

NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY

Carl E. Heastie, Speaker
Patricia A. Fahy, Chair



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

COMMITTEE ON
Higher Education



PATRICIA A. FAHY
Assemblymember 109TH District

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

CHAIR
Higher Education Committee

COMMITTEES
Economic Development, Job Creation,
Commerce, and Industry
Transportation
Environmental Conservation

MEMBER
Legislative Women's Caucus
Task Force on Women's Issues

December 15, 2023

The Honorable Carl E. Heastie, Speaker
New York State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 349
Albany, New York 12248

Dear Speaker Heastie:

On behalf of the members of the Assembly Standing Committee on Higher Education, I respectfully submit to you the Committee's 2023 Annual Report, which highlights our activities over the past year.

The 2023-24 enacted state budget for higher education provides \$1.38 billion in operating aid for State University of New York (SUNY) schools and \$821.4 million in operating aid for City University of New York (CUNY) schools. This increased investment in our public university systems includes new multi-year operating aid and transformation funding for each system.

The Committee also addressed several pressing legislative issues, including enactment of legislation that: requires colleges to update procedures related to bias-related and hate crimes on campuses; authorizes certain out-of-state nurses and physicians to temporarily practice in NYS pending licensure; and requires nursing certificate and degree programs registered with the State Education Department to include certain clinical education.

Thank you for your leadership and steadfast support of our state's higher education community. I am proud of my first year as Chair of the Higher Education Committee and thank you for the opportunity to continue working with you and my colleagues toward our shared goal of ensuring that our systems of public and private higher education remain the best in the nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patricia A. Fahy", written over a light gray rectangular background.

Patricia A. Fahy
Assemblymember

**2023 ANNUAL REPORT
NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION**

Patricia A. Fahy, Chair

Committee Members

Majority

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Al Stirpe
Jo Anne Simon
John T. McDonald III
Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn
Alicia Hyndman
Harvey Epstein
Karen M. McMahon
Marianne Buttenschon
Sarah Clark
Phara Souffrant Forrest
Monique Chandler-Waterman
Latoya Joyner
Rebecca A. Seawright
Monica P. Wallace
Kenneth Burgos
Christopher W. Eachus

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Brian D. Miller
Edward A. Flood
Scott A. Gray

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Maria Volpe-McDermott, Assistant Secretary for Program and Policy
Ashley Luz, Analyst
Benjamin Decker, Associate Counsel
Martha Mahoney, Chief of Staff
Alexander Flood, Committee Clerk
Joann Butler, Program and Counsel Secretary

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I. COMMITTEE JURISDICTION

The Assembly Standing Committee on Higher Education is responsible for the initiation and review of legislation relevant to higher education and the professions in New York State. It is primarily concerned with policy initiatives affecting the State University of New York (SUNY), the City University of New York (CUNY), the independent colleges and universities within New York, proprietary vocational schools, student financial aid, and the licensed professions. However, because of the complex and comprehensive nature of New York's system of higher education, the Committee has also been involved in shaping legislation in such diverse public policy fields as health care, economic and workforce development, technology, capital financing, and elementary and secondary education.

The New York State system of higher education has been heralded for decades for its quality and comprehensive service to the public with a full range of academic, professional, and vocational programs. The system includes the State University of New York (SUNY) and the City University of New York (CUNY), over 100 independent colleges and universities, and approximately 400 proprietary colleges and schools located within New York State.

Founded as the Free Academy in 1847, the City University of New York has grown into the largest urban public university in the nation. CUNY comprises 25 campuses throughout Queens, Brooklyn, Manhattan, the Bronx, and Staten Island. It includes 11 senior colleges, an honors college, a graduate school of journalism, a school of professional studies, a law school, a graduate school of public health and health policy, a school of labor and urban studies, a graduate center, and seven community colleges. Through this network, CUNY provides educational opportunities and skills training to an ethnically and culturally diverse population. As of Fall 2022, CUNY enrolled approximately 220,260 students.

