



The University of the State of New York The State Education Department



2008-2009 Budget Priorities

Office of Higher Education and the Office
of the Professions

Joint Legislative Fiscal Committees
Hearing on the State Budget

January 30, 2008

Return on the State's Higher Education Investment

- **Crafted the Statewide Plan for Higher Education** in partnership with all 4 higher education sectors – provided the blueprint for many of the Commission on Higher Education's recommendations on access, affordability, research, quality and efficiency
- **Strengthened the proprietary sector** – closed poor performing schools and through rigorous oversight, strengthened other institutions (Regents were recognized nationally for these actions)
- **Strengthened school leadership programs** in NY to ensure that school leaders have the knowledge and skills to support school improvement and student success. This work continues with Wallace Foundation
- **Focused on student safety** – the Office of School Personnel Review and Accountability (OSPRA) keeps individuals with criminal histories out of schools and away from students
- **Ensuring all students have appropriately certified teachers** – eliminated use of uncertified teachers, now the focus has shifted to making sure all teachers are appropriately certified for the subjects they teach



College Transfer Fair sponsored by the NYSED for students of Taylor Business Institute (2006)

Improve Performance of the P-16 Education System

- Raise overall performance to sustain the state's economy in the face of global competition.
- Close the divide in academic achievement along the lines of income, race and ethnicity, language and disability in elementary, middle, secondary and continuing education; and
- Promote access, affordability, and excellence in postsecondary education.

Achievement is Up and Gaps are Narrowing – but Not Enough.
To raise performance even more, need to address challenges from a whole systems perspective: PreK through Postsecondary (P-16)

Regents Budget Priorities

1. Improve achievement for students in greatest need.
2. Reduce and then eliminate the inequitable distribution of teaching talent.
3. Implement year 2 of P-16 accountability.
4. Improve student achievement by increasing access to museums, cultural institutions, online information and libraries.
5. Enable more disabled persons to live and work independently.
6. Strengthen student safety.

Higher Education Benefits New York

To be globally competitive, more New Yorkers need a college degree:

- ✓ By 2014, number of jobs in NY requiring a four-year college degree will grow by 12% compared to only 5% growth in NY jobs requiring no post high school education (NYSDOL).
- ✓ By 2020, there won't be enough qualified Americans to fill 14 million of the most skilled, highest paying jobs.

To lead a productive life, a college degree helps:

- ✓ A person with only a high school diploma is almost twice as likely to be unemployed as a four-year college graduate.
- ✓ Four-year college graduates are more likely to vote, volunteer in their communities, and report being in good health.

