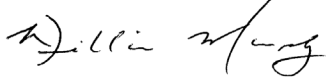





TO: Higher Education Committee

FROM: William P. Murphy 

SUBJECT: The Bulletin of The Statewide Plan for Higher Education, 2026-2034

DATE: May 3, 2024

AUTHORIZATION(S): 

SUMMARY

Issue for Action

Should the Board of Regents approve *The Bulletin of the Statewide Plan for Higher Education, 2026-2034*, for distribution to all higher education institutions?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Required by State Statute.

Proposed Handling

This matter will be submitted to the Higher Education Committee for recommendation and to the Full Board for action at its May 2024 meeting. A copy of *The Bulletin of the Statewide Plan for Higher Education, 2026-2034*, (Attachment A) is attached.

Procedural History

Not applicable.

Background Information

In January 2024, the Department presented a proposed timeline, activities, and five topics of focus for developing *The Statewide Plan for Higher Education, 2026-2034* ("The Statewide Plan") to the Higher Education Committee. Education Law §237 requires that the Board of Regents submit a plan for the development of higher education in the State, or a "Statewide Plan," to the Governor and Legislature for Governor approval. The Statewide Plan, is projected to be completed for submission to the Governor and Legislature by September 2026. A copy of the tentative timeline of the statewide planning process (Attachment B) is attached.

Higher Education Sector Master Plans

The Statewide Plan includes information from master plans submitted to the Department from the four higher education sectors (SUNY, CUNY, independent, and proprietary colleges and universities). Master plans will be due to the Department on April 29, 2025.

Pursuant to Education Law §237(1), master planning for higher education in New York State should:

- Define and differentiate the missions and objectives of higher education and the institutions of higher education.
- Identify the needs, problems, societal conditions, and interest of the citizens of the State of New York to which programs of higher education may most appropriately be addressed.
- Develop programs to meet the needs, solve the problems, and respond to the public's needs by setting goals, describing the time required to meet those goals, identifying the resources needed to achieve the goals, and establishing priorities.
- Include sufficient detail to allow planners, stakeholders, and citizens themselves to evaluate the needs, objectives, program proposals, priorities, costs, and results of higher education.
- Optimize the use of resources and evaluate program effectiveness.

Specifically, each sector's master plan will address the following foundational topics based on Education Law §§354(1) and 6206(3)(a):

- Plans for new curricula;
- Plans for new facilities;
- Plans for changes in student admission policies;
- Projected student enrollment;
- A description of the sector's relationship to other colleges and universities, public, independent, and proprietary, within the State; and
- Projection standards and overall expenditure projections of capital and operating costs (for informational purposes only).

While the sectors are developing their master plans, the Department will collect and analyze data regarding institutions of higher education and their students.

Regents Topics of Focus in The Statewide Plan

In past Statewide Plans, the Board of Regents included topics that sectors would address in their master plans. After reviewing the topics from past plans, reflecting on Regents and Department priorities, and considering concerns from the field, the Department presented the following five topics of focus for the sectors to consider in their 2026-2034 master plans:

- Engaging in collaborative, mutually beneficial partnerships with the P-12 community to strengthen the P-20 system.
- Ensuring equity, diversity, and inclusion in the P-20 system, including students in educator and licensed professional career tracks.
- Improving accessibility, student support services, and academic outcomes for students in higher education.
- Preparing students for the current and future needs of communities, society, and the workforce.
- Transforming operations, structures, and programs in response to the evolving higher education landscape, student profiles, and demographics.

Advisory Council on Higher Education

During the statewide planning process, an Advisory Council on Higher Education will provide feedback on drafts of the plan to the Board of Regents and the Department. Members of the Advisory Council include the SUNY Chancellor, CUNY Chancellor, and a representative from the Commission of Independent Colleges and Universities (CICU) per §237(7). Following past practice, the Advisory Council will also include a representative from the Association of Private Colleges (APC) as well as proprietary colleges. Each of these Advisory Council members nominated three additional members from their sectors who represent a broad cross-section of faculty, student, and administrative roles and initiatives, and the state's regional and demographic diversity.

