The State University’s 64 geographically dispersed campuses bring educational opportunity within commuting distance of virtually all New York citizens and comprise the nation’s largest, centrally managed system of public higher education.

When founded in 1948, the University consolidated 29 state-operated, but unaffiliated, institutions. In response to need, the University has grown to a point where its impact is felt educationally, culturally and economically throughout the state.

Nearly 400,000 students are pursuing traditional study in classrooms or are working at home, at their own pace, through Empire State College, whose students follow individualized and often non-traditional paths to a degree. Of the total enrollment, more than 100,000 students are 24 years or older, reflecting State University’s services to specific constituencies, such as refresher courses for the professional community, continuing educational opportunities for returning service personnel and personal enrichment for more mature persons.

State University’s research contributions are helping to solve some of modern society’s most urgent problems. It was a State University scientist who first warned the world of potentially harmful mercury deposits in canned fish, and another who made the connection between automobile and industrial exhaust combining to cause changes in weather patterns. Other University researchers continue important studies in such wide-ranging areas as immunology, marine biology, sickle-cell anemia and organ transplantation.

More than 1,000 Public Service activities are currently being pursued on State University campuses. Examples of these efforts include special training courses for local government personnel, state civil service personnel and the unemployed; participation by campus personnel in joint community planning or project work and campus-community arrangements for community use of campus facilities.

A distinguished faculty includes nationally and internationally recognized figures in all the major disciplines. Their efforts are recognized each year in the form of such prestigious awards as Fulbright-Hays, Guggenheim and Danforth Fellowships. The University offers a wide diversity of what are considered the more conventional career fields, such as business, engineering, medicine, teaching, literature, dairy farming, medical technology, accounting, social work, forestry and automotive technology. Additionally, its responsiveness to progress in all areas of learning and to tomorrow’s developing societal needs has resulted in concentrations which include pollution, urban studies, computer science, immunology, preservation of national resources and microbiology.

SUNY programs for the educationally and economically disadvantaged have become models for delivering better learning opportunities to a once-forgotten segment of society. Educational Opportunity Centers offer high school equivalency and college preparatory courses to provide young people and adults with the opportunity to begin college or to learn marketable skills. In addition, campus-based Education Opportunity Programs provide counseling, developmental education and financial aid to disadvantaged students in traditional degree programs.

Overall, at its EOC’s, two-year colleges, four-year campuses and university and medical centers, the University offers 3,600 academic programs. Degree opportunities range from two-year associate programs to doctoral studies offered at 12 senior campuses.

The 30 two-year community colleges operating under the program of State University play a unique role in the expansion of educational opportunity. They provide local industry with trained technicians in a wide variety of occupational curriculums, and offer transfer options to students who wish to go on and earn advanced degrees.

During its brief history, State University has graduated more than 1 million alumni, the majority of whom are pursuing their careers in communities across the state.

State University is governed by a Board of Trustees, appointed by the governor, which directly determines the policies to be followed by the 34 state-supported campuses. Community colleges have their own local boards of trustees whose relationship to the SUNY board is defined by law. The state contributes one-third to 40 percent of their operating cost and one-half of their capital costs.

The State University motto is: To Learn, To Search, To Serve
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University Centers/Doctoral Degree Granting Institutions
University at Albany
Binghamton University
University at Buffalo
Stony Brook University
College of Ceramics at Alfred University
College of Optometry
Cornell University:
Agriculture and Life Sciences
Human Ecology
Industrial and Labor Relations
Veterinary Medicine
Environmental Science and Forestry at Syracuse
Downstate Medical Center
Upstate Medical Center

University Colleges
College at Brockport
College at Buffalo
College at Cortland
College at Fredonia
College at Geneseo
College at New Paltz
College at Old Westbury
College at Oneonta
College at Oswego
College at Plattsburgh
College at Potsdam
College at Purchase
Empire State College

Technology Colleges
Alfred State College
College of Technology at Canton
College of Agriculture and Technology at Cobleskill
College of Technology at Delhi
Farmingdale State College
Maritime College
Morrisville State College
SUNYIT - SUNY Institute of Technology at Utica/Rome
Community Colleges
(Locally-sponsored, two-year colleges under the program of State University)

Adirondack Community College at Glens Falls
Broome Community College at Binghamton
Cayuga County Community College at Auburn
Clinton Community College at Plattsburgh
Columbia-Greene Community College at Hudson
Corning Community College at Corning
Dutchess Community College at Poughkeepsie
Erie Community College at Williamsville, Buffalo and Orchard Park
Fashion Institute of Technology at New York City***
Finger Lakes Community College at Canandaigua
Fulton-Montgomery Community College at Johnstown
Genesee Community College at Batavia
Herkimer County Community College at Herkimer
Hudson Valley Community College at Troy
Jamestown Community College at Jamestown
Jefferson Community College at Watertown
Mohawk Valley Community College at Utica
Monroe Community College at Rochester
Nassau Community College at Garden City
Niagara County Community College at Sanborn
North Country Community College at Saranac Lake
Onondaga Community College at Syracuse
Orange County Community College at Middletown
Rockland Community College at Suffern
Schenectady County Community College at Schenectady
Suffolk County Community College at Selden,
Riverhead and Brentwood
Sullivan County Community College at Loch Sheldrake
Tompkins Cortland Community College at Dryden
Ulster County Community College at Stone Ridge
Westchester Community College at Valhalla

***While authorized to offer such baccalaureate and master’s degree programs as may be approved pursuant to the provisions of the Master Plan, in addition to the associate degree, the Fashion Institute of Technology is financed and administered in the manner provided for community colleges.

Accreditation

Dutchess Community College is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. It is a member of the American Association of Community Colleges, the International/Intercultural Consortium of the AACC, and a founding member of the Association of Colleges of the Mid-Hudson area. Its curricula are approved by the State University of New York and registered by the State Education Department. Its nursing program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850 Atlanta, GA 30326, (404) 975-5000; and its medical technology program by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS), 5600 N. River Road, Suite 720, Rosemont, IL, 60018; and its Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic program is accredited by the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP), 1248 Harwood Road, Bedford, TX 76021-4244. The Laboratory Nursery School, attached to the college's Early Childhood Program, is accredited by the National Association for Laboratory Schools. The College is authorized to award certificates, and the Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, and Associate in Applied Science degrees as established by the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York.

The College is approved for recipients of New York State Scholarships for Veterans’ training.