The State University of New York is the largest comprehensive public university system in the nation, embracing 64 distinct individual campuses located in urban, suburban, and rural communities across New York State. These 64 campuses include 30 community colleges, 29 state-operated campuses, and five statutory colleges offering a full range of academic, professional, and vocational programs. As of Fall 2022, SUNY enrolled approximately 363,612 students in over 7,500 programs of study.

New York State is fortunate to have the most diversified and largest independent sector of higher education in the nation. The independent colleges and universities of the State enroll approximately 485,400 students. New York not only boasts one of the nation's largest private universities, New York University, it also prides itself on numerous outstanding small colleges as well. As of 2019, independent campuses throughout New York State have a collective annual economic impact of \$97.6 billion and employ 432,600 New Yorkers.

In addition to providing support to the state-operated campuses of SUNY and the senior college programs of CUNY, New York State contributes financially to community colleges and provides direct aid to independent colleges and universities. The State also demonstrates its commitment to higher education by funding one of the country's largest state-supported Tuition Assistance Programs (TAP), a need-based grant program that helps eligible New York State

residents pay tuition at approved public and private higher education institutions in the State.

The Committee on Higher Education also monitors the ongoing activities of 55 professions, which the State Education Department (SED) is charged with licensing and regulating. Through careful consideration of legislation affecting the professions and by monitoring the professional discipline functions of SED and the Department of Health (DOH), the Committee endeavors to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public and to ensure the maintenance of high standards and competence within the professional realm.

This report summarizes the activities and achievements of the Assembly Standing Committee on Higher Education in each of its major areas of responsibility during the 2023 Legislative Session.

II. HIGHER EDUCATION

A. State Budget Highlights

1. SUNY and CUNY

The 2023-24 enacted state budget included:

- \$103 million for SUNY and \$53 million for CUNY in new operating aid in lieu of proposed tuition increases;
- \$75 million for SUNY and \$50 million for CUNY for a transformation fund;
- \$90 million total in additional operating aid for SUNY and CUNY in academic years 2024-25 and 2025-26;
- \$370 million for SUNY and \$435 million for CUNY in new flexible capital funding;
- \$500 million for an endowment matching fund for the four SUNY university centers, including a \$25 million minimum and a 40 percent maximum for any individual university center, and contract oversight by the Office of the State Comptroller; and
- \$65 million in forgiveness for SUNY hospital debt service for fiscal year 2023-24.

Notably, the final budget did not include the Executive proposal to increase resident undergraduate tuition. However, the enacted budget did allow for differential non-resident undergraduate and graduate tuition increases at SUNY and CUNY through the 2025-26 academic year. Such increases must be based on a plan from each system's board of trustees, including the reasoning behind their adopted methodology.

In addition, the enacted budget included provisions requiring SUNY and CUNY to each develop a long-term plan to address the impact of fluctuations in student enrollment on the academic and financial sustainability of state-operated institutions, senior colleges, and community colleges.

The Legislature also ensured that SUNY and CUNY's nursing and mental health programs received much needed funding. This included a restoration of \$1 million in increased support for each system's nursing programs, for a total of \$3 million for CUNY's expansion of nursing programs and \$2.7 million for SUNY's high need nursing programs. Funding for mental health services at both systems were fully restored, providing a total of \$2 million for SUNY and \$2 million for CUNY.

The Legislature also provided funding for the following initiatives within SUNY:

- \$433,000 for the Immigrant Integration Research and Policy Institute;
- \$350,000 for the SUNY Black Leadership Institute;
- \$250,000 for SUNY Farmingdale;
- an additional \$1.7 million for the Cornell Cooperative Extension, including \$500,000 for the New York City program;
- \$200,000 for SUNY Schenectady Community College;
- \$150,000 for SUNY Dutchess Community College Housing and Food Insecurity

- Services;
- \$165,000 for the Long Island Veteran's Home for the hiring and retaining of nurses; and
- \$150,000 for the SUNY Benjamin Center.

