

**Testimony of Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost José Luis Cruz
New York City Council Committee on Higher Education
The City University of New York**

June 10, 2020

Good afternoon.

Chairperson Barron, and members of the Higher Education Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify before you on the impact COVID-19 has had on The City University of New York.

My name is José Luis Cruz and I have the privilege of serving as the executive vice chancellor and University provost of The City University of New York — the largest urban university in the world.

As you can imagine, over the past few months, I've had the occasion to reflect, act upon, and communicate about the impact this most insidious of pandemics has had on our University and the communities we serve and represent. And so, in my remarks today, I borrow heavily from previous statements — because I believe that the rawness and candidness with which I approach your questions cannot be modulated simply because of the setting in which we currently find ourselves and the audience to whom it's being delivered.

The uncertainty that has been brought about by the pandemic weighs heavily on my mind, as it does on the minds of others. But, it has also given me an opportunity to reflect on how the hundreds of thousands of students, faculty, and staff that comprise the CUNY system, came together to embrace distance learning and working as a means of protecting themselves, their families, and our communities, and also as a means to ensure that CUNY will continue to deliver on its promise of opportunity and social mobility. This steadfastness remains, even as we face these dire circumstances.

Our students, certainly but not exclusively, we know many of our faculty and staff as well, have faced an unprecedented disruption to their learning and in their daily lives. While negotiating distance learning, many are also under stress as parents, essential workers, and caretakers. Many have lost their jobs. Many have had to negotiate the use of a family computer with partners who may also be telecommuting, and perhaps children who are trying to learn remotely — all for perhaps for the first time. The aspirations to meet their full potential and chart a new path for their lives and those of their loved ones and their communities have been challenged from many directions. Their stories are too numerous, too deep, and too symbolic of the economic inequities that characterize these times for me to single any one of them out. Still, they are poignant enough to remind all of us at CUNY that our mission is as straightforward as it is important: to serve as a vehicle of upward mobility for those historically underserved.

Through it all, Chancellor Félix V. Matos Rodríguez has been steadfast in advancing the idea that the recovery of New York runs through CUNY, because CUNY is the quintessential anchor institution in New York City. CUNY serves to transform the lives not just of our 500,000 enrolled students, but also serves the city as a whole to provide an essential workforce, revenue, and services that are indispensable to the city's vitality. The fact is that CUNY, a system comprised of 25 highly diverse campus communities spread across the five New York boroughs, has made our COVID-19 situational awareness sharper relative to other systems. Being on the frontlines, we answered the call to action. For example, CUNY quickly worked with New York City and State to hire contact tracers to track and contain the spread of COVID-19. We have teams of students and faculty at six of our colleges that have adapted their 3-D printers to make protective face shields for local hospitals. CUNY's School of Public Health has ongoing research on public opinion related to the pandemic — the survey results have been frequently cited in media outlets. Some of our colleges have served as COVID-19 testing sites, including Medgar Evers College and Lehman College, and we have graduated front-line essential personnel early so they could help flatten the curve whose curvature that stands in the way of our City's health and prosperity

Along with all of these community-based initiatives, we're doubling down on the creation of conditions for optimal online learning and investing in the professional development of hundreds of CUNY faculty. These initiatives will have a far-reaching and positive impact on our students' learning and advancement. There's also the creation of the Chancellor's Emergency Fund and our developing an equitable allocation model for emergency aid received through the CARES Act that have and will continue to benefit tens of thousands of students, among many other University-wide and college-specific initiatives.

Indeed, as an anchor institution with an obligation to a city of nearly 9 million people, CUNY understood that the decisions we made in the crucial hours of the outbreak would have sweeping ramifications, not only for our campuses and their communities, but for the city as a whole. It was and is clear that we need to align the scope and timing of our decisions with public policy objectives articulated by our city and our state. There were difficult decisions to make, which were challenging to implement, including the cancellation of all of our study abroad programs and the evacuation of our dormitories to make space for possible hospital beds. There were also easier decisions to make which were still challenging to implement, such as the adoption of a flexible credit/no credit grading policy, the distributions of thousands of tablets and laptops to students who needed them to continue their learning, and securing early graduation to students in accredited medical and allied health fields so they could join the fight against COVID-19.

As we look to the days ahead, we must be guided by the understanding that to fully meet the needs of our students and communities — to truly be engaged in the recovery of New York City and New York State — we must invest in our students, and also in the institutions that serve them, because it is crucial that access and affordability be paired with the rigor and value that our students, City, and State require (or deserve). Institutions in New York State must work hand in hand because there is no one single agency or institution that predominantly and disproportionately shoulders the responsibility of increasing educational attainment as a means

to narrowing gaps in opportunity; there is no one single agency or institution that predominantly and disproportionately paves the way for a more just and equitable society. We must work together to recover from the challenges brought about by the pandemic, and to be better positioned to adjust to the future disruptions to our ways of life.

That is why we greatly value the support that you, Chair Barron, and this committee have historically provided to The City University of New York — both by influencing direct investments to our mission and by holding us accountable to achieving our highest principles.

Since the pandemic forced the conversion of over 95% of our course offerings to distance education in mid-March of this momentous year, you have asked about our efforts in several important fronts, including: 1) The Conversion to Distance Education; 2) Food, Housing, and Financial Insecurity Among CUNY Students; and 3) Enrollment and Graduation Projections.

To this end, let me take them each, in part.

First, the conversion to distance education mid-semester was a massive undertaking. At the time, I wrote to my colleagues that the conversion, in hindsight would mark the start of a new chapter in CUNY's storied history. A chapter that will recount the narrative of how the hundreds of thousands of students, faculty, and staff that comprise the world's greatest urban University came together, over five business days, to embrace distance learning and distance working as mechanisms to protect themselves, their families, and the communities they represent during these unprecedented times, and to ensure that our University would continue, during these unprecedented times, to deliver on its mission and promise of opportunity and social mobility. Our goal at the time, a goal that I am proud to say that we have met, was to safeguard the health of our campus communities while preserving the ability of our students to sustain their academic momentum and achievements, even under the most dire of circumstances.

Let me illustrate how we met this goal. At the beginning of the spring term, we had nearly 275,000 degree-seeking students enrolled in almost 50,000 course sections — only 22% of those sections were coded as including some form of distance learning. Strikingly, after only a 5-business day instructional recess, 95% of our University's courses were offered via distance learning and approximately 95% of our OAA staff moved to distance working. As of this writing, we note that grade distributions — aided by our CR/NC flexible grading policy and the extraordinary efforts of our students and faculty — are not dramatically different than they were last spring. Compared to this time last year, the percentage of students with a Withdrawal, Incomplete, D, or F grade are down (from 18% in Spring 2019 to 15% this Spring) in part due to the CR/NC policy.

Second, food, housing, and financial insecurity among our students has inarguably increased at a time when the challenges the University faces in tending to them have — financially and logistically — soared. This should not be news to anyone who knows how structural oppression and systemic racism work against the students CUNY was legislated to combat. The reality is that

recent internal polling suggests that nearly 40% of our students have lost their jobs, as of May 15, 2020 18% have reported going hungry at least once in the two weeks previous, and 55% have faced housing insecurity since March 2019. These are unfortunate increases over the appalling conditions we were already facing in the pre-pandemic era. During the pandemic, we have reacted swiftly and forcefully to turn things around — we have the courage to not avert our gaze from the suffering, but continue to work steadfastly to measure it and address it head on.

My colleague Matt Sapienza will describe in detail the distribution of over \$100M of Cares Act Emergency funding to eligible students using a progressive allocation formula that considers students financial need and whether or not they have dependents to care for, coupled with a nimble distribution process. Furthermore, he will also report on the Chancellor's Emergency Relief Fund which has distributed much needed grants to CUNY students who are coping with the severe economic fallout of the extraordinary public health emergency.

Finally, we are also happy to report that we distributed the full \$1 million of the Food Insecurity Pilot Program sponsored by City Council Speaker Corey Johnson. Our seven community colleges participated in the program that provided 441 students \$400 for food expenses in both the Fall 2019 and Spring 2020 semesters. Another 1154 students received \$400 in April 2020 as we modified the program to respond to the needs of our students caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. We also provided our seven community colleges with \$6,000 each for food pantry purchases.

In consolidating our dorms to make them available for the State to help with potential upsurges in the need for hospital beds, we made sure that students who did not have safe places to go had the option to stay at one of our college's dormitory facilities — something we have now extended through the month of June as we get more clarity on what the future holds for us both in terms of public health policies as well as fiscal conditions.

Of course, the question remains: What more can CUNY do to tend to the holistic needs of our student body and what investments and partnerships can we secure to deliver them? It is easy to comprehend that the needs of CUNY's students, on average, far exceed those of other New York City and New York State institutions. While the needs are great, they are overshadowed by the potential and passion our students and their drive for bettering their lives through education, and bettering the communities they represent and the families they will guide through generations far into the future.

Third, I am pleased to present an optimistic picture about our enrollment projections and graduation projections. Regarding enrollment, we recently announced a 17% increase in our projected summer enrollments, even as to date these courses are scheduled to be delivered online. While our Fall 2020 projections need to be taken with caution, we currently see much better numbers than are being reported by other institutions of higher education across the country. As of this writing, we are projecting an overall reduction of approximately 4.4% for the Fall, with the caveat that not all of our colleges have started enrolling for the Fall 2020 semester

and we have yet to make an announcement as to the balance of in-person vs online classes and services.

In terms of graduation projections — I am so pleased to state that we expect an estimated 55,000 CUNY graduates to complete their degree requirements this academic year. As we celebrate their accomplishments, many of those online, we continue to turn our attention on the many ways we can best support them as they enter into what is perhaps one of the most difficult job markets in decades. Examples of our work in this area include preparing students for contact tracing and contract tracing supervisor opportunities with New York City and New York State; working with the City to hire resource navigators to help COVID-19- positive patients with the supports they need in self-quarantine; creating partnerships in technology, advertising, engineering, real estate, and public policy for over 700 students for summer internship experiences. We are working with our campus partners to offer additional professional development, job search assistance, and events for recent graduates as the economy reopens and students and companies resume their job searches. Lastly, we are planning ahead for Fall 2020 to ensure that students have access to training, internships, and mentoring to increase access to the social capital and work experiences that are critical for finding full time work. We plan to work closely with CUNY alumni to promote hiring campaigns and stronger CUNY pipelines to jobs and experiences by tapping into former CUNY students who understand and appreciate the grit, motivation, and excellent work ethic that CUNY students provide in the workplace.

For these and so many other reasons, my outlook today is one of great optimism about what lies ahead. My optimism is motivated by a clear understanding that our quest to **make CUNY bigger, better, and bolder is now** more important than ever.

By virtue of its mission, The City University of New York will forever be here to fuel the drive and determination that characterize those who entrust their educational futures to us and strive to make their lives here, in the world's greatest city, The City of New York.

The fact is that we have a special role in meeting this mission as we work to expand access, enhance teaching and learning, increase retention and graduation rates, reduce time to degree, push the frontiers of knowledge, discovery, and innovation, and better serve our communities to cultivate more civic-minded, workforce-ready lifelong learners who will bring the change we need in this world.

Now is the time — to double down on and accelerate the advancement of this mission. We must take heed of the lesson before us. The lesson of the inequities with which COVID-19 has wreaked its havoc upon the underserved communities we seek to better serve, and the systemic oppression that took the life of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and too many others, is that the stakes are too high and the time to fully deliver is becoming uncomfortably tight.

Finally, let us remember that CUNY is not just an institution of higher education. Our mission is driven by an engine of opportunity, a vehicle of upward mobility, on a pathway of transformative change. There is simply no better investment we can make than to fuel the University's mission and take its long legacy of success amidst political upheaval, social unrest, and financial uncertainty as a reason to bet on its future. And bet big.

Thank you.

Testimony of Senior Vice Chancellor Matthew Sapienza
The City University of New York
New York City Council Higher Education Committee Hearing:
The Impact of Coronavirus (COVID-19) on the City University of New York
June 10, 2020

Good morning, Chairperson Barron and members of the Higher Education Committee. I am Matthew Sapienza, CUNY's senior vice chancellor and chief financial officer. I very much appreciate the opportunity to speak with you about the impact of COVID-19 on the City University of New York. I will focus my testimony on the financial impact on our campuses and our students.

With New York City being at the epicenter of the coronavirus outbreak in the United States, CUNY's campuses were among the first in the nation to be challenged by COVID-19. Early in the Spring 2020 semester, as students and staff began to be individually impacted by the virus, several campuses invested resources to deep-clean and disinfect potentially affected facilities. Once the decision was made that the remainder of the semester would be conducted in a remote modality, the University and its colleges quickly pivoted to allocating funds that would ensure that our students would have as much of a seamless transition as possible to distance learning. In addition to the time investment by CUNY's dedicated faculty to moving their syllabi, learning materials and exams to electronic modes, our campuses also incurred expenses to purchase the technological equipment needed by students and faculty and staff to move to a remote environment.

The CUNY Board of Trustees also approved the waiver of a portion of student activity fees for the remainder of the Spring 2020, and authorized refunds and credits to those students who had to be displaced from their dormitory residences.

Since the majority of CUNY students come from backgrounds of limited financial needs, it became immediately obvious that many of our students would not be able to successfully complete the Spring semester without having a dedicated device for which they can use for their academic work. The University, therefore, utilized \$15 million from its capital budget to purchase over 33,000 devices, comprised of both laptops and i-Pads. We are very

appreciative of our funding partners at both the State and City levels who assisted in ensuring that these purchases could be made as quickly as possible. The devices were delivered to students, both through pickup at their local campuses as well as shipment to their homes.

