

Higher Education

The Executive Proposal includes actions to provide reductions in both the current 2008-09 State Fiscal Year (SFY) and in the proposed 2009-10 budget plan for Higher Education. In 2008-09, the Executive Proposal would reduce spending by \$68 million through its Deficit Reduction Plan (DRP) (see Table 9).

Table 9

Deficit Reduction Plan Actions	
(\$ in Millions)	
	SFY
	2008-09
SUNY \$310 Semester Tuition Increase	(62)
Increase TAP Award Spending	9
\$270 SUNY Base Aid Reduction	(11)
\$270 CUNY Base Aid Reduction	(4)
Total Actions	(68)

SFY 2009-10 Executive Proposal

In SFY 2009-10, the Governor recommends \$338 million in additional reductions for Higher Education (see Table 10).

Table 10

Executive Budget Actions	
(\$ in Millions)	
	SFY
	2009-10
Increase SUNY/CUNY Tuition	(197)
Additional SUNY/CUNY Revenue Offloads	(54)
Increased Funding for TAP & NYHELP	88
TAP Reforms and Scholarship Reductions	(49)
Reduce Operating Support SUNY/CUNY	(37)
Reduce Hospital Subsidy	(24)
Reduce Base Aid SUNY/CUNY Community Colleges	(65)
Total Actions	(338)

These reductions bring State support for State-operated campuses of the State

University of New York (SUNY) to \$1.035 billion and \$1.076 billion for the Senior Colleges of the City University of New York (CUNY) in the 2009-10 Academic Year. This results in a reduction of General Fund operating support of \$132.1 million below the proposed 2008-09 Academic Year adjusted levels for SUNY. The Executive proposal reduces General Fund operating support by \$88.1 million for CUNY Senior Colleges at proposed 2008-09 Academic Year adjusted levels.

The Executive proposal includes a resident undergraduate tuition increase of \$620 (14 percent increase) for SUNY students and \$600 (15 percent increase) for CUNY students. The tuition increase for SUNY would take effect starting with the Spring 2009 semester increase of \$310, while the increase at CUNY would take effect in the Fall 2009 semester. This sets the annual tuition rate for SUNY at \$4,970 and \$4,600 for CUNY. With additional increases proposed for graduate level and out-of-state students, a total of \$164.8 million in additional tuition revenue is raised at SUNY and \$110 million at CUNY respectively. The Executive also proposes offsetting increases in tuition revenue with corresponding General Fund reductions of \$132.1 million at SUNY and \$88.1 million at CUNY. Further, the Governor authorizes the SUNY and CUNY Board of Trustees to establish a differential tuition policy by campus and degree for non-resident students.

The Executive recommends a base aid decrease for SUNY Community Colleges ranging between \$160 and \$300 from

\$2,675 per full-time equivalent (FTE) students depending on enrollment levels, with larger schools assuming a larger base aid reduction. The Executive recommends a base aid reduction for CUNY Community Colleges of \$270 per full-time equivalent (FTE) student, decreasing the level of State support from \$2,675 to \$2,405. As a result, 2009-10 State support for SUNY Community Colleges stands at \$430.3 million and at \$170.5 million for CUNY Community Colleges.

Financial Aid: Funding a postsecondary education in New York State

The Executive budget recommends \$789.1 million for the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) for the 2009-10 Academic Year. This includes an additional \$73.9 million in General Fund support for non-recurring revenues (\$31.6 million), increases due to enrollment growth (\$10.6 million), and increased costs due to public sector tuition increases (\$31.7 million). These increases are offset by \$64.9 million in reductions comprised of the following: the elimination of TAP eligibility for graduate students; increasing TAP academic eligibility standards; eliminating adjustments to TAP awards for families that have multiple students enrolled in college; including public sector pension benefits within the calculation of net taxable income for TAP purposes; pro-rating TAP awards for students enrolled in less than 15 credit hours per semester; and, eliminating students that are in default of Federal student loans from TAP eligibility.

The Executive also introduces a new New York Higher Education Loan Program (NYHELPS) to allow resident students and

their families to access higher education loans with rates that would be 10 percent less than current rates from private lenders. This program intends to provide affordable education loans during a time when a number of private banks have left the student loan business.

Updating the Infrastructure of SUNY and CUNY

The Executive proposal continues the planned 5-year critical maintenance investment of \$2.75 billion at SUNY and \$1.42 billion at CUNY enacted in 2008-09. In 2009-10 the Executive appropriates \$550 million for critical maintenance projects at SUNY State-operated campuses and \$284 million for projects at CUNY Senior College campuses. An additional \$42 million is provided for projects at SUNY Community Colleges.

Maintaining Opportunity in Postsecondary Education for All New Yorkers

The Assembly has made opportunity programs that increase access the cornerstone of its higher education policy. The Executive budget maintains funding for most opportunity programs however, the Executive recommends a 50 percent reduction for the College Science Technology Entry Program (CSTEP) lowering State support for the program by \$4.0 million from prior year levels.