Finally, the Legislature provided funding for the following initiatives within CUNY:

- an additional \$750,000 for the School of Labor and Urban Studies, for a total of \$5.9 million;
- \$1 million for Medgar Evers Du Bois Environmental Job Training;
- \$750,000 for the Medgar Evers Du Bois Bunche Center for Public Policy;
- \$500,000 for the CUNY Black Male Initiative;
- \$350,000 for the W. Haywood Burns Chair in Human and Civil Rights at CUNY Law;
- \$200,000 for CUNY Lehman College BronxNet; and
- \$81,500 for the CUNY Mock Senate.

Community Colleges

Community colleges are unique in that they are financed cooperatively by three partners: the State, a local sponsor, and the students. Base aid is the State's responsibility for its share of community college budgeted operating costs; therefore, the level of State support that community colleges receive directly affects tuition rates and local contributions. Statutorily, the State is obligated to pay one-third of a community college's operating costs and up to forty percent of these costs for full opportunity schools.

The 2023-24 enacted budget included \$416.6 million to SUNY and \$218 million to CUNY so that no community college receives less than 100% of the base aid funding that it received in the 2022-23 fiscal year. Further, the enacted budget did not include the Executive proposal to require the Division of the Budget to withhold up to 20 percent of base aid funding until each community college completes a restructuring plan.

2. Independent Colleges and Universities

Bundy Aid, formally known as Unrestricted Aid to Independent Colleges and Universities, provides direct support to higher education institutions based on the number and type of degrees conferred by the college or university. Funding for Bundy Aid was maintained at \$35.1 million.

The enacted budget included \$40 million for an additional round of the Higher Education Facilities Capital (HECap) Matching Grants Program, a \$40 million increase over the Executive's proposal.

3. Financial Aid/Access Programs

Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)

New York State is fortunate to have one of the most comprehensive systems of financial aid in the United States. At the forefront is the Tuition Assistance Program, New York's largest

grant program that helps eligible New York residents pay tuition at approved schools in the State. Award amounts are determined by net taxable income (up to \$80,000) and financial status (independent or dependent). Depending on income, TAP awards have ranged from \$500 to \$5,665 with low-income students receiving larger awards. TAP helps keep college accessible and affordable for students who would otherwise not be able to attend.

Students who attend a private, not for profit college or university in New York may be eligible for the Enhanced Tuition Award. The program offers eligible students \$6,000 through a combination of their TAP award, the Enhanced Tuition Award, and a matching award from the college or university. The Executive maintained funding for the ETA program at \$7.8 million.

The enacted budget clarified the definition of eligible non-degree workforce credential programs under part-time TAP. The change ensures that eligible programs include those which are less than 12 semester hours, or the equivalent, per semester. The enacted budget also included students enrolled in a public agricultural and technical college as eligible for part-time TAP.

Scholarships

The Legislature restored \$1 million in funding for the Senator Patricia K. McGee Nursing Faculty Scholarship, for a total of \$4.9 million.

The Legislature restored \$50,000 in funding for the NYS Young Farmers Loan Forgiveness Incentive Program, for a total of \$150,000.

The enacted budget also restored \$1 million for the Maritime Appointments Program at SUNY Maritime and included provisions allowing the SUNY Maritime Appointments Program scholarship to include the Summer Sea Term.

Access Programs

Access to higher education has been a long-standing concern of this Committee. Over the years, the Legislature has created programs that provide special assistance to educationally and economically disadvantaged students, underrepresented groups, and “at-risk” youth (students who require additional support in order to achieve academic success). The Assembly has been committed to ensuring that all students have access to higher education and ensuring their academic success through the support of access programs.

Through counseling, remedial coursework, financial assistance, drop-out prevention, and skills training, these programs are dedicated not only to encouraging enrollment in college, but also helping to ensure success in the postsecondary academic environment. New York’s access programs include:

- The Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP) provides critical access programs for educationally and economically disadvantaged students who attend independent institutions of higher education. HEOP programs serve approximately 4,700 students through more than 50 programs including pre-freshman summer programs, remedial and developmental

courses, tutoring, and counseling. The Legislature restored support for HEOP by \$1.4 million, for a total of \$48.3 million.

