

HORSEHEADS HIGH SCHOOL

“NOTES”



Volume 49 Number 2

Fall 2026

High School Phone Number: 739-5601

Ext. 1608 Main Office

Ext. 1600 Kris Earl

Ext. 1612 Attendance Office

Ext. 1602 Dan Buseck

Ext. 1630 Counseling Office

Ext. 1603 Mike McCawley

Ext. 1623 Health Office

SAFETY DRILLS

Throughout the school year the High School will practice important emergency response procedures for our school including fire and evacuation, lockdown, and emergency dismissal drills. Families will receive notice within one week prior to each drill.

STUDENT PHOTOS

Throughout the year, our school and district may photograph, videotape, and/or interview students for its publications or broadcasts, which include school and district newsletters, videos, and social media. Additionally, local newspapers and TV stations sometimes attend school events and photograph, videotape, or interview students about events and issues. These stories will also appear on the media's websites and social media platforms. If you do not wish your child to be photographed or videotaped for school publications or the media, please contact

your school office or send an email with your child's name and school to hcsdinfo@horseheadsdistrict.com. Note that student photographs will still be published in school yearbooks and they may be photographed at public events such as sporting events.

NEWS FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

New York State Health Office Screenings

9th Grade Boys – Scoliosis

11th Grade Boys & Girls – Vision & Hearing

Winter Sports and Physical Requirements

October 17th – Final Forms opens for Winter sports registration

November 16th – Start of Winter JV and Varsity Sports season

A physical dated on or after November 1, 2025, is required to participate in this Winter sport season.

If the Health Office does not already have a physical on file for your student athlete, please upload a current physical to Final Forms.

2026 - 2027 Health Examination Requirements

As of July 1, 2018, New York State law requires a health examination for all students **entering a school district for the first time and when entering 9th and 11th grade.**

The examination must be completed by a New York State licensed physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner.

- A copy of the health examination must be provided to the school within 30 days from when your child first starts at the school and when your child starts 9th grade and 11th grade. If a copy is not given to the school within 30 days, the school will contact you.

- If your child has an appointment for an exam during this school year that is after the first 30 days of school, please notify the Health Office of the date.
- Communication between private and school health staff is important for safe and effective care at school. Your healthcare provider may not share health information with school health staff without your signed permission. Please talk to your provider about signing their consent form for the school at the time of your child's appointment for the examination.

We suggest you make copies of the completed forms for your own records before sending them to the school's Health Office. Forms may be emailed or faxed to the nurse. Please see contact information below.

Sincerely,

Carrie Tournour RN ctournour@horseheadsdistrict.com

Vickie White RN vwhite@horseheadsdistrict.com

Horseheads High School Nurses

Office number: 607-795-2512

Office fax: 607-795-2510

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT - OPTING OUT

The federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 and the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 require that all schools receiving federal funding must provide student information to military recruiters and institutions of higher learning unless parents opt out in writing. Students who are 18 years of age or older may also opt out of this requirement. If you do not want information to be released regarding your student, please return the form below to: Kris Earl, Principal, Horseheads High School, 401 Fletcher Street, Horseheads, New York 14845 before November 1st.

Opt Out Request for Directory Information
Return to HHS Counseling Office, 401 Fletcher Street, Horseheads, NY 14845

For parents/guardians:

____ I do not give permission for Horseheads High School to turn over the name, address, telephone listing, and school records of my child to military recruiters.

____ I do not give permission for Horseheads High School to turn over the name, address, telephone listing, and school records of my child to institutions of higher learning.

For students age 18 or over:

____ I do not give permission for Horseheads High School to turn over my name, address, telephone number, and school records to military recruiters.

____ I do not give permission for Horseheads High School to turn over my name, address, telephone number, and school records to institutions of higher learning.

STUDENT NAME: _____

NAME OF SCHOOL: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

SAFE SCHOOLS LINE 607-795-2044 or 1-800-305-4984
REPORT A CONCERN, RUMOR, BULLYING INCIDENT, OR ANY SAFETY ISSUE
ANONYMOUSLY AND CONFIDENTIALLY
24 HOURS A DAY

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter: Learn about up-to-date information about our district on Facebook and Twitter: On Facebook, the district and each of our seven schools have pages. Please "like" them to get the information on your news feed. Follow us on Twitter at @HhdsSchools to read our tweets.

