

A vibrant, stylized graphic for a college preparation guide. The central focus is a bright yellow notepad with three punch holes at the top, featuring the title 'College Preparation' in large, bold, dark blue letters and 'For Sophomores' in a smaller, dark blue font below it. A dark blue pen with a red eraser is positioned at the bottom right corner of the notepad. To the right of the notepad, a green paperclip is attached. The background is white and decorated with various colorful elements: a grey geometric shape in the top left, a green ruler in the bottom left, a red bookmark with a green ribbon in the top right, and several small decorative icons including a sunburst, a wavy line, a swirl, and a star. The overall design is clean, modern, and inviting.

College Preparation

For Sophomores

What Can I Do Now?

- ❑ Get involved ! Increase commitment to extracurricular activities
 - ❑ (e.g., clubs, sports, community service)
- ❑ Make a plan of which classes to take throughout HS
 - ❑ AP Classes
 - ❑ College Now Program
- ❑ Practice taking college entrance exams such as SAT/ACT
 - ❑ PSAT
- ❑ Develop relationships with teachers and counselor



What Can I Do Now? (cont.)



- ❑ Concentrate on academics
 - ❑ Set goals!
 - ❑ Stay focused and motivated to maximize your GPA
 - ❑ Read & practice writing
- ❑ Develop time management skills
- ❑ Update resume
 - ❑ Add activities, work experiences, and achievements throughout high school



What Can I Do Now? (cont.)

- ❑ Create a summer plan
 - ❑ Internships, jobs, volunteer opportunities, hobbies, etc.
- ❑ Enroll in a Pre-College Summer Course
- ❑ Explore potential career paths (naviance)
 - ❑ Take a career assessment
 - ❑ Take a personality assessment
- ❑ Gain insight on strengths, abilities, and skills
- ❑ Explore different colleges
 - ❑ Take and build on your notes



College Exploration

- ☐ Build a college list based on preferences and use that as your goal
- ☐ Take a virtual tour
- ☐ Discuss college budget
- ☐ Attend college fairs
- ☐ Speak with college counselor, faculty, and classmates
- ☐ Ask about scholarship opportunities
- ☐ Explore financial aid eligibility
- ☐ Become aware of deadlines



What Should I Consider When Searching?



- ☐ Size
- ☐ Location
- ☐ Cost
- ☐ Diversity
- ☐ Academic programs- majors/minors
- ☐ Campus life (e.g., clubs, athletics, housing, greek life, organizations, study abroad programs)
- ☐ Institution type (public, private, 2yr/4yr)
- ☐ Student to faculty ratio
- ☐ Retention rate
- ☐ Whatever is important to you!



IMPORTANT TERMS TO KNOW:



SUNY & CUNY...



SUNY

&

CUNY



☐ The State University of New York

- ☐ Located throughout NY State
- ☐ 64 campuses throughout the state
- ☐ Campuses located in urban & rural areas
- ☐ Most offer opportunity programs

