The University of the State of New York THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Office of Higher Education

Office of Postsecondary Access, Support and Success 89 Washington Avenue

Room 960 Education Building Addition Albany, New York 12234

Application for Funding for

## Enhancing Supports and Services for Students with Disabilities for Postsecondary Success (SWDPS)

September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2024

A Notice of Intent to Apply must be emailed to SWDPS@nysed.gov by 5:00 pm on June 14, 2023.

Applications for Funding must be emailed to SWDPS@nysed.gov by 5:00 pm on July 14, 2023.

## Enhancing Supports and Services for Students with Disabilities for Postsecondary Success (SWDPS)

Background Information

Chapter 53 of the Laws of 2021 appropriated $2,000,000 for “enhancing supports and services for students with disabilities enrolled in New York State degree granting colleges and universities.” The language for this priority proposal was developed in collaboration with the NYSED Advisory Council on Postsecondary Education for Student with Disabilities as well as New York’s higher education sectors – the State University of New York (SUNY), the City University of New York (CUNY), the Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities (CICU), and the Association of Proprietary Colleges (APC). Their joint efforts are reflected in SED Departmental #6 or S.6517 Stavisky.

Beginning in 2021-22, NYSED worked in partnership with New York’s institutions of higher education (IHEs), both public and private, to begin delivering on the legislative intent and to be consistent with the provisions as proposed by SED Departmental #6/S.6517, as discussed with the Senate and Assembly Higher Education Chairs, as well as respective higher education central staff.

The 2022-23 Enacted Budget allocated $2,000,000 for the SWDPS grant, and the 2023-24 Enacted Budget includes $4,000,000 to continue funding this important program. The Department is again seeking to work in partnership with New York’s IHEs, both public and private, to enhance supports and services for students with disabilities for postsecondary success.

Allowable Services

The bill requires the Commissioner to allocate funds to New York State degree-granting colleges and universities eligible to administer TAP funding that enroll students with disabilities, so these students can succeed in their education. The Act defines students with disabilities as being “individuals with a disability who have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity or activities, a record of such impairment or being regarded as having such impairment and who are enrolled in a degree-granting institution in New York.”

Appropriated funds must be used for one or more of the following purposes:

* To supplement existing supports and accommodations of SWDs in order to expand such supports and services provided at SUNY, CUNY, and degree-granting Private and Independent IHEs;
* To support college prep programs to assist incoming SWDs in transitioning to college and prepare them to navigate the campus facilities and systems;
* To provide full- and part-time faculty and staff at SUNY, CUNY, and Private and Independent degree granting IHEs with disability training; and/or
* To improve the identification process of SWDs and enhance data collection capabilities at SUNY, CUNY, and Private and Independent degree granting IHEs.

Funds may *not* be used to hire new full- or part-time staff unless such staff are employed for the direct purpose of bolstering or expanding existing supportive services and/or programs designed to help SWDs succeed in college. Additionally, funds may not be used for expenses related to indirect costs or administrative overhead.

Funding

The appropriated $4,000,000 in program funds for 2023-24 will be allocated proportionally to SUNY, CUNY, and individually to each private, independent, degree-granting college and university based on their reported number of SWDs enrolled, compared against the total number of SWDs enrolled in all IHEs that successfully apply for funding. Funding decisions will be based upon the 2021-22 reported enrollment of SWDs submitted by each institution to the Commissioner. SED estimates that awards will be based on the formula of approximately $53 per enrolled SWD. However, if otherwise eligible IHEs decline to apply for this funding opportunity, funds may be reallocated among the remaining applicant IHEs who are deemed eligible for funding. The *Notice of Intent to Apply* (described below) will help SED determine final funding amounts for each eligible IHE that chooses to apply.

SUNY Administration and CUNY Administration, as State agencies, will each be required to submit a single application for their respective branch institutions. Based upon the foregoing disbursement formula, funds will be sub-allocated by the Commissioner directly to SUNY Admin and CUNY Admin. All private, independent, degree-granting colleges and universities seeking funding will be required to submit individual applications. In the absence of legislative authority, SED does not have a legal basis to distribute funding to private IHEs in the same manner as it does for SUNY and CUNY institutions. Depending on the amount of funding awarded, in accordance with NYS Finance Law, SED will enter into individual contracts with certain private, independent, and proprietary IHEs; a small subset of these contracts will require review and approval by the Attorney General’s Office and the Office of the State Comptroller. SED anticipates issuing awards to all eligible institutions in winter 2023.

Reporting

It is the Commissioner’s sincere hope that, with the detailed documentation of program findings, successes reached, and challenges encountered, SED will be able to make a strong argument for continued and enhanced funding beyond 2023-2024. As such, all awardees and/ or Systems will be required to submit narrative reports to SED to describe progress made toward reaching their anticipated goals. A template for these narrative reports will be forthcoming.

