



February 3, 2020

Dear Members of the Legislature:

New York University (NYU), and private higher education institutions across New York, look forward to continuing our long-standing partnership with the State as we cultivate future leaders and spur innovation in our communities. While the Governor's Executive Budget proposals for FY 2020-2021 generally support access to higher education, I hope the Legislature will enhance many of the initiatives to further the development of a talented, diverse and innovative workforce and will restore programs that enable institutions to be economic drivers throughout the state.

There is a long-standing, highly successful, tradition in New York State that has supported a robust system of higher education with three strong pillars: the city public system of CUNY, the state public system of SUNY, and the independent sector. One of the enviable strengths of the system is how policymakers have ensured equilibrium among these sectors, giving New York students maximum choice and access to the institution of their choice. NYU hopes that Legislators will continue to ensure that students have the ability to choose the institution that best fits their academic needs by expanding the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP), which has not been significantly adjusted in nearly two decades. Specifically, we encourage the legislature to expand TAP to raise the income threshold to \$110,000 and the maximum and minimum awards to \$6,000 and \$1,000, respectively. College access and affordability remains an important conversation at NYU that we are continuing to address in innovative ways. The State's higher education system will only continue to be the remarkably fertile ecosystem it has historically been when all three sectors are supported by the State.

Universities statewide are also critical economic drivers through our research and development activities. For decades, the Center of Advanced Technology (CAT) and Center of Excellence (COE) programs have supported the transfer of research and innovations into the marketplace with a tremendous return on investment to the State. These Centers have been an extremely successful tool in connecting industry and colleges and universities, spurring innovations to the marketplace, and fostering new and emerging research fields to keep New York a leader in the high-tech sector. NYU, along with our public and private colleagues statewide, were disappointed to see the Governor's proposal to consolidate the COE program and reduce funding for both programs. I urge the legislature to restore the funding for both the CAT and COE programs to \$1 million per Center.

New York's academic institutions must also provide up-to-date research and high-technology facilities needed for science, technology and biomedical innovation, and other fields critical for today's workforce. The Higher Education Capital Matching Grants (HeCap) program awards capital dollars via a competitive merit-based application process, leveraging matching funds provided by colleges and universities. HeCap recently funded the construction of the first ever clean room in Brooklyn at the NYU Tandon School of Engineering. This facility fosters research activities in nanoelectronics, biosensors, energy devices and other telecommunications areas. I was disappointed to see that the Governor's budget proposal does not provide funding for HeCap in FY2021. We urge the Legislature to restore this

program in the final budget agreement to help the state's institutions remain competitive in the recruitment of world-class talent to lead the innovation economy.

In addition, NYU has committed to cutting our carbon emissions and achieving carbon neutrality by 2040 and we are continuing to seek innovative ideas among our community to improve the environment around us. We are pleased to see the State continue to be a leader in addressing climate change and support the continued investment in renewable energy sources and infrastructure. We stand ready to assist the State in these efforts in any way.

I have enclosed a summary describing all of NYU's legislative priorities, including additional student financial aid programs and initiatives focused on research and innovation, that are critical to New York's future. I look forward to continuing our partnership to foster the state's long history of world class education in the years to come. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew D. H. Ke". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and a stylized "K".

President

NYU 2020 NYS Legislative Priorities



New York University looks forward to continuing our collaborative partnerships with New York State and working to accomplish our shared goals of expanding access to higher education, developing the talented workforce needed for the global economy, addressing climate change and supporting cutting-edge research and innovation.

Student Financial Aid Programs

Continued investment in programs that ensure student access and choice is vital for the state to remain competitive in its effort to produce talented college graduates. NYU, along with other institutions statewide, strongly supports the state's critical, long-standing student financial aid and opportunity programs. We urge the Governor and Legislature to:

- Reform the **Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)** by beginning a three-year phase-in to increase the maximum award to \$6,000 and minimum award to \$1,000, while also increasing the maximum income eligibility to \$110,000 to allow more students to benefit from this program;
- **Increase funding for the Opportunities Programs**, including, HEOP, STEP/CSTEP, and LPP, and specifically for HEOP, increase the per-FTE funding by 20% to allow more resources to be directed to individual students.
- Continue to fund the **Direct Institutional "Bundy Aid" Program at \$35.13 million**, which is used by private universities to provide institutional financial aid awards to needy students.

BY THE NUMBERS: 2017-2018 Academic Year



NYU undergraduate students from New York State

Bundy Aid Program

\$4.2
MILLION
TO NYU

Funds **165** scholarships to needy undergraduates

Opportunities Program Students

575 HEOP
300 CSTEP



Institutional Financial Aid Awards

50% NYU undergrads who are NYS residents receiving financial aid

\$582 MILLION/YEAR total NYU aid

Tuition Assistance Program

\$10+
MILLION

TAP used by **2,700+** NYS resident students

Higher Education Programs

In addition to helping students achieve their higher education goals through existing financial aid programs, NYU hopes the Governor and Legislature will further assist specific populations through the following programs:

- **The Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Incentive Program.** NYU encourages the Legislature to fund an additional cohort of the STEM incentive scholarship.
- **The Masters-in-Education Teacher Incentive Program.** This program is critical to ensuring a pipeline of well-qualified teachers and should be expanded to make students at private institutions eligible.

Sustainability Initiatives

NYU has committed to cutting our carbon emissions and achieving carbon neutrality by 2040 and we champion innovative ideas to improve the environment around us. We encourage the Governor and Legislature to continue addressing climate change and support the following proposals:

- **Supporting Green Energy.** NYU encourages the State to continue investing in green energy and building the infrastructure and storage needed to support renewable energy sources.
- **Expand Extended Producer Responsibility Programs.** This proposal will require manufacturers to take back carpets and mattresses in an effort to divert difficult-to-manage waste from our landfills.

Research and Innovation Initiatives

Universities across New York are also leading cutting-edge research and identifying solutions to the world's greatest challenges, resulting in new technologies, devices, and companies. NYU hopes the Governor and Legislature will continue to invest in the talent, facilities, and resources needed for universities to continue to build their local economies. NYU encourages the Governor and Legislature to:

- **Restore funding for the Higher Education Capital Grants Matching Fund (HeCap).** This fund helps institutions meet critical infrastructure needs to support research and innovation on campus, enhance the student experience, and benefit our surrounding communities.
- **Restore funding for the Center of Advanced Technology (CAT) and Center of Excellence Programs (COE).** These programs support innovation and commercialization through collaborations between colleges and universities and industry partners. These programs should be restored to \$1 million per Center to continue their critical R&D efforts between colleges and universities and industry.
- **The Matching Grants Program.** The State should continue to match Federal research funding and invest \$6 million long-term to ensure New York remains a leader in federal research funding.

NYU RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY NUMBERS



\$420+
MILLION
competitively awarded
federal research funding

 **1,350+**
NYU patents

 **159** START-UPS
\$3 BILLION RAISED
From NYU research and discoveries

NYU Start-ups have helped to create
3,200+ JOBS in NYS

34 Products brought
to market by
industry partners based
on NYU technologies,
resulting in

\$72 BILLION
in revenue for those
industry partners