- The Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) provides academic support and financial aid to students who attend public institutions of higher education and show promise for mastering college-level work, but who may otherwise not be admitted. EOP services are available at most SUNY schools, at all CUNY senior colleges through the Percy Ellis Sutton Search for Education, Elevation, and Knowledge (SEEK) program, and at all CUNY community colleges through the College Discovery program. The Legislature provided \$43.8 million in funding for EOP; \$38.2 million for SEEK; and \$1.8 million for College Discovery.
- The Liberty Partnerships Program (LPP) serves approximately 15,000 middle, junior, and senior high school students who are at risk of dropping out. LPP also assists students in completing high school, preparing for and entering college, and obtaining meaningful employment. The Legislature removed the maximum cap on awards for the Liberty Partnerships Program and restored funding by \$738,000, for a total of \$25 million.
- The Science and Technology Entry Program (STEP) and Collegiate-STEP (CSTEP) programs were created to encourage the attendance of more students of underrepresented and economically disadvantaged populations by helping these students enter collegiate study and careers in scientific, technical, and health-related fields. The Legislature restored funding for STEP and CSTEP by \$636,000 for a total of \$21.5 million and \$482,000 for a total of \$16.3 million, respectively.
- The Foster Youth College Success Initiative provides support services to assist youth in foster care to apply for, enroll in, and succeed in college by allowing SED to allocate additional funding to expand opportunities through current postsecondary opportunity programs for foster youth. The enacted budget provided a total of \$8.2 million in funding, a \$241,000 restoration.

Additional Aid

The Legislature included a total of \$4 million for students with disabilities, a \$2 million increase over last year. Administered by SED, this funding helps public and private degree-granting colleges and universities to enhance supports and services for enrolled students with disabilities.

B. Legislative Highlights

Ensuring Access to Abortion Medication within SUNY and CUNY

A.1395-C Epstein, Chapter 129 of the Laws of 2023. This law requires every SUNY and CUNY campus to provide enrolled students with access to abortion medication. Under the law, campuses can provide such access by either employing or contracting with individuals authorized to prescribe medication abortion prescription drugs within their lawful scope of practice; or providing

students with information and referrals to local providers authorized to prescribe such drugs.

Authorizing the Transfer of Funds Paid by Certain Proprietary Schools

A.2235 Hyndman, Veto Memo 114. This bill would allow the State Education Department to transfer funds from the tuition reimbursement account to the proprietary vocational school supervision account when the balance of the tuition reimbursement account exceeds \$2.5 million.

Providing for Clinical Nursing Simulation Experiences

A.3076-A Lupardo, Chapter 134 of the Laws of 2023. This law requires nursing certificate and degree programs registered with the State Education Department to include clinical education, one-third of which may be delivered through simulation experiences. Under the law, the Commissioner of Education must also establish an expedited process for nursing programs seeking curricular changes for implementing simulation experiences. SED must act on a program's submission within twenty business days upon receiving a complete and properly submitted form.

Requiring Colleges to Update Policies and Procedures Related to Bias-Related and Hate Crimes

A.3694-A Rosenthal, D., Chapter 191 of the Laws of 2023. This law requires colleges to update procedures related to bias-related and hate crimes on campuses. Under the law, colleges must review current policies and procedures related to such crimes, adopt and implement plans for the investigation of hate crimes, and inform incoming students and the campus community of hate crime prevention measures. The law also requires colleges to post incidents of hate crimes on their websites.

Requiring SUNY and CUNY to Establish Policies for Granting Posthumous Degrees

A.4942-B Forrest, Chapter 549 of the Laws of 2023. This law requires SUNY and CUNY to have policies for granting posthumous degrees to students who die before graduation. Under the law, SUNY and CUNY must waive any remaining credit requirements for students who have died but would otherwise have been eligible for graduation had they been able to complete their academic career.

Expanding the Allowable Uses of Proceeds from the Lease of Land on the SUNY Purchase Campus

A.5806 Burdick, Chapter 562 of the Laws of 2023. This law expands the allowable uses of proceeds from the lease of lands located at the SUNY Purchase campus for a senior learning community. The 2011 authorization allocated twenty-five percent of lease proceeds to support additional full-time faculty positions. This law expands the permitted use of such proceeds to include the support of current full-time faculty positions.

