



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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June 30, 2025 (NEW YORK CITY) — *In response to the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2026 city budget, the [Coalition for Equitable Education Funding](#), comprised of more than 120 organizations, released the following statement:*

We came together two years ago concerned that numerous impactful education programs were at risk of being rolled back or eliminated because they were being funded with expiring dollars, including hundreds of millions of dollars in one-time federal COVID-19 stimulus funds. We appreciate that all of the programs we advocated to sustain still exist today and will continue to benefit tens of thousands of students next year.

In addition to the programs that received long-term funding last year, we are pleased that the budget adopted today provides long-term funding for a number of important education programs including 3-K, preschool special education classes, community schools, arts programming, and high-impact tutoring, as well as continued funding for one more year for other critical education programs.

While we are relieved that the following programs will continue next year, funding programs for only one year at a time creates uncertainty for the communities they serve, and we worry about the looming threat when funding runs out in July 2026:

- Summer programming, which provides students with recreational activities, arts, and field trips, in addition to academic enrichment (\$80M);
- Learning to Work programs, which provide support to over-age, under-credited students to help them earn a high school diploma and develop a post-secondary plan (\$31M);
- Restorative justice programs, which help students stay in school and resolve conflicts instead of being suspended (\$6M);
- The Mental Health Continuum, which provides mental healthcare to students at 50 schools (\$5M);
- Outreach efforts to help ensure families are aware of early childhood programs (\$5M);
- Immigrant family outreach to help families receive information about their child's school in a language and mode they can access (\$4M); and

- Student Success Centers, which train and support youth leaders on how to guide their peers through the college admissions process, providing crucial support to students at more than 30 high schools (\$3.3M).

We urge the City to provide *long-term funding* for all of these programs moving forward to help ensure their stability and success.

We are grateful to the City Council, in particular Speaker Adrienne Adams and Education Committee Chair Rita Joseph, for standing with us in fighting to sustain these important education programs over the past two years. We also appreciate the work of the Administration to identify funding for these important initiatives. We are especially proud of the parents, students, and advocates who joined our coalition's efforts, shared their stories, and advocated for this funding.

We are relieved that many education programs that had been at risk of elimination will continue. As we prepare to face the challenges of the year ahead, it will be essential for the City to step up and make additional investments to meet the needs of students, with a focus on those who need the most support.

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