EOP BOASTS MORE THAN 76,000 PROUD ALUMNI, WITH 78% OF THE GRADUATES CONTINUING TO LIVE AND WORK IN NEW YORK

At the time of admission, EOP students possess many of the characteristics that predict high attrition rates. However, the program’s six-year baccalaureate completion rate of 74 percent accentuates the effectiveness of EOP’s success model and its ability to develop student scholars.

As a result of the program’s remarkable performance rates, many institutions, both within and external to the University have normalized EOP best practices as part of the college’s general program to increase campus retention and graduation outcomes. Although race and ethnicity are not considered in determining eligibility, the rich diversity of opportunity program students contributes to the State University’s mission to grow and strengthen a culturally inclusive environment.

Elijah Joseph
SUNY Broome Graduate, Class of 2017
EOP DATA POINTS OVERVIEW

The data provided in this document are intended to provide insightful information about EOP students served across the 49 participating campuses in the 2019-20 academic year, excluding winter and summer terms. The information was collected, in large part, through the SUNY’s data storage system. Limited data on EOP alumni are also captured in the document.

Although not exhaustive, the collected data will serve to:

- Establish a baseline for program administrators to monitor aggregate EOP data trends;
- Promote awareness about the demographic profile of EOP students in an effort to ensure appropriate program planning;
- Respond to inquiries regarding overall student performance including graduation, persistence, credit completion, and retention;
- Provide meaningful information that may strengthen overall program delivery and performance;
- Highlight program success;
- Answer questions about enrolled EOP students such as grade point average, persistence and enrollment by degree levels;
- Ensure program planning and development are executed in consideration of changing demographics;
- Establish a baseline to conduct comparative analyses; and
- Communicate EOP alumni success.

Stony Brook University EOP student, Keyly Valenzuela participated in an archaeological dig at the Turkana Basin Institute in northern Kenya.
Graduation and retention rates of SUNY’s EOP students are competitive and, in some cohorts, perform above national rates for public institutions of medium selectivity. The six-year baccalaureate completion rate is 74.21 percent, and the six-year baccalaureate graduation rate is 63.85 percent. EOP graduation outcomes compare favorably with the national rate which, according to the most recent available data from the National Center for Educational Statistics, was 62 percent for students who graduated in six-years from a public institution. (https://nces.ed.gov/fastfacts/display.asp?id=40) In the case of open-admission or two-year colleges, the outcomes compare favorably. First-year retention rates, when compared against national performance, are relatively strong considering the profile of EOP students. Of the 2,751 students who entered a SUNY 4-year institution in fall 2019, 82 percent returned in the following fall 2020 semester, as compared to the 81 percent national retention rate for colleges and universities of similar characteristics.

EOP’s remarkable performance is due to its full-service holistic model that includes a specialized admissions process; participation in an extensive pre-freshman summer academy that aims to strengthen academic competencies; individualized academic advising/counseling; a robust academic support environment that provides tutoring, skill development programming, and a dedicated team comprised of an EOP director, counselors, instructors and tutors who are devoted to student success.
The six-year baccalaureate completion rate is **74.21%**, and the six-year baccalaureate graduation rate is **63.85%**. EOP graduation outcomes compare favorably with national rates which, according to most recent available data from the National Center for Educational Statistics, was **62%** for students who graduated from a public institution.
STUDENT FINANCIAL PROFILE

The financial burden of college attendance for low-income students is alleviated, in large part, by the receipt of state and federal grants. In the 2019-20 academic year, 99.79% of EOP students received a grant or other non-loan aid, and 67% were packaged with federal or personal loans. Although a very small part of the financial aid package, EOP direct aid plays an important role in the total award. Despite the substantial amount of aid provided, the increasing cost of higher education leaves many opportunity program students with a gap between the average cost of attendance and the average financial aid package. With an annual family income of no more than 185% of the federal poverty standards ($48,470 for a family of four), identifying alternate funding sources is nearly impossible and may result in students who are in good academic standing departing from the college before graduation.