Ensuring Student Athlete Compensation for Name, Image and Likeness

A.7107-B, Solages, Chapter 154 of the Laws of 2023. This law authorizes colleges that participate in intercollegiate athletics to engage in name, image, and likeness activities. Under the law, no athletic association, conference, or other group or organization with authority over intercollegiate athletics may penalize or prevent a college from participating in intercollegiate sports because a person or entity that supports the school violates such association's rules or regulations related to name, image, and likeness. Likewise, no such association may prevent a college from participating in intercollegiate sports due to the college's participation in name, image, and likeness activities.

Further, the law expands the definition of "student-athlete" to include those who have completed at least their sophomore year of high school and are eligible, or may in the future be eligible, to attend college and participate in intercollegiate athletics.

Authorizing SUNY Buffalo State to Lease Lands to the Buckham Development Corporation

A.7663-A Rivera, Chapter 603 of the Laws of 2023. This law authorizes SUNY Buffalo State to lease certain lands to the Buckham Development Corporation for the purpose of authorizing the Buffalo City School District to relocate and develop, construct, maintain and operate Leonardo da Vinci High School.

III. LICENSED PROFESSIONS

New York State currently licenses 55 professions under Title VIII of the Education Law. Legislation to license a new profession or alter the practice of an existing profession falls under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Higher Education. SED, through its Office of the Professions, regulates the practice of licensed professions on an ongoing basis.

An essential component of the monitoring process is to ensure that existing standards and qualifications reflect current practices and needs, especially in light of shifting demographics and rapidly changing technologies. Each year, the Committee reviews numerous pieces of legislation that propose to change the scope of practice of currently licensed professions. Ensuring that any modification to current professional standards is thoroughly examined and appropriately executed provides a means by which the Committee fulfills its obligations to protect the well-being of the public.

A. State Budget Highlights

The Legislature rejected the following proposals in this year's Executive budget to modify the scope of practice of professions under the Committee's jurisdiction:

- allowing public accountancy firms to have minority ownership of up to 49 percent by individuals who are not licensed as certified public accountants or public accountants and require non-licensee owners to pay an annual \$300 fee to SED;
- authorizing New York to join the Interstate Medical Licensure and Nurse Licensure Compacts;
- expanding the scope of practice for pharmacists, dentists, physician assistants, registered nurses, advanced home health aides, and certified nurse's aides;
- expanding and renaming the collaborative drug therapy management demonstration program;
- authorizing certain certified nurse aides to administer medications in residential health care facilities;
- authorizing certain unlicensed support staff in non-facility Office of People with Developmental Disabilities programs to provide nursing services without nurse supervision;
- authorizing applicants for licensure in a qualified high need health care profession to request a temporary practice permit; and,
- transferring the supervision of certain professions from SED to the Department of Health.

The final budget did include provisions extending the authorization for advanced home health care aides to provide certain services for another six years.

B. Legislative Highlights

Updating the Profession of Athletic Training

A.219-A Solages, Chapter 733 of the Laws of 2023. This law provides for the licensure of athletic trainers and expands the profession's scope of practice. Under the law, athletic training includes the prevention, recognition, examination, evaluation, assessment, management, treatment, and rehabilitation of athletic injuries, as well as the use of clinically appropriate therapeutic modalities and techniques. Further, the law authorizes athletic trainers to practice in additional settings and ensures that certain supervision and referral requirements are met. Additionally, athletic trainers are required to complete certain continuing education coursework and report suspected child abuse and maltreatment.

Authorizing Pharmacists to Dispense Certain Self-Administered Hormonal Contraceptives

A.1060-A Paulin, Chapter 128 of the Laws of 2023. This law authorizes pharmacists to dispense self-administered hormonal contraceptives pursuant to a non-patient specific regimen order from a physician, nurse practitioner, or the Commissioner of Health. The law ensures that unless a patient opts-out, a pharmacist must notify a patient's primary health care practitioner within seventy-two hours of dispensing a self-administered hormonal contraceptive. A pharmacist may refuse to dispense a self-administered hormonal contraceptive if in their professional judgment, potential adverse effects, interactions, or other therapeutic complications could endanger the health of the patient.

