Board of Regents P-20 Work Group:
Early College Programs and Policy

December Board of Regents Meeting

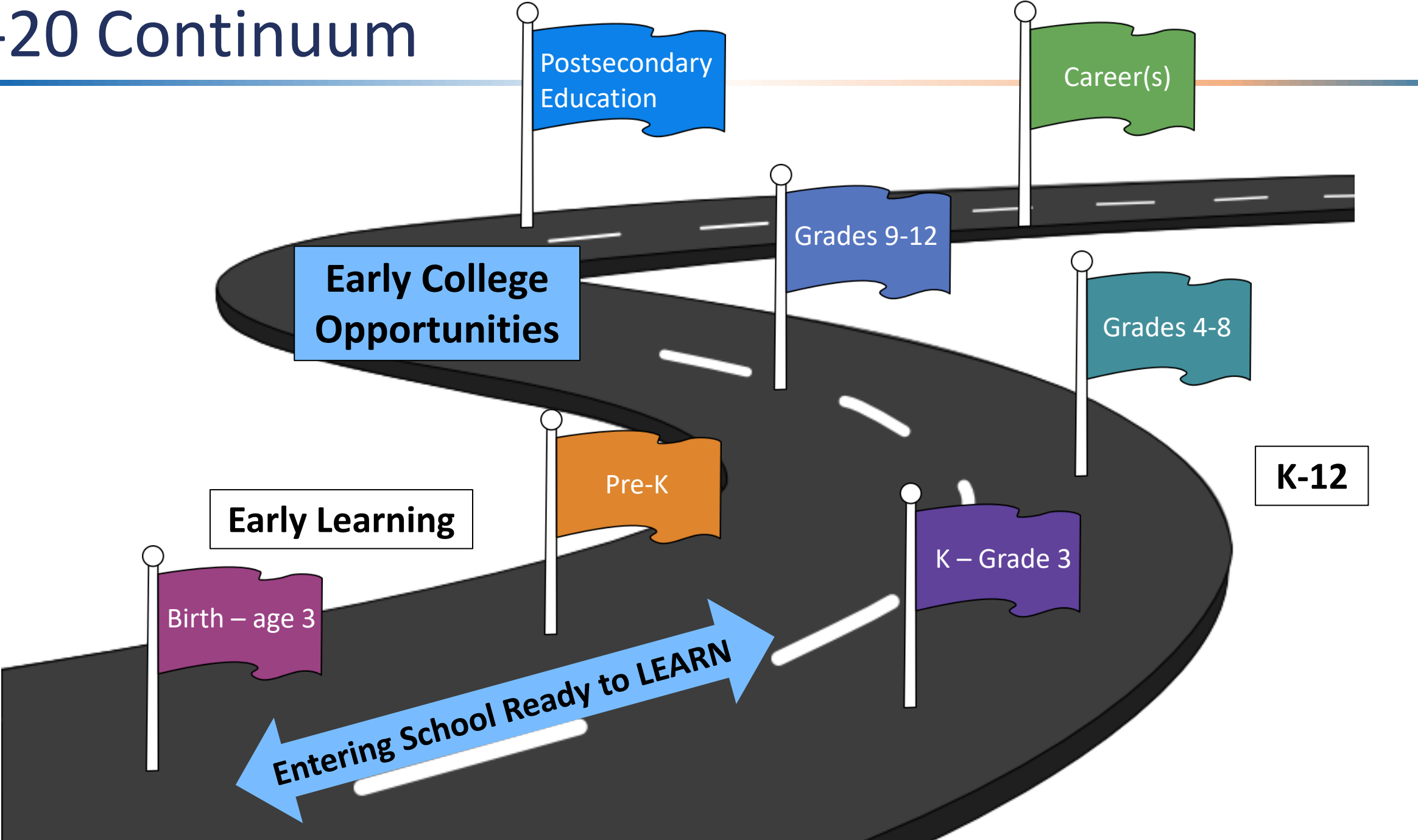**December 11, 2023**

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New York State
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
Knowledge > Skill > Opportunity

