



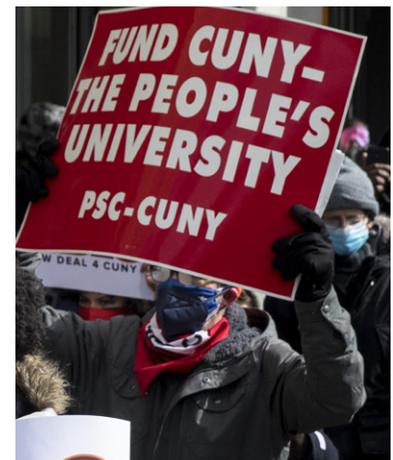
Make This the Year to Reinvest in CUNY

Pass the New Deal for CUNY

The Governor's executive budget is a strong start to addressing the funding needs in New York's systems of public higher education. Hiring 540 full-time faculty at CUNY begins to address the faculty lines lost in recent years, and closing the TAP gap this year is welcome, as is the 100% hold harmless provision for CUNY community colleges. The increased support for childcare centers and new part-time TAP allocation are important tools to revive enrollment and increase access for thousands of New Yorkers.

*Governor Hochul's pledge of \$1.5 billion for CUNY and SUNY over the next five years is a vital response to the crisis in public higher education. **However, more must be done to reverse decades of CUNY's underfunding.** The state's commitment to CUNY senior colleges has declined 18% per full-time equivalent student since the onset of the 2008 Great Recession, and a shocking 38% since the early 1990s. The state is legally obligated to fund 40% of CUNY community colleges, but it funds less than 25%. In order to help provide quality education, move more students into the middle class and contribute billions of dollars to the state tax base, this is the year for a major investment to transform public higher education and thereby, New York.*

Continued on back



Professional Staff Congress
psc-cuny.org | @psc_cuny | Spring 2022
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Reinvest in CUNY

Continued from front

In addition to the new programmatic allocations of \$122.2 million outlined in the Governor's executive budget, we request the following support from the legislature:

1. **\$253.9 million** for CUNY operating aid
 - a. **\$39.1 million** to make 2018-2019 the reference year in the hold harmless provision (\$20.7 million), and to fund a \$300 per FTE base aid increase (\$18.4 million)
 - b. **\$78.9 million** to hire 171 mental health counselors and 372 academic advisors
 - c. **\$135.9 million** to hire an additional 1385 full time faculty, (for a total of 1925, including those provided in the executive budget, in part to address the racial disparity in student access to full-time faculty)
2. **Pass the New Deal for CUNY** (S4461/A5843) (cost for FY23 covered by request above)
 - a. Establish minimum ratio of full-time faculty to students, increasing to 65:1000 by year five of the Governor's plan for CUNY and SUNY
 - b. Establish ratio of mental health counselors to students at 1:1000
 - c. Establish ratio of academic advisors to students at 1:250
 - d. Commit to an undergraduate first dollar tuition-free model at all CUNY colleges
 - i. For \$284 million New York State can make CUNY community colleges free this year
 - ii. ND4C would make CUNY fully free in year two

CAPITAL BUDGET. The Governor's executive budget provides \$425 million for strategic initiatives like the new Guttman Community College and Hunter College Science and Health buildings that are so desperately needed. In addition, CUNY received \$284 million for critical maintenance to address issues related to aging buildings. The average age of a CUNY building is over 50 years old! While these investments are an improvement on the past, CUNY requested \$1.247 billion to address years of foregone capital needs. The legislature should meet CUNY's full 2022-2023 request and commit to a five-year plan that will enable the administration to plan. These enhancements are especially paramount in light of the many needs the COVID pandemic has so brutally exposed.

