

Abbreviation	Definition
<a href="#">AAC&amp;U</a>	<b>American Association of Colleges and Universities.</b> This member organization promotes equity, innovation, and excellence in liberal education to advance the democratic purposes of higher education and ensure the success of all students.
<a href="#">AASCU</a>	<b>American Association of State Colleges and Universities.</b> AASCU is the collective voice of 350 state colleges, universities, and systems united by a shared commitment to make affordable, high-quality education available to students of all backgrounds, races, and ethnicities. AASCU shapes public policy and strengthens state college and university leaders as they expand student access and success.
<a href="#">AAUP</a>	<b>American Association of University Professors.</b> AAUP is a nonprofit association of faculty and other academic professionals that develops standards and procedures to maintain quality in education. They define fundamental professional values and standards for higher education. It is also an affiliate of the AFT.
<a href="#">ACBSP</a>	<b>Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs.</b> Global business education accrediting body to all levels of collegiate business education degree programs. Several FIT programs are ACBSP accredited.
<a href="#">ACE</a>	<b>American Council on Education.</b> ACE is a membership organization that mobilizes the higher education community to shape effective public policy and foster innovative, high-quality practice.
<a href="#">AFT</a>	<b>The American Federation of Teachers</b> is a union of professionals that champions fairness; democracy; economic opportunity; and high-quality public education, healthcare and public services for our students, their families and our communities. We are committed to advancing these principles through community engagement, organizing, collective bargaining and political activism, and especially through the work our members do. The United College Employees of FIT Local 3457 is an affiliate of AFT.
<a href="#">AIRPO</a>	<b>Association of Institutional Research and Planning Officers.</b> AIRPO is a NYS regional organization affiliated with the State University of New York System [SUNY], the North East Association for Institutional Research [NEAIR], and the Association for Institutional Research [AIR] that seeks to foster supportive collegial relationships and cooperation among persons engaged in activities related to institutional research, policy analysis, planning, and information-based higher education management by providing a forum for information exchange and professional development.
<a href="#">ANNY</a>	<b>Assessment Network of New York.</b> ANNY was established to assist New York's colleges and universities in their efforts to assess student learning and institutional effectiveness.
<a href="#">APES</a>	<b>Academic Program Enterprise System.</b> The inventory of all academic programs offered by the State University of New York. This file contains the official name of each academic program, its approval status, campus, award level, award, and federal (HEGIS, CIP) taxonomic codes. Where applicable, dates of program deactivation or discontinuance are included. The APES file is the point of departure for the collection of any data which must be arrayed by program. Historical, as well as current data, are recorded on the APES file. Because the APES file contains the University's official list of approved programs, it provides the system-wide review framework for examining requests for program addition or elimination. It is used to develop annual enrollment and degrees granted statistics for all SUNY institutions by integrating data from SIRIS Student and SIRIS Degree.
<a href="#">CBA</a>	A <b>collective bargaining agreement</b> is a written legal contract between an employer and a union representing the employees. The CBA is the result of an extensive negotiation process between the parties regarding topics such as wages, hours, and terms and conditions of employment. FIT's CBA is posted on the FIT website.
<a href="#">CIDA</a>	<b>Council for Interior Design Accreditation.</b> Accrediting organization for interior design education programs at colleges and universities in the United States and internationally. FIT's interior design degree programs are accredited by CIDA.

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<a href="#">CIP</a>	<b>Classification of Instructional Programs</b> is a taxonomy of academic disciplines which can be used to classify either courses or academic programs, organized into three levels. First developed by the NCES in the U.S. Department of Education in 1980 to expand upon and replace the older HEGIS major codes. It is used by multiple state and federal agencies to facilitate data collection and reporting of programs and awards. For more information and a list of current CIP codes, visit the NCES website.
<a href="#">COA</a>	The <b>Cost of Attendance</b> is the amount it will cost you to go to school. Most two-year and four-year colleges calculate a student's COA to show the total cost for the school year (for instance, for the fall semester plus the spring semester). Schools with programs that last a different period of time (for instance, an 18-month certificate program) might give you a COA that covers a time period other than a year. If you're attending at least half-time, your COA is the estimate of tuition and fees; the cost of room and board (or living expenses for students who do not contract with the school for room and board); the cost of books, supplies, transportation, loan fees, and miscellaneous expenses (including a reasonable amount for the documented cost of a personal computer).