Although the instructional activities moved to a virtual environment, our campuses have remained open and we are extremely thankful to our essential workers, mainly those who are employed in public safety and those who maintain our facilities. Our colleges have invested current year resources to purchase personal protective equipment, such as masks and gloves, and other supplies like hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes, to ensure the safety of these campus workers. The University has also completed bulk purchases of these items to deliver to campuses in need, and to begin to create a stockpile that will be available once our campuses are back to a more traditional learning mode.

While the issuance of laptops and i-Pads was extremely helpful, we realized that the financial impact of the coronavirus deeply affected a vast majority of our students and their families. Nearly half of CUNY's 275,000 degree-seeking students work while in school, and many found their jobs and incomes eliminated, drastically reduced, or otherwise imperiled. In addition, many students unfortunately had to deal with themselves or family members contracting the virus. To help with this financial and emotional hardship, Chancellor Felix Matos Rodriguez announced the creation of the Chancellor's Emergency Relief Fund. The Fund provides one-time \$500 grants to qualifying CUNY students. In April, students received grants based on the highest financial aid need, proximity to graduation, and being a student-parent. The May distribution focused primarily on undocumented students and other who were not eligible for Federal CARES Act funds. To date, four thousand students have received grants totaling \$2 million. The Fund has been supported by the Carroll & Milton Petrie Foundation, the James and Judith K. Dimon Foundation, the Robin Hood Foundation, and the Jeffrey and Shari Aronson Family Foundation as well as several other corporate, philanthropic, and individual donors. We are very grateful to our philanthropic partners, and are proud of our ability to get these funds into the hands of our students so quickly.

CUNY students have also received benefits from the Federal CARES Act. This federal stimulus legislation, formally known as the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, provides emergency grants from the U.S. Department of Education to eligible students to help cover education-related expenses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The CARES Act directs recipients to use the funds they receive for unexpected expenses, unmet financial need, or expenses related to the disruption of campus operations resulting from the coronavirus. These include expenses for food, housing, course materials, technology, health care or childcare. In order to be eligible, students must meet basic eligibility for federal Title IV financial aid. These eligibility criteria include having a demonstrated financial need certified by the family-income information provided on the student's Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA); being a U.S. citizen or national, permanent resident, or other eligible noncitizen; and being enrolled in a degree or certificate program and making satisfactory academic progress.

CUNY's total allocation from the program is \$118 million. About 190,000 undergraduate and graduate students are potentially eligible to receive grants. We are very pleased to report that about \$107 million of the total allocation has already been disbursed to students. The average award is over \$600, with some students receiving well over \$900. Our allocation formula considers students financial need and whether or not they have dependents to care for.

The second half of the CARES Act funding, which also totals \$118 million, is the institutional aid that will be allocated to the campuses to help cover any costs associated with significant changes to the delivery of instruction due to the coronavirus. These funds can be used to expand remote learning programs, build IT capacity to support such programs, and train faculty and staff to operate effectively in a remote learning environment. In addition, these funds can be used to provide more financial grants to students. CUNY campuses have also received \$14 million from the Minority-Serving Institution (MSI) component of the CARES Act. We have developed a plan for the use of the total \$132 million that is available, and hope to have approval to allocate these funds to the campuses as quickly as possible.

While we are grateful for this allocation, we are also preparing for an extremely challenging fiscal environment in the upcoming academic year. While we are pleased that our summer session enrollment numbers are very strong, it is still unknown what the impact of the coronavirus will have on our students, and thus on our enrollment for the Fall 2020 semester. Our funding partners at the State and City are also facing severe funding shortfalls for Fiscal Year 2021, which will have a direct negative impact on CUNY's operating budget. The City's Executive Plan included \$31.6 million in reductions for CUNY as well as proposed cuts to the awarding-winning ASAP program, and the State has projected a \$13.3 billion deficit in FY21. The University is taking steps to meet this challenge, one of which was to implement a freeze on all personnel actions, including all hires and discretionary salary increases. Per State and City regulations, the University paused all active campus construction projects, with the exception of those that are COVID-19 related or clear health and safety issues. We also directed colleges to refrain from any new one-time or recurring expenditures, with the exception of those that are related to COVID-19 or distance learning instruction, and mandated that they not be entering into any new long-term contractual obligations. We are planning on presenting a budget plan for Fiscal Year 2021 to the Board of Trustees at its meeting later this month, on June 29th. That plan will take all of the above into consideration as we craft a budget that will protect our core values as much as possible.

Chairperson Barron, all of us at the University very much appreciate your leadership, and this Committee's strong and continuing advocacy for our students.



PUBLIC ADVOCATE FOR THE CITY OF NEW YORK
Jumaane D. Williams

**TESTIMONY OF PUBLIC ADVOCATE JUMAANE D. WILLIAMS
TO THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION
JUNE 10, 2020**

Good morning,

My name is Jumaane D. Williams, Public Advocate for the City of New York. I would like to thank Chairwoman Inez Barron and the members of the Committee on Higher Education for holding an oversight hearing on the Coronavirus' impact on the City University of New York. As an alum of CUNY, I can tell you that this university system directly impacts our ability to prosper as a City. Knowledge is wealth, and CUNY students have traditionally received the opportunity to access this wealth without going into debt, and subsequently graduate with greater career prospects and also a higher degree of self-awareness.

Unfortunately, too many students will not have access to this wealth because CUNY has suffered extensive budget cuts. Systemic underfunding along with massive increase in enrollment limits CUNY's ability to maintain educational and operational success while alleviating financial burdens for thousands of students, the majority of whom come from low-income backgrounds, are people of more color, and graduated from our City's public school system. Over the past 10 years, per-student funding from New York State has decreased by 18 percent, adjusted for inflation and enrollment growth. Yet, the State's funding for the Tuition Assistance Program has increased by 11 percent, which means more students attended CUNY using tuition assistance grants that may not have covered the full tuition.

These changes in funding have put CUNY students at risk of acquiring debt just to attend college. Though CUNY students typically graduate with limited student loan debt, costs that are not related to tuition, such as housing and food, can leave students with tens of thousands of dollars in debt a year. A large number of CUNY students are food insecure or homeless, and 60 percent come from homes with incomes under \$30,000. Moreover, a significant portion of students work a part-time job to cut down on their expenses, which can have a negative impact on their academic performance. So what we are seeing is that the lack of funding for CUNY is not causing an increase in tuition, but rather a scarcity of grants for students, leaving them with no choice but to take on a part-time job or borrow additional loans to ensure food security and pay their rent and other expenses.

As laid out in the report that my Office released late last year, there are a number of ways we can address the shortfalls of the CUNY system that have been caused by underfunding. My first recommendation is for the State and the City to increase funding for CUNY, which would also include more City contributions to CUNY's senior colleges. Second - close the Tuition Assistance Program gap by calling on the State to add a provision to the annual budget to cover the gap between the maximum TAP grant and the in-state tuition rate for public colleges. We also need to increase the number of full-time faculty, raise the salaries of adjunct faculty, and strengthen the Pell Grant program.

I am eager to hear CUNY's plan to address the underfunding shortfalls, especially in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. CUNY needs to have a plan to ensure that the virtual learning system implemented during this pandemic does not set students back who are set to graduate next year, as well as address the frustrations that adjunct professors have shared regarding remote learning. Should remote learning continue in the fall, the university system should issue adequate guidance and develop additional resources for adjunct faculty, as well as reassess the cost of attendance fees. Another element that CUNY has to focus on is expanding the services that are available to students with disabilities.

The City University of New York has become a staple in New York City, not just for its 25 campuses and its affordability, but for the quality of education it has been known to provide. I want to ensure that current CUNY students have a fair chance at the same quality education I received when I was a student, without crippling student loans in their future. I look forward to hearing from CUNY's administration today on how they plan to protect the quality of their students' education, while ensuring that they will be financially stable once they graduate.

Testimony from Professor Kimora from CUNY

“Impact of Coronavirus on City University of New York”

New York City Council

Wednesday, June 10, 2020, 10 am

Professor Kimora

Member, Executive Committee (EC) CUNY University Faculty Senate; Professor, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Kimora@jjay.cuny.edu

Good morning, Honorable Chair Barron and Members of the Committee on Higher Education of the NYC Council,

Thank you for this opportunity to speak to you about the issue of how the Coronavirus has impacted CUNY. I am a professor of criminal justice, ethics and leadership at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I have been a dedicated professor at the City University of New York (CUNY) since 2003. I have been a member of the CUNY University Faculty Senate (UFS) since 2011. I was just re-elected this May, 2020, to a third term of the Executive Committee (EC) of the City University of New York (CUNY). I have been asked by the Chair of the University Faculty Senate (UFS), Professor Martin Burke, to speak about this important issue.

There is no question that the Coronavirus has impacted CUNY in ways we never could have expected.

Despite the fact that CUNY Chancellor Felix V. Matos Rodriguez mandated distance learning in March, 2020, to ameliorate the Coronavirus, many students and faculty were not prepared for the transition from in-classroom learning to distance learning in a manner of a few short weeks. However, we all rose to the challenge and we have completed the spring semester at CUNY. Now, over the summer, many professors are engaged in online workshops across CUNY to become even better prepared for the fall semester and beyond. As of June 10, 2020, we still do not know if we will be teaching entirely remotely for the fall, 2020 semester.

We are also waiting to hear about the CUNY budget at the end of June, 2020. We do not know if we will have adequate funding for our colleges during this time.

The Coronavirus has caused undue hardship for many in our CUNY community. I know of many students, faculty and staff who have received the terrible news that their loved ones, peers, or faculty members have died from the virus. Many students have lost jobs during this time due to the impact of the virus. Many CUNY adjunct professors have not been given classes to teach this summer and/or fall since

projections by some CUNY administrators is that enrollment will fall dramatically. (At the time of this writing, some colleges are THRIVING with high enrollments over the summer. Of course, data is not available yet regarding fall enrollments.) Some research has been stalled at CUNY since, for example, we cannot contact our subjects in person. Many in the CUNY community are suffering from isolation and mental distress due to the ramifications of the Coronavirus. We are living in a chaotic, unsure world just as you are at this time.

Despite all this despair, I would hasten to mention that our CUNY community is very resilient and optimistic as we look to the future. CUNY administrators, professors, and student leaders are discussing how to best ensure that students, faculty and staff get the resources they need moving forward to provide the kind of quality education our students have come to expect from the City University of New York.

Let me be clear. We at CUNY realize that this is a very serious virus. In the succinct words of Dr. Michael T. Osterholm, an American infectious disease epidemiologist, Regents Professor, and director of the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy at the University of Minnesota, "...a second wave (of COVID-19) in late summer or early fall that lasts three or four months could make everything we've experienced so far seem mild."

I ask that you stay in touch with me during this trying time. I, along with my colleagues, can provide you with information that you will need to help us ensure that CUNY survives and THRIVES during the Coronavirus pandemic. I know that all of you on the New York City Council firmly believe that CUNY, the largest urban university in the United States, needs to be cherished as it serves a diverse student body and offers high-quality education at an affordable price.

On behalf of the CUNY University Faculty Senate, I thank you for listening to us. May all of you be safe and well during this unsettling time.



New York City Council Committee on Higher Education

The Impact of Coronavirus (COVID-19) on the City University of New York

Submitted by Melanie Kruevelis, Senior Manager of Policy and Advocacy, Young Invincibles

Wednesday, June 10, 2020

Good morning. My name is Melanie Kruevelis, and I am the Senior Manager of Policy and Advocacy at Young Invincibles. Young Invincibles is a non-profit dedicated to elevating young adults in the political process. I want to thank the New York City Council and the Committee on Higher Education for the opportunity to testify at today's hearing on how COVID-19 has impacted the City University of New York and its students.

CUNY faced serious challenges when the COVID-19 pandemic took hold in New York. Transitioning from a system of 25 physical campuses to distance learning and virtual support services was daunting — and in conversations with CUNY students, many recognized the challenges their campuses faced in this transition. As one City College student told us this spring, *“Although I am grateful that the universities throughout New York are doing what they can to prevent the spread of COVID-19, I also realize that it adds on another layer of uncertainty and stress that I will have to actively deal with. How will I attend online classes when my Internet connection isn't always stable?”* We recognize that CUNY did respond to these issues, publishing campus-level points of contact on CUNY Central's website who can connect students with laptops. Still, even as CUNY adapted to this digital environment, we know that many students ended the semester without adequate Internet access. This includes students who are most vulnerable to the pandemic, including the 14 percent of CUNY students experiencing homelessness. We spoke with a Lehman College student living in one of the city's homeless shelters, who was prohibited from using her laptop in the shelter or accessing its WiFi. We heard from students living in crowded housing conditions, impacting their ability to access internet. Recent surveys fielded by Healthy CUNY also show further challenges of distance learning — from the caretaking responsibilities of CUNY's student parents, to unaddressed issues among students with different learning abilities. In short, the issues that emerged as CUNY went online go beyond simply ensuring laptops and Internet access. These are intersectional issues that

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underscore which students are able to easily access higher education, and those who are left behind to figure it out for themselves.

