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**APACS**  
**and STEP, Inc.**

**Association for Program Administrators of CSTEP**

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**Testimony to the New York State Assembly Ways and Means and  
Senate Finance Committees-Higher Education Hearing**

Submitted By: Michael A. Molina, President

Monday February 8, 2016  
Legislative Office Building  
Hearing Room C  
Albany, New York

On behalf of CSTEP and STEP programs and students throughout New York State, I want to first thank legislative leaders for giving CSTEP and STEP programs its first funding increase since 2006 this year. The 15% increase you provided has been instrumental in providing our students and their families with the academic and non-academic services needed for them to prepare for careers in STEM, health and licensed fields.

Today, I ask for your continued support of CSTEP and STEP programs, so that we may be able to provide our students with the resources, services and activities they to be successful in highly competitive fields. Specifically we request the following:

- We request an additional 30% in funding of \$6.7 million for current STEP and CSTEP programs for a total of \$29 million so that additional students may be served by those programs. As you know, the Executive Budget has recommended level funding for 2017.
- We also request additional funding of \$6 million to restore funding to approximately 14 highly effective CSTEP and STEP programs that submitted successful proposals but were not funded due to lack of sufficient funding. Restoring the funding for these programs will allow us to serve an additional 3,000 to 4,000 students.
- We ask that serious consideration be given to doubling the enrollment of CSTEP and STEP along with all of the opportunity programs in the next five years, in order to meet the need for our services.

CSTEP and STEP continue to be among New York State's most successful education programs. Each year, the programs meet their mission to increase minority and disadvantaged student representation in STEM, health and licensed fields in New York State. CSTEP programs provide academic enrichment and support, mentoring, academic and career counseling, internships and research opportunities, standardized test preparation and career activities and services. Over 70% of CSTEP graduates pursue professional degree programs of study in STEM and CSTEP targeted fields.

CSTEP graduated 15,533 students from independent, SUNY, CUNY and two-year community colleges from 1986 to 2012. Most of these graduates live in New York State and work in high paying STEM, health and licensed fields that contribute to our tax base. As New York State continues to build its STEM centered industrial base, increased CSTEP/STEP funding will help to produce the STEM professionals that are vital to the economic vitality of our state.

Through 2010, CSTEP programs have served 95,985 students since its creation by the Legislature in 1986. There are currently forty-nine (49) programs throughout New York State with an approximate enrollment of 5,700 students.

STEP programs graduated 23,763 students from 1986 to 2012. The programs served 146,005 students during this period. There are currently 54 STEP programs serving approximately 8,000 students.

STEP programs provide academic enrichment in science and mathematics content areas. They also provide academic, career and financial aid counseling, standardized test preparation, college admissions counseling and research training and internships.

CSTEP and STEP are nationally recognized programs that have made New York State a leader in preparing talented students for careers in STEM, health and licensed fields. CSTEP and STEP are the 2004 recipient of the National Science Foundation Presidential Medal of Excellence for Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring. We have developed a statewide internship program for CSTEP students with Brookhaven National Laboratory. Our students have received recognition for their scholarly research and presentations and among our graduates are Rhodes and Fulbright Scholars.

In light of the multi-billion dollar budget surplus, I appeal to you for your support in increasing CSTEP/STEP funding by 30% to 6.7 million to \$29 million in order to serve an additional 3,000 additional students. We also ask for an additional \$6 million to restore funding to 14 CSTEP and STEP programs not funded due to a lack of sufficient funding.

CSTEP programs are among the most effective and efficient educational programs in New York State with a twenty-nine year record of success and achievement. Your consideration and support of our requests will help us to enroll more students, and provide them with the resources and services they need in their journey to success.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Molina  
President, APACS, Inc.  
441 East Fordham Road  
Collins Hall 303  
Bronx, New York 10458

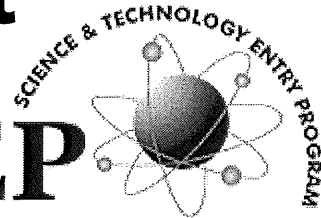
# STEP Fact Sheet

APACS 2016

NEW YORK STATE

STEP

preparing science, technology & licensed professionals since 1986



## Mission

To increase the number of historically underrepresented and economically disadvantaged students prepared to enter college, and improve their participation rate in mathematics, science, technology, health related fields and the licensed professions.

