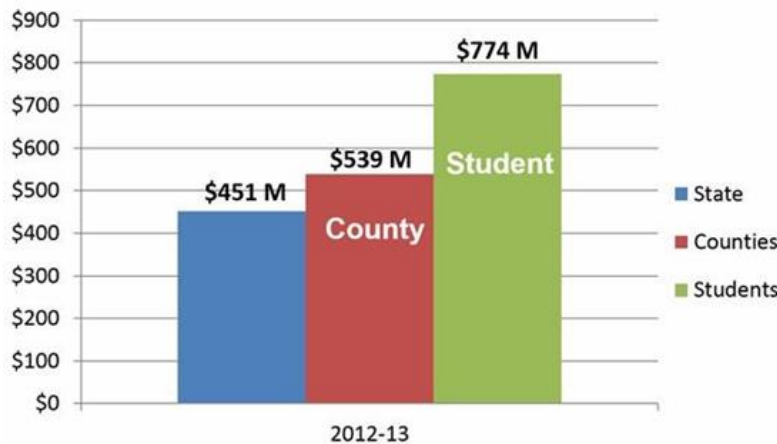


Community Colleges

In New York State, 42 counties directly sponsor community colleges in either the City University of New York (CUNY) or State University of New York (SUNY) systems.

Community colleges in New York State are funded through a three-way partnership: the state, the student, and the sponsor county. Traditionally, this was intended to be an equal partnership. That funding formula has shifted considerably since the 1970s. Today's students fund 43 percent of community college operations while the state picks up less than 25 percent of those costs.



1. Support community colleges as pathways to higher education and skilled jobs

Support an increase of \$285.00 per full time equivalent (FTE) for community colleges in the 2016-17 State Budget.

By keeping FTE aid flat, the proposed Executive Budget represents an actual year-to-year decrease in state support of \$20.6 million (-4.3%), with 28 of the 30 colleges losing direct state support in the new academic year. With the drop in community college enrollment, "level funding per FTE" (at \$2,597 per FTE) is actually 2.92% below 2007-08 funding levels per student.

Community colleges had requested an increase of \$250 per FTE, an amount that would have been a projected year-to-year increase of \$22.7 million (+4.8%), with 24 colleges increasing direct state support by an average of \$1.0 M and six losing direct state support at an average of \$69K.

The request of \$285 per FTE would result in a year-to-year increase of approximately \$29 million, and match the historic 6.2 percent level. This will position community colleges to more effectively respond to the complex and substantial needs of current and future students.