<a href="#">CUNY</a>	<b>City University of New York</b> is the public university system of New York City. It is the largest urban university system in the United States, comprising 25 campuses: eleven senior colleges, seven community colleges, and seven professional institutions. While its constituent colleges date back as far as 1847, CUNY was established in 1961. The university enrolls more than 275,000 students
<a href="#">D2L Brightspace</a>	The <b>D2L Brightspace</b> platform is the new Digital Learning Environment (DLE) selected for all SUNY campuses, as of Fall 2022. The D2L Brightspace Learning Management System will replace the Blackboard Learning Management System (LMS) that was used by many SUNY campuses.
<b>DEISJ</b>	<b>A general acronym for Diversity Equity Inclusion and Social Justice.</b> SUNY introduced a new DEISJ course requirement for all incoming students for the Fall 2023 semester
<a href="#">DOE</a>	The <b>U.S. Department of Education's</b> mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access. ED was created in 1980 by combining offices from several federal agencies. ED's 4,400 employees and \$68 billion budget are dedicated to: Establishing policies on federal financial aid for education, and distributing as well as monitoring those funds; Collecting data on America's schools and disseminating research; Focusing national attention on key educational issues; and Prohibiting discrimination and ensuring equal access to education.
<b>DTS</b>	<b>Data Transfer System.</b> The software that allows for the online transmission, viewing, and locking of SUNY SIRIS submissions.
<a href="#">EFC</a>	<b>Estimated Family Contribution.</b> EFC is an index number that college financial aid staff use to determine how much financial aid a student would receive if you were to attend their school, not the amount a family will pay nor the amount of aid received. The information reported on the FAFSA form is used to calculate EFC according to a formula established by law. The family's taxed and untaxed income, assets, and benefits (such as unemployment or Social Security), family size, and the number of family members who will attend college or career school during the year are considered.
<a href="#">EOP</a>	<b>Educational Opportunity Program.</b> The State University of New York's Arthur O. Eve Educational Opportunity Program provides access, academic support and financial aid to students who show promise for succeeding in college but who may not have otherwise been offered admission. Available primarily to full-time, matriculated students, the program supports students throughout their college careers within the University. Educational Opportunity Program students may receive support services, such as academic, career, and personal counseling; tutoring and supplemental instruction. As part of a student's overall financial aid package, EOP provides financial assistance for non-tuition related expenses (e.g. books, supplies, etc.)
<a href="#">FAFSA</a>	<b>The Free Application for Federal Student Aid</b> is a form to apply for federal financial aid for college or graduate school, managed by the Federal Student Aid office within the U.S. Department of Education. State governments and colleges also use FAFSA information to award their own grants, scholarships and loans.

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<a href="#">FERPA</a>	<p><b>Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act</b> (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she reaches the age of 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are "eligible students." Parents or eligible students have the right to inspect and review the student's education records maintained by the school. Schools are not required to provide copies of records unless, for reasons such as great distance, it is impossible for parents or eligible students to review the records. Schools may charge a fee for copies. Parents or eligible students have the right to request that a school correct records which they believe to be inaccurate or misleading. If the school decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student then has the right to a formal hearing. After the hearing, if the school still decides not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student has the right to place a statement with the record setting forth his or her view about the contested information. Generally, schools must have written permission from the parent or eligible student in order to release any information from a student's education record. However, FERPA allows schools to disclose those records, without consent, to the following parties or under the following conditions (34 CFR § 99.31):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> School officials with legitimate educational interest;</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Other schools to which a student is transferring;</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes;</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to a student;</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school;</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Accrediting organizations;</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena;</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies; and</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific State law.</li> </ul> <p>Schools may disclose, without consent, "directory" information such as a student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, honors and awards, and dates of attendance. However, schools must tell parents and eligible students about directory information and allow parents and eligible students a reasonable amount of time to request that the school not disclose directory information about them. Schools must notify parents and eligible students annually of their rights under FERPA. The actual means of notification (special letter, inclusion in a PTA bulletin, student handbook, or newspaper article) is left to the discretion of each school. not to amend the record, the parent or eligible student has the right to place a statement with the record setting forth his or her view about the contested information.</p>
