



# GET TO KNOW EOP

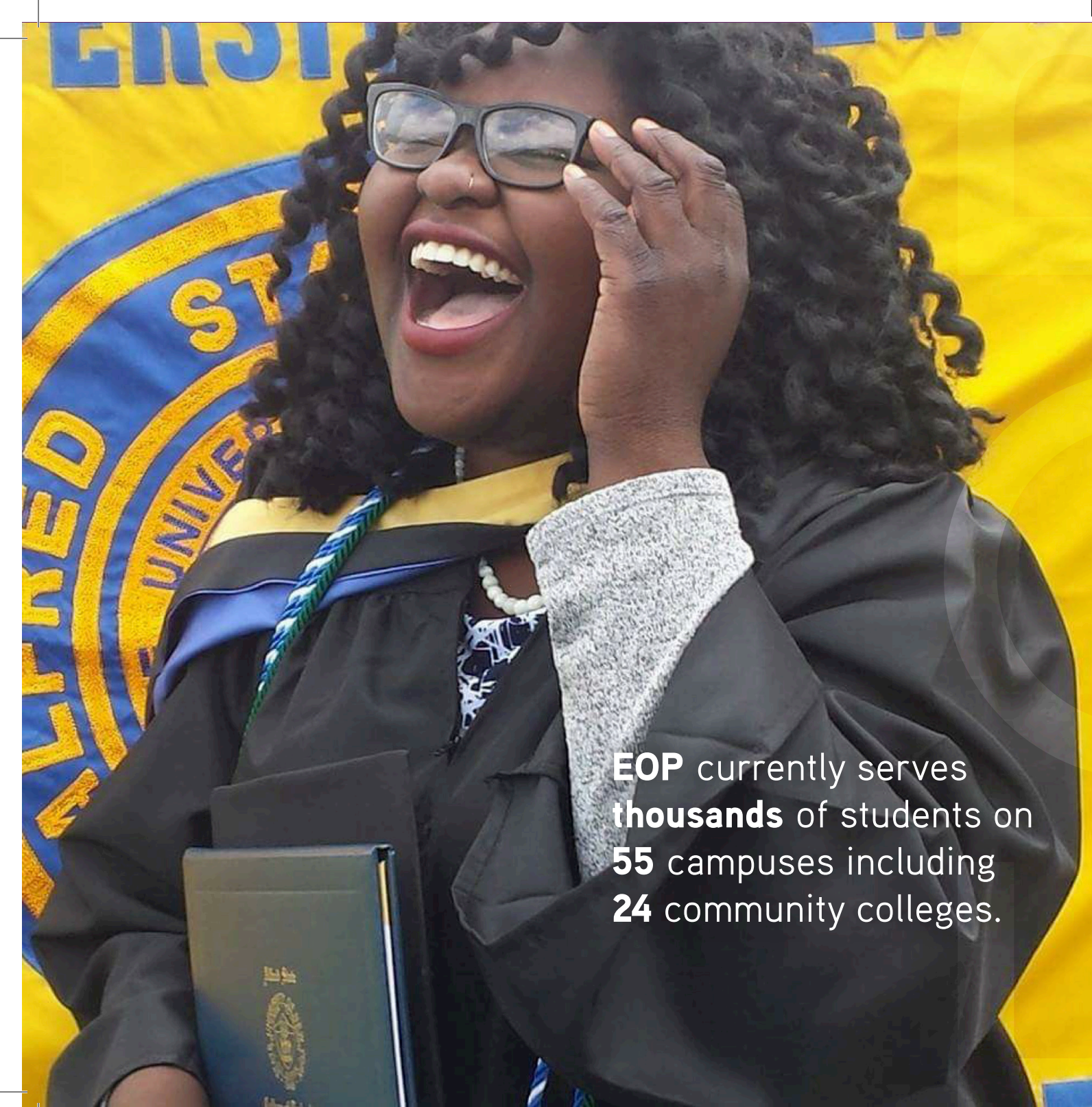
Providing College Access,  
Success and Opportunity

Your Guide to SUNY's Educational Opportunity Program



Arthur O. Eve Educational  
Opportunity Program

Office of Opportunity Programs  
State University of New York  
[www.suny.edu/eop](http://www.suny.edu/eop)