P-20 Working Definition

Working Definition

- **In New York State, the P-20 system is an interconnected and seamless system of education from birth through career that:**
  - Emerges from the current research and thinking in the developmental sciences;
  - Values diversity and promotes equity, excellence, and inclusion;
  - Prepares all learners for entry into school, college, and the workforce; and
  - Provides all learners with the opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills to achieve their dreams and be productive members of their communities.
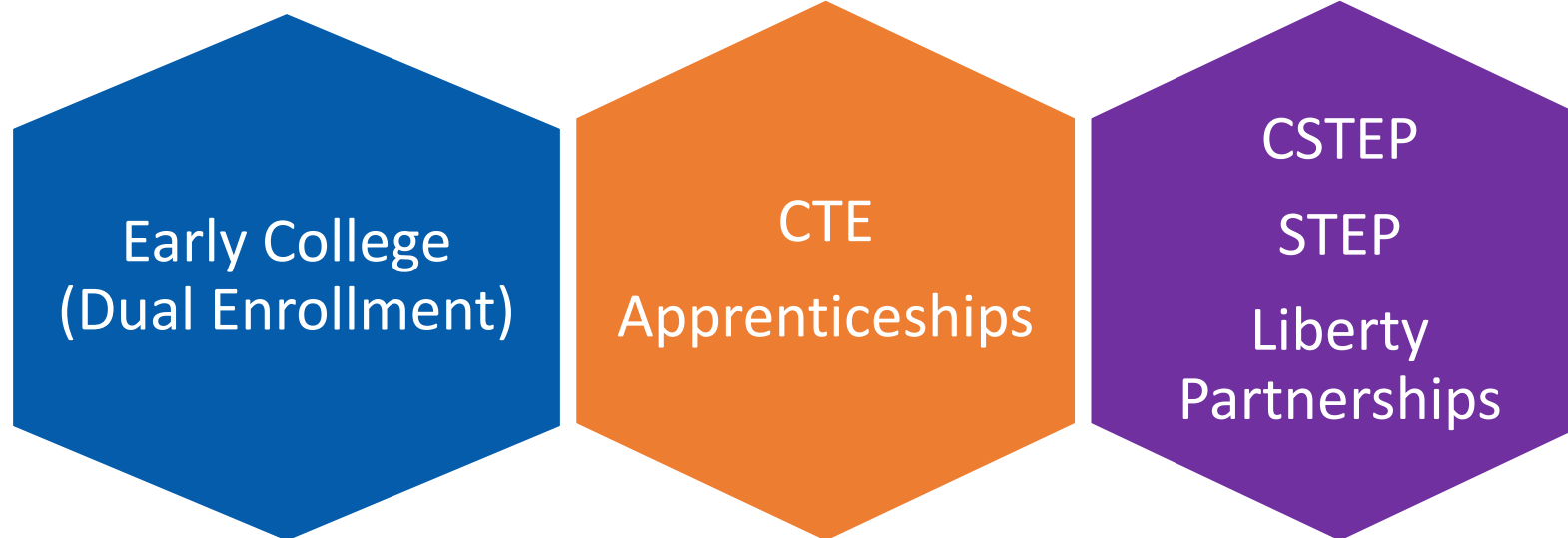
P-20 Continuum

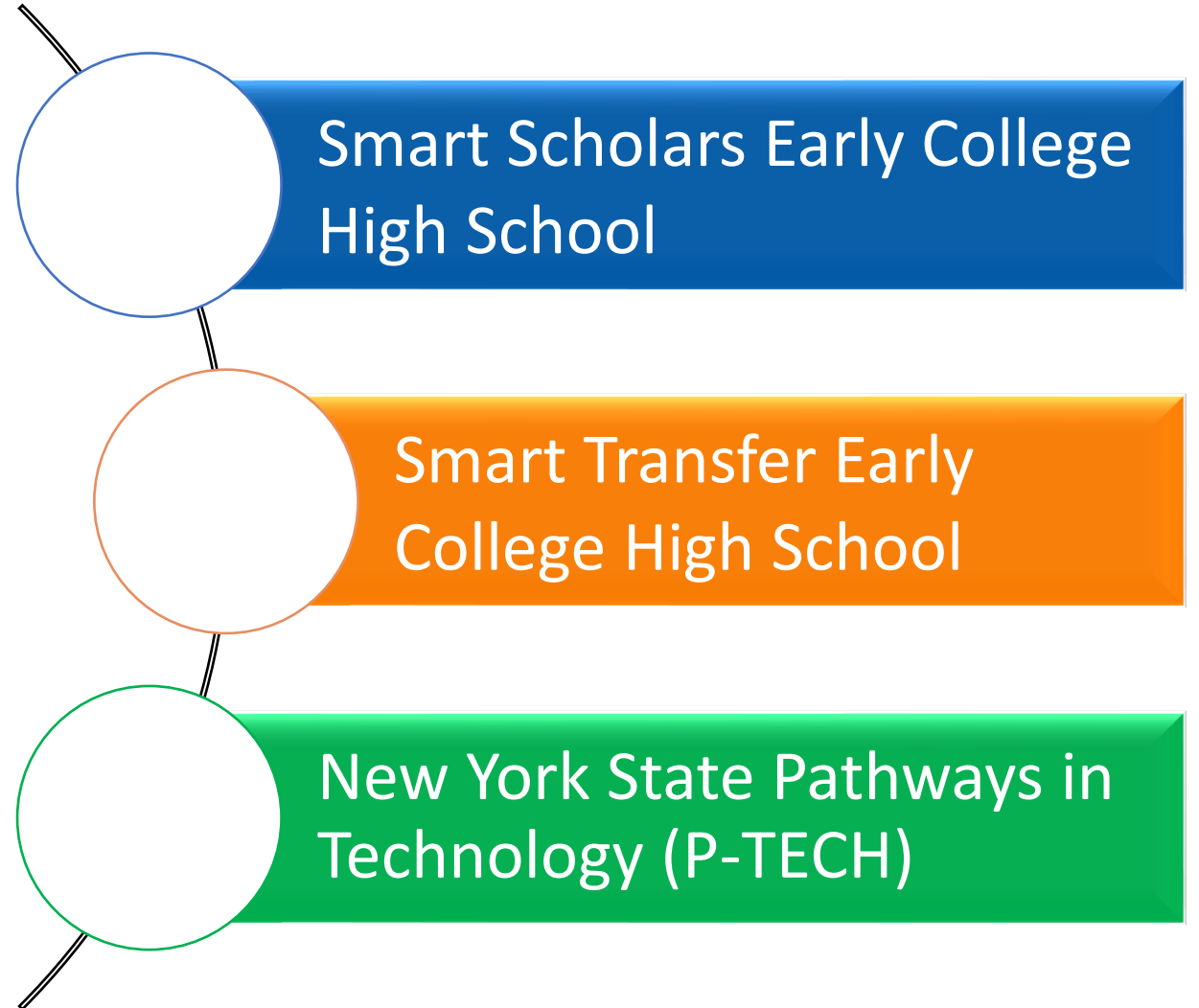# Equitable Access to High-Quality Opportunities