<a href="#">FOIL</a>	<p>New York State's <b>Freedom of Information Law</b> (Public Officers Law §87 et. seq. ) allows members of the public to access records of governmental agencies; and provides a process for the review and copying of an agency's public records. Every SUNY Campus has a Records Access Officer(s).</p>
<a href="#">FWS</a>	<p><b>Federal Work-Study</b> provides part-time jobs for undergraduate and graduate students with financial need, allowing them to earn money to help pay educational expenses. Hourly wages must not be less than the federal minimum wage. FWS is awarded based on: eligibility to file a FAFSA, a FAFSA application by the priority filing deadline, have financial aid need, your request on your FAFSA for Federal Work Study, and availability of FWS funds. If you are awarded FWS funding, you are responsible for finding a work-study job; however, funding doesn't guarantee a job on campus. FWS is simply an opportunity to work.</p>
<a href="#">HEGIS</a>	<p>The <b>Higher Education General Information System</b> taxonomy is a classification scheme for ensuring consistency in curriculum leading to a degree within a discipline category.</p>

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<a href="#">HEA</a>	Signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on November 8, 1965, the <b>Higher Education Act</b> aimed to enhance the means available to higher education institutions to assist them in financially assisting students with the underlying aim being to increase the number of students able to pursue higher education. Reauthorized through Federal negotiated rulemaking, the Act was initially reauthorized in 1972 thereby leading to the establishment of the Pell Grant as a means of providing needs-based aid for students from both mid and lower income ranges. In addition to providing financial aid, the Act also requires institutions to conduct federal reporting of institutional data and disclosure information to consumers across a variety of areas. Areas of the Act: Title I, General Provisions; Title II, Teacher Quality Enhancement; Title III, Strengthening Institutions; Title IV, Student Assistance; Title V, Developing Institutions; Title VI, International Education Programs; Title VII, Graduate and Postsecondary Improvement Programs; Title VIII, Additional Programs.
<a href="#">HEOA</a>	The <b>Higher Education Opportunity Act</b> requires that universities make available to current and prospective students important information concerning each institution's academic programs, retention rates, graduation rates, crime reports, financial aid procedures and much more in an effort to ensure fairness and transparency for all higher education consumers. It was enacted on August 14, 2008, reauthorizing the Higher Education Act of 1965.
<a href="#">HESC</a>	The <b>Higher Education Services Corporation</b> is New York State's higher education student financial aid agency that processes more than a half-million grant, scholarship and loan forgiveness applications each year. HESC awards nearly \$1 billion in financial aid to more than 330,000 students through the administration of New York's Tuition Assistance Program (TAP), 25+ State scholarship and loan forgiveness programs, New York's 529 College Savings Program, with the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) and various Financial aid outreach programs for students and families
<a href="#">ILL</a>	<b>Interlibrary loan</b> is a service which helps patrons obtain materials that are not available at a library, including Gladys Marcus Library at FIT. All patrons must have a current FIT ID card and a current FIT email account to use this service.
<a href="#">IPEDS</a>	<b>Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System.</b> IPEDS is a system of interrelated surveys conducted annually by the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). IPEDS gathers information from every college, university, and technical and vocational institution that participates in the federal student financial aid programs. The Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, requires that institutions that participate in federal student aid programs report data on enrollments, program completions, graduation rates, faculty and staff, finances, institutional prices, and student financial aid. These data are made available to students and parents through the College Navigator college search Web site and to researchers and others through the IPEDS Data Center Web site.
<a href="#">MSCHE</a>	<b>Middle States Commission on Higher Education.</b> MSCHE is a global institutional accreditor recognized by the United States Secretary of Education since 1952. As an accreditor and member of the regulatory triad, MSCHE assures students and the public of the educational quality for its over 500 institutions of higher education. The Commission's accreditation process ensures institutional accountability, self-appraisal, improvement, and innovation through peer review and the rigorous application of standards within the context of institutional mission. FIT is accredited by MSCHE
<a href="#">NACE</a>	<b>National Association of Colleges and Employers.</b> (NACE) is a professional association that connects over 15,400 college career services professionals, university relations and recruiting professionals, and the business solution providers that serve this community. NACE is the leading source of information on the employment of the college educated, and forecasts hiring and trends in the job market; tracks starting salaries, recruiting and hiring practices, and student attitudes and outcomes; and identifies best practices and benchmarks.
<a href="#">NASAD</a>	<b>National Association of Schools of Art and Design.</b> Organization that establishes national standards for undergraduate and graduate degrees and other credentials for art and design and art/design-related disciplines. Several programs at FIT are accredited by NASAD.