**EOP** currently serves **thousands** of students on **55** campuses including **24** community colleges.

# A SUNY DEGREE IS WITHIN YOUR REACH

For more than 50 years, the State University of New York's Arthur O. Eve Educational Opportunity Program has made it possible for talented students who have limited financial resources and are academically underprepared to attend a SUNY college, earn a degree and achieve their life goals. This highly successful program is supported by the New York State Legislature and SUNY campuses. It provides eligible first-time, full-time freshmen with a pre-freshman summer experience, extensive academic support services, a nurturing environment and modest financial assistance.

# TOP 10

BENEFITS OF EOP

EOP enables students to realize their full potential by capitalizing on their strengths. The program provides students with comprehensive services and personalized support throughout your college journey. Most programs include:

- 1 Pre-freshman summer program experience
- 2 Academic and career advisement
- 3 Individual and group tutoring
- 4 Personal counseling
- 5 Skill development workshops
- 6 Supplemental instruction
- 7 Peer mentoring
- 8 Modest financial support to help assist with non-tuition costs such as textbooks and supplies
- 9 New York State Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) eligibility for 10 semesters for students enrolled in a 4-year college program
- 10 A shared sense of community

## EOP PROMOTES ACADEMIC SUCCESS

EOP serves a racially diverse population of low-income, primarily first-generation college students who are significantly more likely to earn a degree than students with similar backgrounds.



74% of students at 4 year institutions complete their Bachelors within 6 years

More than 2,200 EOP students earned a 3.0 GPA or higher at the end of Fall 2022



# WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Students selected to participate in the Educational Opportunity Program have the potential and motivation to succeed in college. To be considered for admission to EOP, students must:

- Be a New York State resident for 12 months prior to enrollment
- Have earned a high school diploma or its equivalent
- Be ineligible for admission under traditional admission standards - students who fall slightly below the criteria for general admission (academic eligibility varies by campus)
- Qualify as economically disadvantaged according to income guidelines set by the New York State Education Department (financial eligibility is based on family income from prior-prior year)
- Enroll as a full-time student

## What if a SUNY campus doesn't have EOP or you're not eligible?

If you're interested in participating in EOP but the campus you want to apply to doesn't have an EOP or you're not eligible, you may still qualify for admission and financial aid through other admission processes.

# HOW TO APPLY?

## Freshman Admissions



### STEP 1

Before applying, you may want to contact the admissions or EOP office at your college(s) of choice to learn more about the program and its eligibility requirements.



### STEP 3

Gather financial documentation to determine your eligibility. Campus (s) will require supplemental information to confirm your eligibility.



### STEP 2

Review eligibility guidelines at: [www.suny.edu/attend/academics/eop](http://www.suny.edu/attend/academics/eop)



### STEP 4

Complete the regular SUNY Application, Common Application or Campus Application and check "yes" to indicate your interest in applying for the Educational Opportunity Program.

The program has a limited capacity so early submission of documentation is strongly advised. Your application will not be processed until full application processing fees are paid in full or an authorized fee waiver request is received. (See: Application Fee Waiver).

## Transfer Admissions

Applicants who have previously been enrolled in EOP or a similar opportunity program (HEOP - Higher Education Opportunity Program, College Discovery, SEEK - Search for Education, Elevation and Knowledge) are eligible for transfer admission. Students whose previous college did not have EOP or a similar program may be considered for transfer eligibility and should notify the college's Office of Admissions or the Educational Opportunity Program.

## Application Fee Waiver

Students submitting an application for EOP admissions consideration, may qualify for an application fee waiver for their first seven (7) campus choices. If a student does not meet both the academic and economic guidelines, or the campus to which the student is applying does not operate an Educational Opportunity Program, the student will be billed for the application fee.