Now, as more New Yorkers emerge from this pandemic on the brink of eviction and homelessness, with rising food insecurity, and serious mental health challenges, CUNY must step up its communication and collaboration with services, on and off campus, that can help students address these challenges. In March 2020, YI hosted a roundtable with CUNY students, asking about the impact COVID-19 had on their semester. When asked about communication they received from their campuses, students said they received a lot of information about their campuses' transition into online learning; however, few reported receiving communication on food pantries, Single Stop services, or information on accessing their college's emergency aid. It's time to step up coordination and communication with these services. We need to see digital, CUNY-wide platforms that connect students to basic-needs assistance. We need CUNY-wide campaigns aimed at enrolling eligible students in SNAP, Medicaid, and other services as we brace for semesters of unprecedented instability. We particularly call on CUNY to keep an eye on the rising housing insecurity its students face. Students are frustrated by the lack of support they receive when it comes to securing affordable housing. CUNY must strengthen its communication and collaboration with the city's housing system, including the shelter system, housing providers, and philanthropic partners who all have a role in making sure students have a safe, stable place to study and sleep at night. And when our systems fail and leave students without housing, we cannot turn our backs on these students — we must do everything we can to ensure they are safe and housed. In other states, such as California, Maine, and Louisiana, colleges created on-campus liaisons for students experiencing homelessness, who can manage these relationships with housing systems, and understand how students experiencing homelessness are being served by them. As we move forward, we urge CUNY to create these, particularly as housing insecurity increases among students.

To help address some of these pressing needs students face during COVID, we saw increased investment in campus emergency aid programs. As folks on the Council know, the March 27th passage of the federal CARES Act guaranteed funding for colleges and universities, including \$236 million for the CUNY system. Under the federal law, at least half of that allocation must go directly to students in the form of emergency aid. The current federal administration has made

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every effort to block emergency aid from some of the students who need it the most — from undocumented students, to international students, to those who cannot apply for and access FAFSA aid, to veterans using military benefits in college. On that point, we urge the Council to work with their city and state colleagues, and call on U.S. Senators Charles Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand to ensure the next federal COVID-19 package provides additional student aid to make sure students are not continuously left behind in relief efforts. While we continue to monitor federal activity, we urge CUNY to disclose information about the aid provided via the CARES Act, including how many students have received emergency aid through CARES to date, the average amount of emergency aid awarded to students, and how much emergency aid funding remains available for summer and fall 2020 semesters. We also applaud the CUNY system and its philanthropic partners for establishing the Chancellor’s Emergency Relief Grant Program, another funding stream for emergency aid that includes some of the students blocked from CARES emergency aid, including undocumented students. We also urge CUNY to share information about student use of the Chancellor’s Emergency Relief Grant Program, including how many students have received aid so far in total; what share of the aid has gone to a) undocumented students, b) international students, and c) undergraduates with an EFC of \$0; and how much funding has been raised beyond the initial \$3.5 million, to ensure students in the summer and fall semesters will have ongoing access to aid. And as we look ahead to future semesters, we must ensure that students are able to apply and access aid, regardless of whether they’ve applied for emergency aid in the past. One Lehman College student told us she was denied an emergency grant this spring because she had applied in previous semesters. The COVID-19 pandemic didn’t create student hardship out of thin air — rather, it exacerbated the challenges faced by students who already lacked the resources they needed to persist in college. Moving forward, we call on CUNY to make emergency funding available to each student more than once. If aid is no longer available, students should be notified that funding has run out, and be provided with resources that can help fill in the gap. Knowing that funding is limited, we also encourage CUNY to continue to collect applications, even when funds run out. This information can be used to document student need, and inform fundraising efforts for these grants. Last, we urge CUNY to monitor the persistence of emergency aid applicants and recipients, and to use that information to help connect students with resources and assistance to stay on track for graduation.

YOUNG INVINCIBLES

Last, I would be remiss if I did not address the funding challenges long faced by CUNY, and how that connects to the global movement happening right now. New York's leaders often tout the great promise of our public colleges and universities, and point to research showing how CUNY campuses bring more low-income folks into economic security than all the Ivy Leagues combined. But this recognition has not come with sustainable support for our colleges. If our last recession is a roadmap for New York's commitment to students and higher education, then we know what the future holds: tuition hikes, cuts to adjunct faculty that actually look like the students they serve, and rolling back programs that actually work for students, such as CUNY ASAP. That all adds up to worse academic outcomes, lower completion rates, and a higher education system that only serves white and well-resourced New Yorkers. Now, as we face proposed cuts on the City level, and with the looming threat of State cuts, we must be clear: cutting funding for the programs and institutions that can provide economic stability to the communities most harmed by this crisis is not the path forward. As tens of thousands of New Yorkers push for defunding the NYPD, and putting those resources towards education and social services, we must consider: in an economic downturn, what does our commitment to Black and brown New Yorkers look like? We stand in support of the thousands of New Yorkers demanding a new commitment to young Black and brown New Yorkers, including defunding NYPD by at least \$1 billion and reallocating funding to education and social services. If the Council has been paying attention to what is happening in the streets of our city, it is clear — young people will hold our institutions accountable, and that includes our commitment to their education. Thank you for the opportunity to testify, and I look forward to your questions.



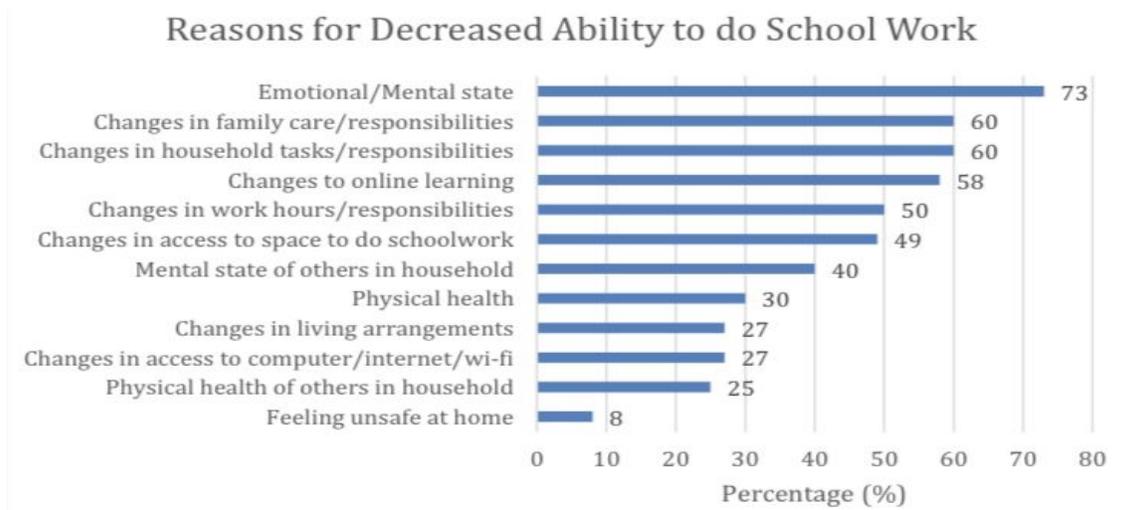
University Student Senate
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**TESTIMONY OF
TIMOTHY HUNTER, UNIVERSITY STUDENT SENATE CHAIRPERSON
BEFORE THE
NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE ON THE IMPACT OF
COVID19 ON THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
June 10, 2020**

Good afternoon, my name is Timothy Hunter. I am the Chairperson of the CUNY University Student Senate (USS) and the Student Trustee on the City University's Board of Trustees. Founded in 1972 with the mission of preserving the accessibility, affordability, and excellence of higher education within the CUNY, the organization is charged with protecting the rights of the student body and promoting the general welfare of its student constituents and the University. As New York City is the epicenter of the global coronavirus pandemic, we must ensure the needs of students attending the City University of New York are centered in policymaking.

ACADEMIC CHALLENGES DURING COVID-19

The coronavirus pandemic has disrupted the lives of countless students across the university system. According to a recent CUNY student experience survey during COVID-19 conducted by Healthy CUNY, a university-wide initiative based at the CUNY School of Public Health, more than half of respondents (57%) reported that their ability to do school work decreased due to the coronavirus pandemic. Out of those who reported decreased ability to do school work, 73% said it was due to their emotional/mental state, 60% said it was due to changes in family responsibilities and household tasks, and 58% said it was due to changes to online learning (see graph below).¹



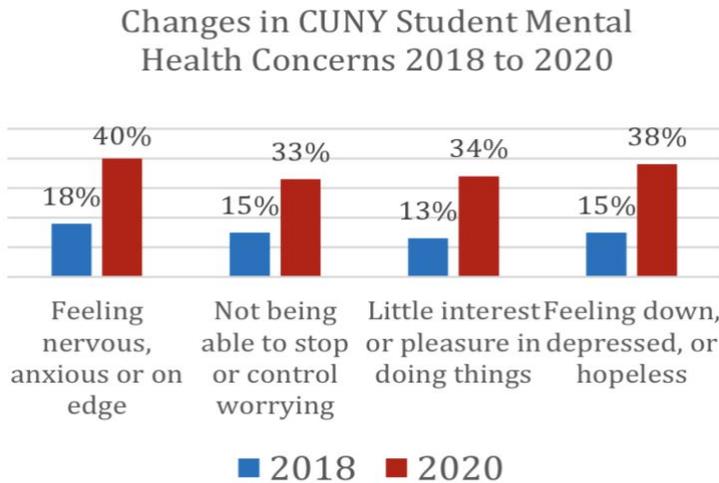
¹ Healthy CUNY Preliminary Report: Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on CUNY students May 15, 2020, by Nicholas Freudenberg, Heidi Jones, Meredith Manze, and Patricia Lamberson, all at the CUNY Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy



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MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES DURING COVID-19

It is clear that mental health-related issues have surged within CUNY in recent years, however, because of coronavirus, those issues have only been exacerbated, affecting the retention rates and graduation rates of students. According to the 2020 Healthy CUNY Survey, on more than half of the days in the two weeks prior to the survey, over one-third of students reported the following:



- Feeling nervous, anxious or on edge (40%)
- Little pleasure or interest in doing things (38%)
- Unable to stop worrying (33%)
- Feeling down, depressed, or helpless (33%)²

It's clear, based on the 2018 Healthy CUNY Student Survey, the rates of these negative feelings within the CUNY student population have more than doubled, likely due to the pandemic.³

FOOD INSECURITY DURING COVID-19

According to the Healthy CUNY Survey on the impact of COVID-19 on CUNY students, levels of worry about running out of food because of lack of money were more than three times higher in 2020 than in 2018. In addition, students also cut or skipped meals due to lack of money at higher rates than they did in 2018. Lastly, students reported having gone hungry often or sometimes more frequently in 2020 than they did in 2018. **At the same time, 70% reported a decrease in income for other members of their households and 54% a decrease in their own income due to coronavirus.**⁴

THE RISING COST OF CUNY

Due to continued state disinvestment (and even more potential cuts coming from the Governor), CUNY will vote at their final board meeting on June 29th to raise tuition at both senior and community colleges

² Healthy CUNY Preliminary Report: Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on CUNY students May 15, 2020, by Nicholas Freudenberg, Heidi Jones, Meredith Manze, and Patricia Lamberson, all at the CUNY Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy

³ Healthy CUNY: Promoting Health for Academic Success: An Assessment of Challenges and Opportunities at City University of New York; February 2018, see: https://sph.cuny.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Promoting-Health-for-Academic-Success.2.12.18_-FINAL.pdf-2.13.18.pdf

⁴ Ibid



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(despite tuition remaining frozen for the last 4 years). The increase would annually be \$320; \$200 towards tuition and \$120 towards a new 'health and wellness fee'. This is problematic for various reasons, including but not limited to the fact that NYC already has one of the highest community college tuition rates in the nation. The national average for tuition at community colleges is \$4,816, however, at CUNY, tuition is \$5,194.⁵ This increase of \$200 at community colleges will negatively affect students, especially those paying out of pocket. Imagine families budgeting for a tuition increase while also suffering economically from what may be the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression. Public colleges like CUNY are meant to be a gateway to the middle class. CUNY students should not have to pay for tuition with their salaries, savings or loans- until they are at their breaking point.

But the council may rectify this issue. The University Student Senate calls for the New York Police Department's budget, which was virtually unchanged in the mayor's first post-COVID financial agenda, to be slashed. The \$6 billion NYPD budget is larger than Homeless services, Youth and Community Development, Housing Preservation and Development, and Health budgets combined. It's simply not enough to just cut the NYPD's budget- the Student Senate demands that a portion of their budget (\$16 million) gets redirected to the City University of New York to offset the tuition hike community colleges will face if the Board of Trustees vote for it on June 29th.

⁵ Community College Review, see: <https://www.communitycollegereview.com/avg-tuition-stats/national-data>

Statement for Saving our Adjunct Professorship Jobs and Health Benefits

Dr. Alison Pratt, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Queensborough Community College

(CUNY Ph.D., 1990)

I began teaching at QCC in 2011. Since that time, I have taught 20 sections of Introduction to Psychology. The nine years at QCC have been both challenging and fulfilling. The difference between community college students and 4-year college students is stark. It is a big leap for many of them for the challenges that go beyond the classroom: time management, language barriers, cultural barriers, educational preparedness, educational expectations from high school, and so on. For example, one student told me that this was her third time taking intro psych, but until my class, she did not understand the necessity to become actively engaged in her own education. Clearly this is a lesson that applied to my class, to all classes, and to life itself. She finished with an A. Other students have had similar conversations with me. Being a community college professor goes beyond delivering lessons in a classroom (or now, online). Professors who are responsive to the students' daily obstacles inspire them to do their best work.