<a href="#">NCES</a>	<b>National Center for Education Statistics.</b> It is the primary statistical agency of the U.S. Department of Education within the Institute of Education Sciences (IES). It collects, collates, analyzes, and reports complete statistics on the condition of American education, including IPEDS.

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<a href="#">NC-SARA</a>	The <b>National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements</b> is a private nonprofit organization [501(c)(3)] that helps expand students' access to educational opportunities and ensure more efficient, consistent, and effective regulation of distance education programs. Recognizing the growing demand for distance education opportunities, higher education stakeholders – including state regulators and education leaders, accreditors, the U.S. Department of Education, and institutions – joined together in 2013 to establish the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (SARA), which streamline regulations around distance education programs. In partnership with four regional compacts, NC-SARA helps states, institutions, policymakers, and students understand the purpose and benefits of participating in SARA. Today, more than 2,200 institutions in 49 member states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands all voluntarily participate in SARA, including FIT.
<a href="#">NJCAA</a>	<b>National Junior College Athletic Association.</b> Promotes, governs and fosters a competitive environment for two-year college athletics. FIT is a NJCAA Region XV Division III institution.
<a href="#">NSC</a>	<b>National Student Clearinghouse:</b> A national database that lenders, loan service providers, guaranty agencies, schools, and students can access to verify student enrollment and degree information. FIT transfers data both in and out to NSC.
<a href="#">NSSE</a>	The <b>National Survey of Student Engagement</b> collects information at hundreds of four-year colleges and universities about first-year and senior students' participation in programs and activities that institutions provide for their learning and personal development. The results provide an estimate of how undergraduates spend their time and what they gain from attending college. NSSE is administered at FIT every three years.
<a href="#">NYSED</a>	<b>New York State Education Department.</b> Responsible for the supervision for all public schools in New York and all standardized testing, as well as the production and administration of state tests and Regents Examinations. Operates the Office of Higher Education which ensures institutional compliance and provides resources to New York's higher education institutions.
<a href="#">OER</a>	<b>Open Educational Resources.</b> Teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license that permits repurposing by others. SUNY offers support for campuses to adopt OERs via the Office of Library and Information Services.
<a href="#">OSHA</a>	With the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, Congress created the <b>Occupational Safety and Health Administration</b> to ensure safe and healthful working conditions for workers by setting and enforcing standards and by providing training, outreach, education and assistance.
PD	<b>Professional Development</b> refers to continuing education to improve job performance, assists employees in developing their full professional potential, and prepares them for advancement.
<a href="#">SEVP and SEVIS</a>	<b>Student and Exchange Visitor Program</b> is the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) program that administers the <b>Student and Exchange Visitor Information System</b> . It ensures that government agencies have essential data related to nonimmigrant students and exchange visitors to preserve national security. SEVP provides approval and oversight to schools authorized to enroll F and M nonimmigrant students and gives guidance to both schools and students about the requirements for maintaining their status.
<a href="#">SICAS</a>	<b>Student Information and Campus Administrative Systems.</b> A SUNY organization that makes modifications and improvements in the SCT Banner products to meet SUNY requirements for reporting and general use within the SUNY community. The SUNY SICAS program supports the administrative software, service, and training needs for campuses using Ellucian's products. With various membership options, the program serves state operated campuses, community colleges and private institutions statewide.

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<a href="#">SIRIS</a>	<b>SUNY Institutional Research Information System.</b> SUNY System Administration requires the reporting of campus information to the Office of Institutional Research (IR). Web Services facilitate the transmission and correction of data. The Data Warehouse environment allows System Administration to store data from all SUNY campuses. The standardization of data element definitions and coding schemas, cross-referenced and conformed across all University-wide systems improves the querying, viewing, and downloading of data. Data is then stored in an online media that makes it readily available for reference, reporting, and analysis by campuses and the Office of Institutional Research. The SICAS IR Submission applications support web-based reporting of campus information to SIRIS. These applications collect required data from Banner and utilize web services to transmit it in an XML format specifically for SUNY's Data Warehouse. Edit checks are performed and an XML is returned with the data that was received and error messages encountered. Errors are corrected in Banner and re-transmitted to System Administration. Data errors and warnings can be viewed on the System Administration Data Transfer Site (DTS). Comprehensive data sets and summaries can be viewed on the SUNY Business Intelligence Dashboards (OBIEE). All SIRIS Submissions are transmitted using web services only (no flat files are created), the Proxy Client and certificate must be installed and working before these applications can be used. Data transmitted to SUNY's Data Warehouse is held in the staging area in a 'batch', which can be reviewed and locked (finalized) by the campus using a web-based application on System Administration's website. Once locked, a batch cannot be edited and can only be unlocked by IR staff at System Administration. SUNY IR staff approves the locked batch and incorporates the data into the Data Warehouse.