Expanding the Authorization for Optometry Students to Engage in Clinical Practice

A.3158-A Bores, Chapter 546 of the Laws of 2023. This law authorizes out-of-state optometry students to engage in supervised clinical practice in New York. Under the law, a student who is actively enrolled in an optometry school with accreditation acceptable to the State Education Department is authorized to engage in clinical practice under the supervision of a licensed and currently registered optometrist or physician.

Authorizing Professionals Appointed by the World Triathlon Corporation

A.3238 Jones, Chapter 144 of the Laws of 2023. This law authorizes certain health care professionals who are licensed in another state or territory, who are in good standing in such state or territory, and who have been appointed by the World Triathlon Corporation, to provide services to participating athletes at the Ironman Lake Placid, being held on July 23, 2023.

Authorizing Non-Licensee Ownership of Public Accountancy Firms

A.4189 Peoples-Stokes, Chapter 701 of the Laws of 2023. This law authorizes public accountancy firms to have minority ownership by non-licensees. Under the law, a simple majority of the ownership of a public accountancy firm must be persons licensed to practice public accountancy.

Authorizing Certain Out-of-State Pharmacies to Send Prescription Drugs to NYS Pharmacies

A.5121-A Stirpe, Chapter 590 of the Laws of 2023. This law provides an additional qualification pathway for supervisors of medical oxygen gas transfilling. Under the law, a person with training in accordance with the requirements established in Section 211.25 of Title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations to be qualified to supervise medical oxygen gas transfilling.

Requiring the Distribution of Certain Continuing Education Opportunities to Physicians

A.5985-A Rosenthal, L., Chapter 743 of the Laws of 2023. This law requires the Department of Health to develop, maintain and distribute a resource library related to continuing education and training opportunities regarding nutrition to physicians in the state, which may include plant-based nutrition. Under the law, the Department of Health shall conduct a follow-up survey three years after the first distribution and post a report on the department's website.

Authorizing Registered Nurses to Administer Certain Tasks

A.6030-C Paulin, Chapter 193 of the Laws of 2023. This law authorizes physicians and nurse practitioners to prescribe and order non-patient specific regimens to registered nurses for the administration of pregnancy tests, electrocardiogram tests to detect signs and symptoms of acute coronary syndrome, certain blood glucose tests to evaluate acute mental status changes in persons with suspected hypoglycemia, and intravenous lines and tests for persons that meet severe sepsis and septic shock criteria.

Updating the Educational Requirements for Physical Therapists

A.6696 Fahy, Chapter 594 of the Laws of 2023. This law updates the educational requirement for licensure as a physical therapist from a master's degree to a doctoral degree. The law also ensures that existing licenses and permits are not affected by such change.

Authorizing Certain Out-of-State Healthcare Workers to Temporarily Practice in NYS Pending Licensure

A.6697-B Fahy, Chapter 136 of the Laws of 2023. This law authorizes certain out-of-state physicians, licensed practical nurses, and registered nurses who were practicing in New York on May 22, 2023 pursuant to Executive Order (E.O.) four to apply to the State Education Department to temporarily practice in New York pending a determination on licensure. Under the law, eligible professionals must: file an application for licensure with SED; submit written notification and a fee to SED within three months of enactment; have the endorsement of the employing health care facility, program or practice by which he or she was employed under E.O. 4; and wait until their name is published on SED's website before such practice is authorized. Temporary authorization expires in 180 days or ten after notification that the applicant does not meet the qualifications for licenses, whichever comes first.

Amending the Authorization for Pharmacists to Administer Injections for the Treatment of

Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder

A.608 McDonald, Chapter 5 of the Laws of 2023. This law amends the provisions authorizing pharmacists to inject patients with medications for mental health and substance use disorder to ensure that such medications are approved by the Food and Drug Administration and clarify that the State Education Department be the lead regulatory agency as it pertains to such authorization.