Equitable access to HIGH-QUALITY opportunities significantly:

- Improves instructional rigor and college-going culture in schools,

- Enhances students' college and career readiness and postsecondary outcomes,

- Reduces economic barriers to postsecondary education and addresses the student debt crisis, and

- Creates multiple pathways so all students are prepared for the following:

Early College
(Dual Enrollment)

CTE
Apprenticeships

CSTEP

STEP

Liberty
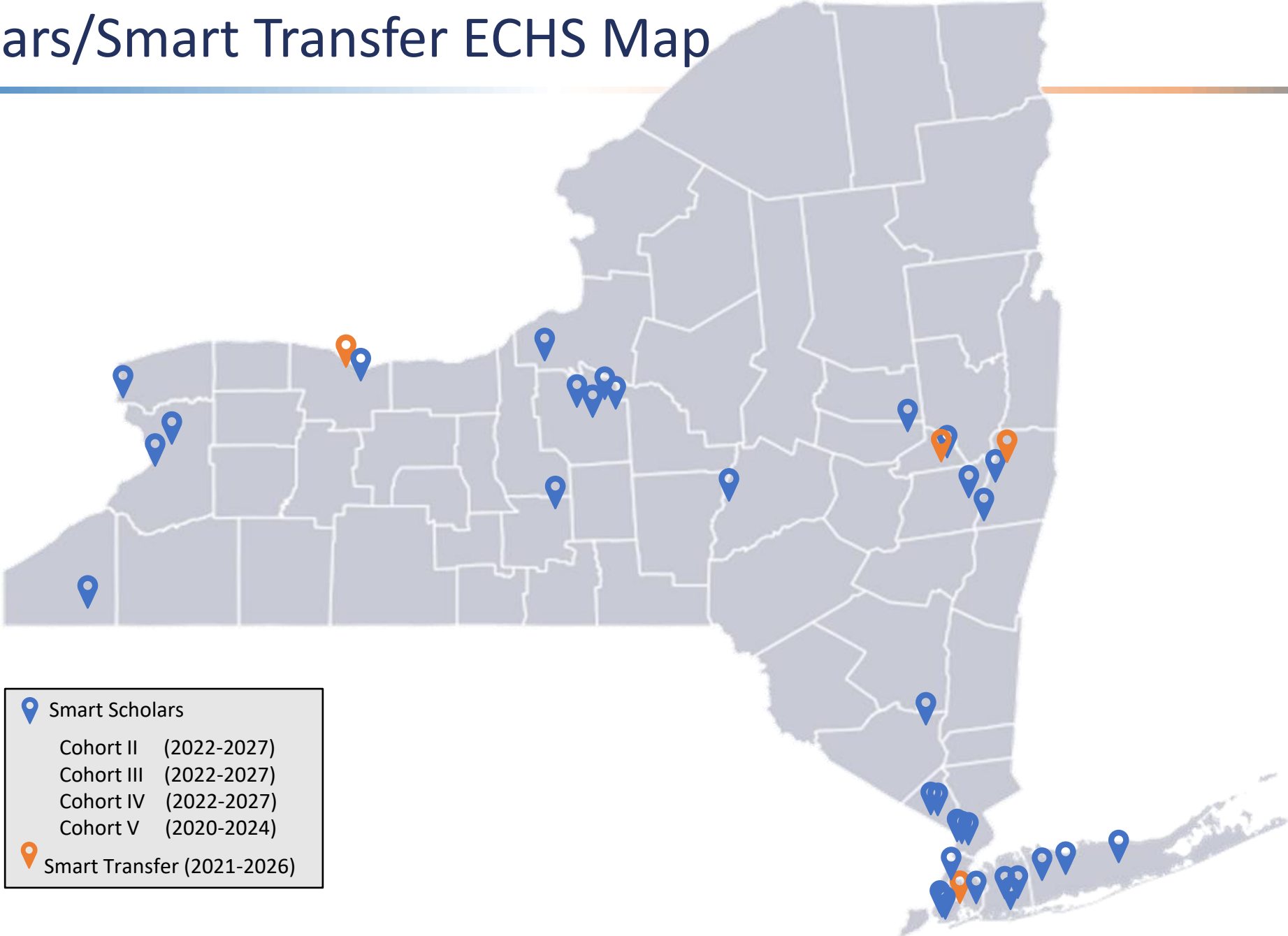Partnerships

Early College Programs

- There are three State-funded early college programs administered by the Department where students take courses at no cost.

