

Erie County Fiscal Stability Authority

Resolution No. 18-10

COMMENTING ON THE 2018-19 SUNY ERIE COLLEGE BUDGET

WHEREAS, Chapter 182 of the New York Laws of 2005 created the Erie County Fiscal Stability Authority (“ECFSA”) to serve as a corporate governmental agency and instrumentality of the State of New York, and as a public benefit corporation to “oversee [Erie] County’s budget, financial and capital plans; to issue bonds, notes or other obligations to achieve budgetary savings and to finance short-term cash flow or capital needs; and, if necessary, to develop financial plans on behalf of the County if the County is unwilling or unable to take the required step toward fiscal stability;” and

WHEREAS, section 3951 of the New York Public Authorities Law (“Public Authorities Law”) defines a “covered organization” as “any governmental agency, public authority or public benefit corporation which receives or may receive moneys directly, indirectly or contingently from the County;” and

WHEREAS, the ECFSA Board of Directors (“Board”) and staff have reviewed the 2018-19 SUNY Erie College (“ECC”) budget document, which was adopted by the SUNY Erie Board of Trustees and subsequently approved by the Erie County Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the ECFSA Board and staff have identified a number of financial risk items for the College:

- A high reliance on tuition revenues
- Enrollment challenges in a declining traditional-student environment
- Retention rates significantly lower than its peers and lower than its ultimate goal
- Expectations of Sponsor Funding that are higher than in the County’s financial plan
- The College’s Capital program over the next six years
- Continued use of fund balance as a revenue;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the ECFSA does view the 2018-19 budget as in balance and achievable. The out-years of the financial plan are achievable, but do come with a number of significant risks.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

James Sampson
Chairman

Date: August 20, 2018