NOTICE: The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for Horseheads High School is Mike McCawley. Complaints regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any student should be referred to Mr. McCawley 739-5601, ext. 1603. The Dignity Act Coordinator for the Horseheads Central School District is Caitlin DeFilippo, who may be reached at One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845, 607-739-5601, x4211.

The Horseheads Central School District offers educational programs without regard to race, color, national origin, creed, religion, marital status, military status, sex, sexual orientation, age, gender identity, predisposing genetic characteristic, or disability, and provides equal access to applicable groups under the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act. Inquiries regarding this policy may be made to Caitlin DeFilippo, Title IX/DASA Coordinator, and Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; Anthony Gill, Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; or Kelly Squires, Section 504 Coordinator, Horseheads Central School District, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607) 739-5601. This policy of non-discrimination includes access by students to educational programs, counseling services, course offerings, and activities, as well as recruitment and appointment of employees and employment pay, benefits, advancement and/or termination. The following person(s) has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Caitlin DeFilippo, Director of Human Resources, cdefilippo@horseheadsdistrict.com, 143 Hibbard Road, Horseheads Central School District, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607) 739-5601 and US Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights, LBJ Department of Education Building, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington DC 20202-1100, (800) 421-3481.

Students in Ms. Cratsley's Sculpture Class recently completed a community service project that benefits the Schuyler County Humane Society. The students painted pumpkins inspired by the work of Japanese artist Yayoi

Kusama who was known to put patterned dots on pumpkins and other surfaces. Students had to design an image using visual rhythm and then paint the surface with acrylics. Their pumpkins are for sale at "Wags to Riches" a thrift store in Watkins Glen that directly benefits the Humane Society.



Arrow Freeman, Addyson Perry, Brielle Berg, Madalyn Nugent, Elise Stahle, Nathan Smith-Nichols, not pictured: Lauren Strobel

Keep reading with the Sora app!



All Horseheads students can check out **ebooks and audiobooks** using the **Sora app**. Download books to your phone or tablet any time you want. Or visit [Sora \(soraapp.com\)](https://soraapp.com)

- Your school is “**The Greater Southern Tier BOCES Shared Digital Collection**”
- Click on ANY Horseheads school or use the **setup code gstbocesny**.
- Locate **Horseheads CSD** in the dropdown menu.
- **Log in with your district login.**

Email [Mrs. Frei <mfrei@horseheadsdistrict.com>](mailto:mfrei@horseheadsdistrict.com) in the library with any questions or title requests!

SISTER CITY ORGANIZATION

The Horseheads Sister City Association is delighted to announce that the village will be hosting eleven exchange students and three chaperones from Nakagawa Town, Japan, from October 26-October 30, 2026. The Japanese students will be visiting our schools that week too!

We are planning the next exchange trip for several Horseheads Central School District students currently in grades 8-11 for early summer travel to Japan. It is a wonderful opportunity to learn about Japanese culture and make lifelong friendships. **The informational meeting will be October 8, 2026, at 5:30 pm, in the Middle School Library.** Interested students will be able to pick up an application from their school's guidance/counseling office. Interested students should pay attention to the daily school announcements to learn when the applications become available. Applications are due November 20, 2026. We are also asking that student ambassador candidates participate in at least one activity with the Japanese students during their visit in October as part of the interview process. In addition to the application, students must be in good academic standing, regularly attend school, and demonstrate the Raider Way inside and outside of school. We are also looking for adult chaperones to travel with our students to Japan. If interested in having an unforgettable, culturally immersive experience, please contact Tiffany Bratz at tbratz@horseheadsdistrict.com by November 20, 2026.

Our HSCA committee welcomes any eligible student and adult volunteers willing to help organize/assist with exchange events during the fall visit. If you are interested in participating in the exchange, this would be an excellent way to learn about the special relationship Horseheads shares with Nakagawa Town. Please contact Tiffany Bratz at tbratz@horseheadsdistrict.com.



The 2025 participants in Japan!

