The State University of New York (SUNY), the nation’s largest comprehensive university system, SUNY was established in 1948 out of a commitment to opportunity and access, and designed to meet diverse needs across a vast geographic landscape. Since its founding, the SUNY system has evolved to meet the changing needs of New York’s students, communities, and workforce. SUNY initially represented a consolidation of 29 unaffiliated institutions. All of these colleges, with their unique histories and backgrounds, united for a common goal: To serve New York State.

Today, the system includes 64 schools, a mix of 29 state-operated campuses and five statutory colleges— including research universities, liberal arts colleges, specialized and technical colleges, health science centers, land-grant colleges—and 30 community colleges. These institutions offer programs as varied as ceramics engineering, philosophy, fashion design, optometry, maritime studies, law, medical education, and everything in between. The University also operates hospitals and numerous research institutes.

SUNY is embedded in virtually every community in New York State. Remarkably, 93 percent of New Yorkers live within 15 miles of a SUNY campus, and nearly 100 percent live within 30 miles. In many communities, SUNY is also the region’s largest employer. While SUNY students are predominantly New York State residents, hailing from every one of the state’s 62 counties, the University also draws students from every other state in the United States, the District of Columbia, four U.S. territories, and 160 nations from around the world. One out of three New York State high school graduates choose SUNY, and the total enrollment of nearly 445,000 full-time and part-time students represents 37 percent of New York State’s higher education student population. SUNY also employs 88,000 faculty and staff and counts more than 3 million living alumni, residing in New York State and throughout the world.

Serving nearly 1.3 million students, including nearly 600,000 in credit-bearing courses and programs, and more than 700,000 through continuing education and community outreach programs, SUNY attracts the best and brightest scholars, scientists, artists, and professionals and boasts nationally and internationally recognized faculty in all major disciplines. Faculty are regular recipients of prestigious awards and honors.

The State University is governed by a Board of Trustees, appointed by the Governor, which directly determines the policies to be followed by the 34 State-supported campuses. Community colleges have their own local boards of trustees whose relationship to the SUNY board is defined by law. The state contributes one-third to 40 percent of their operating cost of one-half of their capital costs.

The State University motto: “To learn, to search, to serve.”

University Centers and Doctoral Degree Granting Institutions (1)

- University at Albany
- New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University
- Binghamton University
- University at Buffalo
- New York State College of Agriculture and Life Science at Cornell University
- New York State College of Human Ecology at Cornell University
- New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell University
- New York State College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University
- SUNY Downstate Medical Center
- SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
- SUNY College of Optometry
- SUNY Polytechnic Institute
- Stony Brook University
- Upstate Medical University

University Colleges (1)

- Buffalo State College
- Purchase College
- State University College at Brockport
- State University College at Cortland
- State University of New York Empire State College
- State University College at Fredonia
- State University College at Geneseo
- State University College at New Paltz
- State University College at Old Westbury
- State University College at Oneonta
- State University College at Oswego
- State University College at Plattsburgh
- State University College at Potsdam

Colleges of Technology (1)

- Alfred State College
- State University of New York at Canton
- State University of New York College of Agriculture and Technology at Cobleskill
- State University of New York College of Technology at Delhi
- Farmingdale State College
- Maritime State College
- Morrisville State College

Community Colleges (2)

- SUNY Adirondack
- SUNY Broome
- Cayuga Community College
- Clinton Community College
- Columbia-Greene Community College
- Corning Community College
- Dutchess Community College
- Erie Community College
- Fashion Institute of Technology
- Finger Lakes Community College
- Fulton-Montgomery Community College
- Genesee Community College
- Herkimer County Community College
- Hudson Valley Community College
- Jamestown Community College
- Jefferson Community College
- Mohawk Valley Community College
- Monroe Community College
- Nassau Community College
- Niagara County Community College
- North Country Community College
- Onondaga Community College
- Orange County Community College
- Rockland Community College
- Schenectady County Community College
- Suffolk County Community College
- Sullivan County Community College
- Tompkins Cortland Community College
- SUNY Ulster
- Westchester Community College
Although the format State University College reflects the formal action of the SUNY Trustees taken from enabling resolutions, it is also acceptable to use State University of New York College at...

SUNY Trustees’ code of standards for community colleges provides that when possible and desirable the designation of its sponsorship or service area shall be incorporated into the name of a community college.

Accurate as of July 2019

State University of New York Central Administrative Office: Albany, NY 12246

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