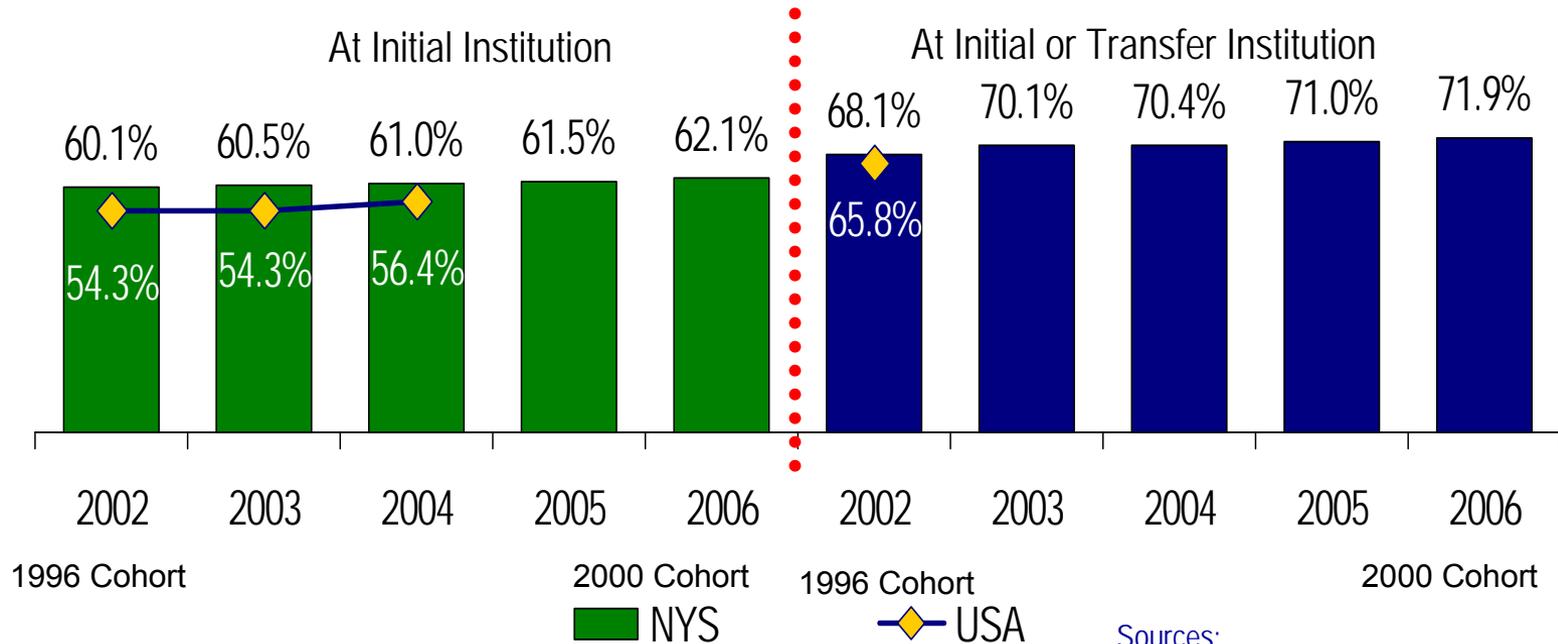
The Regents P-16 Action Plan , the Statewide Plan for Higher Education and the report of the Commission on Higher Education – taken together – present an emerging consensus on the direction for higher education in the Empire State and on the strategies to achieve it.

New York State has an unique and historic opportunity before us.

High quality, competitive system ◆ Accessible and affordable

New York's Investment in Higher Education Yields Increased Success

Six-Year Baccalaureate Program Graduation Rate:
Percent of Full-time, First-time Entrants Earning Baccalaureate Degrees



Sources:

NYSED, Office of Research and Information Systems, HEDS surveys. National data from NCES IPEDS and Longitudinal surveys.

- ✓ Graduation rates in New York are on the rise.
- ✓ 72% of first-time, full-time students in NYS earn a Bachelor's degree in 6 years.

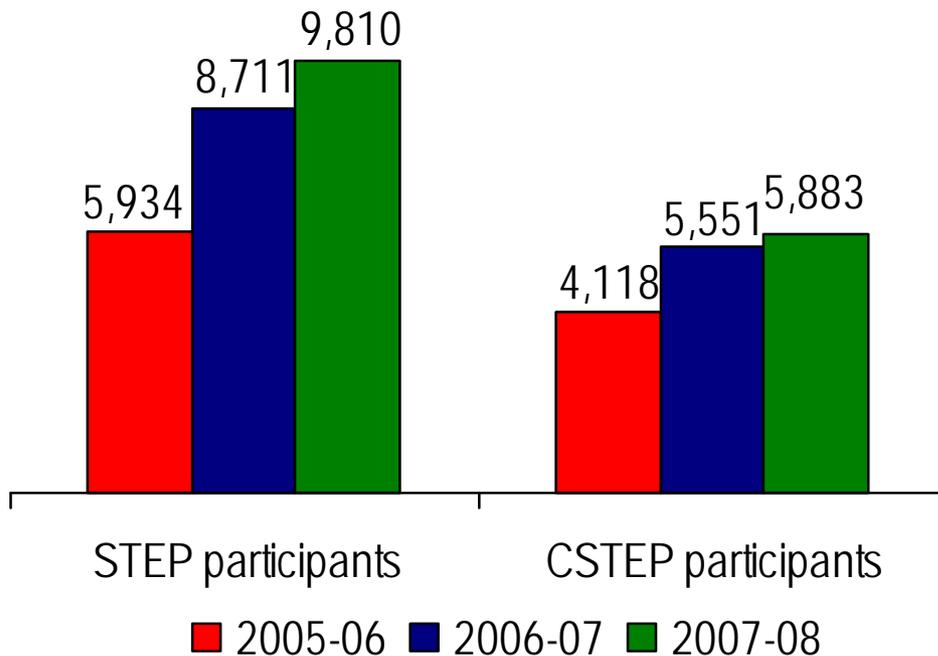
Continue to build on this record of success.