# SERVICES & SUPPORTS

## Pre-Freshman Summer Experience

First generation and students from disadvantaged backgrounds can often feel anxious or overwhelmed when they first step foot on a college campus. Through participation in EOP's highly-structured summer experience students learn how to successfully transition from high school to becoming a successful SUNY college freshman. Students are introduced to academic and support services. They are assigned an EOP counselor and begin to forge a strong peer network that continues throughout their college career. Program content and activities vary by campus, but all programs include daily classes and tutoring that focus on developmental work in mathematics and college writing. Some campuses offer credit-bearing coursework. The summer program is free of charge to participants and covers the cost of housing, tuition, meals, books and activities.



## Personal Counseling and Academic Advising

EOP advisors work in close partnership with individual students to help facilitate adjustment to the college setting, provide academic and financial advisement, career planning and guidance. The counseling relationship and efforts of individual counselors are the program elements most often cited by students as the critical factor in their success.

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Once EOP...  
Always EOP

## EOP Pride

“Once EOP...Always EOP,” is a common refrain for EOP students who proudly refer to the program as their on-campus family. Students form lasting bonds with their EOP peers, advisers and staff. They often immerse themselves in campus and community service activities. High achieving EOP students may qualify for Induction into Chi Alpha Epsilon, (XAE) a national honor society. Many students take on leadership positions and serve as EOP tutors and peer advisors to help ensure the EOP legacy continues for generations to come.



# SUPPORT FOR PRE-MEDICAL, GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

## FOSTER YOUTH COLLEGE SUCCESS INITIATIVE (FYCSI)

The Foster Youth College Success Initiative (FYCSI) provides additional aid and services for EOP students who are in or aging out of foster care or who are orphans or wards of the court. Supplemental aid can be used to pay for expenses not covered by other sources of financial aid such as housing, food, books, transportation and fees.

### Pre-Medical Opportunity Program

The Pre-Medical Opportunity Program provides a summer residency, academic support, mentorship, clinical exposure, assistance with MCAT preparation, academic coaching, and modest financial assistance for qualified EOP students interested in pursuing careers in medicine.

### Graduate Opportunity Program (GOP)

The Graduate Opportunity Program provides partial tuition assistance to graduates of EOP or similar New York State access programs (HEOP, SEEK/CD) who are admitted to a graduate degree program at a participating SUNY campus. Financial support is contingent upon the availability of funding.

### Economically Disadvantaged First Professional Study (EDPS)

Limited resources are available for graduates of EOP or similar New York State access programs (HEOP, SEEK/CD) who are pursuing first professional study programs. Such programs may include optometry, dentistry, medicine, pharmacy and law.



# EOP VOICES

## WHAT EOP STUDENTS AND ALUMNI ARE SAYING ABOUT THE PROGRAM

### Meet Destiny Saldivar

"I am EOP. EOP is me." SUNY New Paltz grad credits EOP with giving her the confidence to realize her academic goals.

First in her family to graduate from college, Destiny Saldivar, who hails from Harlem, says EOP played a key role in her ability to succeed in college. "With academic support and emotional support masked by

a sense of family, I felt guided through my New Paltz journey every step of the way." After serving as an EOP peer mentor and summer liaison she realized a newfound passion for wanting to guide students of color to college. Destiny now works as a college counselor for a group of students in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn.



### Meet Abdourashid "Abdoul" Abdoukader

Homeless when he began college, Abdoul calls EOP his surrogate family.

Abdourashid "Abdoul" Abdoukader, a Computer Security major was born in Niger and moved to Brooklyn when he was five-years-old. Before enrolling at SUNY Plattsburgh he was living in a shelter home for youths.

Through EOP, Abdoul found emotional and academic support to help him succeed. "They watch over me really well! There are so many opportunities in the EOP program. They will make you feel important, wanted and belong somewhere. They will not let you down, they will always be there for you, in good times and bad."



### Meet The Honorable Crystal Peoples-Stokes

Buffalo State College EOP Alumna Serves as Majority Leader of the New York State Assembly

A former educator, administrator and community organizer, Crystal Peoples-Stokes has represented the 141st Assembly district in Buffalo since 2003. In 2018 she was named majority leader. She is the first woman and African American to serve in the chamber's number two leadership post. Assemblymember Peoples-Stokes is a graduate of Buffalo State College. She credits the Educational Opportunity Program with "changing the direction of her whole life".



**EOP** enrolls more than **2,000** first-time, full-time Freshmen each year and boasts more than **80,000** alumni. It is one of the highest performing college access programs in the country.

