

The Budget Outlook for CUNY

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The beginning of the year is the time when the state and city begin their budget dance. Below is some useful information for you to share with your constituents.

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The State Budget

Governor Hochul announced her *proposed* budget January 18th. This is an opening bid in a game played between the governor, the senate and the assembly. The governor's proposed budget has many gains for CUNY a **highlight** is given by CUNY's office of Budget and Finance.

Highlights are:

- new funding of 59.6M to close the TAP gap
- new funding of 53M for 540 new full-time faculty hires
- 3.6M for child care centers at additional campuses; 3.4M in additional support for the SEEK program; a 10% increase 1.5M state match of federal funding for the Rangel Infrastructure Workforce Training Initiative at City College' 1M for First Impressions Youth Legal Collaborative Initiative at the CUNY Law School; 0.2M in additional support for CUNY LEADS to provide services to students with disabilities.

Moreover, unlike prior years, the governor proposes adding 47.7M for fringe benefits.

Percentage increase are interesting. State support is *up* 23% (from 527.9M to 646.8M), fringe benefits are up 5%.

The overall state-funded resources at CUNY would be up 6% (tuition collections modeled as flat – no loss of enrollment and no tuition increase)

The state also provides some of the funding for CCs.

- even if enrollment is lost, the state will keep 100% of the prior funding
- some additional 1.2M for child care centers; 0.2M for College Discovery

The Budget and Finance office projects 8% additional funding for the CCs over last year with restoration of pandemic related reductions and collective bargaining accounting for 85M.

In terms of financial aid:

- Excelsior monies are accelerated
- part-time TAP is proposed (for part-time students enrolled in degree programs, and in non-degree workforce credential programs approved by the New York State Empire State Development Corporation and the New York State regional economic development councils based on an analysis of regional industry trends, workforce needs and existing program offerings.)
- proposes the repeal of legislation banning incarcerated individuals from receiving state financial aid.
- The Empire State Development Corporation will make available \$10 million for internships and \$5 million for apprenticeships at CUNY and SUNY through a proposal review process.
- The Executive Budget includes several workforce development initiatives; CUNY will have the opportunity to apply for funding in a number of area.

Capital monies, which had been primarily limited to maintenance under the Cuomo budgets, has:

- 284.2M for critical maintenance at senior colleges (similar to recent years); 44.8M for CCs
- 425M for senior college expansion or improvements. Some old, underutilized appropriations were repurposed in order to provide this funding
- 38.8M appropriated for operating expenses incurred by The Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY) and the City University Construction Fund (CUCF) while overseeing construction activities for CUNY's facilities; includes 22M for DASNY and 16.8M for CUCF.
- 2.2B re-appropriated for senior colleges
- 479.8M re-appropriated for community colleges and Medgar Evers College
- 50.2M re-appropriated for CUNY 2020 Challenge Grant Program

The City Budget

Mayor Adams announced his budget [proposal](#) on 2/16. The Mayor's budget is then negotiated with the City Council. The last budget negotiation pushed up the total budget. The Mayor's proposal is 98.5B and overall is being characterized as cutting 10,000 jobs; reducing spending by 3%; and adding to the city's reserves. The *proposal* is a slightly less than the current 107B budget once adjustments are made.

For CUNY ([E53-56](#)) funding would go up from 928M to 981M. This seems like additional monies, but FY22 had 67M held back and an additional 8.5M is being held back. In FY23, the 67M is restored, *but* the carve out (PEG initiative) increases to 14.6M and is baselined for the next 3 years. After additional adjustments, the opening big is 971M (up from 924M). This funding is not just for the CCs.

One key component is the *planned* reduction in headcount for the "pedagogical" class by 128 which is already part of *this year's* budget. (Not restoring some of the more than 128 separations is the way to view this – it is not seeking additional ones.) These vacancy reductions are expected to save 5-6M in payroll expenses and ~3M in fringe.

Other savings are sought in water and sewer costs; programmatic reductions (through "efficiencies"); and OTPS savings.

Not planned, but likely once dust is settled, is City Council Member Items and other smaller items.

Lecturer Initiative

The CUNY budget request contained:

This budget request is built around priorities established by the CUNY Board of Trustees to achieve a range of student-centered objectives — some ongoing, some refocused, some new — to propel the University forward in challenging times. These include reducing our reliance on adjunct faculty by adding 1,075 new fulltime faculty lines; enhancing professional development for faculty to promote more innovative and effective teaching methods; and adopting programs and partnerships that help our students find their places in the workforce and build sustainable careers.

In a recent memo, we see

The FY23 budget request includes funds for 500 lecturer lines and that funding will be required in order to achieve the hiring goal, but we wish to begin the hiring process for fall 2022, adding approximately half of the positions now.

There are many stated reasons for this initiative, but we report on the budgetary matters:

Although funding for 500 lecturer lines along with another 575 professorial lines is in the approved FY23 budget request, we will begin the hiring process for 250 lecturers now, for new lecturers to be in place for the Fall Term of 2022. Adding the **additional** 250 lecturers **will depend** on a favorable outcome in the FY23 budget process.

Allocation of additional base budget to the campuses for the 250 lecturer lines to supplement the savings in adjunct taught courses is based upon several factors including undergraduate FTE and current f/t:p/t ratios. OAREDA and the Office of Budget and Finance have generated the data used in making the allocations.

The same allocation formula is used for community colleges, comprehensive colleges and senior colleges. Graduate and professional schools will not be included and are proposed to receive new faculty lines in FY23.

(It is our understanding, based on anecdotal evidence, that there is wide variation in the number of lines allocated per campus.)

The allocation of positions will be funded by the campus's current adjunct budget in the amount that corresponds to the number of lecturer positions created and a 30 hr. workload, plus a **supplemental addition** to its base budget to make up the difference in that amount and the average lecturer salary as shown below.

Each lecturer is expected to add ~ 35K to the campus budget. E.g., CSI has 15 such lines, so should expect the supplemental budget of just over 500k.

Sr.	132683	134385	126316
CC	65733	57613	47982
Prof	5982	6491	6355
Total	204398	198489	180653