Stakeholder entities across the P-20 continuum such as BOCES, faculty unions, the Business Council of NYS, the Tri-State Opportunity Programs Consortium, and other workforce and educational groups, have also nominated members of their organizations to participate on the Advisory Council. A copy of Advisory Council members (Attachment C) is attached.

Proposed Bulletin of the Statewide Plan for Higher Education

The Bulletin of the Statewide Plan for Higher Education provides:

- Background information on The Statewide Plan;
- The topics of focus on which the Board asks institutions to address within their individual missions, as they develop new master plans;

- The content to be included in the institution of higher education master plans; and
- Information about submitting the plans and technical assistance.

The major component of The Statewide Plan reflects the master plans developed by the higher education sector. The Department communicates the expectations for the master planning process through the Bulletin.

Related Regents Items

January 2024: [Proposed Timeline and Activities for the Statewide Plan for Higher Education, 2026-2034](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/HE%20-%20Statewide%20Plan%20for%20Higher%20Education%20Update.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/HE%20-%20Statewide%20Plan%20for%20Higher%20Education%20Update.pdf>)

June 2021: [Proposed Timeline and Activities for the Statewide Plan for Higher Education, 2023-2031](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/621hed1.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/621hed1.pdf>)

February 2013: [The 2012 – 2020 Statewide Plan for Higher Education](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/213hea1%5B1%5D.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/213hea1%5B1%5D.pdf>)

October 2012: [Statewide Plan for Higher Education](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2012Meetings/October2012/1012hea1.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2012Meetings/October2012/1012hea1.pdf>)

July 2012: [Statewide Plan for Higher Education](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2012Meetings/July2012/712hed2.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2012Meetings/July2012/712hed2.pdf>)

April 2011: [The Bulletin of The Statewide Plan for Higher Education, 2010 – 2011](https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2011Meetings/April2011/411brca7.pdf)

(<https://www.regents.nysed.gov/sites/regents/files/documents/meetings/2011Meetings/April2011/411brca7.pdf>)

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Regents approve *The Bulletin of The Statewide Plan for Higher Education, 2026-2034*, for distribution to all higher education institutions.

Timetable for Implementation

If approved, the Department will distribute *The Bulletin of The Statewide Plan for Higher Education, 2026-2034*, to all higher education institutions and sector representatives.

Proposed Bulletin of the Statewide Plan for Higher Education

**The Bulletin of
The Statewide Plan for Higher Education
2026 – 2034**



The University of the State of New York
The State Education Department
Office of Higher Education
May 2024

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

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INTRODUCTION

Every eight years, the Board of Regents, in collaboration with the higher education community, develops and adopts *The Statewide Plan for Higher Education* (“The Statewide Plan”). The Statewide Plan sets system goals and objectives and addresses priority matters of statewide concern to the State’s residents, workforce, and community as well as our institutions of higher education (IHEs). They serve as the foundation for The Statewide Plan, which includes the long-range master plans of The City University of New York (CUNY), The State University of New York (SUNY), and New York’s independent and proprietary IHEs.

Section 237 of the Education Law outlines the purposes of master planning for higher education in New York State and the Regents’ responsibility in that process, including creating a statewide plan. The purposes of planning should:

- a. Define and differentiate the missions and objectives of higher education.
- b. Identify the needs, problems, societal conditions, and interests of the citizens of the state of New York to which programs of higher education may most appropriately be addressed.
- c. Define and differentiate the missions and objectives of institutions of higher education.
- d. Develop programs to meet the needs, solve the problems, affect the conditions, and respond to the public’s interests by:
 - (1) Setting goals.
 - (2) Describing the time required to meet those goals.
 - (3) Identifying the resources needed to achieve the goals.
 - (4) Establishing priorities.
- e. Be in sufficient detail to enable all participants in the planning process, representatives of the people and the citizens themselves to evaluate the needs, objectives, program proposals, priorities, costs, and results of higher education.
- f. Optimize the use of resources.
- g. Evaluate program effectiveness.