Pivoting to distance education this past semester was difficult for all of us. Students faced COVID-19 themselves, deaths and illness of family members, childcare issues, financial issues, and technology issues. Yet, for any student who was determined to complete the semester, I was determined to help them achieve that.

I am also a clinical psychologist in private practice. I started adjunct teaching not just for the income, but to have a balance of professional activities. Teaching is a really nice counterpoint to private practice. Being self-employed, I have had to provide my own health insurance. For many years, this was not an issue because I was dependent on my husband's health insurance through his job. However, he retired a few years ago and is now on Medicare.

I have been very grateful that the PSC union provided the option for health insurance for adjuncts as well as dental, vision, and prescription coverage. I arranged to take advantage of these benefits by increasing my teaching load in the fall semester of 2017.

I am now 63 years old. If I lose classes, it will definitely impact my life. I have structured my career so that teaching is an integral part of how I earn my living and supply my health benefits, drug coverage, and so on. I am the primary wage-earner of our family. In addition to all the normal bills of living, I am contributing my son's graduate education tuition and trying to prepare for my retirement a few years from now. Yes, I could (and would) buy COBRA. But having to buy COBRA would have a ripple effect of not being able to meet other current bills, increase my personal debt, and delay my retirement.

As an adjunct, I know that my job is not necessarily guaranteed. Since the semester ended, I have taken online Blackboard training classes to prepare for fall distance learning, even though I have not yet been assigned a class. I would be sorry to lose teaching as I continue to grow as a professor and am an asset to my students. I would be very grateful for the continuance of my teaching assignments for both the financial aspect and just as importantly, the health insurance.

Thank you.

Alison Pratt, Ph.D., Social Sciences Department, Queensborough Community College

CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK'S UNIVERSITY STUDENT SENATE



Collective testimonies of students, faculty and alumni

My name is Camelot Pham. I am a freshman at Brooklyn College. I do not receive financial aid and pay for tuition out of pocket.

Like all CUNY students, the coronavirus pandemic has negatively affected me. Learning is now much harder because I have no in-person lectures. I learn much better in a physical environment and quite frankly I didn't pay for online classes. I haven't been working since the schools have closed and have had 0 income for 3 months.

I don't feel like the raised tuition has made my semester any better during the spring when it was raised. And now it's going to be raised again. This is ridiculous. I personally pay tuition 100% out of pocket without any financial aid simply because my parents make more than the threshold yet they're not the ones paying. I've lost 3 months of work which is crucial as now paying for tuition will be harder. Thank you.

My name is Sanket Saha. I am a graduate student attending Baruch College. I do not receive financial aid and pay for school out of pocket.

The coronavirus has impacted me mostly economically; I do not have a salary anymore.

I ask the Board of Trustees to freeze tuition because if not, the money going towards tuition hikes will have to be taken out of my food budget. This is unsettling considering my family is already taking in less money. Thank you.

My name is Patrycja Golinska. I am a graduate student attending the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I do not receive financial aid and pay for school out of pocket.

Working in the hospital setting in pulmonary and critical care, my division is particularly affected by the pandemic and I have been dedicating less time to my studies for personal reasons and due to the overwhelming workload at work.

Raising tuition by \$320 will put a strain on finances due to job loss or furlough which has affected many students I know, would make paying tuition much more difficult.

My name is Enmanuel Arias. I am a senior at New York City College of Technology. I received FAFSA and TAP for the majority time but I paid out of pocket for a few semesters as well.

The coronavirus pandemic has made it a lot more difficult for me to get through each day because I am unable to have access to certain resources that my campus provided like the cafeteria or the library. Yes, I'm aware that some resources are still available online, but the experience is not the same. Having classes that involve coding and not having professors readily available has been challenging. Professors who aren't used to teaching online have these unrealistic expectations of us and continually bombard us with multiple assignments, discussions, and videos.

If the BOT agrees to raise tuition by \$320, I will be receiving less from my FAFSA+TAP refund; money that I use to support myself throughout the semester by purchasing textbooks, supplies, food, MetroCards, etc. will be directed towards tuition instead. There was a period of time in my academic career where I had to pay my tuition out of pocket and couldn't afford to pay it all at once. I would have to wait until a few days before enrollment for the following semester would close to register for classes because I was saving up to pay off my outstanding balance and lift the hold on my account; this is an issue many students face.

My name is Carolina Penagos. I am a senior attending the City College of New York. I receive financial aid and Pell to pay for school.

The coronavirus has impacted my ability to have face to face interaction, Online classes are not my strength and I have a baby at home which now requires me to watch her and the daycare services on campus are no longer available.

The board of Trustees shouldn't raise tuition because I have lost my job due to COVID19. This tuition raise will affect so many students who are now facing many other problems due to the COVID crisis.

My name is Jack. I am a senior attending the City College of New York. I receive financial aid and Pell, and take out loans to pay out of pocket.

The corona virus has impacted my CUNY experience for the better. This is mainly because my total commute was at least 4 hours each day that I had to go to school. On top of working almost full time and the classes themselves, I was left with very little time to properly study. With much more time available to study, I feel as though I have greatly benefited. Many in person course programs are not designed to be compatible with people who have outside responsibilities. Yes,

part time classes are an option, and I've had to resort to this for about half of my College Career, but there is a drawback in that it can greatly affect your financial aid, resulting in large debt in light of grants and out of pocket expenses.

The board of trustees shouldnt raise our tuition because many of our resources are already spread thin. For example, even when financial aid covered tuition, I still had to take out loans to cover minimum living expenses. Raising tuition even further would only force me to take out more loans and become further indebted because of an education at a university system that prides itself on-and advertises itself-as having a majority of students graduating with little to no debt.

My name is Soo Min KIm. I am a senior attending John Jay College of Criminal justice. I paid out of pocket until this year's TAP assistance through the NYC Dream Act.

The corona virus has impacted my mental wellness and caused emotional distress. The deprivation of my on-campus experience and memories make it difficult to remain motivated and well. Especially since I am supposed to graduate this semester, I am all the more negatively impacted at how my last memory of the campus is going to be.

The board of trustees shouldnt raise our tuition because we are all living a collective tragedy. We are affected emotionally, physically, societally, economically, and all the more. Families are losing their health, loved ones and jobs. For the tuition to rise so much at this time is plain unjust and inconsiderate of the current situation.

My name is Falak Ali. I am a senior attending Brooklyn College. I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

The Corona virus has affected my CUNY experience because it has left me in a financial crisis and has also limited access to services for me and students.

The board of trustees should raise tuition because students are barely making the basic needs for themselves ,and therefore an increase in tuition would be impossible for students and myself.

My name is Steven Zhang. I am a junior attending Queens College. I pay for my tuition with loans and also out of pocket.

The Coronavirus pandemic affects me because it is hard for me to reach out to my professor and ask them questions related to the class. Also, online classes are not the best because whenever in a live call you don't know if you're going to disconnect or lag. Also, I feel a high workload since this happened.

I feel like the board of trustees should not raise our tuition during this time because of the Coronavirus pandemic because a lot of students like myself pay for College and right now we are not working and might have trouble with paying for College. Also, tuition goes up every year but nothing changes in the school. We still have unclean facilities and very bad interright nowet on campus. Along with professors who don't teach and just make us read off textbooks. If I wanted to do that I would not pay to go to College and just read the textbook myself at home.

My name is Ashiya Dorria. I am a senior attending Hunter College. I pay for my tuition with Tap and Pell.

The corona virus has impacted my CUNY experience for the future. This has given me anxiety about the current state of this country and the world ,therefore affecting my ability to focus on my education. I have worries about my economic stability and opportunities after I graduate.

The board of trustees shouldnt raise my tuition because I have to start paying out of pocket soon and I can't afford to do so. I didn't get a stl'mulus check because I was claImed as a dependent. I have over 1k in dental bills I have to pay and no means of income at the moment. I may have to consider putting school on hold for the time being which would only delay my graduation.

My name is Mercy Chuquitarco. I am a freshman attending Queens College. I pay for my tuition with SEEK, Tap, and Pell.

The corona has affected my CUNY experience as a freshman. I'm not able to experience the College experience and communicate with other people.

The Board shouldn't raise our tuition by 320 because there are students who have to work jobs to pay out of pocket to pay for their education which ain't fair. Since ,we are working long hours. It

will affect me personally because I'll have to live with uncertainty; if Fafsa doesn't cover my tuition my parents are going to have to pay, they have a lot more things on their plate and I'll have to look for a job which might distract me from my school work. Raising the tuition for students would cause problems when it comes to their education .Students won't be able to concentrate on their schoolwork since they are worried about making ends meet.

My name is Tiromani Sanchara. I am attending Queens College. I pay for my tuition with financial aid.

The corona virus has not impacted my experience in any way. At times I had some intermittent connection problems and sometimes I could not get access to the blackboard. Since this pandemic has begun I am trying really hard to focus on my work but I just have a hard time sending in assignments

The board of trustees should not raise my tuition because this will have a heavy impact on students.

My name is Jean Makolo. I'm a sophomore attending Queensborough Community College. I pay my tuition out of pocket.

The corona virus has impacted my CUNY experience because now my classes are through distance learning. It hasn't been easy for me to adjust. And I prefer taking my classes on-campus.

I believe the Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition by \$320 because we would still receive the same education we received when we paid lesser tuition. It is totally unfair; especially to people like me who pay out of pocket and are not qualified for financial aid.

My name is Chloe. I'm a College student .I pay my tuition in multiple ways.

The coronavirus pandemic has impacted my experience because I'm paying for classes that I am now taking online.

The board of trustees should not raise my tuition 320\$ because my source of income has been cut due to the pandemic and that is not something I can afford at the moment.

My name is Brianna Jungra. I'm a sophomore at Hunter College. I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

The Corona Virus has affected my CUNY experience by making classes become more stressful as a result of the workload increase.

The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition to \$320 because tuition is already high and increasing it would make the situation harder for me. Students just want to go to school and not have to pay ridiculous amounts just to get their education. It's already a tough situation we're going through so why make it harder? Tuition shouldn't be increased.

My name is Rachel Skaf. I am a freshman attending Brooklyn College. I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

The coronavirus has impacted my CUNY experience because I was recently laid off from my job, which is making it difficult to pay tuition. My family is also not working and we have other bills and expenses to pay.

The board of trustees should not raise tuition \$320 because this will affect me since I'm not making money from my job because I was fired. We are taking online classes, and it isn't necessary to raise the tuition. There are less expenses for the College since we're off campus. Raising tuition during this crisis would be financially difficult and unfair to the students and their families.

My name is Wendy Lin. I'm a junior attending Hunter College. I pay my tuition with FAFSA and TAP.

The Corona Virus has affected my Cuny experience by making it difficult for me to pay attention to distance learning. I'm a science major, and my actual participation in the laboratory.

It is critical to our learning! There are virtual resources available for free but could not replace actual experience.

The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition by \$320 because I wish to pursue a master degree in the future and since I am unemployed due to this pandemic, it will be a very unjust decision towards my financial stress.

My name is Joseline Cuzco. I am a freshman attending Queen's College . I pay for my tuition with SEEK, TAP, and PELL.

The coronavirus pandemic has affected my CUNY experience in many ways. First , It's really hard to pay attention during my online class because my family is a big distraction, especially the children. Everyday I get new assignments to do and I can't finish them for lack of understanding. Stress has been my greatest enemy in this critical time and my health has worsened.

The Board of Trustees should not raise our tuition by \$320 because It would affect me. My economic status is low and ll'mited so I would have to find another job that pays me better to be able to pay for my education and my personal expenses. Every penny that CUNY gives us is a great help. Thanks to the aid that CUNY offers us, many students graduate and fulfill their dreams, and the US each time obtains a great professional. Profesionales that allow our county to prosper.

My name is Yinshuang Gao . I am a junior attending Hunter College . I pay for my tuition with TAP, FAFSA, and sometimes out of pocket.

The corona virus has affected my CUNY experience by ll'miting resources on campus to me and everyone else. I used library resources such as printing and borrowing books a lot. Now I can't visit the campus anymore, some class work still requires me to print out the worksheet. I'll have to buy a printer. And there's no refund for the campus activity fee, there should be one because we're not visiting the campus anymore.

The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition by \$320 because how are people going to pay for this after a coronavirus? I haven't been working for two months due to quarantine. Now I even have issues paying for metro cards since i don't have money anymore. \$320 could pay for

my three monkeys metro, and now, I have to pay it in tuition where there aren't any changes at the campus. Is not like students are paying for a better education. When everything remains the same, this \$320 sounds like mandatory donation

My name is Qiwen Jiang. I am a senior attending Hunter College . I pay for my tuition with TAP.

The coronavirus has impacted my CUNY experience because of the bad distance learning environment, while we have to study at home, unstable internet connection also affects us while we have online classes.

The board of trustees should not raise our tuition because we are quarantined. We already lost our job and income, it's not reasonable if tuition is raised in this condition.

My name is Mengting Huang. I am a junior attending Hunter College . I pay for my tuition with TAP and PELL.

The coronavirus has impacted my experience because of the online classes, I am not able to work part time and there's no interaction with others.

The board of trustees should not raise our tuition 320\$ because Tuition is already high for students and now we cannot go to work, which makes our situations even more difficult.

My name is Grace Young. I'm a sophomore attending Hunter College. I pay my tuition with TAP and PELL.