New York's Investment in Higher Education Yields Greater Access

- Science and Technology Entry Program (STEP)
- Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP)

New York's investment over the last two years has resulted in **5,641 more students** participating in STEP and CSTEP since 2005-06.

Continue to build on this record of success.



Request: Increase of \$2.5 million for

STEP

- More students enrolling in college and majoring in math, science and technology
- Enhanced services
- More staff – certified and better qualified

CSTEP

- More students enrolling in graduate study and entering math, science and technology workforce
- Additional internships and mentoring opportunities
- More staff – certified and better qualified

New York's Investment in Higher Education Yields Greater Access

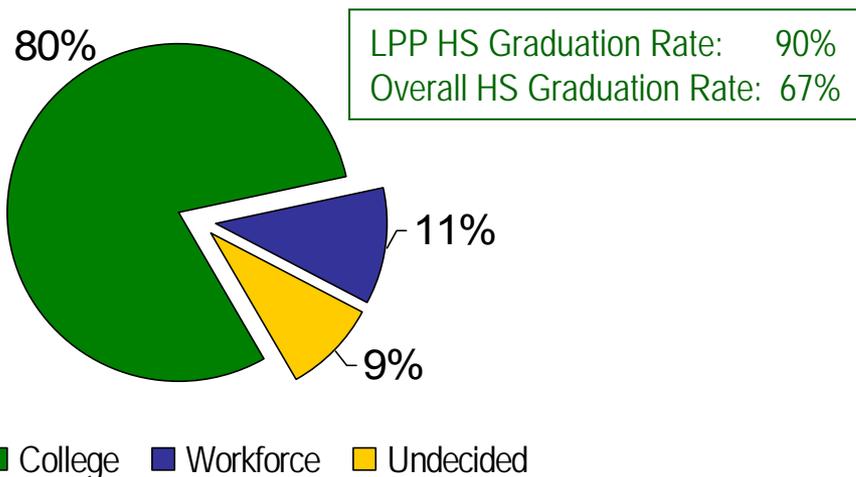
Liberty Partnerships Program offers comprehensive pre-collegiate/dropout prevention programs to students enrolled in grades 5-12 to improve their ability to graduate from high school and enter postsecondary education and the workforce.

Restore: Proposed cut of \$538,000; Cut would mean:

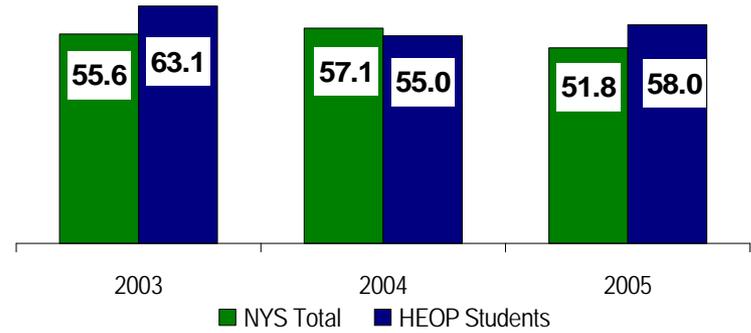
- ✓ Fewer services to students already in the program
- ✓ Increase in dropout rates among LPP students
- ✓ Reduction in graduation rates among LPP

Request: Increase of \$5.6 million

Reported Plans of LPP Graduates



Five-Year Baccalaureate Degree Graduation Rates - NYS vs. HEOP



Arthur O. Eve Higher Education Opportunity Program

offers financial assistance, supplemental instruction, internships and counseling to students who might not otherwise pursue postsecondary education.

Restore: Proposed cut of \$1.04 million

Cut would mean:

- ✓ Loss of financial assistance for some HEOP students
- ✓ Fewer colleges may offer HEOP programs as they will not be able to make up the loss of State funding.

