



## The City University of New York

### 2008-2009 State Budget Priorities – Operating Budget

#### Senior College Budget

The University's FY 2008-2009 Budget Request for the senior colleges sought \$21.4 million in increased State operating support, and \$33.2 million in revenues from a tuition increase, for a total of \$54.5 million to finance the University's Master Plan investment program. In his State of the State address, Governor Spitzer spoke of the need for investment in higher education. However, there was no investment recommended in the State Executive Budget for FY 2008-2009.

The Governor has, however, proposed a methodology to create a Higher Education Endowment, which, if enacted by the legislature, will support the investment needs of the CUNY Compact, the vehicle that the University utilizes to finance investment in Master Plan initiatives. The Governor's plan requires the support of the legislature, and it would not become operational for at least one year.

#### Treatment in the Executive Budget

The State Executive Budget does not provide funding to invest in senior college Master Plan initiatives, nor does it provide authorization for a tuition increase. The Executive Budget contains a \$16.7 million reduction in State support. Thus, the University faces a gap of \$71.2 million.

*Proposal: Restore the \$16.7 million reduction to base budget and increase funding by an additional \$54.5 million for investment through the CUNY Compact.*

***Change over Executive Budget = \$71.2 million***

#### Community College Budget

The University's FY 2008-2009 Budget Request for the community colleges sought base aid funding of \$2,875 per full-time equivalent (FTE), an increase of \$200 per FTE. This increase would provide \$14.6 million to invest in Master Plan initiatives.

#### Treatment in the Executive Budget

The State Executive Budget recommends a decrease of \$50 per FTE (\$2,625) for the community colleges, resulting in a \$3.1 million reduction in support.

*Proposal: Restore the \$50 per FTE reduction in base aid (\$3.1 million) and increase funding by an additional \$200 per FTE (\$14.6 million) to fund the investment program.*

***Change over Executive Budget = \$17.7 million***