## What Does the STEP Program Do?

STEP provides academic enrichment in science and mathematics content areas. Projects consist of academic year and summer components including:

- Core subject instruction / Regents preparation
- Supervised practical training
- Supervised research training
- College admissions counseling
- Standardized test preparation
- Career awareness / development activities

## Importance of STEP in our Current Economy

Most of these graduates live in New York State and work in high paying STEM and licensed fields that contribute to our tax base. STEM and licensed professionals will assist our state and nation in overcoming the economic crisis before us. STEM fields are vital to the economic recovery of our state and nation.

## National Recognition of STEP

- CSTEP and STEP are nationally recognized programs that have made New York State a leader in preparing talented students for careers in STEM and licensed fields.
- CSTEP and STEP were the 2004 recipients of the National Science Foundation Presidential Medal of Excellence for Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring.
- CSTEP and STEP programs have been replicated in several states including Texas and New Jersey.
- STEP students have received recognition for scholarly research & presentations in science fairs.

## Preparing for the future

In the last two years, CSTEP and STEP have served an additional 89,000 non-STEP/CSTEP students in grades K-12 through our statewide CSTEP/STEP Day of Service. The annual Day of Service is a statewide CSTEP/STEP event whereby current CSTEP and STEP students and staff meet with non-STEP and CSTEP students to educate them regarding the benefits and challenges of pursuing careers in STEM and licensed fields.

## STEP at a Glance

Current funding for STEP is \$12.73 million.

Over 70% of STEP graduates pursue professional degree programs of study in STEM & STEP targeted fields.

STEP graduated 23,763 students from 1986 to 2012.

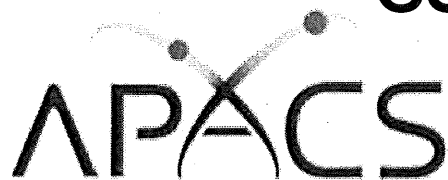
STEP programs have served 146,005 students since its creation by the Legislature in 1986.

There are currently fifty-four (54) programs throughout New York State.

There are 7,925 students currently enrolled in STEP programs.

Along with the pre-college STEP programs, CSTEP and STEP serve 14,293 students annually.

# CSTEP Fact Sheet



2016



## Mission

The mission of CSTEP is to increase minority and disadvantaged student representation in STEM, Health and licensed fields in New York State.

## What Does the CSTEP Program Do?

For twenty-eight years, CSTEP programs have provided academic enrichment and support, mentoring, academic and career counseling, internships and research opportunities, standardized test preparation and career activities and services.

## Importance of CSTEP in current economy

Most of these graduates live in New York State and work in high paying STEM and licensed fields that contribute to our tax base. STEM and licensed professionals will assist our state and nation in overcoming the economic crisis before us. STEM fields are vital to the economic recovery of our state and nation.

## National Recognition of CSTEP

- CSTEP and STEP are nationally recognized programs that have made New York State a leader in preparing talented students for careers in STEM and licensed fields.
- CSTEP and STEP are the 2004 recipient of the National Science Foundation Presidential Medal of Excellence for Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring.
- CSTEP and STEP programs have been replicated in several states including Texas and New Jersey.
- CSTEP students have received recognition for their scholarly research and presentations and among our graduates are Rhodes Scholars and recipients of many other prestigious awards.
- For the period 1986 to 2007, 700 CSTEP students participated in research internships in national research facilities such as Brookhaven National Laboratory.

## Preparing for the Future

In the last two years, CSTEP and STEP have served an additional 89,000 non-STEP/CSTEP students in grades K-12 through our statewide CSTEP/STEP Day of Service. The annual Day of Service is a statewide CSTEP/STEP event whereby current CSTEP and STEP students and staff meet with non-STEP and CSTEP students to educate them regarding the benefits and challenges of pursuing careers in STEM and licensed fields.

**For more information contact:** Michael A. Molina, President, APACS, Inc. 441 East Fordham Road, Bronx, New York 10458; phone: (718) 817-3266; email: [molina@fordham.edu](mailto:molina@fordham.edu)

## CSTEP at a Glance

Current Funding for CSTEP is \$9.6 million.

Over 70% of CSTEP graduates pursue professional degree programs of study in STEM and CSTEP targeted fields.

CSTEP graduated 15,533 students from independent, SUNY, CUNY and two-year community colleges from 1986 to 2010.

CSTEP programs have served 95,985 students since its creation by the Legislature in 1986.

There are currently forty-seven (47) programs throughout New York State.

There are 6,368 students currently enrolled in CSTEP programs.

Along with the pre-college STEP programs, CSTEP and STEP serve 14,293 students annually.