## Meet Arel Moodie

From Binghamton University EOP student to National Best-Selling Author and Featured Speaker at the Obama White House

Essence Magazine said "Arel Moodie should be the poster boy for rags-to-riches stories...he is America's top young speaker." Moodie, who does not shy away

from talking about his humble roots growing up in the projects in Brooklyn calls Binghamton University's EOP the genesis of so much of what is good in his life. "The confidence I built, the friends that I made, the jobs that I was able create for myself, the businesses I was able to create all comes back to the summer program."



## Meet Dr. Ewelina Sieka

Stony Brook EOP Alumna Becomes Pediatric Dentist

"Checking off the "EOP/AIM" box on my college application was the single most lucky thing I have done." Ewelina Sieka was born in Poland and immigrated to Long Island at age 17. Admitted to Stony Brook University through EOP, she obtained a Bachelor of Biochemistry degree and continued her education

at Columbia University College of Dental Medicine where she was awarded a Doctorate of Dental Medicine. "The summer program at Stony Brook gave me the confidence to step foot on campus as a freshman. Beyond the indispensable financial and educational support, the program provided me with one of the most valuable lessons: the importance of networking and seeking mentorship."



## Meet Rancelli Burdier

A SUNY Orange Alumna who obtained her degree in Human Services Management, Rancelli Burdier from Rockland County, NY, continues her pursuit of knowledge in counseling and psychology. "I enjoy connecting, collaborating, guiding individuals and believe that the helping profession of psychology aligns with my values and desire to help others." On her campus, she was a student ambassador, peer

orientation leader, and member of an honor society. Burdier has also achieved the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence (CASE), the Norman R. McConney Jr. Award, and was chosen to be the student speaker for the State of the University Address. In her speech, she states "With EOP, they not only supported my academic career, but it invested in ME... in US, in a way that anchored our sense of self."



## Meet Yaritsa Esteves

Young Mother Graduates from FIT and Embarks on Career in Luxury Brand Licensing

Yaritsa Esteves did not let motherhood stand in the way of achieving her career goals. Yaritsa became pregnant with her daughter in her senior year of high school. She enrolled in EOP at the Fashion Institute of Technology, deferred her admission for a semester, returned to college and never looked back. Yaritsa earned an AAS and a BS in Production at FIT and is working in her field for a company that licenses luxury name brands. "What has EOP been to me? It's been a hand, a net, a bridge, a shoulder and a voice that kept reminding me that my goals were important enough to strive for."



# EOP



# PRE-MEDICAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

The Pre-Medical Opportunity Program at SUNY seeks to address persistent income disparities in medical education by attempting to level the playing field for talented and capable Arthur O. Eve Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) students who pursue a career in medicine. The program is a partnership between SUNY's Office of Opportunity Programs and its medical universities.

To be considered for the program, candidates must be a SUNY EOP sophomore or junior on a pre-medical track, have a GPA of 3.0 or higher and have successfully completed two semesters of general chemistry and two semesters of biology.



## PRE-MED PROGRAM SUPPORTS AND SERVICES

- Academic coaching and workshops
- Mentorship
- Clinical exposure
- Assistance with MCAT preparation
- Laboratory sessions
- Summer residency at a SUNY medical university followed by 4 weeks of remote instruction
- Supplemental tutoring
- Research experience
- Modest financial assistance
- System-wide EOP community of pre-medical scholars



## EOP STUDENT AMBASSADORS

First impressions are important. And when it comes to influencers, exceptional SUNY Educational Opportunity Program students who are passionate about the program are EOP's best advocates. By sharing their success and best practices, EOP Ambassadors provide valuable guidance to prospective students to help them understand the benefits of EOP and make them feel more confident and comfortable with the EOP application process.

They know first-hand how applying for and choosing a college can cause both excitement and anxiety.