THE AVERAGE FAMILY INCOME FOR EOP STUDENTS WAS $21,300 BASED ON THE LATEST DATA ACQUIRED

STUDENT FINANCIAL AID DISTRIBUTION

- Cost of Attendance
- Average Financial Aid Package
- Average Unmet Need

Based on the most recent available data, EOP students graduated with an average of $25,000 in loan debt at the state-operated campuses and $16,000 at the community colleges respectively.

STUDENT LOAN STATUS

- Students with Grants, Private Loans
- Students with Loans

2 Year

- 100%

- 32.87%

4 Year

- 99.56%

- 75.9%
## FUNDED ENROLLMENT BY SECTOR (2019-2020)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>2019-2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University Colleges</td>
<td>3,304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Centers and Doctoral Degree Granting Institutions</td>
<td>2,941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Colleges</td>
<td>2,644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Colleges</td>
<td>851</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each year, thousands of eligible students are unable to enroll in the Educational Opportunity Program due to limited resources. While support from the New York State Legislature remains steady, the appropriation remains insufficient to meet the growing needs of new and enrolled students. In 2019, an estimated 12,000 students were confirmed eligible but only 30% were offered admissions.

## EOP TEN-YEAR FUNDED ENROLLMENT PROFILE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Funded Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009-10</td>
<td>9,860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-11</td>
<td>9,196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>9,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>9,524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>9,469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>9,555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>9,928</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>10,746</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>10,934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>11,112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>9,740</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## PRE-FRESHMAN EOP PROFILE

- **Average High School GPA (First-time, Full-time):** 82.13
- **SAT Score Math Average:** 495.99
- **SAT Score Evidenced Based Reading and Writing Average:** 498.79

## HIGHER EDUCATION CLASS STATUS

- **Undergraduate, First-time:** 69%
- **Continuing/Returning:** 27%
- **Transfer:** 3%
- **Transition:** 1%

### THE NUMBER OF FIRST-TIME, FULL-TIME STUDENTS WHO ENROLLED FOR THE FALL 2019

- **Total:** 2,761
EOP DIVERSITY

One of the Educational Opportunity Program’s greatest strengths is its diversity. Program participants come from almost every county in New York State. Because eligibility determinations are only based on income and academic guidelines, student demographics reflect the cultural, racial, religious, gender and geographic mosaic of New York State.

Students enrolled in the program are traditional and non-traditional, independent and dependent, and some are employed while others can afford to delay work and focus on their academics. The rich program diversity creates a welcoming environment where students can thrive without bias or judgment. Many EOP directors and staff who provide leadership and direct program services are themselves EOP alumni who mirror its diversity.
# Regions: Where EOP Students Come From

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Hudson</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Island</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western New York</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finger Lakes</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Region</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central New York</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohawk Valley</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Country</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Tier</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## EOP Participating Campuses

### University Centers and Doctoral Degree Granting Institutions
- University at Albany
- Binghamton University
- University at Buffalo
- Stony Brook University
- SUNY Downstate Medical Center
- SUNY Polytechnic Institute
- Upstate Medical University
- College of Environmental Science and Forestry
- New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University
- Cornell University
- College of Optometry (Graduate Program Only)

### University Colleges
- The College at Brockport
- Buffalo State College
- SUNY Cortland
- SUNY Fredonia
- SUNY Geneseo
- SUNY New Paltz
- Old Westbury
- College at Oneonta
- SUNY Oswego
- SUNY Plattsburgh
- SUNY Potsdam
- Purchase College

### Technology Colleges
- Alfred State College
- SUNY Canton
- SUNY Cobleskill
- SUNY Delhi
- Farmingdale State College
- Maritime College
- SUNY Morrisville

### Community Colleges
- SUNY Adirondack
- SUNY Broome Community College
- Dutchess Community College
- Erie Community College
- Fashion Institute of Technology
- Finger Lakes Community College
- Fulton-Montgomery Community College
- Genesee Community College
- Hudson Valley Community College
- Jefferson Community College
- Mohawk Valley Community College
- Monroe Community College
- Nassau Community College
- Niagara County Community College
- Onondaga Community College
- SUNY Orange
- Schenectady County Community College
- Suffolk County Community College
- Ulster County Community College
- Westchester Community College