REGENTS TOPICS OF CONCERN FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

To carry out their responsibility, the Regents have identified statewide topics of concern for consideration by New York’s higher education system and asks institutions to focus on them, within their individual missions, as they develop new master plans. The topics are:

1. Engaging in collaborative, mutually beneficial partnerships with the P-12 community to strengthen the P-20 system.
2. Ensuring equity, diversity, and inclusion in the P-20 system, including students in the educator and licensed professional career tracks.
3. Improving accessibility, student support services, and academic outcomes.
4. Preparing students for the current and future needs of communities, society, and the workforce.
5. Transforming operations, structures, and programs in response to the evolving higher education landscape, student profiles, and demographics.

REQUESTED CONTENT OF MASTER PLANS

An institution's or system's master plan consists of its mission and goals, and the objectives and courses of action it intends to pursue to address them. The plan establishes the institution's purposes as the members of the institutional community understand them and has sufficient detail to enable that community, other participants in the planning process, and the public to understand the direction it intends to pursue during the period of the plan and to evaluate needs, proposals, priorities, costs, and results.

A master plan describes the institution's academic purposes and its commitment to the social and economic context in which it operates; the relative roles of teaching, creation and preservation of knowledge, and service; the nature of constituents to be served; and the basis for setting priorities. The plan includes the institution's academic programs and plans for changes to its mix of programs, the clientele the institution serves and plans to serve, plans for new facilities, expenditure projections for capital and operating costs, and plans with respect to other matters of concern to the institutional community and to society. The plan is a flexible document that may be amended as conditions warrant.

In addition, Education Law specifies that the CUNY and SUNY master plans must include the following content:

1. Plans for new curricula;
2. Plans for new facilities;
3. Plans for change in policies with respect to student admissions;
4. Projected student enrollments;
5. Comments upon its relationship to other colleges and universities, public, independent and proprietary, within the State; and
6. For informational purposes only, projection standards and overall expenditure projections of capital and operating costs.

To provide consistency of information across institutions and sectors, the Regents ask that every independent and proprietary institution's master plan also include the above six areas. The Regents also ask that the CUNY and SUNY master plans and the consolidated master plans for the independent and proprietary sectors prepared by the Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities (CICU) and the Association of Private Colleges (APC) identify planned courses of action and actions they propose that the State take. They also are asked to differentiate appropriately in their plans among different types of institutions of higher education and those with different missions.

SUBMITTING MASTER PLANS

The City University of New York and The State University of New York. Under Sections 6206 and 354 of the Education Law, respectively, CUNY and SUNY will each develop and submit a single master plan for its higher education system. Individual CUNY colleges and SUNY campuses do not submit separate master plans to the New York State Education Department (NYSED). Master plans must be submitted by **April 29, 2025**, to: statewideplan@nysed.gov.

Independent Colleges and Universities. By **April 29, 2025**, CICU will develop a consolidated master plan for the independent sector of higher education and send it to: statewideplan@nysed.gov. To assist it in doing so, independent colleges and universities, whether members of CICU or not, are asked to submit their master plans to CICU on the date

and in the number requested by CICU. They are asked to send one copy at the same time to: statewideplan@nysed.gov.

Proprietary Colleges. By **April 29, 2025**, APC will develop a consolidated master plan for the proprietary sector of higher education and send it to: statewideplan@nysed.gov. To assist it in doing so, proprietary colleges, whether members of APC or not, are asked to submit their master plans to APC on the date and in the number requested by APC. They are asked to send one copy at the same time to: statewideplan@nysed.gov.

INFORMATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

NYSED will provide technical assistance to institutions of higher education and sectors on developing their master plans. Information and links to other resources that may be useful in the development of master plans are located on the [Office of Higher Education website](#). This website includes links relevant to higher education data.

Please send questions about preparation of master plans and requests for technical assistance to your institution's sector office or to: statewideplan@nysed.gov.