Request: Increase of \$4.5 million

Smart Scholars Program

Too many young people in New York don't dare to dream about getting a college diploma . . .

- When just completing high school is a struggle
- When the cost of attending college is out of the reach of their families
- When 4 to 6 years to complete a degree is too long to delay entry into the workforce

Smart Scholars Program

Each year, at least **12,000 students** who are at risk of not completing high school would receive additional academic support beginning as early as 9th grade and enable 11th and 12th graders to take early college courses so that they can graduate from high school and start college as second-year students with 30 college credits.

Benefits

- ✓ Encourage educationally at risk students to graduate from high school.
- ✓ More students will enter college not needing remedial courses.
- ✓ Students enter college with rigorous collegiate courses that are accepted by colleges.
- ✓ Baccalaureate degrees can be achieved in 3 years, making a college education more affordable for more students.

Request: \$100 million annually

Why this Will Work

- ✓ New York has a rich history of collegiate involvement in our P-12 schools
- ✓ Experience of State's opportunity programs shows that with appropriate support, students will succeed
- ✓ Similar to Early College High Schools, funded by Gates Foundation, 130 programs around the country



Strengthen Student Safety

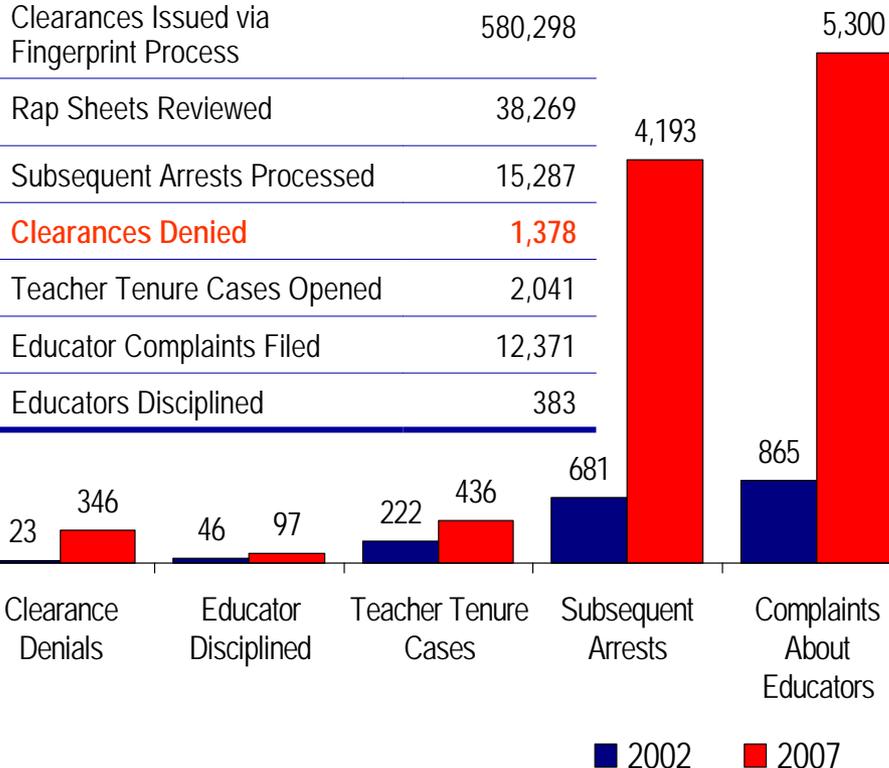
Office of School Personnel Review and Accountability (OSPRA):

- ✓ Conducts fingerprint background checks for school employees
- ✓ Investigates criminal backgrounds
- ✓ Issues or denies clearances for employment in schools
- ✓ Investigates subsequent arrests
- ✓ Manages educator discipline process

OSPRA

(since 2001 SAVE legislation)

Clearances Issued via Fingerprint Process	580,298
Rap Sheets Reviewed	38,269
Subsequent Arrests Processed	15,287
Clearances Denied	1,378
Teacher Tenure Cases Opened	2,041
Educator Complaints Filed	12,371
Educators Disciplined	383

