

**PROPOSED
RESOLUTION**
for submission to the
2013 NYSUT Representative Assembly

Must be received by: Jan. 14, 2013
Return to: Office of the President
NYSUT
800 Troy-Schenectady Road
Latham, NY 12110

If this is a reaffirmation of a prior resolution, please check here.

Resolution title: Supporting a "Fair Funding Plan" for the Community Colleges

Submitted by: Professional Staff Congress/CUNY

Local or Retiree Council Name

(See format and guidelines on last page of this document.)

WHEREAS, New York State is facing financial challenges it must be understood the unique position of SUNY's thirty community colleges which both contribute to the resolution of that challenge and the need to continue to prepare high school graduates and adults for the jobs of today and the future; and

WHEREAS, an understanding exists that without a continued investment in education New York State will be unable to provide the region's business community with qualified employees or attract new businesses and industries to a region bereft of a well-educated workforce, and

WHEREAS, education confers on New Yorkers the ability to be engaged and informed members of their communities thus fulfilling their civic obligations inherent in a democratic society; and

WHEREAS, the State currently provides \$2272 for each full-time-equivalent (FTE) student, which, although \$150 more per FTE than last year, nevertheless is \$403 below the \$2675 per FTE provided at the start of 2009-10, even after a \$150 restoration of State Aid, the state contribution remains only 25.6% of operating costs at SUNY community colleges and 26% at CUNY community Colleges, while state law calls for campuses to receive 40% of funding from the State; and

(over)

I hereby certify that the above resolution was approved for submission to the 2013 NYSUT Representative Assembly by the:

Executive Council at a meeting held on 1/10/13
(Executive Board, General Membership, etc.) (date)

Please print name: Barbara Bowen
(President)

Signature: _____
(President) Local 2334
NYSUT Local or Retiree Council

Local or Retiree Council name: Professional Staff Congress/CUNY

Local or Retiree Council President's email address: bbowen@pscmail.org

(Reverse of Resolution Form)

WHEREAS, the State has not fulfilled its obligation of funding pursuant to section 6304 of the Education law, and most County sponsors have not increased their contribution to operating costs; and

WHEREAS, this has put the burden of funding our community colleges on the students and families in the form of substantial increases in tuition, as students now pay on average 43.9% of costs across SUNY community college and 40.1% at CUNY community colleges; and

WHEREAS, our students are among the most financially vulnerable; and

WHEREAS, community colleges have responded to budgetary pressures by taking such actions as decreasing full time faculty, curtailing student services, cutting programs, and deferring needed maintenance of physical plants, all of which have direct negative impact on the students of the community colleges as well as the surrounding environs; and

WHEREAS, appropriate funding of community colleges represents an investment in the economic recovery and continued economic health of the state and a commitment to providing affordable and accessible higher education to New York's citizens; and

WHEREAS, the SUNY and CUNY Board of Trustees, the New York Community College Association of Presidents (NYCCAP), and the Faculty Council of Community Colleges have proposed a "Rational Revenue Plan" for the community colleges that would bring the State closer to its statutory funding obligation, be it therefore

RESOLVED, NYSUT strongly urges the Governor and the State Legislature to meet the state law requirement to fund 40% of the costs at all community colleges.

RESOLVED, NYSUT will consider all necessary and available means and options to secure this fair funding.