The Corona Virus has affected my Cuny experience because I was only in school for 6 weeks and the majority of the time I was at home. I was barely in school and using any supplies at the school. It's unnecessary to increase the tuition if we're all having difficulty in paying the current tuition during a pandemic. Many of us are stuck at home with no job; and still having to pay for high speed internet and electricity in order to finish this semester's classes.

The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition by \$320. It is not reasonable for this increase of tuition during a pandemic. Many of us and our family members have little to no income during this crisis because we were at shelter in policies for 2 months. At this point of time our first priority is to right now money to pay for our rent, and essential bills and food. It is hard for us to keep a living after many of us being placed on job holds, i for example was set on a no pay leave for almost 2 months and our clinic has no idea when we will reopen because we are at a higher risk than other jobs and the employer wants to ensure our safety. I don't know when I can go back to work and I'm sure a majority of the campus students have the same issues. At this point in time we are using our money on essentials to keep ourselves alive, if there's a tuition increase there might be a decrease of students enrolled. Although an increase in tuition will allow the CUNY system to have more money to operate with but for those who can't afford the increase, they might pause their education. In this case the CUNY system will not receive more tuition instead they might get less tuition due to the possible decrease in student enrollment because they can't afford the tuition.

My name is Alan Ponieman. I'm a junior at Queens College. I pay my tuition using TAP.

The Corona Virus has affected my CUNY experience because now all my classes have transitioned online.

The tuition should not be raised by \$320 because during this pandemic it is hard for many to find employment to cover tuition. The increase places more of a financial burden on my family and I.

My name is Brook Williams. I am a freshman attending Queens College. I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

The coronavirus has impacted me mostly economically; I do not have a salary anymore.

Please don't raise tuition! The board of trustees should not raise tuition because I won't be able to afford higher prices. I would have to transfer to a community College by my home. My mother is unemployed due to the coronavirus and my father retired. We aren't receiving any money at the moment we cannot afford to pay higher tuition.

My name is Kay Johnson. I am a sophomore at Hunter College. I pay my tuition out of pocket and with scholarships.

The Corona Virus has affected my CUNY experience because the lack of in-person support and lessons has hindered my learning experience. I can't concentrate. I don't feel like I've obtained any information and my wifi keeps crashing.

The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition by \$320 because WE'RE NOT IN SCHOOL. I guess I might understand raising tuition if we had full access to campus facilities, but we don't. Many students are struggling financially because of the pandemic, and this is just another struggle for us.

My name is Jose I. Adoright nowo. I am a rising senior attending Queen's College . I pay for my tuition out of pocket

The coronavirus has impacted me mostly negatively; I do not feel we can prosper if The system makes it difficult to pay for school.

Tuition should not be raised 320\$ because in order to allow more of our countries people to achieve in higher education It is a prl'mitive we can afford it .

My name is Gurleen Boparai. I am a junior attending Queen's College . I pay for my tuition out of pocket and with SEEK

The Coronavirus has affected me because we fully transformed online for College, I've never taken a College class online but I am doing okay. I am used to going to campus to study or participate in student events, staying at home has been very isolating and constrictive and somewhat mentally challenging.

I work at McDonald's on the weekends, and it takes me months to gather funds for my education because I do not get FAFSA or TAP because I'm an immigrant with a work permit but not have a green card. Adding another \$320 will mean me having to work 1 and 1/2 weekends to save up for next semester. I also have to buy books along with paying my personal bills. I do not receive any help from my parents as they work as hard as I do and I want them to build a house instead

of worrying about me. I also have a younger brother they have to worry about. I don't think a tuition hike is a good idea because not only me, there are many other students who are immigrants who don't get any form of financial aid or grants. And then there's people who do not get financial aid otherwise. It is difficult to manage working, saving and studying to keep my grades up. And the times we are going through now majority of us don't have a job to save up to pay.

My name is Katelyn Zabala. I'm an upper sophomore attending John Jay College of CrI'minal Justice. I'm paying for tuition using TAP and Pell.

The classwork had been more stressful and difficult. I have to print sources to better do my work, but I can't use my jjay print money. I feel like I didn't learn as much as I would have if I would have been in the classroom.

That would be a smaller refund that I depend on to live. The refund is already not enough and I don't qualify for SNAP or other aid because I already get tuition.

My name is Tanisha Williams. I am a senior attending Hunter College . I pay for my tuition out of pocket and Tap.

My internship isn't allowed to have access to my class work. Now if i was in school I wouldn't have this issue. As a result I'm failing classes.

Students are already struggling with paying tuition and you want them to pay more while there is a virus keepings us home and not allowing us to go to work?. Do you want more panic attacks?

My name is Nicolas Wong. I am a freshman at Hunter College. Financial aid, and then out of pocket if it doesn't cover the full cost for my tuition.

During the pandemic, I have had to stress out more over assignments that I could have finished easily with in person instruction. I also have to worry more about family matters now that I'm home all the time, which tends to draw time away from completing assignments at times. The tests are also more stressful, since it is hard to focus with so much noise in my house.

I believe that the Board of Trustees shouldn't raise the tuition by \$320 since a lot of people aren't working right now and only have their stimulus payments to rely on for financial support. This increase will affect me personally as I might have to pay more out of pocket if my financial aid isn't enough to cover the tuition costs. Lastly, I also think that this pandemic has also brought severe changes to our schooling, so we haven't really experienced all the schooling opportunities since all the classes are online right now.

My name is Gabriel Kesten. I am a senior attending Queen's College. I pay for tuition out of pocket and with TAP and Pell.

The coronavirus has significantly affected my experience as a CUNY student. It has persuaded me to reach out to people whom I otherwise would not have. Along with some stress, it has freed me of certain habits I would call addictions. I am focusing on clubs that I want to get more involved in.

The Board of Trustees should not raise our tuition period. Some students cannot get financial aid and an increase would unnecessarily add to expenses. These costs would make students who cannot easily pay, finish College much later or not finish at all. A tuition hike would only increase stress of families during these unprecedented times.

My name is Gagandeep Singh. I attend Queen's College and I'm a sophomore. Fafsa, TAP, seek is how I pay for my tuition.

Staying at home made things harder for me. I can't work to pay for water bills or electricity or groceries or anything at home to help my family.

Colleges should not raise tuition for any reason. All around the world people are trying to find ways to help one another and here Colleges are trying to make some extra dollars especially knowing Colleges are closed and all/most of its resources are not even being used.

My name is Kana Tateishi. I am a junior attending Hunter College.

I was abruptly displaced from my dorm as well as several of my close friends who do not have mentally healthy living situations. My professors were not sufficiently prepared for the switch. Everyone I love from Hunter is struggling financially and emotionally, as they are out of work but still expected to pay for school in these desolate conditions.

My friends, my peers, my community around me will feel the financial burden of an extra \$320. It's absolutely masochistic and out of touch to demand more money out of stressed students who are out of jobs and already in debt from student loans.

My name is Erykah. I am a junior attending Hunter College. I pay for tuition through tap and pell.

I was forced to adjust to online classes along with fellow students and faculty. It has been hard to adjust. Faculty has done their best in changing to online teaching, but it is not the same no matter how hard you try. Not having the College experience I have become used to for this semester is disappointing. I looked forward to a lot of things in school this semester only for it all to be cancelled.

The increase SHOULD NOT happen. Tuition is high enough for some students to afford. Many of us are struggling at this moment. I don't have a job and my mom recently has been put out of work but we are fortunate enough to have some savings to keep us going. I am fortunate enough to have financial aid now but, the increase would require me to pay out of pocket. My family cannot afford that. Especially now. You can talk all about potential aid but that does not take away anxiety from students that have to figure out how to pay for their tuition. Raising the tuition should not be on the table at all. Listen to students and help us get back to normal and on our feet again rather than making the move that would harm all of us. We need support now more than ever.

My name is Crystal Rand. 1st year Graduated student at Hunter College. I pay my tuition out of pocket.

Also, because of my wife, I'm unable to have successful sessions. It's hard for me to stay attentive in these classes.

Most students will have to apply for unemployment during this time so expenses will be extremely tight, especially for someone who pays out of pocket. Because of the virus, people in my family have also lost their jobs so I've started helping with expenses with the money I get from unemployment. The extra 320\$ would go a long way for many students in this point of time as a lot of us lost our jobs.

My name is Mohammed Rasel. I'm a freshman at Queens College. Tap, Pell & Seek is what I use to pay for my tuition.

There are so many students working and save the money for tuition fees also for themselves. Now they can not work. When you hear something like that it's really sad to hear that.

In my opinion they should keep the tuition fee like previous year. If they increase the tuition fee it will affect not only me but also others too.

My name is Marisa Sagona. I am a junior attending Queens College. I pay for tuition out of pocket.

It has made online learning difficult but doable. It is definitely a different atmosphere and I much rather have class in person. Coronavirus has ruined many school experiences and athletic experiences in my junior year.

It has made online learning difficult but doable. It is definitely a different atmosphere and I much rather have class in person. Coronavirus has ruined many school experiences and athletic experiences in my junior year.

My name is Lily Brown. I am a Graduated attending Hunter College. I pay for tuition out of pocket.

It's pretty hard to do classes online, so that's been a bummer. Also I can't do fieldwork for my fieldwork classes so we're doing alright innovative assignments, which kind of sucks. I can't think of a third sentence but yeah this sucks.

It's pretty hard to do classes online, so that's been a bummer. Also I can't do fieldwork for my fieldwork classes so we're doing alright innovative assignments, which kind of sucks. I can't think of a third sentence but yeah this sucks.

My name is Ginikachukwu Egonu. I am a Freshman attending Queens College. I pay for FAFSA tuition.

The virus has affected my family. Some family members have unfortunately lost their jobs. My grandma is still battling this virus.

Yes they should not raise it at all. People are struggling to pay for tuition as is. This is a pandemic and it's important that CUNY realizes how heavy these impacts are.

My name is Grace Ji . I am a student attending Hunter College. I pay for my tuition with FAFSA and TAP.

My parents have lost their main source of income, and we have to pay the mortgage for our house. My brother will also be starting College next year which is another added expense. I will be unable to pay for College if there is a hike in tuition I cannot cover.

I believe that during a pandemic there should be a freeze on tuition. Where will this money come from if no one is able to work? We should all work together to do our best and make the situation better for everyone. Many students working have lost their jobs or their families have hit hardships.

My name is Eliana Sidlow. I go to Queen's College and I use Scholarship + parents pay to pay for College tuition.

It has made 2 classes more difficult in getting information for assignments. The classes have obviously been moved to online and there are limited resources.

My friends will take longer to Graduate and will most likely experience higher than normal stress simply to pay for courses.

My name is Elizabeth O. I am a sophomore student attending Queens College. I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

Distance learning knowing, affected learning experience, less

I'm not in work right now and don't know when I will be back in work. Raising tuition will only cause more financial issues. It's unethical to raise tuition especially at a time like this. The tuition is high enough and doesn't need to be raised.

My name is Ashley Henriquez. I'm a student at Queens College. TAP, PELL, and financial aid is what I use to pay for tuition.

I lost my family here because of the pandemic in DR and I have not been able to visit any of them. My mother was laid off so we had to apply for unemployment.

I do not have the money to pay the money for tuition at Queens College. My mother is a single mother since my father passed away. My brother and I are twins so we attend College at the same time. Our tuition combined would be a financial strain on my mother. She has to worry about rent, food, bills, and insurance all while not working since she was laid off from her job as a food nutritionist. We are in no shape to afford a tuition hike. I need to continue my education because it is important that I Graduate with my degree.

My name is David Stein . I am a freshman attending Brooklyn College. I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

My parents lost their job. It's now harder because it's more difficult to find one because of this virus.

CUNY just got millions of dollars to help with the Pandemic. Cost to run the Colleges have become cheaper online. If costs are cheaper tuition should be cheaper

My name is Sobia Seneviratne. I attend College of Staten Island and I am currently a junior. I pay for school out of pocket.

Many of us, both In state and Interight national students are seeing difficulties especially with tuition rates. We are unable to afford College tuition let alone our other necessary expenses.

We cannot afford to pay an increased tuition rate as many of us are unemployed and unemployment insurance takes time too. We cannot afford to pay our rent and other bills either. An increase in tuition is only going to make it harder for us to survive.

My name is Aliyah Jacobson . I am a senior attending Brooklyn College. I pay for my tuition with financial aid and also loans.

It has been hard to do classes online as I do better with in person learning. Also, it is hard to get extra help with tutoring and questions when everything is through a computer and not face to face interaction. The professors and president have really tried to reach out and offer assistance but in some cases, I was too overwhelmed to respond as I was laid off and lost a loved one, but I am almost finished with all my classes.

As I was furloughed from my job and am depending on unemployment, a tuition hike when the world economy is faltering and our city is full of mouright knowing and we are in a state of unrest, I think it would be unfair and cruel to put more of a financial strain on us.

My name is David Golbari. I am a senior at Queens College. Pell, Out of pocket, and taking out loans to pay for tuition.

It has made learning in class and doing assignments including tests a lot more difficult to do.

There's an emergency fund being given to our school, the tuition has already been increased in the past year by an extra \$600+ for an unknown reason, and many of us have lost sources of income, not getting unemployment, and other economic problems happening that would make attending school more financially troubling.

