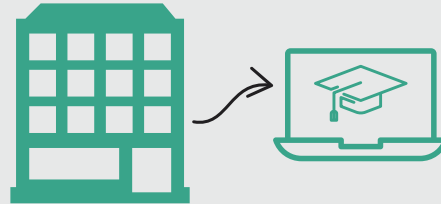




HIGHER EDUCATION

During the pandemic, SUNY and CUNY quickly transitioned **84 campuses** with **685,000 students** to remote and hybrid learning



SUNY AND CUNY PROVIDED

40,000

laptops and tablets to support students' remote learning



SUNY's free Online Training Center will offer employment certification for good jobs



in high-demand growing industries like health care and advanced

manufacturing - with automatic admission to any of SUNY's 30 community colleges

RANKED #1

The FDA ranked a saliva diagnostic test developed by SUNY Upstate Medical University as the top saliva test for detecting the virus in its earliest stages



Testing up to **25 samples** at a time

HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING

Since 2012 New York State has increased higher education funding by more than

\$1.5 BILLION

Over **\$1 BILLION**

in **HESC financial aid programs**, including the Excelsior Scholarship, which allows nearly **230,000 New York resident students** attend SUNY or CUNY tuition-free



Budget Highlights

\$7.5 Billion for Higher Education. The Executive Budget provides \$7.5 billion in funding for higher education in New York – an increase of \$1.5 billion or 25 percent since FY 2012.

Preserve Access to Affordable College Degrees. By maintaining New York's strong investment in student financial aid, including the Excelsior Scholarship free tuition program, nearly 230,000 New York resident students attend SUNY or CUNY tuition-free.

Protect Opportunity Programs. To help students with unique educational challenges, the Executive Budget continues over \$200 million in funding for opportunity programs and training centers – a 57 percent increase since FY 2012.

Rebuild Our Economy. New York's colleges and universities will help rebuild the economy with several initiatives to educate and train workers for in-demand jobs. These include expanding SUNY's free Online Training Center so New Yorkers can enroll in additional employment certification programs for quality jobs in high-demand growing industries and creating a new Offshore Wind Training Institute to train the first phase of an estimated 2,500 workers for well-paying jobs in the field of renewable energy.

The FY 2022 Executive Budget directs resources to New York's colleges and universities to help combat the global health crisis, rebuild our economy and support students. The Budget protects New Yorkers' access to an affordable college education in the face of economic challenges caused by the pandemic by preserving student financial aid and opportunity programs that serve our neediest students. The Budget also makes strategic investments that will help New Yorkers develop the skills and tools they need to meet the current and future workforce demand.

Overview

New York State's higher education institutions educate nearly 1.2 million students. The State University of New York (SUNY) and the City University of New York (CUNY) administer 47 four-year colleges and graduate schools that provide 400,000 full- and part-time students with an array of undergraduate, graduate, and first professional degrees. SUNY and CUNY also support 37 community colleges that serve 285,000 students. In addition, 500,000 students attend the more than 100 private colleges and universities across the State.

The State University Construction Fund (SUCF), City University Construction Fund (CUCF), and the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY) administer a capital program for over 3,000 academic, research, hospital, dormitory, and multi-use facilities, which make up the physical infrastructure of the university systems.

The Higher Education Services Corporation (HESC) is New York State's student financial aid agency and a national leader in helping make college affordable for New York residents. HESC oversees numerous State-funded financial aid programs, including the Excelsior Scholarship, the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP), the Aid for Part Time Study program, and 25 other scholarship and loan forgiveness programs. Together, these programs provide financial aid to approximately 350,000 students. HESC also partners with the Office of the State Comptroller in administering the College Choice Tuition Savings program.

The State Education Department administers funding for higher education, including opportunity programs that help support the success of disadvantaged students.

Responding to the Pandemic

COVID-19 confronted New York's public university systems with unprecedented challenges that threatened the progress in providing New Yorkers access to a college education. SUNY and CUNY rose to the challenge last spring, successfully transitioning all 84 campuses to remote learning, providing approximately 685,000 students the opportunity to continue their education uninterrupted. In the fall, CUNY remained mostly online and SUNY safely reopened its campuses to more than one-third of its students, continuing to provide high-quality hybrid learning while closely monitoring student activity and aggressively responding to behaviors that endangered student learning and community spread.

To make sure students had the technology they needed to participate in distance learning, SUNY and CUNY purchased more than 40,000 laptops and tablets and made sure they were safely distributed to students in need. Additionally, the university systems extended their wireless networks and distributed Wi-Fi hotspot devices to ensure students can access the Internet for remote coursework.

SUNY Upstate Medical University's creation of a saliva diagnostic test for use in pooled, rapid screening tests played a critical role in monitoring COVID-19 infections on campuses and keeping students safe. Developed in partnership with Quadrant Biosciences, the test made it possible to examine the saliva of 10-25 students at a time for the virus, and was ranked by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as the number one COVID-19 saliva test for the virus in its earliest stages.

Responding to challenges presented by the pandemic, SUNY and CUNY also expanded their efforts to help New Yorkers find sustainable career paths and play an active part in the State's economic recovery.