## MANDATORY Notice of Intent to Apply and Application for Funding

In order to receive funding for this program, eligible Systems and institutions **must** first submit a mandatory *Notice of Intent to Apply* **by 5:00 PM on June 14, 2023**. **The *Notice of Intent to Apply* is a simple email to** **SWDPS@nysed.gov** **stating the System’s or institution’s intent to submit an application for this grant.** Systems and institutions should include “SWDPS 2023-24 Notice of Intent to Apply” as their subject line to expedite processing. SED will use this information to determine the dollar amount each institution will be eligible to receive using the funding

formula described above. Systems and institutions that do not submit a *Notice of Intent to Apply* by 5:00pm on June 14, 2023 will **not** be eligible for SWDPS 2023-24 funding.

By 5:00 PM on June 23, 2023, SED will share with each System and institution that submitted a *Notice of Intent to Apply* the tentative award amount they are eligible to receive should they decide to submit an *Application for Funding*.

Systems and institutions that submit a *Notice of Intent to Apply* should also **submit this *Application for Funding* by 5:00 PM on July 14, 2023**. The *Application for Funding* includes basic information about the System or institution, an indication of the type(s) of activities in which they plan to engage using the requested funds, and a simple work plan. A completed FS-10 Budget Form (draft, unsigned) and an M/WBE Package (if applicable) are also required as part of the *Application for Funding*. Systems and institutions should submit these documents as attachments to an email sent to SWDPS@nysed.gov. Systems and institutions should include “SWDPS 2023-24 Application for Funding” as their subject line to expedite processing. Systems and institutions that do not submit a complete *Application for Funding* by **5:00 PM on July 14, 2023** will **not** be eligible for SWDPS 2023-24 funding.

Summary of Important Dates for SWDPS 2023-24

* 6/14/2023 – *Notice of Intent to Apply* email due to SWDPS@nysed.gov
* 6/23/2023 – SED sends tentative award amount to applicants
* 7/14/2023 – *Application for Funding,* draft *FS-10* and *M/WBE Package* (only for awards of $25,000 or above) due to SWDPS@nysed.gov

# APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

## Enhancing Supports and Services for Students with Disabilities for Postsecondary Success (SWDPS)

**2023-24**

**SECTION I**: **SECTOR AND INSTITUTION INFORMATION**

**Sector (check only one):**

**SUNY Administration**

**Private/Independent IHE**

**CUNY Administration**

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**System/Institution (SUNY Admin, CUNY Admin, or name of Private/Independent IHE):**

**Contact Person:**

**Address:**

**Phone:**

**Email:**

**SECTION II: NEED FOR THESE FUNDS**

**Funding Categories:** Check off which of the eligible categories of activities best describes how your System/institution plans to use the funds during the program year. Check all that apply. (SUNY and CUNY should check all funding categories that describe services which will take place across the colleges within their respective systems, understanding variation by college).

**\_ \_** To supplement existing supports and accommodations of SWDs in order to expand such supports and services provided at SUNY, CUNY and other degree- granting Private and Independent IHEs;

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**\_ \_** To support college prep programs to assist SWDs in transitioning to college and prepare them to navigate the campus facilities and systems;

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**\_ \_** To provide full and part-time faculty and staff at SUNY, CUNY and other Private and Independent IHEs with disability training; and/or

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**\_ \_** To improve the identification process of SWDs and enhance data collection capabilities at SUNY, CUNY and other Private and Independent IHEs.

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# APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

## Enhancing Supports and Services for Students with Disabilities for Postsecondary Success (SWDPS)

**2023-24**

**SECTION III: SERVICES / WORK PLAN**

Describe how your System/institution plans to implement the program activities identified in Section II. Provide a description of the outcomes you expect to achieve at the end of the one- year project period.

# APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

## Enhancing Supports and Services for Students with Disabilities for Postsecondary Success (SWDPS)

**2023-24**

**SECTION IV: BUDGET**

Please complete and submit with this application a DRAFT FS-10 Budget Form outlining how you intend to spend the requested funds. The FS-10 template can be downloaded from the SED website below. Please be sure to use the **MS Excel version** of the form.

 [https://www.oms.nysed.gov//cafe/forms/](https://www.oms.nysed.gov/cafe/forms/)

**SECTION V: M/WBE Package** *(only applicable for IHEs eligible to receive $25,000 or more)* Please complete and submit with this application an M/WBE Package. A fillable PDF version of this package has been included with this application as an attachment.

## Please note that only IHEs that will receive $25,000 or more need to submit this M/WBE package.