My name is Bryan Mercedes Corporan . I am a Junior attending Queens College. I pay for my tuition through FAFSA and TAP

The coronavirus pandemic has affected my CUNY experience in a negative way with regards to how I attend classes. Simply put, learning materials for certain classes has become more difficult, while in other cases interest for attending those classes has waned. For me, being thrust into online learning has not been an experience I was able to adapt to properly. If this had been the case since the beginning, things may have been different.

While I can't say how it would affect me personally yet, because I don't know how much I'll receive from financial aid, if it becomes something I can't cover, it can put a strain on my family financially. That is something I wish to avoid since my mother generally has issues when it comes to money and everyone there does whatever they can to ease expenses. That is why for me I want to do whatever I can to avoid creating a burden for her.

My name is Helen. I am a sophomore at Brooklyn College. I pay my College tuition using Financial aid.

The coronavirus pandemic affected my CUNY friends through not giving me the College experience I would have liked, since I will have to stay at home and remote learn now. Remote learning isn't the same as regular learning of course and it feels different. I missed actually going to school and hanging with my friends of course.

I believe that the board of trustees shouldn't raise our tuition by \$320 because we are in a time of medical crisis where many people are losing jobs, having to work from home, struggling to get paid and pay back, struggling to pay for food, etc... This is not a good time for raising any tuition, since we are being taught in our homes especially for us privileged people. I know for a fact there are other people that are not as privileged as I am and it isn't fair for them nor is it for me to have tuition raised. I believe it is an unjust to me, to our society especially in this difficult time for everyone

My name is Mic Braun. I am a Junior attending Brooklyn College. I pay for my tuition through PELL, TAP, scholarships and also out of pocket.

I live with my mother and two siblings. My mother and uncle contracted the virus in March and have been in the ICU, on a ventilator, for nearly a month. Before she was hospitalized, my mother was in the middle of filing for unemployment because she had lost her job/source of income due to the pandemic. Now I am the one dealing with the household and bills, taking care of my siblings, all while trying to keep up my mental health. This has all taken a toll on how well I can perform my schoolwork and studies. I have not had the adequate energy to put the effort I usually do into my assignments or attending classes due to the constant stress I am under. I feel like every day brings new obstacles that I must take care of.

I am not working right now, and this drastic increase in tuition will only strain me further as I will have to figure out from where to pay tuition, instead of focusing on how to best help my siblings and I obtain what I need. During a time when many people are facing hardship and loss, or are struggling to make ends meet due to the effects of this pandemic, it is tonedeaf of the Board of Trustees to ignore what is happening around them and demand more money from already-overworked students and families. We do not deserve to be placed under more mental stress due to money issues which can be prevented. I should not have to choose between my emotional and physical survival and a College education. I should not have to fork out more money to an institution that is not siding with their students now in these times of need. CUNY is a good institution, but right now you, the Board of Trustees, need to make it better.

My name is Javier Torres. I am a student at Hunter College and I pay my College tuition out of pocket.

The coronavirus pandemic has affected me drastically. Spring semester of 2020 I just transferred to Hunter College. The transition was hard and I was having a hard time getting used to the campus, then the pandemic happened making things harder but the hardest is that I lost my job as a server in a restaurant and now I can not pay my tuition since I pay out of pocket. Tuition prices are already high, making it hard to become a full-time student and the possibility of graduating in a short period of time. Since I am taking classes online I can not take full advantage of all the resources CUNY has to offer. It is not fair that I am paying for something that I am not able to use.

If the Board of Trustees raise our tuition by \$320 I won't be able to continue with my education. As I mentioned before I pay my tuition out of my pocket by the price that is right now I barely have money to cover all my expenses. I would like the Board of Trustees to understand that we live in New York City, a city where the cost of living is high rocking.

My name is Anica Knezevic. I am a senior at Queen's College and using loans out of pocket to pay for my College tuition.

It has been really hard to focus and study in this chaos. Professors are being extremely helpful with all the work, understanding that it's not an easy period of time in front of us. Tuition is still unpaid in my case, as my family is struggling financially, so I am hoping it will get better by the end of May so I can graduate.

I am hoping to graduate this summer, so I think that will not affect me personally. However, it is a disgrace to raise tuition in these hard times when many families are struggling to feed their children. Education does not come as a priority everywhere, so I think that raising tuition will reject many students from coming to CUNY.

My name is Kathy Arroyo. I am an upper sophomore attending Queens College. I pay for my tuition through financial aid and also out of pocket.

It has made me feel less motivated to do my work. I've had trouble adjusting with my assignments and learning online. My CUNY school had a great campus where I can study in the

library, but now that everything is closed and everyone is home, I find it hard to focus as I don't have my own space. It's been a tough semester mentally and physically.

The board should not raise the tuition by \$320 because there are a lot of students and their parents who lost their jobs. Unemployment lasts for only 6 months and the economy is facing a huge recession. There is no guarantee they will find a job during these months or after. This price increase could force many students to either drop out or not enroll at all. This would affect me personally because both of my parents lost their jobs. Thankfully they are getting checks from unemployment, but I don't know how long this will last. Increasing my tuition by \$320 is unfair and frankly will put an even further economic strain in my household. There is a lot of uncertainty right now in the world and in New York. The job of the board should be to relieve pressure on their students, not increase it.

My name is Eric M. Paredes. attend Queen's College and pay out of pocket.

Yes and also the others around me.

Students shouldn't have to pay because the Corona Virus has taken a hug tool on the United States and even the world. We are forced into quarantine and are told to stay home so many Americans can't work and aren't on unemployment.

My name is Jessica Puchuela. I am a student attending Hunter College. I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

I am unemployed and I don't qualify for any benefits to help me pay for school and no income is being accumulated. It would make it harder to pay if the tuition is raised.

This raise will obligate me to take less classes because I wouldn't be able to afford it. Due to this results in delaying my graduation date. This would also harm my education because not everyone has benefits to help pay for College or many students don't right now enough to pay an additional amount.

My name is Luisa Velasco. I am an alumni from Queen's College and Graduated in 2018 .

I graduated from Queens College. Parts of the tuition is used for on campus related expenses. It is unfair to charge even more money when not everything is accessible. Not everyone is eligible for government aid and are struggling financially. If they can't afford the tuition, they'd have to stop attending classes and for some, this may be the only sense of normalcy they have left. For others, the pandemic has truly affected their mental health. Many people have lost loved ones to the virus. There are just too many stressors right now that to add on another one is unjust, unfair, and insensitive to all involved.

My name is Samuel Lugo. I am a junior attending Queens College. I pay for my tuition through TAP; Pell and also out of pocket.

The classes being online mean no chance of one-on-one communication with either the professor or any tutors. Also taking classes at home means there is a lot more distraction in the background.

I believe that our tuition should not be raised simply for the fact that the prolongation of the current matter which has not only taken everyone by surprise has also negatively struck a lot of people emotionally and financially. Since a lot of people have been laid off it would only make it more uncertain for most people to be able to pay the tuition if the cost goes up. I pay tuition out of pocket and this change although minimal to the naked eye it packs quite a massive punch when I only make minimum wage.

My name is Dylan Seeley. I am a junior attending Hunter College. I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

Classes have moved to remote learning, which has SEVERELY diminished the quality of education. Classes have been more lax and loose with grades and assignments. I cannot go to the campus for any reason really, if I had one. What I mean is, for example, the library, food pantry, etc. is technically still open I think, but given the pandemic, I would not go to campus. If I needed these things, such as food, to you know, live, this would be quite a problem

Tuition is ridiculous as is. I thank god everyday I'm lucky enough to have enough money for me to go to College. Given that, the price is ridiculous. \$600 a class, over 3 thousand dollars a semester. I don't even right now that much with my summer job. Enlighten me as to how a College-aged person is supposed to be able to right now enough money to be able to go to College, let alone anything else. And you want to raise tuition?? Like was mentioned earlier, the quality of teaching is going completely downhill, the facilities and campuses are going downhill, everything is just about going to shit, and you want to RAISE tuition?? It is barely worth it as is, why would raising it be any better? Personally this won't really affect me that much, aside from taking more money away from me to do, apparently nothing, but the fact stands that people who are less well off will be greatly affected by this, and that's not okay. If anything tuition should be reduced, or free. If the government is funding CUNY, then why do I have to pay, no, why do I have to suffer my money loss to a broken system that isn't making any attempt to fix itself?

My name is Lisette Lopez. I am a junior attending Queens College. I pay for my tuition with financial aid and TAP.

The coronavirus hasn't impacted my CUNY experience. However, I know for other students that this pandemic has taken a big toll on them.

Some students like me don't have much money to pay for College. That is why I like to be full time in school. So raising 320\$ for students is not a good idea.

My name is Elena Baras. I am a junior attending Queens College. I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

Corona affected me in many ways. It's about to make things worse with this tuition hike.

Where's the money supposed to come from? You make this a do or die situation. If I have to pay more money I'll have to force myself out of school. It's bad enough I don't have financial aid. This is cruel especially during times like this. If you care about the student body then you'll stop this nonsense and get a reality check.

My name is Qiong Ze Wu . I am a senior attending Queens College. I pay for my tuition through FAFSA and TAP.

Remote learning is a bit challenging especially math majors. I like the teachers showing me step by step. Online math just looks so much more complicated.

We are trying to make sacrifices, Impacts everyday in our daily lives. We're not doing it for the money, but instead we're doing it is because everyone has a passion and dreams they want to accomplish. They could hardly care about making handouts rather than making them happy and smile.

My name is Qiaowen Lin . I am a senior attending Queens College. I pay for my tuition through Pell, Tap and Seek.

In terms of class, I should not have much influence. My courses have been successfully converted into online courses.

Because of the epidemic, we all need to plan for the period of time without wage income in the future, too many aspects need to use money. I don't think I have the ability to pay so much money at this time.

My name is Briana Almonte. I am a senior attending Queens College. The Excelsior scholarship helps me pay for my tuition and I also pay out of pocket.

It has brought stress to our lives in a way that makes it difficult to find motivation to do school work. It has changed our learning experiences as well as the real understanding and retention of the material. It completely changes the College experience.

It doesn't make sense that we aren't in classrooms, using the facilities in school and yet the tuition is being increased. Tuition money should simply be reallocated to fit the learning experience we are having now. The tuition we had accounted for the learning experience we had before and it is simply not the same anymore. Therefore, to have people pay even more makes no sense. We have to help support students especially in a time like this and not give them more things to worry about. This won't directly Impact me next semester because I am graduating, but

as an alumni it is super Important that those who still go to Queens aren't forced to pay for something that is nowhere near the true College and learning experience.

My name Kaitlyn Aldorando. I am a Graduated student attending Hunter College. The Macaulay Scholarship pays for my tuition.

The closure of CUNY campuses and dormitories during this pandemic has left me without a safe place to live. I am staying with my partner's family for the short term and trying to work out a living situation separate from my abusive family. Trying to figure this out and secure steady employment makes handling my classes nearly impossible as is. I also have been cut off from many of my support systems, including the food pantry and the Queer Student Union, because of the closure and the fact that I had to relocate to a different part of the state following the closures.

I think that CUNY students are among the most vulnerable populations affected by the coronavirus — economically, professionally, and healthwise. Many are being laid-off, and many of those who are working are risking their lives and the health of their loved ones every time they get on the train or go to work. Personally, I am fortunate that my scholarship would spare me from the effects of this tuition hike, but I am not blind to the fact that it would be another hardship in this already hard time for my friends and fellow classmates. Pushing these expenses onto students in what is supposed to be an institution that promotes diversity and social mobility is completely antithetical to CUNY's stated mission. Each time we raise tuition, we move further away from that dream, making it harder and harder for our students to focus on being students and effectively denying access to education for the very students who are the backbone of CUNY.

My name is Erika Velecela. I am a senior at Queen's College and TAP, FAFSA is what helps me pay for tuition.

Online courses have been difficult because I relied on school to get electronic resources. The library is also closed so books are not accessible either. This was my first semester of student teaching and all my EECE courses are now online. It is very difficult to keep up with work.

Tuition will affect me because I will attend graduate school in 2021 and if the tuition goes up it will be hard for me to pay because we no longer get aid. Right now During this pandemic

everyone is relying on whatever savings they have, so I may not have the money to pay for my tuition. I will have to juggle two or more jobs to pay and it's not fair considering that now we have a new normal where everyone is affected.

My name is Edwin Terrero. I am a freshman attending Queens College. I pay for school through TAP and Loans.

It has affected how my schooling works as well as my personal relationships. I miss being in the classroom and being around people.

People are going through hardships. Adding more money would add on to the stress we experience. It would make it greater and not many will be able to handle that and some may even just drop school all together.

My name is Melanie Tavarez. I am in my first year at Queens College. Pay my tuition off by using loans.

I had to heavily rely on loans to afford my tuition after me and members of my family were laid off. As a result of this pandemic it's now super hard to get a job.

Increasing the tuition in general will not only make it more difficult to find more money to cover the tuition increase due to COVID-19 and the lack of work within my family, but seems unnecessary due to the lack of use of resources on campus and classes moving to online this semester.

My name is Seedia Noor. I am a freshman attending Queens College. I pay for tuition through TAP; Pell, and SEEK.

The coronavirus pandemic has affected my CUNY experience in more ways than one. I am someone who is aspiring to be a teacher and before social distancing went into effect, I was gaining so much experience as a student teacher at the public school I was placed in. However, now I am not getting that experience and my student teaching class is now limited to Zoom

meetings with my supervisor. Furthermore, my other professors during this pandemic have been quite unreasonable as well. I do understand and actually do not mind doing more remote work for my classes, however what I do have a problem is still being graded harshly. Furthermore, doing more work DOES NOT mean that I am learning.. Remote learning noq has tremendously affected the way I learight now and it has taken away a huge chunk of experiences that one can only get in real life, not virtually. The truth is I am getting work done for my classes before the deadlines and that's all that matters right now. Submitting work before deadlines.

