

Average State Support for Community Colleges Increases Slightly to 29.8%

— SUNY and CUNY Seek Funding Increases for Community Colleges —

Although community colleges are supposed to receive 40% of their net operating costs from state aid, 33.3% from student tuition revenue, and 26.7% from the local sponsor, the average state support for community colleges, based on the 2005-06 budgeted net costs, was only 29.8%, a slight increase over the 2004-05 share of 29.0%. The state share at individual campuses for 2005-06 ranged from 17.4% to 37.8%.

Community colleges receive most of their state support in the form of Base Aid, which is equal to a flat dollar amount multiplied by the full-time equivalent (FTE) students. In 2003, Base Aid for community colleges was equal to \$2,300 per full-time equivalent (FTE). In 2004, Governor Pataki proposed cutting Base Aid from \$2,300 to \$2,185 per full-time equivalent (FTE), a reduction of \$115 per FTE. In the budget that the Legislature adopted in August 2004, the Legislature restored the \$115 per FTE cut in Base Aid and added an additional \$50 per FTE. Governor Pataki vetoed the \$115 per FTE restoration made by the Legislature. However, the \$50 per FTE increase was enacted, resulting in a net \$65 per FTE reduction in Base Aid from \$2,300 to \$2,235. In 2005, the Governor and the Legislature agreed to increase Base Aid from \$2,235 to \$2,350.

For 2006, both SUNY and CUNY have requested a \$250 increase in Base Aid for community colleges, from \$2,350 to \$2,600. This would require a \$40.4 million increase in state support for SUNY (based on enrollment of nearly 165,000 full-time equivalent students) and a \$17.4 million increase in state support for CUNY. The SUNY budget request also contained a proposal designed to "ensure that community colleges can meet the demand from students and host communities for graduates of nursing, allied health and other resource-intensive technical programs." This proposal would require an additional \$3.6 million in state support, which is based upon an additional \$200 per student in these programs.

SHARE OF NET OPERATING COSTS —

The average share of net operating costs from student tuition is 39.2%, with individual campuses ranging from 27.0% to 47.9%. The average share of net operating costs from the local sponsor is 31.0%, with individual campuses ranging from 15.1% to 55.6%. The following page provides the net operating cost, the state operating aid, student tuition revenue, and local sponsor revenue for each of the SUNY community colleges for 2005-06.

<i>Community Colleges 2005-06 Budget Net Costs and Revenues (in thousands)</i>					<i>Community Colleges 2005-06 Budget Revenues as a Percent of Net Cost (with rankings)</i>						
	Net Operating Cost	State Operating Aid	Student Tuition Revenue	Local Share Revenue	Net Operating Cost	State Operating Aid	Student Tuition Revenue	Local Share Revenue			
						<u>Percent</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Rank</u>
TOTAL	\$1,312,175.4	\$390,818.0	\$514,510.3	\$406,847.1	100%	29.8%	39.2%	31.0%			
Adirondack	\$ 19,008.9	\$ 5,981.4	\$ 7,924.1	\$ 5,103.4	100%	31.5%	15	41.7%	11	26.8%	19
Broome	36,689.4	11,848.4	14,719.7	10,121.3	100	32.3	9	40.1	17	27.6	17
Cayuga County	22,564.2	7,278.8	9,196.8	6,088.7	100	32.3	10	40.8	15	27.0	18
Clinton	11,836.1	3,760.0	4,994.4	3,081.7	100	31.8	13	42.2	8	26.0	22
Columbia-Greene	12,105.6	2,996.7	3,893.4	5,215.4	100	24.8	28	32.2	28	43.1	3
Corning	25,770.3	7,992.7	9,962.4	7,815.2	100	31.0	18	38.7	21	30.3	9
Dutchess	40,986.7	13,632.3	15,379.0	11,975.3	100	33.3	7	37.5	23	29.2	13
Erie	75,403.6	27,341.8	31,987.9	16,073.9	100	36.3	3	42.4	6	21.3	27
Fashion Institute	121,335.5	21,070.2	32,798.4	67,467.0	100	17.4	30	27.0	30	55.6	1
Finger Lakes	26,270.7	8,547.9	10,230.2	7,492.6	100	32.5	8	38.9	20	28.5	15
Fulton-Montgomery	13,086.1	4,035.7	5,186.0	3,864.4	100	30.8	19	39.6	19	29.5	12
Genesee	25,227.7	9,540.4	11,876.0	3,811.3	100	37.8	1	47.1	2	15.1	30
Herkimer County	19,465.7	6,685.5	8,121.5	4,658.7	100	34.3	6	41.7	10	23.9	24
Hudson Valley	60,729.7	21,278.0	25,162.5	14,289.2	100	35.0	5	41.4	13	23.5	25
Jamestown	23,783.5	7,567.3	9,871.7	6,344.5	100	31.8	12	41.5	12	26.7	20
Jefferson	18,276.0	5,873.7	8,022.6	4,379.7	100	32.1	11	43.9	5	24.0	23
Mohawk Valley	34,937.4	10,855.6	14,112.1	9,969.8	100	31.1	17	40.4	16	28.5	14
Monroe	93,993.3	34,241.7	41,779.0	17,972.6	100	36.4	2	44.4	3	19.1	29
Nassau	164,637.4	43,077.8	61,558.9	60,000.6	100	26.2	26	37.4	24	36.4	6
Niagara County	34,186.8	9,882.9	14,073.4	10,230.5	100	28.9	23	41.2	14	29.9	11
North Country	9,310.4	2,784.5	3,717.9	2,807.9	100	29.9	20	39.9	18	30.2	10
Onondaga	47,922.0	15,002.0	22,940.8	9,979.2	100	31.3	16	47.9	1	20.8	28
Orange County	39,362.3	10,478.4	13,709.8	15,174.1	100	26.6	25	34.8	27	38.5	4
Rockland	44,851.0	11,675.9	16,379.1	16,796.1	100	26.0	27	36.5	26	37.4	5
Schenectady County	18,981.3	6,828.3	8,021.9	4,131.2	100	36.0	4	42.3	7	21.8	26
Suffolk County	133,286.7	39,184.2	56,155.6	37,946.9	100	29.4	21	42.1	9	28.5	16
Sullivan County	13,117.9	3,174.0	3,892.8	6,051.2	100	24.2	29	29.7	29	46.1	2
Tompkins-Cortland	25,143.2	7,384.7	11,157.0	6,601.5	100	29.4	22	44.4	4	26.3	21
Ulster County	18,670.9	5,099.4	6,890.7	6,680.9	100	27.3	24	36.9	25	35.8	7
Westchester	81,234.9	25,718.1	30,794.7	24,722.1	100	31.7	14	37.9	22	30.4	8