SUNY recently launched an Online Training Center that offers free college preparation courses and certifications in high-demand industries. The Training Center will enroll individuals without a post-secondary degree, who may be unemployed or recently laid off, into a college preparation or college program. CUNY established a partnership with CEOs of 27 of the largest employers in New York, including JPMorgan Chase, Amazon and Microsoft, that will create a pipeline to job opportunities for 25,000 students with a focus on low-income and Black, Latino and Asian communities. It also launched a Federal Work-

Performance Profile

Making College

Affordable. Along with other sources of financial aid, including the generous New York State Tuition Assistance Program, the Excelsior Scholarship allows nearly 230,000 New York residents to attend college tuition-free.

Maintaining Predictable and Affordable Tuition.

New York's predictable tuition plan has kept public college tuition affordable. Average tuition and fees at New York's public four-year colleges are \$2,000 or 19 percent less than the national average – and lower than 40 other states.

Protecting Access.

Confronted with the unprecedented challenges of COVID-19, SUNY and CUNY successfully transitioned all 84 campuses to remote learning providing approximately 685,000 students opportunity to continue their education uninterrupted.

Providing More

Opportunities. Responding to challenges presented by the pandemic, SUNY and CUNY expanded efforts to help New Yorkers find sustainable career paths. SUNY launched a free online training center for individuals unemployed or recently laid off, and CUNY established partnerships with businesses to create job opportunities and paid internships.

Study website, which will allow companies and organizations to hire thousands of students for paid internships.

Protecting Access and Opportunity

Under Governor Cuomo's leadership, New York is leading the nation in expanding access to a quality and affordable college education and is protecting this opportunity for New Yorkers in the face of challenges presented by the pandemic.

Funding for higher education has increased by \$1.5 billion since 2012 (25 percent), from \$6.0 billion to \$7.5 billion in the FY 2022 Executive Budget. This investment includes nearly \$1.3 billion in FY 2022 for strategic programs to make college more affordable and encourage the best and brightest students to build their future in New York.

The average tuition at the State's four-year public institutions is currently lower than 40 other states, and New York State has been aggressively reducing financial barriers to college. In 2011, the State enacted Governor Cuomo's plan to end decades of unpredictable and sudden tuition hikes with a rational tuition system that limits SUNY and CUNY tuition increases.

In 2017, building on the State's already generous tuition assistance programs, New York launched the groundbreaking Excelsior Scholarship to provide tuition-free college for middle-class families. The first-of-its-kind program covers tuition at New York's public colleges and universities for families making up to \$125,000 a year, ensuring nearly 230,000 students go to SUNY or CUNY tuition-free, including students receiving the Excelsior Scholarship, TAP, Pell and other financial aid.

In 2019, the Senator Jose R. Peralta DREAM Act was enacted opening the doors of higher education to thousands of undocumented students providing access to the Excelsior Scholarship, TAP, and other state-administered scholarships.

New York also invests more than \$200 million in support of educationally disadvantaged students through opportunity and training programs. Since 2012, funding for these programs has increased by \$78 million or 57 percent.

Table 10: Higher Education General Fund Spending

Category	Academic FY 2021 (millions)	Academic FY 2022 (millions)	Change	
			Dollars (millions)	Percent
SUNY State-Operated Campuses (a)	2,994	2,959	(35)	(1.2)
CUNY Senior Colleges (a)	1,394	1,394	0	0
SUNY and CUNY Debt Service	1,302	1,359	57	4.4
HESC Financial Aid Programs	990	1,047	57	5.8
Community Colleges (b)	669	658	(11)	(1.6)
SED Programs (c)	110	92	(18)	(16.4)
General Fund Total	7,460	7,510	50	0.7

- (a) Includes funding for campus operations and employee fringe benefits. SUNY decrease is attributable to lower costs for fringe benefits in FY 2022.
- (b) Decrease for community colleges is attributable to changes in enrollment.
- (c) Decrease in SED programs is Bundy Aid for private colleges.
- Note: Spending reductions may be restored if the State receives requested Federal COVID relief funds.

Proposed FY 2022 Budget Actions

Building on the successes of programs that provide students with a path to an affordable quality college education, the Executive Budget proposes savings necessary to balance the Budget in an equitable way that ensures all of New York's aspiring students can go to college and achieve their dreams.

- Preserve Support for our Neediest Students.** The Budget protects New Yorkers' access to an affordable college education in the face of economic challenges caused by the pandemic by preserving student financial aid and opportunity programs that serve our neediest students. The FY 2022 Executive Budget maintains full support for over \$1 billion in HESC financial aid programs, including TAP and the Excelsior Scholarship, as well as over \$200 million in funding for higher education opportunity programs and training centers. The Budget also includes legislation to hold harmless students who were unable to complete academic requirements needed to maintain financial aid eligibility because their enrollment was disrupted by coronavirus. The Budget extends financial aid award duration limits for those students who, because of the pandemic, were unable to maintain satisfactory academic progress due to illness, course closure, or other special circumstances.
- Protect Core Academic Mission During Tough Fiscal Times.** The Federal government's failure so far to offset revenue losses caused by the pandemic has created significant fiscal challenges that leave the State with no choice but to reduce spending. To protect the core academic mission of colleges, the Budget targets these reductions on general support for institutions, holding harmless HESC student financial aid and higher education opportunity programs and providing flexibility for colleges to protect other essential student services. SUNY State-operated campuses and CUNY senior colleges will continue to receive full State support for employee fringe benefits and debt service,

