



Faculty Council of Community Colleges

Resolution in Support of Child Care Center Funding

ASA 1: 2018-2019

Passed unanimously

October 13, 2018

Whereas SUNY child care centers provide quality care for over 5,000 children, and

Whereas of the children served, approximately one-third are children of student parents, one-third children of faculty and staff, and one-third children from the community, and

Whereas SUNY currently has 48 child care centers, 26 of which are situated at community colleges, that must be adequately staffed with people who must, at least, make minimum wage; and

Whereas New York State's increase of minimum wage from \$8.25 per hour to \$15 per hour represents an 82 percent increase in the cost of employing child care workers, and

Whereas the child care centers cannot raise tuition in proportion to the rising minimum wage because the majority of the student parents would not be able to afford the higher tuition, and

Whereas the shift in the demographics of community college students has resulted in more non-traditional students with the potential need for increased child care services, and

Whereas without access to community college child care centers, many student parents would not be able to pursue, persist in, and complete a college education, and

Whereas the denial of access to community college child care centers (while providing funding for other resources) could be viewed as a violation of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (specifically, the scope of Title IX states:

Educational programs and activities that receive ED funds must operate in a nondiscriminatory manner. Some key issue areas in which recipients have Title IX obligations are: recruitment, admissions, and counseling; financial assistance...treatment of pregnant and parenting students;

<https://www2.ed.gov/policy/rights/reg/ocr/edlite-34cfr106.html#S40>), and

Whereas there are many child care centers with waiting lists because they cannot afford to hire the additional staff necessary to meet the demand, and

Whereas community college child care centers provide invaluable applied learning opportunities for students in programs including, but not limited to, business, culinary arts, early childhood education, nursing, and physical education programs, and

Whereas the Child Care and Development Block grant has been reduced by 55 percent, nearly \$2 million, over the last ten years, despite the rising need for student parents to receive access to child care services, be it therefore

Resolved that the Faculty Council of Community Colleges urges Governor Andrew Cuomo and all necessary parties to support an increase of \$2 million to both the Operating Grant and the Child Care and Development Block Grant, and

Further be it resolved that the Faculty Council of Community Colleges urges Chancellor Kristina Johnson to advocate for increased funding of SUNY's child care centers.