- Some school districts offer P-TECH, early college, and dual enrollment programs that are not funded by the legislature nor administered by the Department.

Smart Scholars Early College High School
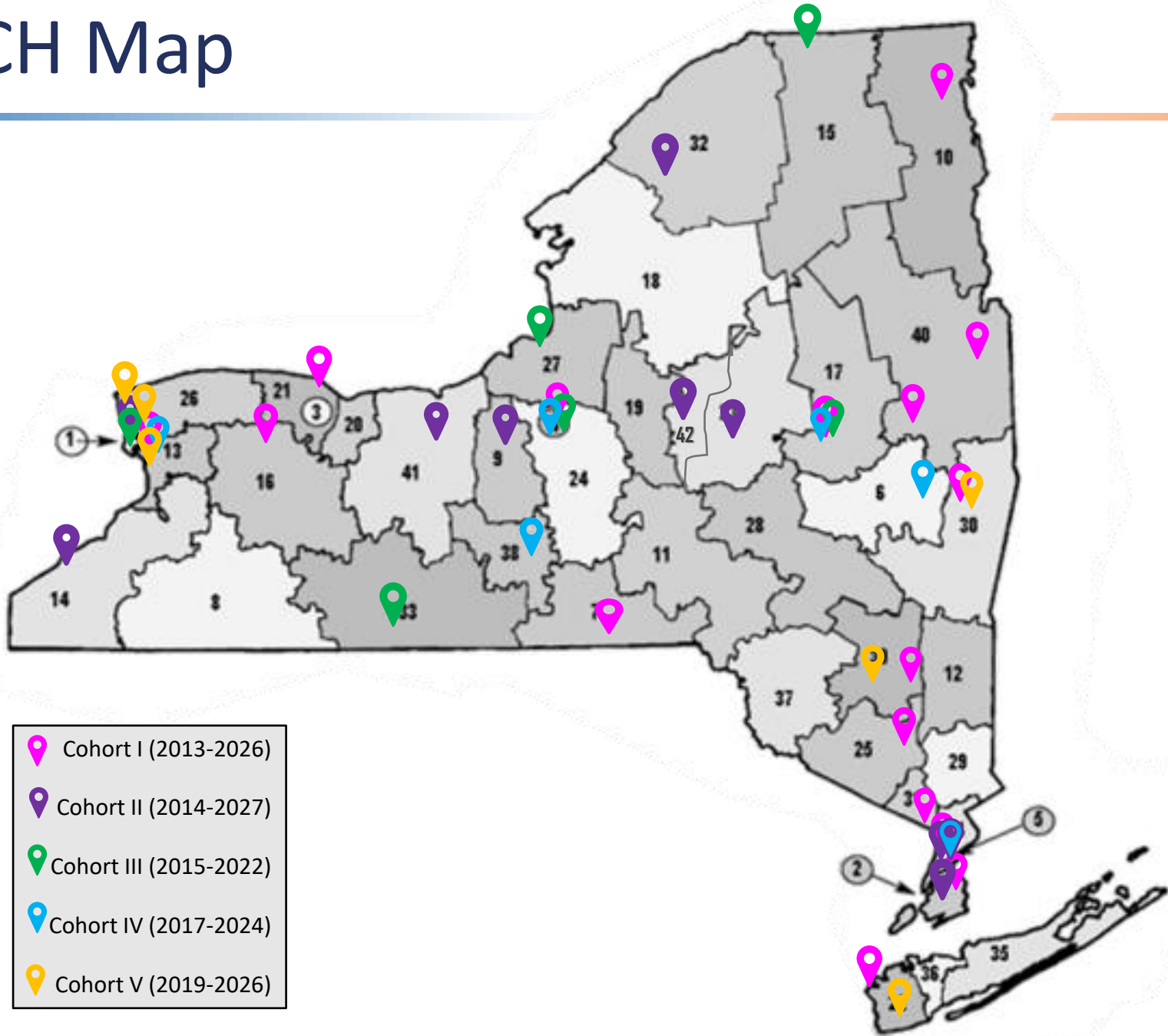
Smart Transfer Early College High School

New York State Pathways in Technology (P-TECH)

Comparison of Early College Programs

Characteristics	Smart Scholars ECHS	Smart Transfer ECHS	P-TECH
Numbers	41 projects serving more than 6,000 students	4 projects serving more than 500 students	53 projects serving more than 4,700 students
Partnership	K-12 and higher education	K-12 and higher education	K-12, higher education, and business
Length	4 years	4 years	4-6 years
Opportunities	• Earn a minimum of 24, and up to 60, transferable college credits. • Receive additional academic support.	• Earn 60 transferable college credits or an associate's degree. • Receive additional academic support. • Transfer to a partner four-year IHE to complete a bachelor's degree within two years of matriculating.	• Earn an associate's degree. • Receive additional academic support. • Engage in workplace learning, including internships. • Receive serious consideration for a job interview and/or job upon program completion.

