



Post-Budget Legislative Priorities

The Partnership for New York City represents the city's largest private sector employers, investors and leading entrepreneurs. We call on Albany to address the following critical items before this legislative session concludes:

1) Mayoral control works and must be extended permanently.

Since 2002, when mayoral control was put in place, high school graduation rates have climbed to nearly 70 percent, from approximately 46 percent in 2005, and the city has closed the gap with the rest of the state on key metrics:

- New York City's 4-year public high school graduation rate trailed New York State's by over 19 percent in 2005, but the gap shrunk to less than 10 percent in 2016.
- In 2010 (the first year under common core standards), New York City public school students trailed the state by 7 percent in math proficiency and 10.6 percent in English. In 2016, the city trailed the state by 2.7 percent in math and outperformed the state by 0.1 percent in English.
- The average SAT score for New York City public schools trailed the state average by 103 points in 2010, but the gap shrunk to 82 points in 2016.

2) Charter schools are succeeding and the cap must be lifted.

Charter schools provide a quality education option for students from school districts with high concentrations of poverty. Under the current state caps, many charters have to turn away students who are left with inferior alternatives.

- In NYC, 92 percent of charter school students are black and Hispanic, compared to 68 percent citywide (and 14 percent at the city's specialized high schools).
- Charter school third grade proficiency rates in English and math are 14 percent and 22 percent higher than district schools, respectively.
- Eighth grade proficiency rates are 2 percent higher in English and 15 percent higher in math.

3) New York City agencies must have design-build contracting authority.

In NYC, there is consensus among industry, labor and government that city agencies should be able to use design-build procurement methods for major capital projects. Albany's failure to grant that authority adds to the cost and time required to carry out needed improvements.

- 41 states and the federal government widely use design-build.
- New York City could save at least \$2 billion over a 10-year period on a pipeline of important public infrastructure projects that they are ready to move forward.
- New York City will be able to compete more successfully for federal funding only with the flexibility allowed under design-build rules.