<a href="#">SUNY</a>	<b>State University of New York.</b> With 64 campuses, it is the largest comprehensive university system in the US with 30 community colleges, 7 technology colleges, 13 university colleges, 14 university centers and doctoral degree granting institutions.
<a href="#">SUNY CPD</a>	<b>SUNY Center for Professional Development</b> is a cooperative, voluntary organization funded by its members and the State University of New York system. Located under the Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the SUNY CPD creates and delivers customized programs for skill and knowledge development in various technical, and teaching and learning areas.
<a href="#">SUNY ITEC</a>	<b>SUNY Information Technology Exchange Center.</b> Provides IT services, software distribution and support to campuses (Oracle, IBM, Compaq, Microsoft, etc.). ITEC also provides hosting, server management and support to university-wide programs.
<a href="#">SUNY ODEI</a>	<b>SUNY Office of Diversity Equity and Inclusion.</b> ODEI is responsible for devising and implementing a range of programs to promote the diversity of SUNY's human resources. The office promotes the integration of diversity-related instruction and research into ongoing SUNY system-wide initiatives to enhance academic excellence. ODEI partners with baccalaureate, doctoral granting institutions and community colleges to achieve the holistic integration of New York's underrepresented and economically disadvantaged populations into the academic culture of higher education. Through its various initiatives, ODEI strengthens SUNY's ability to create a learning environment needed to develop the extraordinary leaders who will succeed in an increasingly culturally diverse and globalized society. The office focuses on SUNY's goal of providing the highest quality educational experience that is fully representative of the diversity of human difference in New York State
<a href="#">SUNY OLIS</a>	<b>SUNY Office of Library and Information Services.</b> Provides support for SUNY Library Services, Shared Electronic Resources, SUNY Open Repositories, and SUNY OER Services
<a href="#">SUNY ORIED</a>	<b>SUNY Office of Research, Innovation and Economic Development.</b> Provides programs to bolster and support the SUNY research enterprise.
<a href="#">SUNY RF</a>	<b>Research Foundation of SUNY.</b> The RF is a private not for profit educational corporation that provides faculty, students and staff with the flexibility necessary to focus on research and other sponsored programs funded by federal and state governments, private sector companies and nonprofit foundations.
<a href="#">SUNY SAIL</a>	<b>SUNY Institute for Academic and Innovative Leadership</b> strives to develop and provide cutting-edge leadership and professional development training for faculty, staff, and students across 64 campuses; strengthen the pipeline of leaders in the SUNY system and beyond.

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<a href="#">SUNY SCOA</a>	<b>SUNY Council on Assessment.</b> Appointed by the SUNY Provost in consultation with campus and faculty governance leaders, the Council's mission is to enhance the assessment of institutional effectiveness and student learning by building, leading, and supporting a SUNY-wide assessment community that fosters collaboration, reduces duplication of effort and provides guidance and resources to campuses.
<a href="#">SVP</a>	<b>Sexual Violence Prevention</b> campus climate survey. First administered in academic year 2016-17, this is a campus climate assessment mandated by SUNY Board of Trustees resolution (October 2, 2014) and by NYS Education Law Article 129-B (applicable section effective July 2016). The survey is administered by all SUNY campuses every other year to both students and employees and collects information about student and employee experience with sexual and interpersonal violence and knowledge of policies and resources.
<a href="#">TAP</a>	<b>New York State Tuition Assistance Program.</b> Helps eligible New York residents (including undocumented students) pay tuition at approved schools in New York State. An annual TAP award can be up to \$5,665. Because TAP is a grant, it does not have to be paid back.
UDL	Universal Design is the design and composition of an environment so that it can be accessed, understood and used to the greatest extent possible by all people regardless of their age, size, ability or disability. <b>Universal Design for Learning</b> is an educational framework for creating <i>learning</i> environments that address the diverse needs of learners. At its core, UDL provides students' flexibility in the ways they access and engage with course materials and demonstrate mastery of learning objectives.
VPN	<b>Virtual Private Network.</b> Software that establishes a protected and private connection to the internet.