

Facts About Independent Colleges and Universities

Summer 2013

New York State's Higher Education Heritage

- Four-year and graduate enrollment at Independent Sector colleges and universities was 486,601 in Fall 2012, which represents a 53% share of four-year and graduate enrollment in New York State. In the same year, four-year and graduate enrollment at SUNY and CUNY was 229,019 (25%) and 172,903 (19%), respectively.
- Considering both two-year and four-year/graduate institutions, the Independent Sector enrolls the largest percentage of students in the State: 39%, or 491,293.
- The Independent Sector awards 52% of the bachelor's degrees, 71% of the master's and 79% of the doctoral and professional degrees.
- The Independent Sector led degree completion with a 65.5% 5-year graduation rate in 2010 (up from 59.7% in 2000).
- The Independent Sector outpaces other sectors in production of critical needs degrees. In 2010-11, Independent Sector campuses delivered 72% of bachelor's degrees awarded in engineering; 49% of bachelor's degrees awarded in mathematics and statistics; 45% of bachelor's degrees awarded in physical sciences; 59% of bachelor's degrees awarded in health professions and related programs; 50% of bachelor's degrees in computer and information sciences; and 45% of bachelor's degrees awarded in education.

Economic Impact

- In 2011, total statewide economic impact of New York's Independent Sector of higher education was \$63.2 billion.
- Total employment in 2011 was 373,800 employees, which includes 180,600 direct jobs, and 193,200 indirect and induced jobs.
- Total payroll, which includes institutional, construction, and indirect/induced employment, was \$23.1 billion in 2011.

State Spending and Student Aid

- The Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) helps more than 310,000 full-time students pay their tuition at a New York State college or university. In 2011-12, \$920 million was awarded to New York State students. Students at Independent colleges and universities received \$232 million.
- Independent Sector institutions provide \$4 billion in institutionally funded financial aid.

Educating Students of Color

- Thirty-eight percent of Black undergraduate students and 39% of Hispanic undergraduate students enroll at four-year independent colleges and universities.
- Forty-nine percent of Black students and 50% of Hispanic students received their bachelor's and graduate degree from the Independent Sector.
- The Arthur O. Eve Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP) brings the promise of a college education to a traditionally underserved population: 66% of HEOP students are Black and Hispanic.

Research and Development (R&D) Leader

- New York State ranks second among the states, with total public and private higher education R&D expenditures of \$5.3 billion.
- Independent Sector colleges and universities account for 74 percent of R&D spending among higher education institutions in New York State.
- In 2011, the Independent Sector produced 44 start-up companies, filed 683 new patent applications, and was issued 311 U.S. patents.

Notable Distinctions: The Independent Sector Difference

- The Independent Sector is well represented in the U.S. News and World Report college rankings with seven institutions listed in the top 50 Liberal Arts Colleges; six institutions listed in the top 50 National Research Medical Schools; and six institutions listed in the top 50 Best National Universities.
- In 2012, 290 National Merit Scholars entered Independent Sector colleges and universities.
- There are 146 Nobel laureates affiliated with Independent Sector colleges and universities.