



## Report as of February 3, 2019

- Commissioner MaryEllen Elia announced this past week that the New York State Education Department is accepting applications for the 2019 Summer Food Service Program. Eligible programs include public or nonpublic nonprofit school food authorities; all local, county, municipal, or state governmental entities; Indian tribal territories, migrant programs; nonprofit agencies; faith-based organizations and camps interested and eligible in sponsoring a Summer Food Service Program.

### **[www.nysed.gov/news/2019/education-department-now-accepting-applications-summer-food-service-program-sites](http://www.nysed.gov/news/2019/education-department-now-accepting-applications-summer-food-service-program-sites)**

- The State Education Department released graduation rates for the 2014 cohort, those students who first entered 9th grade in New York's public schools in 2014. The overall graduation rate increased slightly to 80.4 percent, up 0.2 percentage points from 80.2 percent for the 2013 cohort. The 2014 cohort graduation rate is 9.5 percentage points higher than it was a decade earlier, when the 2004 cohort graduation rate was 70.9 percent.

- Last week, NYSED announced district and school accountability determinations as required by ESSA. NYSED identified 106 school districts as Target Districts, 245 schools for Comprehensive Support and Improvement and 125 schools for Targeted Support and Improvement. In addition, NYSED identified 26 schools to be newly placed into receivership and 37 schools to be removed from receivership at the end of the 2018-19 school year, including two schools scheduled to close. This will leave 43 schools in receivership at the end of the 2018-19 school year.

New York's ESSA plan is designed to improve equity in student outcomes by identifying the schools and districts that need additional support. With these new school accountability determinations, a community engagement process is started to develop and implement evidence-based strategies to increase student achievement in our neediest schools so all students in New York State have access to a high-quality education.

New York State undertook a substantial and comprehensive public engagement process to develop the school accountability indicators contained in the state's ESSA plan. To support these efforts, NYSED established an ESSA Think Tank with representatives from more than 100 organizations, including district leaders, teachers, parents, community members and students, and consulted with national education experts to determine accountability indicators for New York's public schools.

For the first time this year, based on data for the 2017-18 school year, every district, public school and charter school earns a score of 1 to 4, where 1 is the lowest and 4 is the highest, for each ESSA accountability indicator.

Accountability indicators include:

- student achievement in English language arts, mathematics, science and social studies;
- student growth in language arts and math;
- 4-, 5-, and 6-year graduation rates;
- student readiness for college, career, and participation in civic life;
- acquisition of English proficiency by English language learners; and
- chronic absenteeism.

- Preliminary budget runs have been released. As of now, approximately \$338 Million for foundation aid. Commissioner Elia and Chancellor Rosa feel that it falls short of what is needed for equity across the districts and have expressed their concern to the Governor.

Executive School Aid Runs available at this link:

<https://www.budget.ny.gov/pubs/archive/fy20/exec/local/school/1920schoolruns.pdf>

#### Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH)

The New York State Pathways in Technology (NYS P-TECH) program is a public-private partnership that will prepare thousands of academically and/or economically at-risk New York students for high-skills jobs of the future in technology, manufacturing, healthcare and finance. This program incorporates a six-year integrated model that provides students with a high school diploma, work-based learning, and a cost-free two-year college degree aligned with their pathways of study. Mostly state funded (\$11.6 Million) with a small percentage of federal funding (\$2.4 Million) with a proposed increase of \$5 Million from the State.

#### Smart Scholars Early College High School Program

Through the Smart Scholars Early College High School Program, institutions of higher education (IHEs) partner with public school districts to create early college high schools that provide students with the opportunity and preparation to accelerate the completion of their high school studies while earning college credits at the same time. This program is targeted to students who are traditionally underrepresented in postsecondary education. State funded with a current budget of \$4.95 million and with a proposed increase of \$4 million.