

Change requires a Champion. Be a Champion for CSTEP and STEP!

Join us in championing our students by sharing with legislators why CSTEP/STEP is essential to your success. Take just a moment to make a difference—send a personalized or prewritten (editable) email to your legislators today and help secure the future of these life-changing programs. Every message counts!

✉ **Take Action Now: [Send a Message to Support CSTEP/STEP Programs!](#)**

We've made it easy for you to participate in this important campaign using the **VoterVoice platform**. In just 90 seconds, you can help us advocate for both **a restoration of projected cuts** in funding and **request increased funding** for programs that are changing lives.

Follow these simple steps to send your message:

Step 1: Visit the Campaign Page

👉 [\[VoterVoice Link Here\]](#)

Click the link to be taken directly to our letter-writing campaign.

Step 2: Enter Your Information

- Fill in your name (a prefix is required so please do not leave that blank), email, and home address.
- **Why your address?** VoterVoice automatically matches you with your local legislators who represent your area. It's solely for the reason to match you with your local state senator or assembly member, and is not reshared or sold to any third party.
 - If you do not live in NYS, please use your school/organization address

Step 3: Review the Prewritten (Editable) Message

- We've provided a prewritten message that highlights why CSTEP/STEP is essential to students and communities like ours.
- **Optional:** You can personalize the message by sharing your own experience in the program. Legislators are moved by personal impact stories from their constituents!

Step 4: **Choose a Topic (If Required)**

- **Graphic:** The issue we are championing falls under the **"Higher Education"** category because we serve students from 7th grade through college and professional schools.
- **Text:** Select the relevant topic to proceed. This ensures the message is sent properly.

Restore Executive Budget Cuts to STEP/CSTEP and Increase Funding by 20%!

Dear Students, Alumni, Colleagues, and Supporters

Governor Hochul's proposed Executive Budget for 2025-2026 calls for a cut in funding for CSTEP and STEP of 4.3%, or \$1.6 million. The governor has proposed similar cuts for all New York State opportunity programs. A reduction in CSTEP/STEP funding is unacceptable, especially when there is a projected budget surplus of over \$5.3 billion!

Additional Information

Your message has not been sent!
Your officials require the following additional information to be submitted in order for this message to be delivered to them.

LL Governor Antonio Delgado

Topic:

Send Message

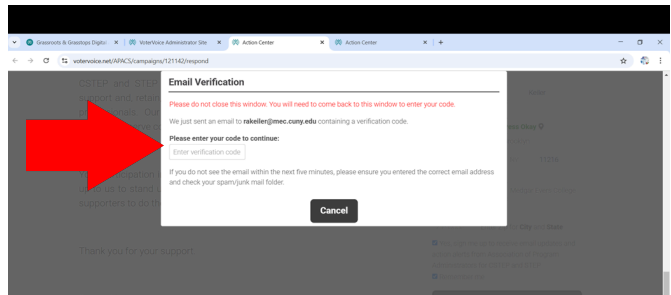
Our letter campaign is designed to make our voices heard by sending communication to Governor Hochul and our elected state representatives. Our goal in this process is to persuade our NYS Senate and Assembly members to reverse the Governor's cuts in their "One-House Bills." Your participation through electronic letter-writing is needed in making two simple requests:



Step 5: Verify Your Contact Information *(If Required)*

Depending on your local rep, you *might* need to verify your email or phone number. Your letter will not be sent if you do not verify your contact information.

- **Graphic:** Email verification window screenshot
- **Text:** A verification code will be sent to your email. Enter the code on the screen to continue.



Step 6: Send Your Message

- With just one click, your email will be sent directly to your representatives and legislative leaders.
- Some legislators may also allow messages through social media or other contact forms. If available, take advantage of these options to amplify your impact.
 - Governor of NY @govkathyhochul
 - Lt. Gov. of NY @ltgovdelgado
 - NYS Assembly Speaker @cheastie
 - NYS Senate Majority Leader @andreastewartcousins
 - NYS Senate Deputy Leader @sengianaris
 - Chair of the Committee on Higher Education @aliciahyndman




Step 7: Confirmation

- **Graphic:** Screenshot of the confirmation page
- **Text:** Once submitted, you'll see confirmation that your message has been delivered to the listed legislators. Check your spam/junk mail for confirmation if you don't see it right away.
- You've made your voice heard! Thank you!

Step 8: Spread the Word

- Share this campaign with friends and family who care about student success. The more messages we send, the stronger our voice will be!

 **Why This Matters:** Legislators need to hear from the people (You! as a constituent and Voter) who directly benefit from these programs. Your message will help secure critical funding that will give more students access to STEM, health, and licensed professions and academic support resources in secondary, undergraduate, and professional schools.

Let's ensure our voices are heard—**send your letter today and you will become a CSTEP/STEP Champion!**

Thank you for your support!