estimated to total \$4.1 billion in FY 2022. Community colleges will receive State support for debt service without reduction, estimated to total \$134 million in FY 2022. The Budget also fully reimburses colleges for academic year 2020 payments that were temporarily withheld in FY 2021. Beginning in academic year 2021, the Budget reduces general operating support to SUNY and CUNY by 5 percent as part of the 5 percent reductions across local aid payments. The reductions will total \$46 million for SUNY State-Operated campuses and \$26 million for CUNY senior colleges. For community colleges, the reduction will total \$35 million from Enacted Budget funding levels in FY 2021 and funding in FY 2022 will be based on the community college aid formula with no additional 5 percent reduction – an \$11 million decrease from FY 2021 funding levels due to enrollment declines reflected in the aid formula. The Budget eliminates general operating support for private colleges ("Bundy Aid") including \$16.8 million remaining payments in FY 2021 and \$35.1 million in FY 2022. These spending reductions are more than offset by \$1.5 billion in direct federal aid provided to New York's colleges and universities in the Federal stimulus bill approved in December and may be restored if the State receives requested Federal COVID relief funds.

- **Extend a Predictable Funding Plan for SUNY and CUNY.** In 2011, the Governor enacted a plan for predictable tuition increases for CUNY and SUNY, putting an end to surprise increases in students bills. The Budget extends this predictable funding plan for CUNY and SUNY that will continue to protect students from tuition spikes and provide our public colleges with additional resources to invest in college affordability and student success. This plan limits increases in the resident tuition rate at SUNY and CUNY to no more than \$200 a year through AY 2025, and provides tuition flexibility that will allow doctoral-degree granting institutions to increase research capacity while protecting student affordability. The revenue generated from any tuition increase will be reinvested to support faculty, instruction, initiatives to improve student success and completion, and tuition credits for TAP-eligible students. The plan also allows SUNY and CUNY to establish lower tuition rates for high-demand certificate programs, providing New York's public colleges flexibility needed to help rebuild the economy by offering more affordable education and training opportunities in every region of the State.
- **Educate and Train Workers for In-Demand Jobs.** Under Governor Cuomo's leadership, New York State has connected an unprecedented number of workers to jobs, and New York's colleges and universities have served a vital role in this effort. Workforce development must be flexible and respond nimbly to a rapidly changing environment and the COVID-related recession has magnified the need for flexibility. Along with an unprecedented increase in unemployment, the pandemic has caused a massive shift in the type of jobs available and in who is looking for work. The Budget includes several initiatives under which New York's colleges and universities will help rebuild New York's economy by educating and training workers for in-demand jobs.
 - In partnership with Governor Cuomo's Reimagine New York Commission, New York is launching a Pathways Pledge among New York's leading employers, both public and private, to create more inclusive workforces and provide more workforce development opportunities. To foster more equitable workforces after

the COVID-19 pandemic, the pledge commits these employers to reforming their talent recruitment, investment, and promotion policies. Through this pledge, participating employers will develop new relationships with New York State workforce development programs serving underserved communities, including SUNY, CUNY, Boards of Cooperative Educational Services and/or nontraditional workforce development organizations.

- Governor Cuomo will expand SUNY's free Online Training Center to enable New Yorkers to enroll in additional employment certification programs for quality jobs in high-demand, growing industries like health care and advanced manufacturing. The Training Center will give more New Yorkers in every region of the state — from rural communities to urban centers — another opportunity to receive free job training certifications and then automatically be admitted to any one of SUNY's 30 community colleges for future career advancements.
- New York's accelerated renewable energy development program is creating thousands of well-paying jobs. In order to make sure New Yorkers benefit from these opportunities, the State is investing \$20 million in a new Offshore Wind Training Institute based at SUNY Stony Brook and Farmingdale State College. In 2021, NYSERDA and SUNY will issue the first solicitations for advanced technology training partners, leveraging our SUNY and CUNY system to train the first phase of an estimated 2,500 workers beginning in summer of 2021.
- In 2017, Governor Cuomo signed into law "BSN in 10" to enhance the quality of patient care and elevate the nursing profession. It requires all nurses who complete an Associate Degree in New York State to complete a Baccalaureate of Science Degree in Nursing within 10 years to maintain licensure by the State. Beginning in Fall 2021, SUNY and CUNY will implement priority admission to nursing programs so the 40,000 nurses and nursing candidates in need of completing their baccalaureate credentials can receive a quality and affordable education within the state.
- **Streamline New Education Program Approval to Meet Workforce Needs.** To ensure responsiveness to the rapidly evolving skills that New York's employers require of their employees, the Budget will streamline the process to approve programs and degrees at New York's colleges and universities. This change will help fuel New York's economic recovery and enable New York to better compete in the Global Economy.