TENTATIVE CALENDAR

Monday, October 5, 2026	End of MP1		
Monday, October 5 – Thursday, October 8, 2026	Spirit Week		
	Student Council Fundraiser		
Tuesday, October 6, 2026	Start of MP2		
Wednesday, October 7, 2026	BOCES Open House	BOCES	4:30-6:30
Thursday, October 8, 2026	Pep Assembly	Stadium	1:15
Friday, October 9, 2026	Conference Day		
	Homecoming Game		
Saturday, October 10, 2026	Homecoming Dance	Middle School	6:30-9:30
Monday, October 12, 2026	Holiday		
Wednesday, October 14, 2026	Distribution of Report Cards		
Thursday, October 15, 2026	Parent Advisory Council Meeting	Main Office	3:30-4:30
Saturday, October 17, 2026	Perone Volleyball Tournament	Middle School	
	Webster Marching Band Competition		
Thursday, October 22, 2026	Orchestra Concert	Auditorium	7:30
Saturday, October 24, 2026	Corning Bandtoberfest	Library	2:00
Monday, October 25 – Friday, October 29, 2026	Japanese Sister City Visitors		
Monday, October 26 – Thursday, November 12, 2026	National Honor Society Poinsettia Fundraiser		
Thursday, October 29, 2026	Choir Concert	Auditorium	7:30
Sunday, November 1, 2026	Marching Band Championships	Syracuse	
Monday, November 2 – Thursday, November 12, 2026	Junior Class Fundraiser		
Wednesday, November 4, 2026	School Picture Re-Takes	Auditorium	7:30-2:45
	PowderPuff Game	Stadium	6:00
Thursday, November 5, 2026	End of MP2		
	Bus Drills	Phys Ed Classes	
	Veterans Day Celebration	Auditorium	
	BOCES Bush Campus Tours	BOCES	AM
Friday, November 6, 2026	Start of MP3		
	Bus Drills	Phys Ed Classes	
	ASVAB		AM
	PM No Students		
Friday, November 6 – Saturday, November 7, 2026	Junior High Area All-State		
Saturday, November 7, 2026	SAT's		
Tuesday, November 10, 2026	Varsity H Fall Event		
Wednesday, November 11, 2026	Holiday		
Thursday, November 12, 2026	National Honor Society Induction Ceremony	Auditorium	7:00
Friday, November 14, 2026	GRP Variety Show	Auditorium	7:00
Monday, November 16, 2026	Start of Winter Sports		
	Report Card Distribution		

TENTATIVE CALENDAR

Wednesday, November 18, 2026	Interact Blood Drive	Band Room	
	Band Concert	Auditorium	7:30
Thursday, November 19, 2026	Parent Advisory Council Meeting	Main Office	3:30-4:30
Friday, November 20, 2026	Club Photos	Auditorium	7:00 – 3:00
Friday, November 20 – Saturday, November 21, 2026	Senior Area All-State		
Wednesday, November 25 – Friday, November 27, 2026	Thanksgiving Break		
Thursday, December 3 – Sunday, December 6, 2026	NYSSMA Winter Conference		
Thursday, December 3, 2026	National Honor Society Poinsettia Distribution	Auditorium	2:45
Friday, December 4, 2026	PM No Students		
	Junior Class Fundraiser (Parents Night Out)	Auditorium	6:00-8:00
Friday, December 4 – Saturday, December 5, 2026	Stephens Wrestling Tournament	Middle School	
Thursday, December 10, 2026	Orchestra Concert	Auditorium	7:30
Friday, December 11, 2026	End of MP3		
Monday, December 14, 2026	Start of MP4		
Monday, December 14 – Friday, December 18, 2026	Sophomore Holiday Toy Drive		
Thursday, December 17, 2026	Parent Advisory Council Meeting	Main Office	3:30-4:30
	Choir Concert	Auditorium	7:30
Friday, December 18, 2026	Distribution of Report Cards		
Monday, December 21, 2026	Spirit Day		
Tuesday, December 22, 2026	Spirit Day		
Wednesday, December 23, 2026 – Friday, January 1, 2027	Holiday Break		
Wednesday, January 13, 2027	Marching Band Banquet		
Friday, January 15, 2027	Senior Movie Night	Auditorium	7:00
Monday, January 18, 2027	Holiday		
Tuesday, January 19 – Friday, February 5, 2027	Sophomore Fundraiser		
Thursday, January 21, 2027	Parent Advisory Council Meeting	Main Office	3:30-4:30
Monday, January 25, 2027	End of MP4		
Tuesday, January 26 – Friday, January 29, 2027	Regents Exams		

Career Development Council Twin Tiers College Fair

Students will be able to talk to representatives from 80 two year, four year, private and public colleges, trades schools, and military.

