

# NCCFT

Now our Challenge is to Cooperate and to move Forward Together!

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March 22, 2006

**NYSUT Higher Education Lobby Day was Tuesday, February 28, 2006.  
Thanks to Frank Frisenda, Jean Miller, and Gene Neifach for attending.**

## **NYS Budget Proposal**

### **Community College Base Aid**

NYSUT is requesting a \$250/FTA increase for Community College Base Aid. The Executive Budget has proposed a \$100/FTA increase, but this still falls short of the state's statutory obligation of providing 40% of the operating costs to SUNY & CUNY full-opportunity community colleges. An increase of \$407/FTA in state aid is needed to bring the state's share to 33%.

### **High Need for Economic Development and Public Health Programs**

NYSUT is requesting an additional \$100/FTA increase (on top of the \$250/FTA increase) to meet the demand from students and our local community for high need programs such as Information Science, Engineering, Nursing and other Allied Health professions.

### **Pension Reform: Optional Retirement Program (ORP) Equity**

In 2000, the state eliminated the employee 3% contribution for members of the Employee's Retirement System (TRS) after 10 years of credited service. The state should provide pension equity for members of the Optional Retirement Program (ORP) by requiring the state to assume the 3% employee contribution for members after 10 years of service.

### **Tuition Assistance Programs (TAP)**

Provide full funding of the Tuition Assistance Program for full-time and part-time students.

### **Technology Funding**

Funding for updating technology, equipment, and networks is necessary to train students in "state-of-the-practice" laboratories with "state-of-the-practice" technology.

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## **Did You Know?**

- The NCCFT Contract will be presented to Legislative Committees on Monday, March 20 and to the full Legislature on Monday, April 3.
- NCCFT members can receive a 15% discount at the Big M Carwash on Old Country Rd. (across from Nathan's). College ID must be shown.

## **Current NCCFT Events**

- The NCCFT and AFA are joining forces to sponsor a retirement workshop on April 25, 2006 in CCB 252-253 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- A reception for County Legislators will be held the afternoon of Wednesday, April 26.