



The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
New York State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul,

We write to encourage New York to opt into the federal Education Freedom Tax Credit established by Congress.

New York students are facing a real and urgent learning gap, and this program offers a source of funding, at no cost to the state education budget, that can expand access to tutoring, afterschool programming, special education services, and other supports that are too often out of reach for lower-income families. Opting in does not redirect a single dollar from public school budgets; it opens the door to new philanthropic and taxpayer resources that New York families can choose to direct toward their children's education.

We recognize this is a complicated program, and we share the concerns that have been raised about its design. But we believe New York can shape its participation in ways that meaningfully benefit public school students. We note, as well, that if New York does not opt in, this will not stop New Yorkers from participating in the program. Unfortunately, though, they will no longer be able to direct their donations to New York students and instead will be funding students out of state.

We urge the state to opt in and use the authority it has to prioritize transparency, accountability, and support for public school students in both traditional district and charter schools.

Sincerely,

Early Childhood and K-12 Educational Organizations

1. Bottom Line New York
2. Children's Aid Society
3. Citizens' Committee for Children
4. The Eagle Academy Foundation
5. Educators for Excellence

6. ExpandedED School
7. Good Shepherd Services
8. Harlem Children's Zone
9. Henry Street Settlement
10. iMentor
11. New Visions for Public Schools
12. New York Immigration Coalition
13. Partnership with Children
14. Relay-GSE
15. Student Leadership Network
16. Teach for America New York
17. The Children's Agenda
18. United Neighborhood Houses
19. United Way of New York City

Charter School Networks

1. Achievement First Public Charter Schools
2. Ascend Public Charter Schools
3. Brilla Public Charter Schools
4. Carl C. Icahn Public Charter Schools
5. Central Queens Academy Public Charter Schools
6. Charter Center of New York City
7. Classical Public Charter Schools
8. Compass Public Charter School
9. Coney Island Prep Public Charter School
10. Dream Public Charter Schools
11. Explore Public Charter Schools
12. KIPP NYC Public Schools
13. Leaders in our Neighborhood (LION) Public Charter Schools
14. Mesa Public Charter Schools
15. NYC Autism Public Charter School
16. Prospect Public Charter Schools
17. Renaissance Public Charter Schools
18. Uncommon Public Charter Schools

CC:

Karen Persichilli Keogh, Secretary to the Governor, Executive Chamber

Jackie Bray, Director of State Operations, Executive Chamber

Emma Vadehra, Policy Director, Executive Chamber

Katharine Galaxy, Deputy Secretary, Education, Executive Chamber