In

February 2020, the United States Department of Education (USDE) issued new regulations that eliminated and

accrediting agencies. The Board of Regents <u>adopted a</u> <u>regulatory amendment</u> to replace references to regionally accredited institutions of higher education throughout the Rules of the Board of Regents and the s regulations with the phrase: an institution of higher education that is accredited by an institutional accrediting agency recognized for this purpose by the United States Office of Higher Education Certification Office of College and University Evaluation <u>NYSTOE</u> Professional Standards and Practices Board

The Department posted the 2020-2021 New York State Higher Education Total Postsecondary Enrollment Report on its <u>data website</u>. This report shows fall degree credit enrollment counts reported by New York State institutions of higher education that are broken out by institution type (public and private), sector (SUNY, CUNY, Independent, and Proprietary), level (2-year and 4-year/Grad), and status (full-time and part-time) as well as undergraduates, first-professionals, graduates, all students, and first-time enrollees. The enrollment data for individual institutions can be found to the data website and the Higher ended to the term.

Education Reports webpage. Some highlights in the data include:

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, institutions were already experiencing a decline in enrollment from 2018-2019, which likely were worsened by the pandemic. Undergraduate enrollment experienced the largest decreases.

The Department also posted the 2020-2021 New York State Higher Education Postsecondary Students with Disabilities Report on its <u>data website</u>. This report shows counts of students who self-identified as having one or more disabilities, by category and sub-category of their disability and by type of program in which they were enrolled (Occupationally-Specific or other Degree-Oredit). It also includes the number of staff who support students with disabilities. New York State institutions of higher education report these numbers to the Department. The data are broken out by institution type (public and private), sector (SUNY, CUNY, Independent, and Proprietary), and level (2-year and 4-year/Grad). The students with disabilities data for individual institutions data website and the Higher Education Reports

webpage. Some highlights in the data include:

Counts of students with disabilities have steadily increased. The COVID-19 pandemic seems to have had only a slight impact on the count of students with disabilities enrolled. Sight decreases are seen for all sectors except the Independent institutions.

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