

June 2016

Equity and Excellence Initiatives:

Mayor Proposes Added Funding for Three Programs

In the Mayor’s preliminary budget plan earlier this year, several education programs were introduced to support the Mayor’s previously announced agenda of Equity and Excellence in education.¹ The executive budget doubles the financial commitment being made to one of the items in that agenda—College Access for All—and adds additional funding for two other components: Algebra for All and Computer Science for All. To support these three initiatives, the budget adds funds to both the Department of Education (DOE) and City University of New York (CUNY).

The College Access for All initiative is intended to both nurture college awareness and preparation at high schools and to provide college visits for all middle school students. The program also intends to give high school students access to individually tailored assistance that will support them through the college admissions process. These supports include things such as mentorship, guidance, test preparation, and other planning tools as well as financial planning. The executive budget adds a total of almost \$10 million in city funds to the CUNY and DOE budgets for fiscal year 2017 on top of about \$10 million that was baselined

in the preliminary budget for college access. (Unless otherwise noted, all years refer to city fiscal years.)

The executive budget adds \$1.4 million next year for CUNY on top of the \$1.2 million allocated in the preliminary budget to expand the existing Lessons in Navigating College Transition (LINCT) program. LINCT is a school-based program providing college access and transition support for high school seniors who are on track to graduate but not quite fully college ready. In 2017, LINCT will be available in 100 schools serving 5,000 students and will increase to 491 schools serving 25,000 students by 2020.

The executive budget also adds \$8.2 million of DOE funding to the \$8.8 million allocated in the preliminary budget for College Access for All in 2017. These funds will be distributed through allocations to schools and through the use of community-based organizations that have expertise in student support. Combined CUNY and DOE support for the college access initiative is expected to total more than \$49 million in 2020.

College Access for All					
<i>Dollars in thousands</i>					
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
CUNY: Preliminary Budget	\$170	\$1,202	\$2,391	\$3,404	\$3,412
CUNY: Executive Budget	0	1,408	2,324	3,381	4,315
Total CUNY Support	\$170	\$2,610	\$4,715	\$6,785	\$7,727
DOE: Preliminary Budget	\$761	\$8,786	\$13,680	\$19,962	\$19,962
DOE: Executive Budget	0	8,206	14,859	20,649	21,632
Total DOE Support	\$761	\$16,992	\$28,539	\$40,611	\$41,594
All Preliminary Budget	\$930	\$9,988	\$16,071	\$23,366	\$23,374
All Executive Budget	0	9,614	17,183	24,030	25,947
Combined CUNY/DOE Support	\$930	\$19,602	\$33,254	\$47,396	\$49,321

SOURCES: Mayor’s preliminary and executive budgets for fiscal year 2017
NOTE: Numbers may not sum due to rounding.

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Algebra for All					
<i>Dollars in thousands</i>					
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
CUNY: Preliminary Budget	0	\$538	\$538	\$1,521	\$1,815
CUNY: Executive Budget	0	924	2,288	4,224	5,898
Total CUNY Support	0	\$1,462	\$2,826	\$5,745	\$7,713
DOE: Preliminary Budget	\$800	\$20,751	\$27,855	\$23,776	\$22,576
DOE: Executive Budget	0	1,693	(1,984)	3,327	4,536
Total DOE Support	\$800	\$22,444	\$25,871	\$27,103	\$27,112
All Preliminary Budget	\$800	\$21,289	\$28,393	\$25,297	\$24,391
All Executive Budget	0	2,617	304	7,551	10,434
Combined CUNY/DOE Support	\$800	\$23,906	\$28,697	\$32,848	\$34,825
SOURCES: Mayor's preliminary and executive budgets for fiscal year 2017					
NOTE: Numbers may not sum due to rounding.					
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The Algebra for All initiative will receive a total of \$23.9 million of city funding in the upcoming fiscal year from the combined budgets of CUNY and the Department of Education. The lion's share of the new DOE funding (\$21 million) was added as part of the preliminary budget. In the executive budget the allocation for 2017 was increased by \$1.7 million by shifting some of the funding originally planned for 2018, in order to have sufficient funding for fringe benefits and collective bargaining needs. (Another \$300,000 was deferred until 2019.)

The preliminary budget had added about \$540,000 a year to CUNY's budget plan for 2017 and 2018 to support the certification of teachers who are currently already working at the DOE. CUNY will cover the cost of tuition and fees. To earn the certificate, teachers must complete 30 credit hours in math, 6 hours in pedagogy, and 3 hours in literacy support. CUNY received another \$924,000 in funding in the executive budget for fiscal year 2017, to pay for the use of its college students as both DOE tutors and teaching assistants under a program known as the Tutor Corps. Placements of CUNY college students in DOE classes through Tutor Corps can also provide coverage for regular DOE classroom teachers as they receive training to improve math instruction. Next year, the de Blasio Administration

expects to serve 1,500 students under Algebra for All, growing to more than 16,000 students served by 2020. In 2020, total city spending on Algebra for All from both the CUNY and DOE budgets will reach almost \$35 million.

Similar to Algebra for All, the Computer Science for All initiative will also make use of the CUNY Tutor Corps to place computer science teaching assistants and tutors in DOE classrooms. This public-private partnership was funded as part of the 2016 budget adoption last spring with implementation starting in the fall of 2015. When the budget was adopted last June, \$2.9 million in city funds was also budgeted for spending in 2017, rising to \$3.8 million in 2019. A total of \$80 million will be spent over 10 years to bring computer science education to all New York City students and will be based on a city allocation of \$40 million, which will be matched dollar for dollar by private investors such as the New York City Foundation for Computer Science Education, the AOL Charitable Foundation, and the Robin Hood Foundation.

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Endnote

¹[Preliminary Budget Directs Over \\$76 Million in 2017 to Enhancing Educational Program Offerings](#)

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