This pandemic has already skyrocketed stress levels in each and everyone of us. A close friend of mine has lost her father to COVID and it aches my heart knowing I cannot be there for her right now physically.

I believe that the Board of Trustees should not raise our tuition by \$320 because students should not take the hit for something that was not their fault. Students specifically are the ones being heavily affected by this pandemic and you expect them to pay an additional \$320? A good chunk of students are struggling to make ends meet. Many are coping with the reality that they must face every day now. If anything you should be lightening the burdens that students bear on their backs but instead you have chosen to increase that burden.

My name is Berita Lutolli. I am a senior transition in Graduated school and currently attending Queens College. I pay for tuition out of pocket with 4 jobs ; not eligible for state or federal aid.

I had to take a year off between senior year and Graduated school at Queen College to repay my student loan and become financially stable before paying for grad school and the pandemic put me out of 3 jobs, making me unable to pay for food, let alone grad school.

As a Queen's College alumnus, and soon-to-be Graduated student, a hike in tuition always means weaker performance and emotional and physical drainage. Adding \$320 means adding more hours of work and for students already working several jobs, it means more time spent in class half asleep because the very concept of a full night's sleep no longer exists.

My name is Leslie sanchez . I am a student attending Queensborough Community College. I pay for school through TAP, SEEK, FAFSA and College discovery.

No classes in person. Lots of homework. Have to learn subjects on my own right now. Grades went down.

Why should you guys raise more money for students to pay when they don't have a job right now to pay that off? People are struggling to even buy themselves food with the bit of money they have left. Parents won't be able to afford that either since they aren't working either. Also, why should a student have to pay MORE MONEY, when they aren't even getting the full College experience? Students are alright knowing on a computer and mainly on their own, not even with the teacher's help. It makes no sense to raise the tuition and it's very unfair when everyone is suffering from this pandemic.

My name is Leighton Ozoria. I attend Hostos Community College and pay my tuition through grants and Pell.

I at times I feel lost, empathetic, & strange. This pandemic has made me a bit crazy.

We need every cent we have. We are facing another government shutdown because of this respiratory virus. Making people pay who can't have a job doesn't make much sense to me. Most people are in really bad situations and won't be able to pay.

My name is Jesseca Sutherland. I'm a sophomore at Queen's College and I use TAP and Excelsior.

I am not able to process my financial aid.

If we can barely pay now, how can we pay a higher price? Things are going into the toilet and they still want people to pay and for what? How will this be beneficial?

My name is Pavitri Dhanpaul. I go to York College and I am now a senior in College. I pay for school out of pocket.

The coronavirus pandemic has affected my CUNY experience by interrupting my physical learning. Due to this unprecedented time, it has been difficult for me to focus on my online classes

I believe that the Board of Trustees should not raise our tuition by \$320 because we are already experiencing a lot of difficulties financially. Times are hard and as a student paying for textbooks, rent, food, and taking care of family responsibilities all requires money. An additional \$320 increase will leave some of us deciding if we want to have a healthy and nutritious meal or a tertiary level education.

My name is Christianna Jaglal. I go to Queen College and how I pay for my tuition is by using ASAP, Pell, and out of pocket.

It's hard for me to focus in class while watching a screen and I'm worried when I have to take a difficult class without getting help one on one for something like statistics.

The board should not raise our tuition because we are already paying a significant amount of money and most of us out of pocket. Personally, I suffer with anxiety and depression every day and knowing how much money I owe for my classes does not help. With all of the money that I need to spend, I also work part time to help with tuition, but working and going to school is very difficult.

My name is Nathaniel Campos. I go to Queen's College and I am now in my junior year of College. I pay for school out of pocket.

The stress of getting a good grade does not help. Staying inside hasn't made things better either. I want to get good grades but it's super challenging as this virus spreads.

CUNY is known for being an affordable College that is also good education as well and this is ruining that.

My name is Andreas. I go to Queen's College and I am now in my senior year of College. I pay for school out of pocket.

Literally has had no effect on me whatsoever. If anything it's become more convenient for me because I wake up 5 mins before class. Go to class and do my homework. If anything my GPA has gone up.

I guess I would feel bad for my parents who have to pay that \$320 dollars but considering I am graduating it really won't affect me. However, some students can't afford that extra \$320 therefore I am against that increase in the price.

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My name is Jonathan Hollander .I go to Brooklyn College and I'm a sophomore. I pay for school out of pocket and a small scholarship.

The coronavirus pandemic affected my CUNY experience in two main areas, in regards to classes and in regards to clubs. First, I'm now taking a public speaking class online. Second, I live at home with my family who routinely interrupt my classes. Their thought process is, "Now that I'm home I could do more." I'm usually in class during these times. In regards to clubs I'm part of several such as Dialogue Across Difference, Orthodox Club, Accounting Society etc. These clubs often used event money for food, there were many days this was the only reason I had lunch.

Where is this extra money going? You got a \$17million grant from the goveright nowment to be used for students which could at least for the time being be used in place of a tuition raise? Why is NYPIRG part of our tuition, yet considered a club? However unlike every other club NYPIRG is not audited, why? Your 12:1 staff to student ratio is mostly non-teaching faculty, a lot of money is wasted by paying the salary of these staff, for example, I have personal experience with an advisor who lied to my face, why should my money go to staff like bad advisors? CUNY spent money on advertisements saying something along the lines of, "9/10 students go to CUNY tuition free" many students get the money from TAP, a goveright nowment program, CUNY workers are employees of that goveright nowment so it's essentially the goveright nowment paying themselves? It is especially a bad idea during this time of the pandemic because many people lost their jobs, and will not be able to afford tuition even with the emergency grants and other student aid, many students will have to drop out because they're not eligible for TAP or

FAFSA or Excelsior since that is based on past tax returns and not money one has currently? When CUNY students got the email that said we are taking a recalibration week so students could keep up with online classes so they don't need to dropout, was that meant for the good of the students or was it for good PR and to keep your dropout rate lower? If it was actually for the students CUNY has a major problem with inequality since you only care if a certain sect of students do not drop out.

My name is Jessica Kataev. I am a student attending Queens College. I pay for school through Tap and FAFSA.

The coronavirus pandemic has made it really hard to focus, my parents lost their job and it's been really hard because a lot of my family members got infected. Life is really different, but we're trying to make the best of what we have right now

CUNY's are supposed to be free. Living in New York is already so expensive, we shouldn't have to pay for a CUNY if we're residents of New York City. The tuition goes up and nothing is being done. There is still low staff, disgusting bathroom facilities, the dining is horrible, and the Interight nowet never works. If we have to pay more money we should be seeing changes.

My name is Nariah Greene. I am a student attending Queens College. I pay for school through the SEEK program.

The whole experience has been a trip. Adjusting was one of the hardest parts and keeping up with the changing grading criteria.

A lot of people are not working at this time and adding on an extra \$320 is not making anything better. Some people will even be forced to drop out of college even because that amount is just too high.

My name is Tzu-Ying Lo . I go to John Jay College of criminal justice and I am now in my sophomore year of college and I pay for school out of pocket.

I cannot borrow hard copy books from the libraries, I cannot use any free printing at CUNY, and online classes are just not as good as the regular classes!!

I don't see any progress in the service of the CUNY systems, but I did see the harm caused by the forced distance learning. We students did not receive any monetary compensation for our loss, so how should CUNY raise our tuition right after the difficult times?

My name is Amanda Reynoso. I'm a Junior at Queen College and I pay out of pocket.

Yes, I relied on campus facilities to complete my work. I don't have the same and now that I am forced to stay at home, I don't have the same resources and work is harder.

It makes no sense to raise tuition if we will not have access to campus facilities any more. You guys will make us pay more while we struggle even more because we aren't allowed on campus. We are still getting the same education as before just with less resources.

My name is Matthew Garces. I'm a Junior at Queen College and the way I pay for College is out of pocket.

The pandemic has affected me horribly. Many classes have assignments that I cannot probably understand or hand in. Harder to contact classmates since I cannot see them in person.

Since I pay out of pocket it will affect my income flow and my parents income because we pay it together. I believe it shouldn't be necessary to increase tuition because it has recently increased while I've been a student before.

My name is Johnny Ventura. John Jay College of Criminal Justice is where I go to get my education. I'm a sophomore. TAP, Excelsior, and Out of Pocket is how I pay for College.

Ever since the pandemic, there was a sudden shift to online classes. I never had any experience like this before, and it was rather something I had to adapt to. I knew this meant I had to work twice as hard, but in the end, our education is simply not the same anymore.

If there is an increase in tuition, our tuition will then have increased to at least \$500. Most of that money can be used for transportation, or to buy food whenever necessary. Rather, if there is an increase in tuition, the least that can be offered is free transportation for all students.

My name is Anna Tycner. I'm a junior who attends Queens College. I pay for College tuitions by using loans, out of pocket.

Lost my job and now it's even harder to find a job and some of my family members are passing away.

School is online, no one is using the campus, and money is tight and it's super hard for me because i'm not comfortable with my current circumstances.

My name is Maliha Rahman. I attend Queen's College and I am currently a freshman. TAP, Pell, and SEEK is how I pay for College.

It is not the best experience that I've had so far.

The students who pay tuition out of their pocket, it would be really hard for them to get this amount of money. It might not be a big amount of money for some people but for CUNY students it is.

My name is Ester Choi. I am a senior at Queen's College who pays tuition FAFSA and TAP.

The classes are online so I don't want to pay more for something that they are not offering. I am not getting my money's worth of classes. I have no money.

Because the classes are online right now. People have no money. They should ask themselves why they have the right to increase tuition when we aren't even meeting our professors in class.

My name is Akela Islam. I am currently in Queen's College and I am a freshman. I pay out of pocket for my school tuition.

It really did take a big toll in one of my major classes cause there's a lot of pressure in the class ever since online class started, and teachers overload you with work expecting to be done when there are some people working. It's very inefficient to pay for full tuition when a part of our tuition is for using campus resources when we now don't even set a foot on campus so why can't we get a refund for that portion. We are struggling as students. The city is helping with meals and the government is helping with the checks, but what is College doing to help their students with?, nothing but food meal plans and updates?

The board shouldn't raise the tuition because the whole point and reason why students enter CUNY is for their low tuition compared to private Colleges or public, this isn't a private College to raise the tuition to match up with them where will our money go to prisoners, where part of it is actually going? It makes no sense to uplift this tuition in such when people out there are doing the best looking at conditions vs. Colleges trying to make the situation worse but raising the price so students can take loans when we aren't working, hence the work isn't working due to COVID -19.

My name is Kacey Delahunty. I am a senior attending Queen's College . I pay for school out of pocket.

Classes moving online is really tough and there was definitely a learning curve. Of my 4 professors, only one has taken the time to learn right now the online technology so that she could keep our classes running smoothly. For my other 3 classes, the professors are struggling with the tech, and sometimes not even showing up to their own meetings because they can't figure it out. I'm afraid it could affect my grade and I don't think I'm getting everything I paid for out of this semester.

I understand that CUNY can't do anything about that -it's out of their hands, but if we're not using things like school libraries, computers, and labs then those fees should be returned to us.

Students who dorm should receive a percentage of the money they spent to live there as well. In addition, I don't think that with online classes I have learned as much as I would have online. My professors were grossly underprepared for the switch. I'm afraid it might affect my grades and I am sure it has affected what I am able to learn right now. I was excited about this semester but now I am not sure I have right now an education worthy of the nearly \$4,000 I already spent. I wouldn't mind spending extra money if it was spent teaching our professors how to use the tech you've led them into blindly. However, this is not the case and it is really a shame that you would raise tuition while our entire country, and our city especially, is struggling.

My name is Iroda Shamuratov . I am a Graduated student attending CUNY school of professional studies . I pay for school through Tap.

I have kids at home, I am unable to work, and I have a hard time completing assignments on time and really focusing on education. Im am at a crossroad.

Being able to work has put a financial strain on my family income. I am unable to work because of my kids and fear of bringing the virus into our home and my kids. My husband's job and income have reduced tremendously that we are unable to even pay for our rent. This increase would mean that I am unable to continue my education. That \$320 would mean difference between paying for my groceries, rent and other utility bills

My name is Jeffrey Guan . I am a sophomore attending Queen's College . I pay for school out of pocket , I am receiving TAP and I do a work study program.

I lost my work study and lecture at home at less Impact as actual lecture, the professors are uploading videos instead of actual lectures now to avoid having to deal with multiple classes.

Raising our tuition in a time of a pandemic is unjust as is charging for student activity and technology fee. As one of the reasons I chose CUNY was that it was affordable and I didn't have to pay dorm fee, but CUNY gives no aid compared to other institutions thus having my PELL grant removed this year due to verification process error made by the financial office and me being unable to appeal due to the appeal period ending before I entered the university, being a freshman.

My name is Sidorela Lleshi . I am a senior attending Queen's College . I pay for school out of pocket , I am receiving TAP and I do a work study program. I pay for school with grants and also I pay out of pocket.

It has affected financially, emotionally and psychologically. This virus has changed a lot of things for us and the CDC suggests that we stay inside so we don't get the disease or potentially spread it. It's just been really hard.

