

Priority: Opportunities for Continued Education

Goal: Enhance continued education to expand personal and professional development opportunities.

What are Opportunities for Continued Education and Why are they Important?

In 2018, the last year for which data is available, 72% of high school graduates in NYS enrolled in postsecondary education. According to the NYS Department of Labor statistics, the median weekly salaries of individuals 25 and over with college degrees is \$1540 compared to \$950 earned by employees with High School diploma/General Education Development (GED); a 62% increase in median weekly income. Individuals with a bachelor's degree are 2.1% less likely to be unemployed than individuals with a high school diploma/GED. Overall, the data demonstrate a significant lifetime earnings difference between people with a bachelor's degree and those with a high school diploma/GED.

In addition to earnings, individuals with a bachelor's degrees have improved health, safer jobs, and safer housing when compared to individuals with a high school degree/GED. Not only are employees with bachelor's degrees more likely to have access to better health care through insurance, but they are also less likely to have chronic health conditions such as diabetes, depression, and cardiac disease.^{544,545,546}

Access to higher education is not always equal. A significant barrier to secondary education is affordability. In 2017, The Excelsior Scholarship was introduced, allowing individuals below a certain income threshold to attend The City University of New York (CUNY) and The State University of New York (SUNY) colleges tuition free.




Additionally, lower income students may be more inclined to apply and enroll in less competitive colleges. To provide better access to highly competitive colleges in NYS, a new program called "The Top 10% Promise" provides a pathway for high achieving students in the top 10% of their high school class to gain direct admission into selective SUNY institutions.^{15,547} By promoting access to higher education, NYS can increase economic and educational opportunities that lead to improved health outcomes.









SMART(IE) Objective:




42.0 Increase the percentage of high school seniors that attend a 2- or 4-year college from 70.2% to 77.0%.

42.1 Increase the percentage of high school seniors who are economically disadvantaged that attend a 2- or 4-year college from 63.1% to 69.4%.

Desired Outcome	Indicator	Data Source	Population	Baseline	Target
Increase the percentage of high school seniors that attend a 2- or 4-year college within 5 years of graduation	Percentage of high school seniors that attend a 2 or 4 year college within 5 years	NYSED report card	High school seniors	70.2% (2023)	77.0% (2030)
			Subpopulation of Focus	Baseline	Target
			Economically disadvantaged high school seniors	63.1% (2023)	69.4% (2030)

Interventions	Population of Focus	Age Range	Intermediate Measures
 <p>Featured Intervention: Incorporate the CDC's Hi-5 and 6 18 initiatives into the Raise the Bar framework from the US Department of Education to ensure every student has an onramp to postsecondary education and training, including establishing and scaling innovative systems of college and career pathways that integrate high schools, colleges, careers, and communities and lead to students earning industry-recognized credentials and securing in-demand jobs; making sure public health and health care careers are featured to build capacity.⁵⁴⁸</p> 	Higher education students, faculty, and staff	Higher education students	Participation among educational organizations, track graduation rates year-to-year and compare between participating and nonparticipating schools, student engagement in career pathway programs, trends in local employment rate
 <p>Featured Intervention: Facilitate partnerships within the community that improve the percent of 18- to 24-year-olds enrolled in school or work programs:</p>	Young adults	Ages 18-24	Participation among educational organizations and local businesses, number of participants enrolled in school or work programs, data on reach of chosen outreach method (e.g., number of views, number of website visits)

Interventions	Population of Focus	Age Range	Intermediate Measures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicate paid apprenticeships that could be advertised on social media and during high school Collaborate with local community colleges and BOCES⁵⁴⁹ 			
 <p>Provide training opportunities focusing on health literacy awareness that target medical professionals and public health practitioners; utilize continuing education for medical professionals, facilities, and public health practitioners to increase health literacy awareness and incorporation into communication with patients.⁵⁵⁰</p> 	Health Departments, Hospitals, Pediatric Providers	All ages	Percent of staff who have a completed continuing medical education (CME) course(s) focused on health literacy or have attended a facility-approved health literacy training
 <p>Implement learning opportunities for mental health training and Trauma Informed Practices.⁵⁵¹</p> 	Students, teachers, staff	K-12, higher education	Participation among educational organizations, number of trainings delivered, number of staff trained, number of students served by trained staff
 <p>Provide comprehensive professional development for health and physical education teachers to promote and lead wellness initiatives and effective strategies to communicate the importance of the health and wellness of the students and its impact on learning.^{530,552-555}</p> 	Students, teachers, staff	K-12, higher education	Participation among educational organizations, number of teachers and staff trained, number of students served by staff trained through this intervention
 <p>Collaborate with advisory boards of local career and technical education (CTE) schools to develop work transition programs such as work-based learning opportunities and educate school and community partners of public health resources to</p>	Advisory Board members, as applicable	N/A	Participation among educational organizations and advisory boards, number of work transition programs available, number of participants in work transition programs, track graduation rates year-to-year and compare participating vs. non-participating schools

Interventions	Population of Focus	Age Range	Intermediate Measures
increase awareness and access for stronger graduation outcomes. ⁵⁵⁶ 			
 Implement outreach initiatives and partnerships to increase awareness and access to continued education opportunities for adults at higher education institutions; collaborate with schools, LHDs, hospitals, CBOs to bolster the development of foundational and professional skills. ⁵⁵⁷⁻⁵⁶¹ 	Higher education students, faculty, and staff	Higher education students	Participation among organizations of focus, number of continued education programs available, number of participants enrolled in continued education programs, local employment trends

Lead Partner Agencies and Organizations

Healthcare Association of New York State (HANYS)
 Greater New York Hospital Association (GNYHA)
 Schools, School district leadership
 NYS United Teachers (NYSUT)
 NYS School Nurses Association

Implementation Resources

[CDC - Health Literacy Training](#)

[NYS Center for School Health](#)

[NYS Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance](#)

[Workforce GPS - Work-Based Learning for Out-of-School Youth and Disadvantaged Adults](#)

[Coordinated Approach to Child Health \(CATCH\) - Professional Development for Educators](#)

[SHAPE America](#)

[OPEN Phys Ed](#)

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