When: October 22, 2026

When: 12PM-2PM

Where: Corning Community College

FEDERAL STUDENT AID

New York State has now legislated that all seniors, regardless of their post-secondary plans, either complete an application for federal student aid (FAFSA) or complete a waiver that they have chosen not to file such an application. The 27-28 FAFSA will not be available to complete until after October 1, 2026. Prior to this time families are encouraged to create their StudentAid.gov account. Additional information and helpful workshops can be accessed through the New York State Higher Education Service Corporation: <https://www.hesc.ny.gov/home/>

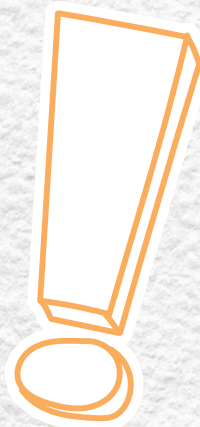
New York State Higher Education Services Corporation offers many virtual programs to help students and parents navigate the financial aid process. Some upcoming virtual events include Virtual Drop-In Lounge to ask questions about financial aid for college, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, the NYS TAP, or the Excelsior scholarship. There will be an event for creating your StudentAid.gov (FSA ID) account which will walk you through the quick and easy process. There is also a Senior Basics Presentation which provides key financial aid information for seniors applying to start college in the fall of 2027, including information about federal, state, institutional, and private scholarships, how to apply for aid, deadlines, and more. The links for these events can be found here: <https://www.hesc.ny.gov/get-help/find-event/>. All events are offered on multiple dates, and you can find the dates by clicking on the event of interest. Registration is required for all these events.

SUNY Free Application Days

Apply to SUNY for FREE October 19th-November 2nd. Apply to up to 5 SUNY campuses with no application fee. Fees are waived during this period on both the SUNY Application and Common Application.



APPLY TO SUNY FOR FREE



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SAVE THE DATE

OCT. 19 - NOV. 2



Apply to up to **5 SUNY campuses**
with no application fee

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suny.edu/apply



Helping Students Overcome Academic, Financial, and Personal Barriers to Succeed at SUNY

SUNY ASAP|ACE helps students in both two-year and four-year degree programs stay on track and graduate on time with proven academic, financial, and personal support services at 44 campuses across New York State.

What Do Students Get in SUNY ASAP|ACE?



Dedicated and personalized advising services



Financial support to cover books, transportation, and other costs



Consolidated course schedules to meet your needs



Career development and other support services



Connected community of fellow learners

What's the Difference?

ASAP (Advancing Success in Associate Pathways) support for associate degrees
ACE (Advancing Completion through Engagement) support for bachelor's degrees

Who is Eligible?*

Must receive at least \$1 of Pell, TAP, or Excelsior Scholarship, be a U.S. citizen or eligible noncitizen, be eligible for in-state tuition, and enroll full-time in a degree program supported by the campus.

Prior college experience

- ASAP: First-time student or those with no more than 21 applicable college credits earned after high school and at least a 2.0 GPA
- ACE: First-time students or transfer students with an associate degree