Smart Scholars/Smart Transfer ECHS Map

Legend:
- Smart Scholars
  - Cohort II   (2022-2027)
  - Cohort III   (2022-2027)
  - Cohort IV   (2022-2027)
  - Cohort V   (2020-2024)
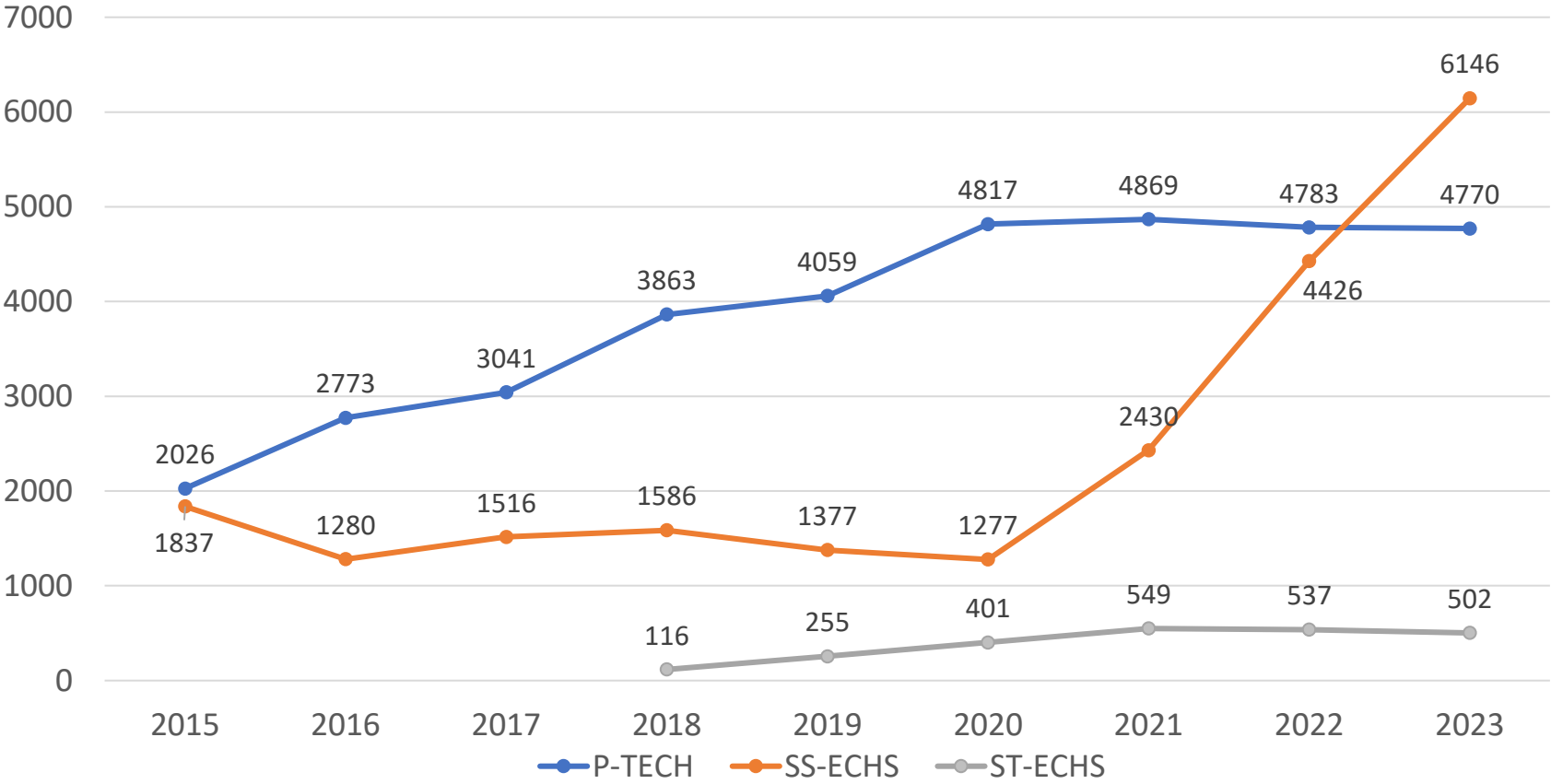- Smart Transfer (2021-2026)

NYS P-TECH Map

Legend:
- Cohort I (2013-2026)
- Cohort II (2014-2027)
- Cohort III (2015-2022)
- Cohort IV (2017-2024)
- Cohort V (2019-2026)