A.6779-A McDonald, Chapter 746 of the Laws of 2023. This law expands the authorization that allows pharmacists to administer injectable medications for the treatment of mental health and substance use disorder. The law removes the restriction that a pharmacist may only administer such medication into a patient's deltoid muscle. The law also provides that a pharmacist may administer medication for the emergency treatment of anaphylaxis related to the administration of injectable medications for the treatment of mental health and substance use disorder. Additionally, the law clarifies training and prescriber notification requirements, and extends the effective date to April 1, 2024.

Clarifying Buoy's Law

A.6996 Wallace, Chapter 153 of the Laws of 2023. This law clarifies that a veterinarian is required to provide certain information to an owner solely when the veterinarian is initially dispensing or prescribing a medication to a dog, cat or rabbit for use outside of the office.

Authorizing Professionals Appointed by the New York Road Runners

A.7290 Chandler-Waterman, Chapter 157 of the Laws of 2023. This law authorizes certain health care professionals who are licensed in another state, who are in good standing in such state, and who have been appointed by the New York Road Runners, to provide professional services at the following events sanctioned by the New York Road Runners: the New York City Marathon on November 5, 2023; the Brooklyn Half Marathon on May 20, 2023; the Bronx 10 mile on September 17, 2023; the New York City Half Marathon on a date in March 2023; the Staten Island Half Marathon on October 8, 2023; and the Queens 10k on June 17, 2023.

Updating the Clinical Laboratory Technology Practice Act

A.7724 Clark, Chapter 186 of the Laws of 2023. This law expands the scope of practice for an individual with a restricted clinical laboratory license to include molecular testing. The law also ends the provision of restricted clinical laboratory licenses in molecular diagnosis as it relates to molecular genetic testing and molecular oncology.

IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Partnerships between School Districts and Colleges and Universities

October 11, 2023, 10 a.m.

Albany, NY

The Assembly Standing Committees on Higher Education and Education convened a joint hearing and received testimony exploring innovative ways colleges and universities can partner with school districts to offer students unique academic and career opportunities.

Individuals who testified at the hearing include: Dr. Jim Baldwin, Senior Deputy Commissioner for Education Policy, SED; Laura Glass, Senior Advisor for P-20 Policy, SED; Christopher Fernando, Supervisor of Higher Education Programs, SED; Johanna Duncan-Poitier, Senior Vice Chancellor for Community Colleges and the Education Pipeline, SUNY; Reine Sarmiento, Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management, CUNY; Andrea Soonachan, University Dean for K-16 Initiatives, CUNY; Robert Lowry, Deputy Director for Advocacy, Research, and Communications, New York State Council of School Superintendents; Caroline Bobick, Senior Governmental Relations Representative, New York State School Boards Association; Daryl Hornick-Becker, Director of Public Policy & Partnerships, Bard Early Colleges; Karen Tingley, Director of Education, Zoos and Aquarium, Wildlife Conservation Society; Brian Cechnicki, Executive Director, Association of School Business Officials; and Dan White, District Superintendent, Monroe-One-BOCES.

Examining the Tuition Assistance Program

November 28, 2023, 10 a.m.

Albany, NY

The Assembly Standing Committee on Higher Education and Subcommittee on the Tuition Assistance Program convened a joint hearing and received testimony on the status of TAP, including testimony regarding how TAP has improved college affordability, and how the program has helped increase enrollment and retention rates at New York State colleges and universities.

Individuals who testified at the hearing include: Dr. Guillermo Linares, President, HESC; Doris Gonzalez, Executive Vice President, HESC; Wendy Hensel, Executive Vice Chancellor & University Provost, CUNY; Reine Sarmiento, Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management, CUNY; Elaine Pimentel, University Executive Director of Financial Aid, CUNY; John B. King Jr., Chancellor, SUNY; Lola Brabham, President, Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities; Donna Stelling-Gurnett, President, Association of Private Colleges; Frederick E. Kowal, President, United University Professions; Brad Hershenson, Business Agent, CWA-GSEU Local 1104; Jalen Miller, Executive Secretary, State University of New York Student Assembly; Sean Millington, Senior Director of Policy Research, State University of New York Student Assembly; Charles Kruzansky, Associate Vice President for Government Relations; Matt Hall, Professor; Patti Donahue, President, New York State Financial Aid Administrators Association; Blair Horner, Executive Director, New York Public Interest Research Group; and, Melissa Lent, Researcher, Center for an Urban Future.

