



## Fact Sheet: Committing to a Strong Campus Climate

### August 2024

At SUNY, student safety on our campuses is paramount and we will do everything we can to ensure that our campuses are both safe and inclusive. Our commitments:

- 1) **We will not tolerate antisemitism, Islamophobia, and other forms of discrimination and harassment.**
- 2) **We will build and embrace more tools to advance productive campus conversations.**
- 3) **We will help students from all backgrounds feel respected and seen.**

To deliver on these commitments:

- SUNY has issued – and will continue to communicate – **clear, morally unambiguous statements** including condemning Hamas's horrific terrorist attack on October 7th; vowing to protect student safety; rejecting antisemitism, Islamophobia, and other forms of bigotry and hatred; standing with Governor Hochul in rejecting BDS; and reiterating the responsibilities of all students, faculty, and staff to engage one another with respect even when they disagree.
- In advance of the fall 2024 semester, SUNY is providing all campuses with draft **model policies** for content-neutral time, place, and manner restrictions on protests; prohibitions on encampments; rules for placards and postings; and requirements that students, faculty, and staff carry identification.
- In advance of the fall 2024 semester, SUNY is providing **guidance with expectations for how students can submit and campuses will receive Title VI complaints**, demonstrate that complaints are taken seriously and investigated fully, and provide appropriate information to complainants and other interested stakeholders.
- All campus presidents, campus counsels, chief diversity officers, affirmative action officers, chief student affairs officers, and chief academic officers have received **training in Title VI protections against discrimination and harassment** and will continue to receive annual specialized training. **Every SUNY faculty and staff member is required to complete Title VI training** in fall 2024.
- Every campus is expected to incorporate information on **content-neutral time, place, and manner restrictions, how to report incidents of discrimination and harassment, and tools for civil discourse into fall orientations and back-to-campus content** at the beginning of the fall 2024 semester for new students, returning students, students in leadership positions, and student employees in areas like residence life.
- To assist campus leadership teams, SUNY is providing **job aids and checklists for individuals with key preparation and response responsibilities**, and continuing to conduct **tabletop exercises** to ensure campuses are prepared. In addition, SUNY is providing ongoing technical assistance to selected campuses on **plans for content-neutral preparation for protests** – including their planned approach to public safety, disciplinary, operational, and internal/external communications issues.
- All of this work builds on the ongoing efforts of SUNY's **Civic Education & Engagement and Civil Discourse Fellows**, our commitment to incorporate **civil discourse** into the SUNY General Education Framework, and grants for campuses to **create or expand interfaith prayer, meditation, and reflection spaces**. In addition, SUNY System and a cohort of SUNY campuses will join **Hillel International's Campus Climate Initiative**.