

Make Your Voice Heard

You can lend your support to HEOP. Call or write to these legislative leaders:

Senate

Joseph L. Bruno, Majority Leader
Ronald B. Stafford, Chair, Finance Committee
Kenneth P. LaValle, Chair, Higher Education Committee

The Honorable (name)
New York State Senate
State Capitol
Albany, New York 12247
(518) 455-2800

Assembly

Sheldon Silver, Speaker
Paul A. Tokasz, Majority Leader
Herman "Denny" Farrell, Jr., Chair, Ways and Means Committee
Edward C. Sullivan, Chair, Higher Education Committee

The Honorable (name)
New York State Assembly
State Capitol
Albany, New York 12248
(518) 455-4100

Tell each of them that you need their help...
that you are counting on them to improve
HEOP funding by \$10.5 million.



17 Elk Street, PO Box 7289, Albany, NY 12224
(518) 436-4781
www.cicu.org

Leading the Way to Success



HEOP WORKS!

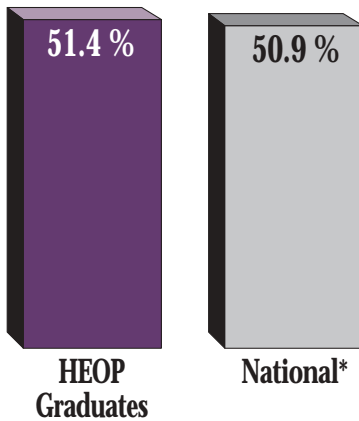
HIGHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

HEOP Works for New Yorkers

For three decades, economically and academically disadvantaged New Yorkers have found the support they needed to earn a college degree through the Higher Education Opportunity Program. In short, HEOP works.

- More than 26,500 students have earned their college degrees through HEOP.
- HEOP serves students of all races, from all regions of the state. Of the program's current 5,725 students, 35% are African-American and 41% are Latino.
- 80% of HEOP freshmen come from families with incomes of less than \$21,151; 45% come from families earning less than \$10,750.
- Despite their earlier educational disadvantage, HEOP students complete their degree programs at a rate that surpasses students nationally.

GRADUATION RATE FOR HEOP STUDENTS



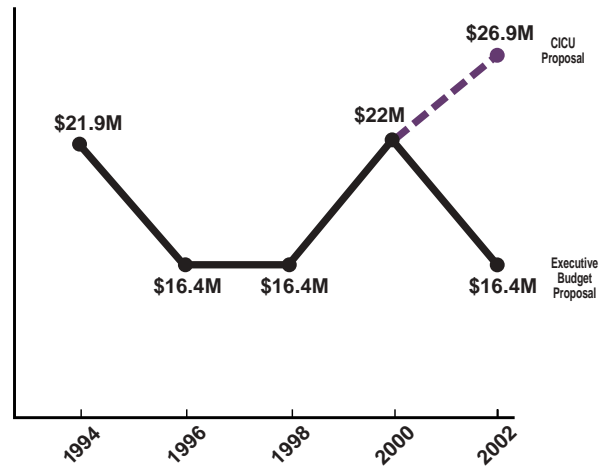
* ACT reports that 50.9% of students at four-year colleges earned a degree within five years of graduating from high school.

Support HEOP Now

HEOP provides tutoring, counseling and financial aid for students throughout their college careers. New York State and participating campuses jointly fund the program.

The Executive Budget proposes \$16.4 million in HEOP funding, just three-quarters of the funding level provided in 2000-01. It's time to increase HEOP funding to \$26.9 million.

STATE SUPPORT FOR HEOP STUDENTS (IN MILLIONS)



Fifty-two independent colleges and universities across New York State participate in HEOP. In 2000-01, they contributed nearly \$63 million of their own funds to assist HEOP students — approximately three times the State's funding level. HEOP students also take personal responsibility for their success. They hold full- or part-time jobs and, on average, take out loans totaling \$17,500 to gain their degrees.