V. OUTLOOK FOR 2024

As the Committee looks ahead to the upcoming 2024 Legislative Session, many of the traditional goals relative to higher education and the professions will continue to be a priority.

Foremost among the Committee's priorities for the 2024 session will be to secure funding during the upcoming fiscal year that is sufficient to meet the needs of SUNY, CUNY and the independent sector. This is especially crucial in the wake of enrollment declines at our public university systems, a nationwide trend. We will also continue to fight for funding for access programs and promote the recognition of these highly successful educational services to assist more students in realizing their higher education aspirations. As always, the Committee will continue to focus on financial aid, including TAP, and ensure the availability of such assistance at current or enhanced levels. The Assembly Higher Education Committee is proud of this comprehensive financial aid program and will fight to continue its success in opening doors to college students throughout the state.

In 2024, the Committee will also address several important legislative issues. Among these will be measures relating to the licensed professions overseen by SED's Office of the Professions, especially initiatives aimed at preserving the integrity of the individual professions and ensuring that professional competence translates into increased public protection and safety. In addition, the Committee will continue to study the evolution of existing professions to assess the possible need for statutory changes to reflect the changing needs of consumers.

APPENDIX A

PROFESSIONS LICENSED, CERTIFIED OR AUTHORIZED BY THE BOARD OF REGENTS

Acupuncture	Mental Health Practitioners
Applied Behavior Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative Arts Therapist
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensed Behavior Analysts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marriage and Family Therapist
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certified Behavior Analyst Assistants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health Counselor
Architecture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Psychoanalyst
Athletic Training	Midwifery
Audiology	Nursing
Certified Shorthand Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registered Professional Nurse
Chiropractic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nurse Practitioner
Clinical Laboratory Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinical Nurse Specialist
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinical Laboratory Technologist 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensed Practical Nurse
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cytotechnologist 	Occupational Therapy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinical Laboratory Technician 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occupational Therapist
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certified Histotechnician 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occupational Therapy Assistant
Dentistry	Ophthalmic Dispensing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dentist 	Optometry
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dental Anesthesia/Sedation 	Perfusion
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dental Hygienist 	Pharmacy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certified Dental Assistant 	Registered Pharmacy Technician
Dietetics and Nutrition	Physical Therapy
Engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Therapist
Geology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Therapist Assistant
Interior Design	Podiatry
Land Surveying	Polysomnographic Technician
Landscape Architecture	Psychology
Massage Therapy	Public Accountancy
Medical Physics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certified Public Accountant
Medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Accountant
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physician 	Respiratory Therapy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physician Assistant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respiratory Therapist
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specialist's Assistant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respiratory Therapy Technician
Social Work	Veterinary Medicine

• Licensed Master Social Worker	• Veterinarian
• Licensed Clinical Social Worker	• Veterinary Technician
Speech-Language Pathology	

APPENDIX B

2023 SUMMARY SHEET

Summary of Action on All Bills Referred to the Committee on Higher Education

	<u>Assembly Bills</u>	<u>Senate Bills</u>	<u>Total Bills</u>
<u>Bills Reported Favorable To:</u>			
Codes	2	0	2
Judiciary	0	0	0
Ways and Means	4	0	4
Rules	14	0	14
Floor	5	0	5
<u>TOTAL:</u>	25	0	25
<u>Committee Action</u>			
Held for Consideration	3	0	3
Defeated	0	0	0
Enacting Clause Stricken	6	0	6
<u>Remaining in Committee</u>	271	39	310
<u>Bills Reference Changed:</u>			
Ways and Means	3		
Total Number of Committee Meetings Held	6		