

II. Executive Summary: Key Findings

This financial analysis of CUNY's remedial education programs and services provides key data on participation, expenditures, and revenue sources for remedial education.

A. Participation

- Approximately 36% of CUNY undergraduate students are enrolled or participate in one or more remedial courses or programs
- This participation equates to 15% of the total student activity in educational programs based on full-time equivalent (FTE) students
- Community colleges have the highest percentage of remedial education activity—60% headcount and 29% FTE
- Corresponding rates for the hybrid colleges are 35% headcount and 13% FTE and for senior colleges 18% headcount and 6% FTE
 - Available data for first-year only remedial education participation in public higher education in a number of states reveals that it is not unusual to have remedial participation rates exceeding 35%
- A significant proportion of the remedial participation at CUNY is through basic skills courses
 - Community colleges—44% headcount, 72% FTE
 - Hybrid colleges—45% headcount, 73% FTE
 - Senior colleges—31% headcount, 58% FTE

B. Expenditures

- CUNY's expenditures of \$124 million for remedial education represent 8% of all University expenditures, or 11% when such unrelated functions as auxiliaries, the law school, the graduate school, and construction are eliminated from the base
- Remedial education represents 23% of the expenditures in the community colleges, 9% in the hybrid colleges, and 5% in the senior colleges
- The basic skills program represents 60% of total remedial expenditures
- Direct instruction expenditures are 42% of total remedial education expenditures, but only 9% of total University expenditures for instruction; indirect, non-instructional support (e.g., administration) represents 41% of the expenditures for remedial education students
- For all types of colleges, CUNY expends approximately one-third less per FTE for remedial education than for the total University
 - Community colleges--\$4,660 remedial, \$7,079 overall
 - Hybrid colleges--\$5,010 remedial, \$8,802 overall
 - Senior colleges--\$6,350 remedial, \$9,754 overall

C. Revenue Sources

- Sixty-two percent (62%) of the revenues supporting remedial education is derived from tuition, including student payments and state and federal student aid
- State and city funding provide a combined 33% of the revenues for remedial education
- The state-supported Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) represents a low of 58% of the funding in community colleges, 67% in senior colleges, and 72% in hybrid colleges