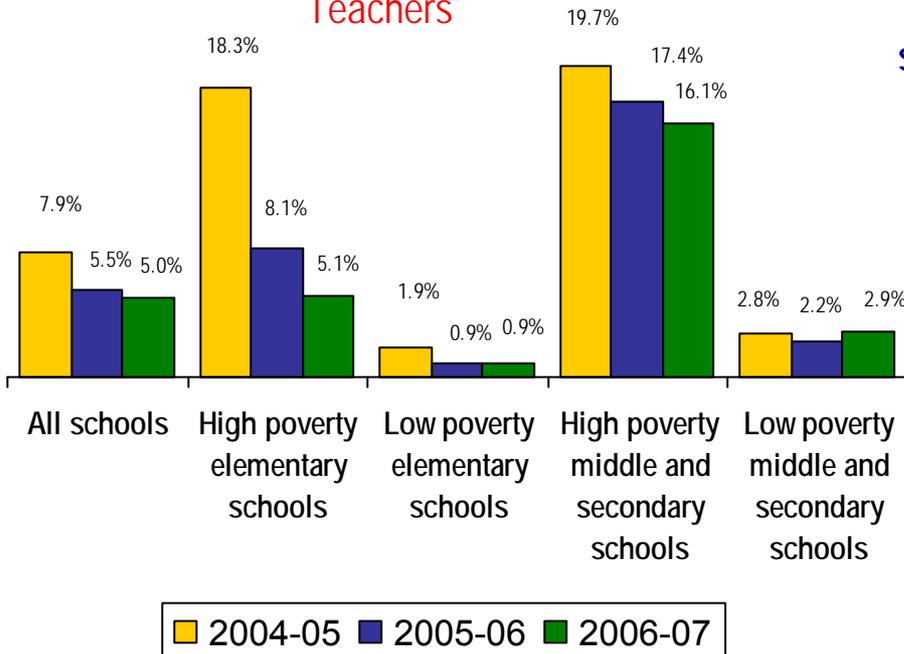


- **Restore:** Proposed cut of 50% in OSPRA's fingerprinting budget (\$500,000). Cut would mean:
 - ✓ Employment clearances will take longer
 - ✓ District vacancies filled through emergency appointments could include individuals with criminal histories
- **New LiveScan** fingerprinting system will alleviate some fingerprint processing backlog, but will increase volume of individuals in the system and the number of investigations that need to be conducted. In 2007, OSPRA handled over 13,000 investigative files. This number will continue to increase.
- **Request:** Increase of \$1.45 million to enhance OSPRA operations and provide ethics curriculum and training to educators.
- **Request:** Authorization to automatically suspend and subsequently revoke certification of an educator convicted of an offense subject to registration under the Sex Offender Registration Act.

Every Student Deserves/Needs Qualified Teachers

- Quality classroom teaching is a key factor in determining the academic success of all students
- Persistent shortages (e.g., special education, bilingual, math, career and technical, languages other than English, library and school media, ESOL) exist
- Highest teacher turnover in high-poverty, high-need schools
- Over 14,400 NYS teachers without appropriate certification – mostly in urban, high-need schools
- Not enough new teachers to fill vacancies in all subjects

NYS: Percent of Classes in Core Academic Subjects Not Taught by Highly Qualified Teachers



Request: \$6.84 million in Year 1
\$25.0 million over 3 Years

To fund 8 pilot projects to prepare 1,000 new teachers in shortage subjects for high need schools within 3 years



- ✓ 1,000 new teachers in classrooms of high need schools within 3 years
- ✓ Expanded proven alternative preparation programs
- ✓ Attractive route for career-changers and other non-traditional teacher candidates
- ✓ Improved teacher retention through strong induction support, mentoring, and ongoing development

Protect Taxpayers' Investments in Higher Education

Over \$5.6 billion in federal, private and institutional loans awarded in NY annually

Abuses uncovered by Attorney General Cuomo show that:

- ✓ Students and parents are not provided clear and accurate information in order to make the best financial decisions
 - ✓ Students are not getting the best financial loan packages, driving up their costs by thousands of dollars over the life of their loans
-

- In 2007, law was enacted regulating the student loan industry in NY – Student Lending, Accountability, Transparency and Enforcement Act (SLATE) – to protect students and families from unscrupulous lending practices.
- SED authorized to enforce comprehensive regulatory requirements. No appropriation was provided.
- Executive Budget proposal authorizes the Department to spend up to \$1.2 million to carry-out this mandate through a Memorandum of Agreement with the Attorney General.
- As we negotiate this agreement, the Regents request \$1.0 million to begin implementation. Staff are needed to investigate complaints, adjudicate violations and provide ongoing training to college personnel on how to comply with the law.

