

# CUNY FOR ALL!

## FY27 PSC/CUNY City Budget Request

PSC looks forward to building a bold vision for CUNY students, faculty, and staff in Fiscal Year 2027. After years of defunding, it is time to fully fund CUNY and invest in the future of our city.

### FILL VACANCIES / BRING BACK FULL-TIME FACULTY AND STAFF

Between 2019 and 2024, CUNY lost 703 civilian and pedagogical positions, nearly 500 at community colleges, which are funded 75% by the city. These losses were a direct result of former Mayor Adams's cumulative PEG cuts. Mayor Adams restored CUNY's funding in his last term, but nearly 400 positions remain vacant.



**Instruct CUNY to fill all funded vacancies immediately.**

Hire new faculty in full-time positions to bring CUNY staffing ratios in line with national recommendations. CUNY students deserve to be taught primarily by full-time professors who make a living wage. Hire 30% of new faculty as lecturers and 70% as professorial appointments.

Create paths to full time employment for long-serving adjunct faculty to help move beyond an austerity approach to staffing our colleges and better serve our students. Hire 2,876 new full-time community college faculty to achieve a ratio of 65 full-time faculty for every 1,000 students (**\$264 million**).

### ENACT A BOLD FREE TRANSIT PLAN BEGINNING WITH CUNY

Increase subway and bus ridership and remove a clear cost barrier that hinders student success. Provide OMNY cards to CUNY students by expanding the same program that already provides these cards to K-12 students. (**\$24 million** for all students at the same rate paid by the Department of Education for K-12 student OMNY cards; **\$14 million** full-time students only).



[PSC-CUNY.org](https://PSC-CUNY.org)



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### PROTECT VITAL GRANT FUNDED PROGRAMS

Provide bridge funding to help support vital work, including public health research, that has lost federal research dollars (**\$26 million**).

### FUND THE SERVICES THAT INCREASE GRADUATION RATES

**Reconnect** has brought back over 47,000 students since its inception. Keep and expand this program (**\$11.7 million**).

**Advising** improves graduation rates. Expand community college advising by lowering the ratio of advisors to one advisor per every hundred students. Hire 352 culturally competent advisors to achieve this ratio (**\$74 million**).



**ACE:** Expand ACE - the senior college version of ASAP. ACE is a new program and according to CUNY, "The most recent ACE freshmen cohort admitted to John Jay College realized a four-year graduation rate of 60 percent vs. 41 percent for a matched comparison group of non-ACE students, and the first transfer cohort at Lehman College realized a two-year graduation rate of 61 percent vs. 30 percent for a matched comparison group of non-ACE students" (**\$9.1 million**).

**ASAP:** In an ASAP-for-all model, all community college students receive the academic and wrap-around support provided by CUNY's most successful community college program. As more students enroll in community colleges, the program needs additional funding to expand and flourish. In addition to improving advising ratios and providing free transit, the ASAP program should expand to include more students. In 2024 CUNY reported, "the ASAP three-year graduation rate [was] 53%, more than double the 25% rate observed in a historically matched statistical comparison group... The most recent average three-year graduation rate across ten ASAP cohorts (fall 2009-fall 2020) [was] 49.1%." CUNY reports that an ASAP student costs, on average, an additional \$3,440 to educate (lower if the cost of OMNY cards and advisors is covered by other initiatives). Double the size of the current ASAP annual cohort (**\$86 million** if all services are covered by ASAP).

Too many New Yorkers need but cannot access **mental health counselors**; CUNY students are no different. Today, the demand for services vastly exceeds the access to services. Hire an additional 119 mental health counselors at the community colleges to improve the ratio of counselors to students to one counselor for every 500 students (**\$22 million**).