomfortable.

"It was my dream, but following it meant placing a major financial burden upon my parents," Nichols said.

But she added: "I did not feel satisfied at my other school in large part because I felt it couldn't offer me the opportunities NYU could."

Steinhardt junior and transfer student Rachel Portnof said while she received less financial aid at NYU, she still decided to transfer from Adelphi University. Portnof said she wants to study nutrition, which is not offered at Adelphi.

She said Adelphi provided her with more scholarship money, but NYU still gave her everything she wanted.

"NYU is an incredible school offering so many great opportunities," Portnof said.

According to Beckman, NYU is making many efforts to make more financial aid available to students through fundraising and achieving administrative savings to use for academic initiatives.