Full implementation of SLATE will protect over 1.3 million students attending 269 colleges and 450 non-degree granting proprietary schools and their parents.

Planting the Seed

A collaborative program to inspire, encourage, and guide students to pursue careers in teaching and the licensed professions.



Request: \$1.0 million annually to . . .

- Develop a comprehensive website for students, counselors, parents and teachers about career options, educational requirements, and links to colleges and financial aid information.
- Mentor at-risk students by licensed professionals from diverse ethnic, cultural and occupational backgrounds.
- Coordinate grassroots efforts to engage and inform students about potential careers and pathways.



Benefits

- Help students make the connection between school and careers
- Improve student achievement for those in greatest need
- Increase diversity in the professions and teaching
- Address workforce shortages in underserved areas

Protecting the Public from Illegal Practice

- SED was given authority, but no dedicated funding, to civilly prosecute unlicensed practitioners.
- In order to address the threat to the public posed by unlicensed practitioners, the Regents have adopted rules to implement this law.
- However, additional staff solely dedicated to investigating, prosecuting, monitoring, and adjudicating illegal practice cases are needed.
- Professional associations representing over 700,000 licensees support a \$3.33 annual surcharge for this purpose.
- **Request:** Authorization to implement surcharge; No new State monies.



Who is behind the mask?



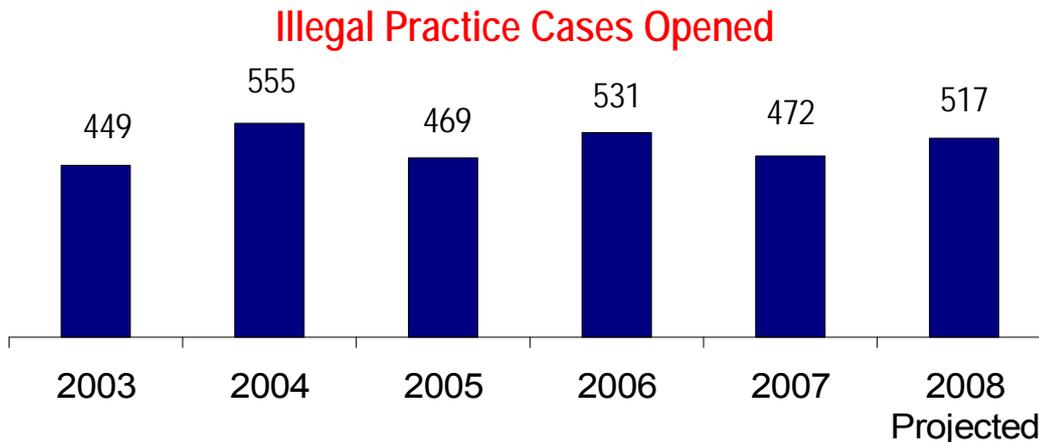
Who advised you?



Who designed these?



Are these *Safe*?



SED opens approximately 500 cases each year based on complaints of illegal practice.

Prevent Diminished Standards for Clinical Lab Practitioners

- 2004: To ensure public protection, the Legislature established 3 new licensed professions in the field of clinical laboratory technology, licensed by SED
- 16,000 individuals have met appropriate education and examination standards and have been licensed in accordance with the law.
- The Executive Budget proposal to establish a separate DOH certification program for “clinical laboratory specialists” may enable unlicensed individuals to practice without the same rigorous standards and disciplinary accountability established in law for Clinical Laboratory Technology.
- Legislature has determined licensure is necessary for public protection.

Creation of an alternate standard for practice would undermine current law.

