

**New York State Education Department/Office of Higher Education,
K-16 Initiatives & Access Programs/Pre-Collegiate Preparation Programs Unit
*Liberty Partnerships Program (LPP)***

BACKGROUND

The Liberty Partnerships Program (LPP) was established in 1988 under Section 612, Subdivision 6 of the Education Law to address the significant school dropout rate among New York's youth. The bipartisan Bill stated "the failure of many young New Yorkers to complete their secondary education limited their opportunity for a life of fulfillment, prevents them from advancing into postsecondary education and hinders the State's efforts to provide a well-trained workforce for business and industry in New York."

The Liberty Partnerships Program is included in New York's Statewide Plan for Higher Education as a strategy to maximize the successful transition of students who are at risk of dropping out of school into graduates, fully prepared for the rigors of higher education; and, ready to address the critical workforce and economic development challenges of the Empire State.

FACTS

- LPP involves colleges & universities, schools, parents, students, community organizations, business & industry and local government agencies as stakeholders.
- **Between 2000 and 2007:**
 - LPP Student/School persistence rate was 98%
 - 11,885 LPP students graduated from high school
 - 10,664 LPP graduates entered postsecondary education or the workforce following graduation
 - 7,262 college-bound LPP students chose to continue postsecondary education in New York

LPP PROVIDES

- Systemic dropout prevention strategies to students enrolled in middle and senior high school
- School day, extended-day, after school and summer programs.
- Educational programs & strategies designed to prepare students for academic success.
- Counseling services that support students' abilities (1) to overcome issues that place them at risk and (2) plan for their future
- Mock college experiences and college tours
- LPP Empire Promise Workforce Development initiatives that programs that prepare students to make decisions about future career paths including part-time/summer work experiences; internships; research-based entrepreneurial and community service projects.
- Mentors
- Alternatives to crime and violence: weekend, after-school and summer cultural enrichment recreation programs and field trips.
- Parent engagement services, advocacy, support networks, and instructional programs, career development.

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