## OUR AMBASSADORS:

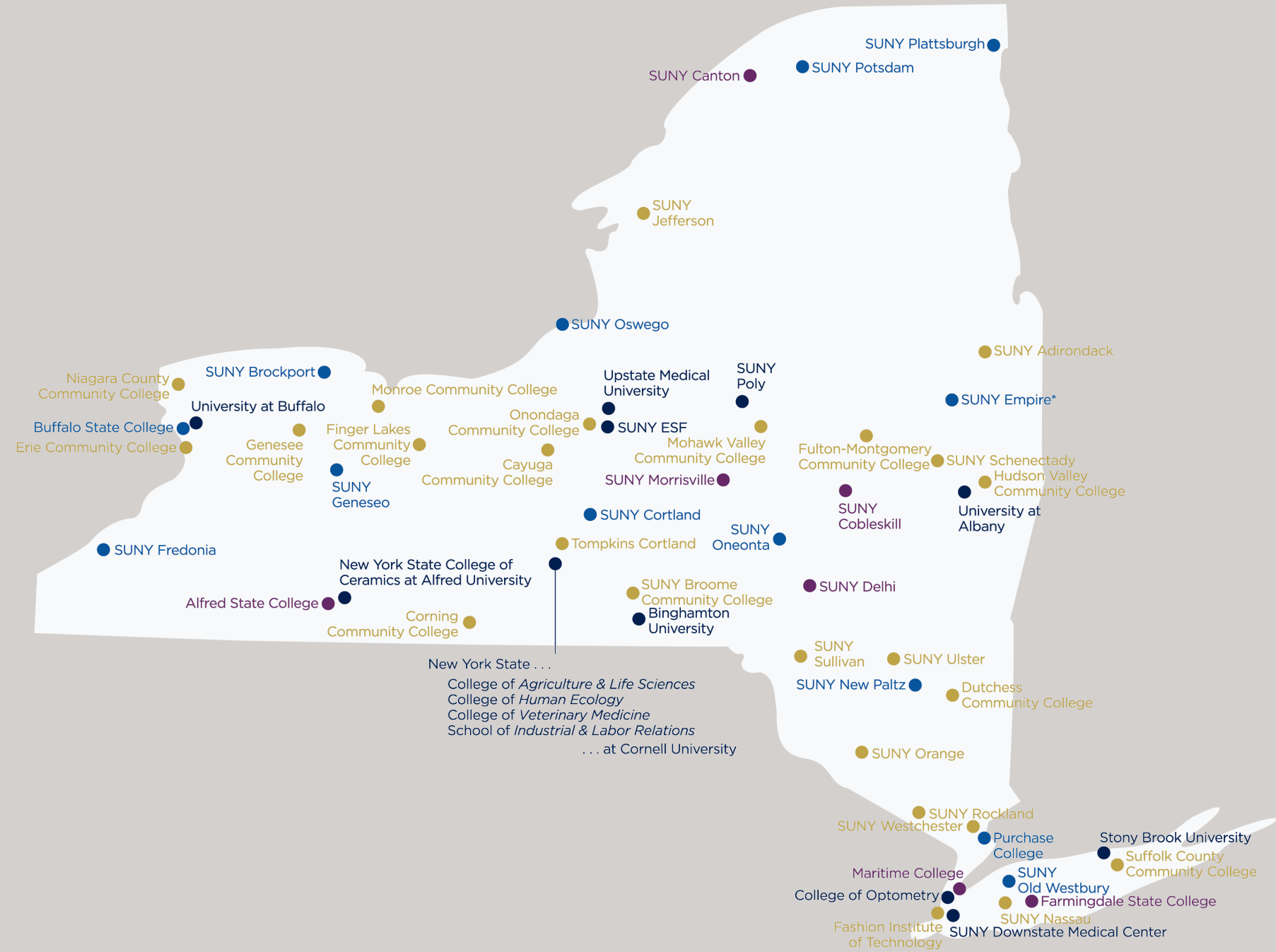
- promote awareness of EOP at high schools and community-based organizations in their local and college community at in-person and virtual events
- inspire prospective students to apply for EOP admission
- participate in an EOP student support network
- serve as a role model for their peers
- build community with current students
- lend their voice to advocacy activities to strengthen external support for EOP
- represent EOP at major events
- promote systemwide EOP events
- provide input to SUNY leadership on ways to strengthen EOP



EOP PROGRAMS ON

55

SUNY CAMPUSES





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