*Note: FIT is considered a SUNY School

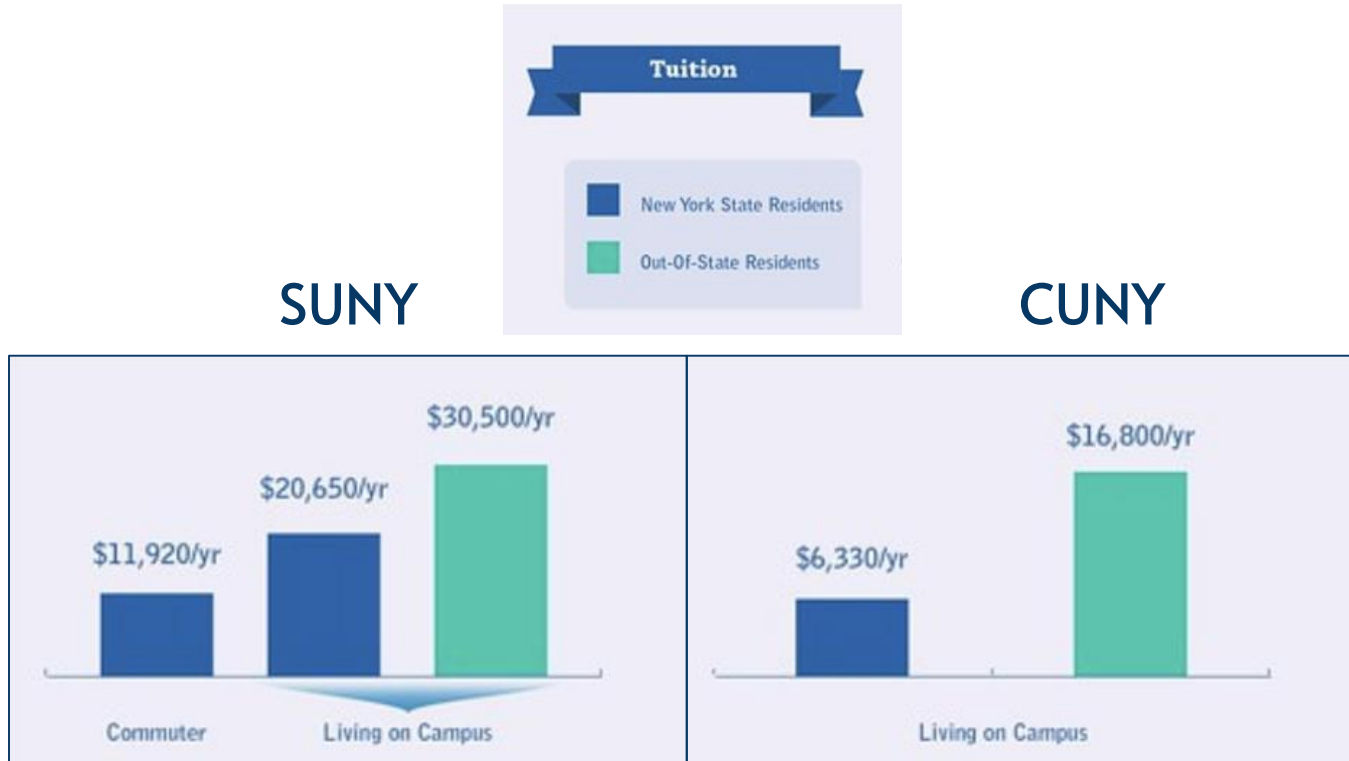
☐ The City University of New York

- ☐ Located in NYC
- ☐ 25 campuses in all five boroughs
- ☐ More affordable tuition
- ☐ All offer opportunity programs

- ☐ Public universities
- ☐ Includes universities, colleges, community, and technical colleges
- ☐ 2 and 4 year



SUNY vs. CUNY- Tuition



PUBLIC & PRIVATE...

Public

&

Private



- ❑ Lower Tuition
 - ❑ Funded primarily through state taxes
- ❑ Typically have a larger student body
- ❑ Typically offer a larger and more diverse range of extracurricular activities
- ❑ Students tend to be more demographically diverse

- ❑ Higher Tuition
 - ❑ Rely on tuition, endowments, & donations
- ❑ Typically smaller class sizes which can mean more academic support
- ❑ Students are more geographically diverse
- ❑ Higher four-year graduation rates

COMMUNITY COLLEGE ?

Community College as a Stepping Stone



Community College:

- ☐ 2 years to complete for an Associates degree
- ☐ Most Credits transfer to a 4 year institution for a Bachelor's degree (you only do the remaining 2 years)
- ☐ Great option for students who desire to obtain a better GPA or who are unsure of the path they want to take





DON'T KNOW
WHERE TO START?

That is okay!!

- Start with Naviance
- Take a career, personality, and/or aptitude assessment
- Explore different colleges & programs based on your results





QUESTIONS?



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