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NEW YORK
STATE
SENATE



SENATOR MONICA R. MARTINEZ
THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT
ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER ON
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April 27, 2020

To the City University of New York's Board of Trustees,

I hope this letter finds you well. As the Senator representing the Third Senatorial District, I am respectfully requesting a tuition and fee freeze for students at the City University of New York (CUNY) for the 2020-21 school year. Students are the future of this nation and therefore it is paramount we take action and protect our youth amid a state of emergency.

New York State has been the most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in thousands of individuals laid off from their jobs throughout the state, including many students. Without a reliable source of income, thousands of students will suffer the consequences of severe poverty and financial pressure. Furthermore, due to the pandemic, many students have been deprived of a typical college life - being kicked out of student housing and continuing studies through remote learning. As this virus continues to affect the lives and daily routines of New York State residents, it is important New Yorkers have the opportunity to rebound from this life-changing crisis.

The City University of New York has always been a key factor in the success, positivity and upward mobility of students across New York City. While I recognize the economic hardship the CUNY institution is facing as a result of the current global pandemic, we need to remember the everlasting negative effects an increase of tuition costs and fees will have on homeless and low-income CUNY students.

I strongly urge you to support keeping higher education accessible by freezing the tuition costs for students severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic who will not be able to afford higher tuition rates next year.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me on this or any other issue at 631-360-3356

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. R. Martinez'.

Monica R. Martinez
New York State Senator
Third Senatorial District