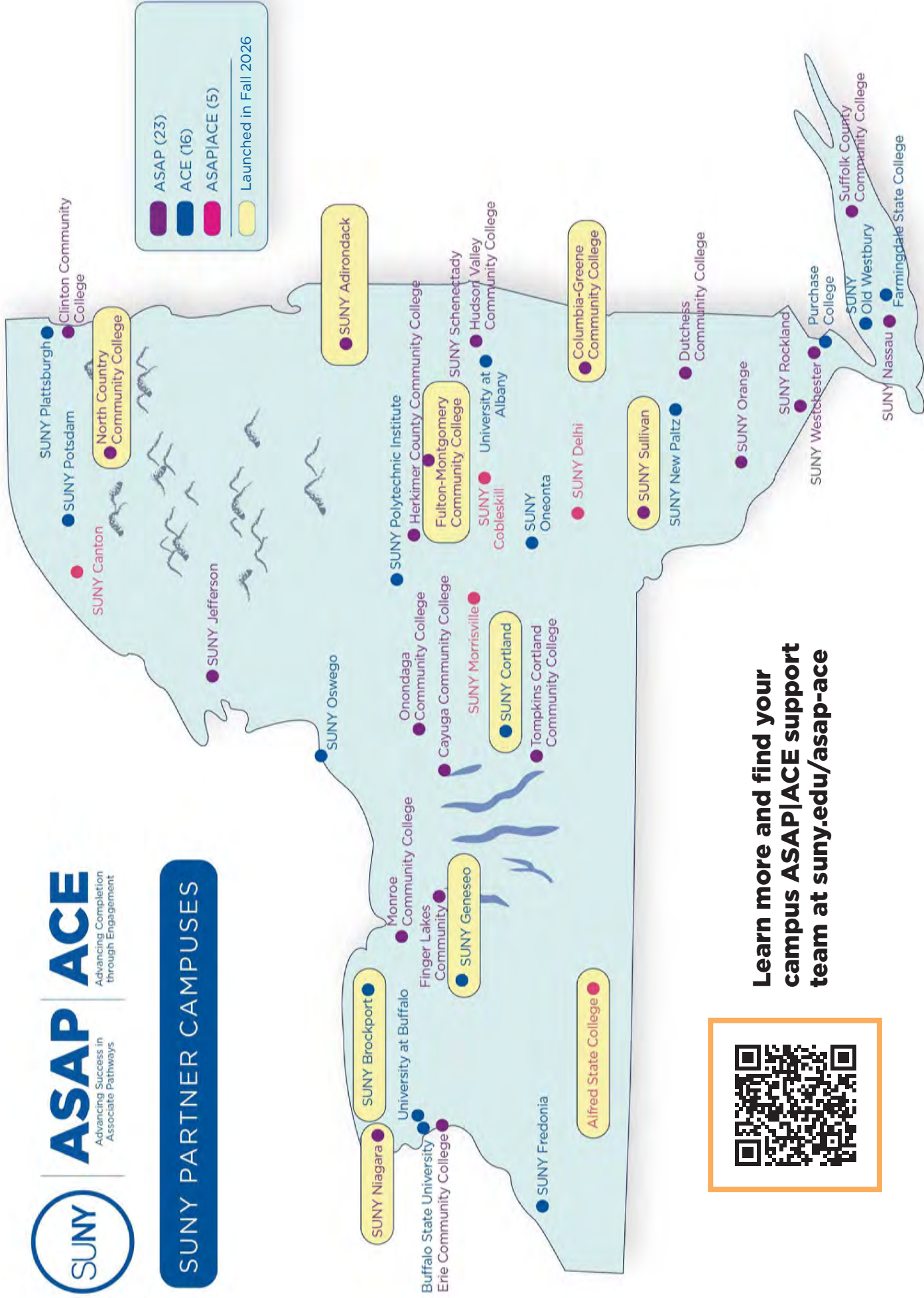
*Contact your campus ASAP|ACE team for full eligibility information (see back for campus map)



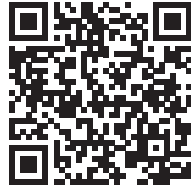
ASAP
Advancing Success in
Associate Pathways

ACE
Advancing Completion
through Engagement

SUNY PARTNER CAMPUSES



Learn more and find your
campus **ASAP|ACE** support
team at suny.edu/asap-ace



HOW TO GET FINANCIAL AID FOR COLLEGE

MAKE SURE YOU GET AS MUCH FINANCIAL AID AS POSSIBLE BY FOLLOWING THESE STEPS.



Right Now: Create your FSA ID

This is required prior to completing the FAFSA and only takes a moment

Go to studentaid.gov/help/fsa-id
You'll need your Social Security number (SSN) (if applicable) and your own email address to create an FSA ID.



After October 1 of your senior year of high school, go to fafsa.gov to complete your FAFSA

Students will need:

- Student assets and investments totals
- Student bank account totals
- Parent email

NYS Financial Aid

NYS residents should link directly from the FAFSA summary page to complete the TAP application. For more information on NYS financial aid, including the NYS DREAM Act, go to hesc.ny.gov



Want a little help?

Financial aid can feel confusing. We get it. To learn more and join a free virtual workshop for expert guidance, visit suny.edu/cost