Attachment B

Tentative Statewide Plan for Higher Education Timeline	
Date	Activity
January 2024	Present an overview of the statewide planning process to the Board of Regents, including the timeline and draft topics that sectors would address in their master plans.
Spring 2024	Contact sector leaders, stakeholder organizations (e.g., NYSUT, UUP, the Business Council, the Tri-State Consortium of Opportunity Programs, etc.) to nominate individuals to serve on the Commissioner’s Advisory Council on Higher Education. The Advisory Council will provide feedback to the Department throughout the statewide planning process.
Summer/Fall 2024	Hold Advisory Council meeting to discuss the statewide planning process, including topics, stakeholder engagement strategies, and timeline.
Spring 2025	Present the SED draft sections of the Statewide Plan at a Board of Regents meeting. Hold Advisory Council meetings to discuss draft sections of The Statewide Plan.
April 2025	Deadline for Sector Master Plans.
Summer 2025	Hold Advisory Council meetings to discuss the draft of The Statewide Plan with sector master plans included.
Fall 2025	Present the draft Statewide Plan, with the sector master plan information, at a Board of Regent’s meeting.
Winter 2025	Hold public hearings on the draft Statewide Plan.
Spring 2026	Higher Education Board of Regents committee reviews draft plan. Hold Advisory Council meeting to review draft plan.
Fall 2026	Present the final Statewide Plan to the Board of Regents for approval. Submit The Statewide Plan to the Governor and Legislature.

Attachment C

Advisory Council on Higher Education Members

Sector	Name	Organization	Position/Title
CICU	Lola Brabham	Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities (CICU)	President
	David Harris	Union College	President
	Alan Kadish	Touro University	President
	Lorrie Clemo	D'Youville University	President
Proprietary	Donna Stelling-Gurnett	Association of Private Colleges (APC)	President
	Marsha Pollard	Five Towns College	Provost/Chief Academic Officer
	Louis Candelario	APC	Student
	Melissa Ramos	Monroe College	Vice President, College Readiness and Success
SUNY	John King Jr.	State University of New York	Chancellor
	Johanna Duncan-Poitier	State University of New York	Senior Vice Chancellor for Community Colleges and the Education Pipeline
	Donna Linderman	State University of New York	Senior Vice Chancellor for Student Success
	Melur Ramasubramanian	State University of New York	Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost
CUNY	Félix Matos Rodriguez	City University of New York	Chancellor
	Russell Hotzler	City University of New York	President, New York City College of Technology
	Gladys Palma de Schrynemakers	City University of New York	Senior Associate Dean of Academic Affairs/Chief Academic Officer/Diversity Officer
	Amy Hsin	City University of New York	Full Professor
Stakeholders	Melinda Person	New York State United Teachers (NYSUT)	President
	Jade Grieve	NYC Public Schools	Chief of Student Pathways
	Crystal Griffith	The Business Council of New York State, Inc.	Director, Workforce Development
	Andrea Lachance	SUNY Cortland/Commissioner's Teacher Education Advisory Group (TEAG)	Dean, School of Education
	Christine Dawson	Siena College/Commissioner's Teacher Education Advisory Group (TEAG)	Associate Professor Education

	Beatrice Grause	Healthcare Association of New York State (HANYS)	President
	Michael Frame	The Manufacturers Association of Central NY (MACNY)	Executive Vice President
	Penelope Lewis	Professional Staff Congress (PSC-CUNY)	Secretary/PSC; Professor/School of Urban and Labor Studies
	Aaron Major	United University Professions (UUP)- SUNY Albany	Associate Professor of Sociology
	Phyllis A. H. Breland	Tri-State Consortium of Opportunity Programs	President
	David Ziskin	Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES)	District Superintendent, Hamilton-Fulton-Montgomery BOCES
	HEOP Student	Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP)	Student ¹

¹ The Statewide Plan for Higher Education development process is a multi-year process. As such, we anticipate that student representation on the Advisory Council will change over time.