

NEW DEAL FOR CUNY

A FULLY FUNDED CUNY; A FAIR AND FUNDED CONTRACT
FISCAL YEAR 2025



Total Investment Toward New Deal for CUNY

\$1.29 Billion

Full-time Faculty	\$385 Million
Advisors & Mental Health Counselors	\$67 Million
Food Insecurity	\$20 Million
Mandatory Cost Increases	\$82.7 Million
Graduate Education Support	\$24.5 Million
Community College Base Aid Increase	\$11.7 Million
Make First 60 Credits Free	\$700 Million

Capital Investment

\$1.7 Billion

CUNY enrollment is rebounding, and the governor has streamlined the application process for high school seniors, propelling record numbers of applicants. To provide new and returning students with a high quality education, achieve just economic gains for all New Yorkers, and make up for decades of disinvestment, we must continue our fight to fully fund the New Deal for CUNY (S2146/A4425).

Hire more full-time faculty. Increased support for faculty hiring will address racial inequities in access to full-time professors and improve CUNY's full-time faculty-to-student ratio. Unfortunately, some of the faculty gains in prior cycles have been eroded by attrition, and CUNY still largely runs on adjunct labor (Senior Colleges: \$341 million, 2,306 faculty hires; Community Colleges: \$44 million, 376 faculty hires).

Enhance wraparound support: academic advisement, mental health counseling, food insecurity. Nearly 60% of CUNY undergraduates have family incomes under \$30,000 a year and 36% report food insecurity. For most CUNY students, the University is their only access to mental health counseling and other supports. CUNY lags behind the national average ratio of academic advisors to students. We must hire full-time academic advisors and mental health counselors and lessen food insecurity (\$67 million to improve staff-to-student ratios for advisors and mental health counselors; \$20 million to address food insecurity).

Make first 60 credits free. CUNY is a vital path through which poor and working New Yorkers attain higher education and economic success. First-dollar, tuition-free college credit is an investment that will pay dividends for the state (\$700 million for first 60 credits free at all CUNY campuses).

Fund our contract. The 30,000 CUNY faculty and staff represented by the PSC are seeking to renegotiate their expired union contract with the University to secure competitive salaries and pay parity for adjunct faculty. It is time to return to the principled practice of fully funding contracts. Let's make New York a state that cares for its residents as both citizens and workers.

Fund mandatory costs. Fund the basic year-over-year cost increases required to operate CUNY, including negotiated employee salaries and fringe benefits (\$82.7 million).

Support graduate education. Align fellowships and stipends with peer institutions and NYC's cost of living. Increase support for doctoral programs to connect students with CUNY research centers and graduates with jobs in the academy and industry. Expand and diversify research-focused faculty who mentor graduate students (\$24.5 million for fellowships/stipends, 50 faculty hires, and other investments).



Raise community college funding floor. Lift and fund a stable floor and increase base aid to \$3,250 per student (\$11.7 million). The state has never met its legal obligation to fund 40% of community college operations. Community colleges are a springboard to careers and a pathway to further higher education. They are job creators and must not be forced to operate in a state of constant vulnerability.

Invest in capital infrastructure. We support the CUNY administration's capital request to maintain and improve the University's infrastructure across its 300 buildings (\$1.7 billion). A recent independent assessment showed that only 8% of CUNY buildings meet the "state of good repair" standard. CUNY students and employees deserve safe, welcoming conditions for working and learning.