Early College Programs: Enrollment

Enrollment in the NYS P-TECH, Smart Scholars Early College High School, and Smart Transfer Early College High School Programs

P-TECH: 2026 (2015), 2773 (2016), 3041 (2017), 3863 (2018), 4059 (2019), 4817 (2020), 4869 (2021), 4783 (2022), 4770 (2023)

SS-ECHS: 1837 (2015), 1280 (2016), 1516 (2017), 1586 (2018), 1377 (2019), 1277 (2020), 2430 (2021), 4426 (2022), 6146 (2023)

ST-ECHS: 116 (2018), 255 (2019), 401 (2020), 549 (2021), 537 (2022), 502 (2023)

Early College Programs: Districts by Needs Resource Capacity

Breakdown of NYS P-TECH, Smart Scholars Early College High School, and Smart Transfer Early College High School Programs Districts by Needs Resource Capacity (2022-2023 School Year)

Legend: P-TECH (blue), SS-ECHS (orange), ST-ECHS (gray)

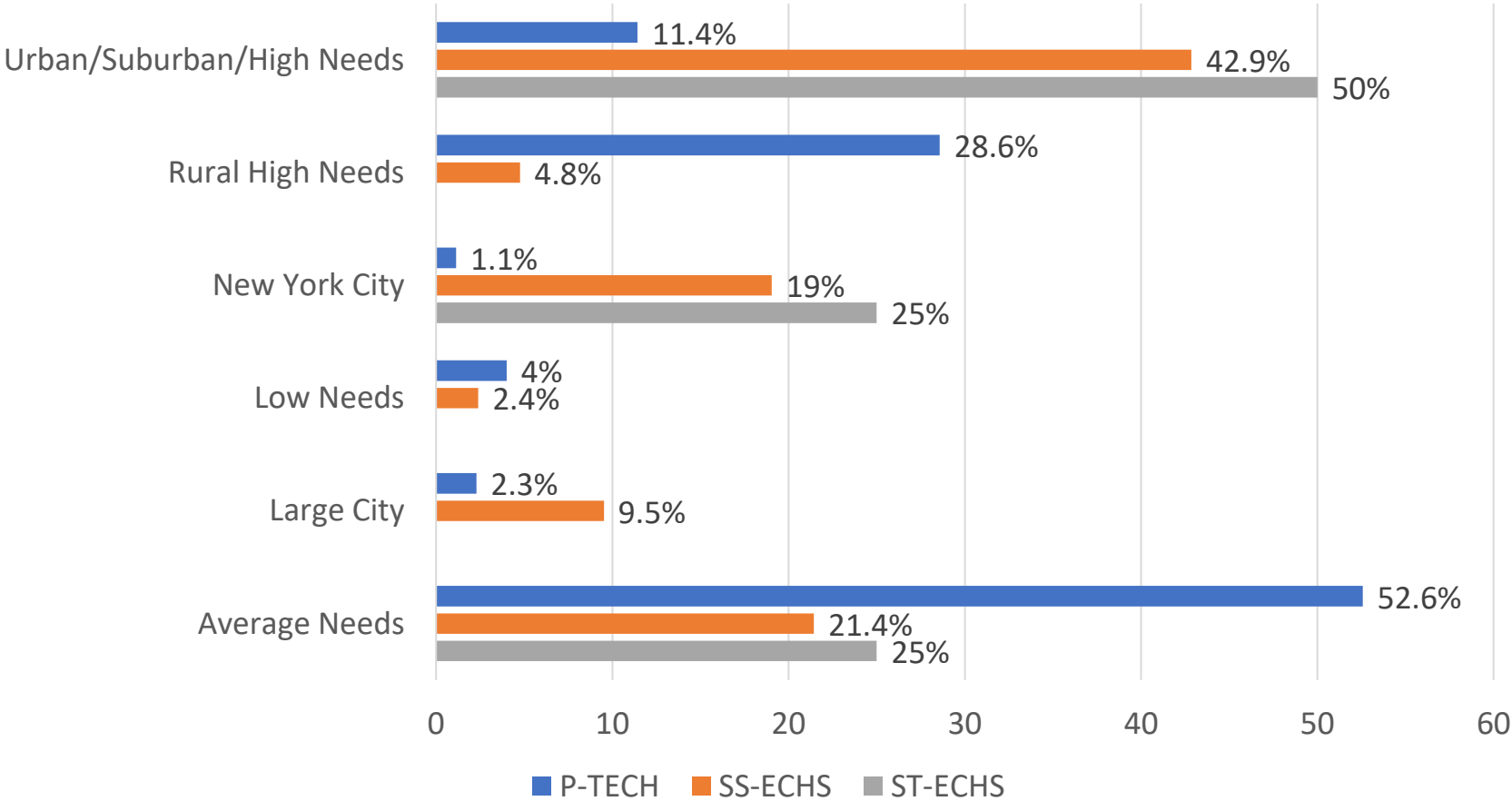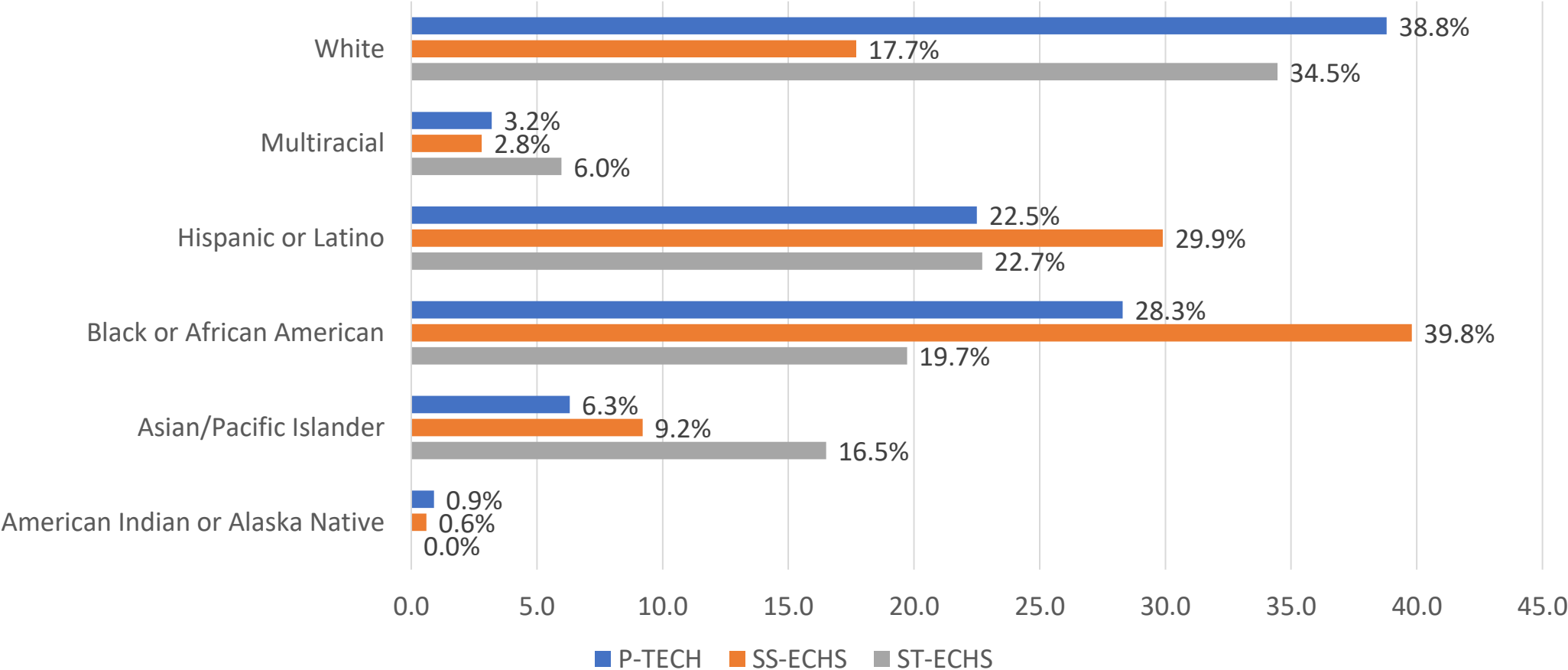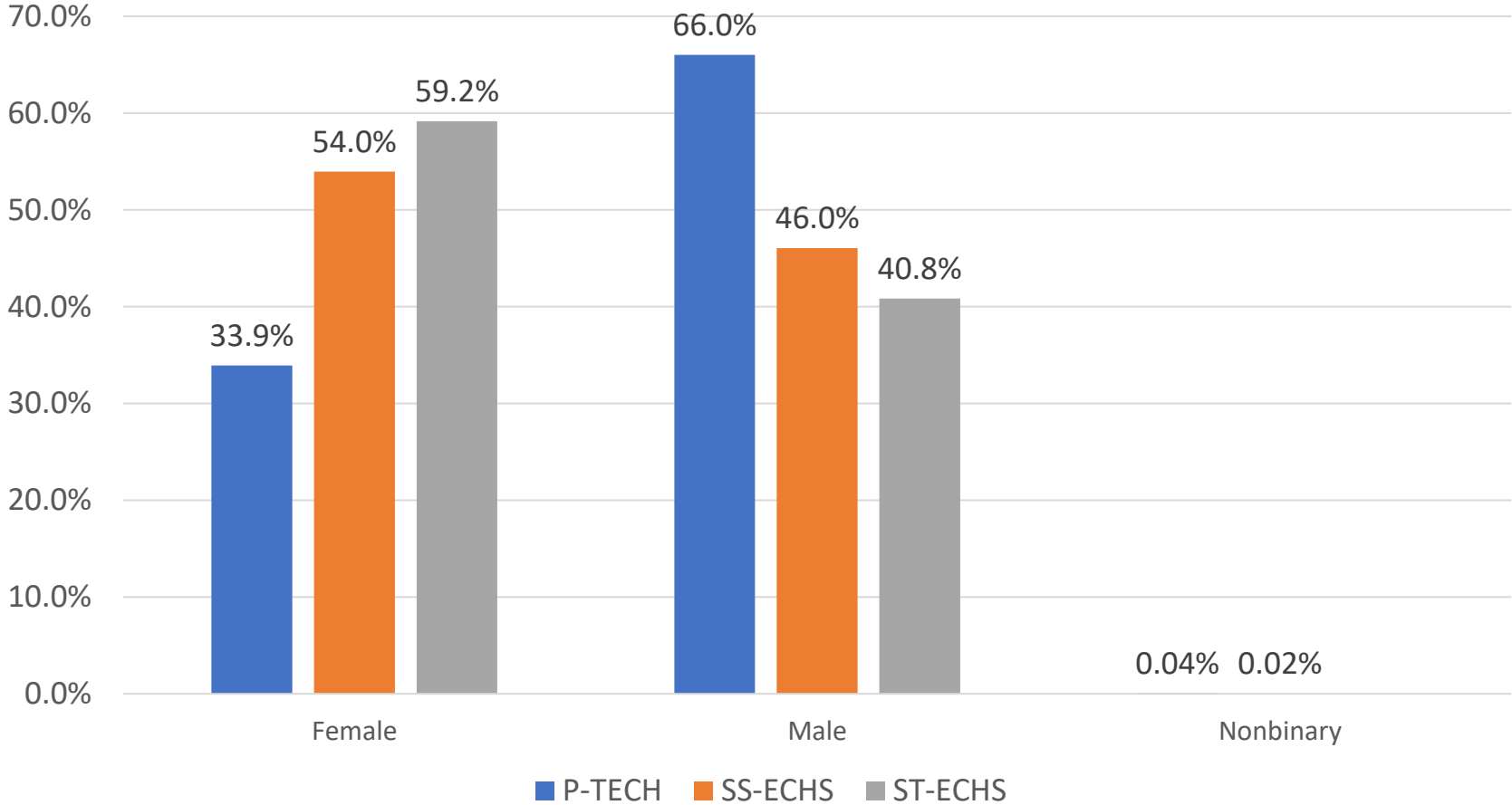| Category	P-TECH	SS-ECHS	ST-ECHS
Urban/Suburban/High Needs	11.4%	42.9%	50%
Rural High Needs	28.6%	4.8%	
New York City	1.1%	19%	25%
Low Needs	4%	2.4%	
Large City	2.3%	9.5%	
Average Needs	52.6%	21.4%	25%

