



MEMORANDUM

March 10, 2026

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Dr. John B. King, Jr., Chancellor

SUBJECT: Master Plan Amendment for Westchester Community College

Action Requested

The proposed resolution authorizes Westchester Community College to designate the existing extension center at 843 Kimball Avenue, Yonkers, New York as a branch campus named Westchester Community College - Yonkers, and to offer at this branch campus the Associate in Science in the disciplinary area of Business and Associate in Applied Science in the disciplinary areas of Fine Arts and Social Sciences, subject to approval by the New York State Board of Regents and the Governor.

Resolution

I recommend that the Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

Resolved that the State University of New York Master Plan be, and hereby is, amended to designate Westchester Community College - Yonkers at 843 Kimball Avenue, Yonkers, New York as a branch campus of Westchester Community College; and, be it further

Resolved that the State University of New York Master Plan be, and hereby is, amended to authorize Westchester Community College – Yonkers to offer instruction leading to the Associate in Science in the disciplinary area of Business and Associate in Applied Science in the disciplinary areas of Fine Arts and Social Sciences; and, be it further

Resolved that the Chancellor be, and hereby is, authorized to transmit this amendment to the New York State Board of Regents

and the Governor for incorporation into the State University of New York Master Plan.

Background

Approval of this amendment will authorize the Chancellor to transmit to the New York State Board of Regents and the Governor a proposal for Westchester Community College – Yonkers, currently classified by the New York State Education Department as an extension center, to become a branch campus of Westchester Community College (“SUNY Westchester”). Section 54.1 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education requires a Master Plan Amendment to designate an additional location of an institution as a branch campus. Section 50.1(r) defines a branch campus as a “unit of an institution located at a place other than the institution’s principal center or another degree-granting institution, at which the institution offers one or more curricula leading to a certificate or degree.” Further, Section 52.1(e) requires that “curricula offered at each branch campus shall be registered separately from curricula at an institution’s principal center.”

The extension center in Yonkers was established by SUNY Westchester in 2003. Currently, SUNY Westchester offers credit courses, as well as English as a Second Language, short-term workforce training programs, and partnership programs with business and industry at this location. In 2022, the college relocated the extension center to a renovated 39,000-square-foot facility in the Cross County Center, allowing for expanded offerings and stronger community partnerships. The facilities include a welcome lobby with a dedicated information desk, event space, and café. There are training rooms equipped for hands-on learning, computer labs for individual or group use, ten standard classrooms, and two instructional computer labs. Additional specialized spaces include a multi-purpose science lab and a state-of-the-art fashion design lab. The location also features faculty suites and office space. As an extension center, students interested in pursuing full degree programs must attend the main campus in Valhalla. Designating the extension center as a branch campus of SUNY Westchester will allow students to complete degree programs in their entirety at this location, increasing both access and completion.

Yonkers, the third largest city in New York State and home to approximately 210,000 residents, makes up more than 20% of Westchester County’s population. SUNY Westchester has established strong relationships with local organizations, including the Yonkers Community Council, Chamber of Commerce, and school district, creating opportunities for internships, applied learning, and career development. The ability to offer full degree programs at this location will further support recruitment and enrollment efforts. SUNY Westchester – Yonkers will provide local opportunities for a wide range of students within and around Westchester County.

Once designated a branch campus, SUNY Westchester – Yonkers plans to offer three associate degree programs, each of which is based on an existing program registered at the main campus. The programs are as follows: Business Management, A.S., Criminal Justice, A.A.S., and Fashion Technology and Design, A.A.S. The Business Management, A.S., registered at the main campus since 1977 with average annual enrollment of approximately 790 students in each of the past five years, is designed to prepare graduates to successfully transfer to a baccalaureate degree program in business or to seek immediate employment applying knowledge and skills learned through program coursework including accounting, economics, management, and marketing as well as general education. The Criminal Justice, A.A.S., registered at the main campus since 1971 with average annual enrollment of approximately 340 students in each of the past five years, is designed to prepare graduates for employment in law enforcement agencies at the federal, state, and local levels, as well as in private sector security companies. The Fashion Design and Technology, A.A.S., registered at the main campus since 2010 with average annual enrollment of approximately 75 students in each of the past five years, is designed to prepare graduates for employment in a variety of positions in the fashion industry, such as design assistants, tailoring and production assistants, textile specialists, and product development assistants.

Projected total enrollment in the three programs at the branch campus in year one is 203 full-time and 88 part-time students, increasing in year five to 513 full-time and 206 part-time students.

The branch campus programs will utilize the facilities and equipment of the existing extension center. Faculty from the main campus will teach many of the courses for these programs; however, one new full-time faculty and additional adjunct faculty will be hired to meet student need as course sections are added at the branch campus.

According to the labor market analytics tool Lightcast, through 2035 demand in target occupations is projected to increase for the Business Management, A.S. and Criminal Justice, A.S. programs. The projected increase for Business Management, A.S., is approximately 11% in the region and 9% nationwide. The projected increase for Criminal Justice, A.A.S., is approximately 8% both regionally and nationally. Demand for target occupations directly associated with Fashion Design and Technology, A.A.S., is projected to decline approximately 7% in New York City and the surrounding counties; however, there is a projected increase of approximately 7% nationwide. Additionally, the curriculum of the proposed program will develop students' skills that align with specialized skills identified as growing or rapidly growing in demand, including garment construction, technical design, new product development, and sketching.

External evaluators noted several strengths of the proposed programs, including the faculty at the main campus who will contribute to the programs at the branch campus and the design of the main campus programs that will be replicated at the branch campus. Additionally, the external evaluators commended the location of the proposed branch campus, including the high-quality instructional facilities already in operation through offerings via the existing extension center and its accessibility for students to these instructional facilities as well as to nearby internship opportunities and post-graduation employment.

The designation of Westchester Community College – Yonkers as a branch campus, and the offering of the Associate in Science in Business Management and Associate in Applied Science in Criminal Justice and Fashion Technology and Design, fits well with Westchester Community College's mission. The proposal has been reviewed by the System Provost's Office and Office of Budget and found to be sound, both academically and fiscally.