Early College Programs: Race/Ethnicity

Percentage of Students in the NYS P-TECH, Smart Scholars Early College High School, and Smart Transfer Early College High School Programs by Race/Ethnicity (2022-2023 School Year)

White
- P-TECH: 38.8%
- SS-ECHS: 17.7%
- ST-ECHS: 34.5%

Multiracial
- P-TECH: 3.2%
- SS-ECHS: 2.8%
- ST-ECHS: 6.0%

Hispanic or Latino
- P-TECH: 22.5%
- SS-ECHS: 29.9%
- ST-ECHS: 22.7%

Black or African American
- P-TECH: 28.3%
- SS-ECHS: 39.8%
- ST-ECHS: 19.7%

Asian/Pacific Islander
- P-TECH: 6.3%
- SS-ECHS: 9.2%
- ST-ECHS: 16.5%

American Indian or Alaska Native
- P-TECH: 0.9%
- SS-ECHS: 0.6%
- ST-ECHS: 0.0%

Legend: ■ P-TECH ■ SS-ECHS ■ ST-ECHS

Early College Programs: Gender

Percentage of Students in the NYS P-TECH, Smart Scholars Early College High School, and Smart Transfer Early College High School Programs by Gender (2022-2023 School Year)

	Female	Male	Nonbinary
P-TECH	33.9%	66.0%	
SS-ECHS	54.0%	46.0%	0.04%
ST-ECHS	59.2%	40.8%	0.02%

Policy Considerations

Key issues to address in early college policy discussions include:

Preparation in elementary and middle school

Availability of early college programs

Access to early college programs

Support for success

Credit accumulation and transferability

Possible Early College Policies

Some possible early college policies to consider are:

Create a new "College Course Aid" funding formula to expand and incentivize access to early college opportunities.

Require the transferability of general education college credits earned in state-administered early college programs.

Establish consistent statewide early college policies for community college access.

Driving Principles for Early College Programs

The College in High School Alliance organization facilitated meetings with stakeholders to develop a call to action for a statewide policy with the following principles:

- Centering Equity of Access and Success
- Providing Intentional Dual Enrollment Experiences
- Supporting Student Success into College and Career
- Fostering Authentic and Robust High School and College Partnerships
- Ensuring Accountability for Program Performance and Success