No. People are already dealing with a lot. Some people might even be able to pay for college now because of the corona virus and now you are making students pay another \$320. Some won't be able to .

My name is Jessica Sanchez. I am a senior attending Queens College. Financial aid is how I pay for my college.

My parents are out of work right now, so they aren't able to do the things that they normally do. We still have to pay rent, eat food, do the laundry etc. It's all very hard.

Because a lot of people are out working. It doesn't make sense for you guys to bump up a price for us to pay when some of us don't even thrive through online classes. Also not all of us are on unemployment.

My name is Sibela Peshtani. I am a student attending Brooklyn College . I pay for school out of pocket and loans also help.

I had to take the last 3 most difficult classes before graduation, online. It has impacted the quality of learning experience in a bad way. It takes three times more for me to get good grades.

It is not appropriate. It doesn't reflect a change in our learning experience. It is something not justified.

My name is Andrea. I am a senior attending Brooklyn College. I pay for school out of pocket and in addition to TAP; Pell.

It has made my experience difficult and one I would never forget. Soon when this is over i will appreciate the things that are offered that are not offered during quarantine.

A tuition increase at this time is unjust. We are in the midst of uncertain times. Many people are unemployed and are unsure how they will take care of their families. Increasing the tuition at this time enables fear and doubt about individuals further their education because they do not have the money or resources to do so.

My name is Zabby (Elizabeth) Hovey. I am a faculty staff member at John Jay College of Criminal Justice College .

I am remarkably distracted by concern about my students. It's more Important than ever to be accessible, so I've sent and received thousands of texts. I also spend time trying to find encouraging health data that I should spend grading on my students' submissions.

I think quality-higher education should be free and include books and transit costs for those with low incomes. So no, students shouldn't have to pay \$320 more dollars for their education.

My name is Luis Gutierrez. I am a first year Graduated student attending CUNY school of professional studies . I pay for school out of pocket with the job I have.

The coronavirus pandemic has created anxiety for some students and the social distancing has made it difficult to feel a sense of community.

I feel that adding an increase to tuition creates an additional financial burden for me aside from my daily expenses. I will have to closely monitor my expenses.

My name is Emilia Salazar. I am a senior attending Hunter College. I pay for my tuition through outside scholarships.

1. The pandemic has made it hard to retain information due to anxiety from the pandemic, and though there are resources to help cope with it, it's unacceptable that only through this pandemic were these resources made available to students. If there would have been online counseling and online group counseling, to fit into students' schedules before this pandemic, I know that many of us would be handling the current situation better. In addition, it was horrible that a wellness fee was even considered, thus should not be Implemented. Our traumas are not up for sale.

2. It's hard to concentrate and take notes in classes due to noise at home ex. Siblings going to school remotely or family having the TV on or family calling you to eat or asking you a question without realizing that you're "in class" at the moment. These are the working class struggles.

3. Lastly, this pandemic has shown me that a lot of disparities could have been prevented in the first place and it's unfair that they were not an option before. For example, for group presentations, many students have felt more comfortable doing this online than in person and just based on my classes, this would have not been an option before. Further, many students also like being able to type a question in the chat box during lecture as opposed to being called on by the professor in class. There are also Access Ability issues that have been easily resolved and told to me by students such as adding captions to lectures or adding more time on exams as opposed to waiting for an ASL interpreter to be hired or having to travel to a testing site to receive additional time for exams or any other accommodation.

Because even though I'm graduating this semester, I can honestly say that without a scholarship and support from my family and friends, I would not have been able to go to College full time and finish my degree in four years. From the start, I have had to work incredibly hard for each and every single one of my grades and I do not believe I would have passed my classes if I had to work at the same time. Because not everyone will be able to get a scholarship like I did and it breaks my heart that many will not be able to continue College if this increase occurs. Because I have highly intelligent friends who have had to drop out of College when we started at the same time. Because students need someone to show them that they don't need to be a rich white male in society to be able to attend College and If you all increase tuition, this is what you are saying. Because someone Believed that a Latina could do anything she wanted and here I am about to be the first in my family to right now a College degree and we need more people to believe that people from marginalized groups can complete this jourigh nowey. Because CUNY has many marginalized students and the pandemic has been affecting marginalized communities the

hardest. Because CUNY students should not have to worry about tuition when they can't even afford food or rent money. Because I still believe in the American Dream and I hope you do too.

My name is Ahra Sung .I am a Graduated student attending york College . I pay for my tuition through loans.

It was hard for me to adapt to distance learning with lack of resources. The pandemic disrupted my student leader life. Lack of tutoring and resources in the disability center and hard to contact professors for advisement or any help with classes.

Our semester was disrupted because of the pandemic. A lot of students lost their jobs making it harder to pay off tuition. Some were asking for a waiver to fully cover the tuition. If you increase tuition, students have to pay more out of their pockets without holding their jobs which will make it harder for students to pay for food, rent, essential materials, etc.

My name is Kesi Gordon. I am a senior attending York College. I pay for my tuition through partial financial aid.

I feel neglected of opportunities and experiences. My campus was like a second home to me and being that I am graduating, I have lost a lot of things.

The fact that this bill is still on the floor is disparaging. Students are already facing tragic situations due to the pandemic and cutting funding for education and our schools is a slap in the face to many students! It's heartbreaking!

My name is Alexis .I am a freshman attending Brooklyn College . I pay for my tuition through FAFSA(scholarships , Tap , and Pell).

Corona virus has affected my CUNY experience financially but also academically. Academically - because the professor gave us twice the work than we would have had if we were still attending

school. Financially - because some of my scholarships from my College are being withheld from me with no explanation

I believe the board of trustees shouldn't raise our tuition because it would make me have to pay out of pocket. In addition , it would force me to take out a loan - which I do not want to do .

My name is Aaliyah .I am a sophomore at York College. I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

Teaching style. I like coming to school and having the teacher teach us right there. Online learning is so distant and I feel like I can't focus on what's in front of me.

I'm already paying out of pocket, so why do you want me to pay an extra \$320? People need their money more than even because of this pandemic.

My name is Hamza Ahmad .I am a junior attending Brooklyn College. I pay for my tuition with TAP and FAFSA.

All of my classes are online. So yes this virus has changed they some thing and i have to get comfortable with this i'm not used to.m

If we have been denied services (such as library hours), tuition should go down, not increase. Also, money goes into books, laptops, transportation, and other expenses. Why increase tuition if we are trying to balance how we handle our money?

My name is Zahir Shadick .I am a sophomore attending York College. I pay for my tuition with loans.

I'm less concentrated/focused b/c I'm the type of person who likes to learning now in actual building where there are less distractions, also I'm more of a hands on learight nower who likes to lean right now in a classroom

As CUNY students we've been through enough with pretty much everything that's been going on and to raise tuition again in the middle of a pandemic is a shame on New York City. Personally this tuition raise would make me have to take out more loans to add on to the list loans I currently have.

My name is Monique Gomez .I am a freshman attending Queensborough Community College. I pay for my tuition through the ASAP program.

I feel like I'm gonna fail my classes because I have bad WiFi at home. At school there is a better connection. I feel like at school I am more successful.

Because some people don't have a job or a stable income to pay for their tuition already so why raise the tuition? Like how does that work? People are struggling and you want them to pay more.

My name is Jessica Roman .I am a sophomore attending Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

My parents (sponsors) are having financial issues... I won't be able to pay because I have no job. My parents are struggling.

There is no reason for this hike. We are going to pay extra to receive nothing else back from what we are already having. This hike does not benefit students. At all.

My name is Nakisha Henry. I am a Graduated student attending CUNY school of professional studies . I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

My program at CUNY SPS is one of the few that meet in person. Having to switch to online, while working, is the very antithesis of the program. I hate online stuff.

It has taken me about four years to finish this degree where it should have only taken two. The reason is because I have to pay out of pocket and thus am only able to take about one or two

classes a semester. Additionally, I help support my mother who is on a fixed income and has high out of pocket cost for her medication. Many students throughout CUNY have lost their jobs. Despite the increases to unemployment, many will still be challenged financially. While CUNY is still a great deal in comparison to other universities, increasing tuition at a time when many may not be back on their feet sends the wrong message about our collective fight against this virus and our unity as New Yorkers. Some students may not be able to return now.

My name is Angelica Feright nowandez. I am a junior attending Hunter College . I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

In the beginning of the pandemic, I lost my job. I was expecting to pay my tuition THROUGHOUT the semester while also getting paid. As we continued to be in quarantine, I was staying home doing my part of social distancing, and one of my family members who is an Essential Worker, ended up contracting COVID. We are isolating her still at the moment and are trying our best to stay supportive of her and still take care of yourself. I stayed clear from her, and continued to go about my distancing. It wasn't until a few days ago, I received an email stating I still owe money for Tuition, (\$2,705 to be exact and that includes late fees as well since they are still applying that), and also still have to pay for movie rentals for one of my classes, still aside from the fact that I am already out of money. Unemployment was almost impossible to fill out, I'm not sure if I am even getting the Stimulus Check, and as of today (4/10/2020) I received news of now being COVID Positive. I'm drained of everything. Bills outside of school, tuition, the insanely dense school work that we are still expected to finish (which I had emailed my professor about and he said he can't do anything about it. Same class that is making us rent movies and my ass is still out of a job) and tbh, I just don't even know what to do anymore. I personally believe tuition should have been reduced or SOMETHING in this damn pandemic. Especially given that almost 30% of Americans are now unemployed. I have never felt such a lack of support from Hunter, and I always carry such pride to state that I go to Hunter College ...

I can't even afford tuition for this semester without struggling. Another \$320 isn't much to them, but that's two months of a phone bill for me, half my credit line which I still also have to pay, and I have not noticed any changes in Hunter in my 3 years of being there. Only difference is an increase in tuition and none of it being trickled down to the students and staff.

My name is Cintia Alonso .I am a second year Graduated student attending CUNY school of professional studies. I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

The corona virus has impacted me financially; due to the current crisis people are losing jobs and workplaces are shutting down this is a hard time for people.

At this rate from CUNY raising our tuition every year I will soon not be able to pay for school. The fact that tuition is still considering raising tuition during a time like this that can tell us a lot about how much CUNY cares about their student.

My name is Alexander Blaha .I am a second year Graduated student attending CUNY school of labor and urban studies . I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

My classes are entirely online now. Despite this, CUNY SLU has rallied together as a community, and I feel the support from school staff strongly.

It would be unconscionable to raise tuition fees in a time of unprecedented job loss, where the average citizen is seeing new stressors develop around health and financial wellness at an alarming rate.

My name is Pamela Lee .I am a Graduated student attending CUNY school of Professional studies .I pay for my tuition out of pocket and also have assistance with TAP.

Although my degree program is fully online the COVID-19 pandemic interrupted my ability to continue my BSN Clinical Capstone experience. As I am a Registered Professional Nurse, my ability to maintain timeliness with expected assignments, coursework and overall learning has been greatly impacted as well.

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected families large and wide across the world including causing financial hardships. Currently, as I am an essential worker I am expected to maintain my work obligations but others in my family are less fortunate and have been greatly impacted. Although the outbreaks will come to an end at some point, God willing, the residual hardships will continue for a long time to come in the future. Unfortunately this will also Impact student's abilities to afford classes especially those that pay some or all of their tuition out of pocket like

myself. While quality education is Important and this time raises in tuition will negatively affect the student body as a whole and should be at least postponed until the economic crisis that will exist for all is resolved.

My name is Krista Cohen.I am a senior attending Brooklyn College .I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

The quality of education online cannot compare to in-person classes. It's understandable that our classes went online, but it's unacceptable to expect us to pay the same amount as we did for in-person classes.

I don't see why tuition should increase \$320 if we're not seeing existing funds being put to good use. The money has not been put where it is supposed to be and i'm not seeing it in my school. I want to see where our tuition already goes over the past five years.

My name is Suhana .I am a freshman attending Queensborough Community College .I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

My family's struggling a lot with the bills especially because we have to pay for our tuition.

It's affecting me personally because my parents have to pay out pocket either way so raising it by \$320 will make things worse. I'm pretty sure there's many students who are also paying out of pocket and don't want this to happen. My family's financially struggling anyway so raising the tuition won't make things any better.

My name is Nosaiba saleh .I am a Sophomore attending York College.I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

It has affected me terribly. The pandemic is already difficult to get through and the fact that CUNY wants to raise tuition is going to hurt is even more.

I believe it shouldn't because tuition is already high and increasing it will make it even harder to pay for those who can't afford it. Many people don't have jobs and having to pay extra for next semester isn't necessary at all!

My name is Susan Peposhi-Xholi .I am a senior attending College .I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

It's been difficult keeping up with schoolwork, concerned about loss of wages and book expenses. The pandemic has taken alot more from me then I would have thought.

The increase will affect me as I will be working only part time it will be difficult to keep up with a new tuition hike. It's just getting too expensive , CUNY should be kept affordable to me as well as underserved populations.

My name is Susan Peposhi-Xholi. I am a senior attending the School of Professional studies. I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

Because of COVID19, it has been difficult keeping up with schoolwork. I am also concerned about loss of wages and book expenses.

If the BOT raises tuition, the increase will affect me as I will be working only part time. It will be difficult to keep up with a new tuition hike. It's just getting too expensive , CUNY should be kept affordable to me as well as underserved populations.

My name is Karen Amen. I'm a four year GraduateGraduate student at Cuny School of Professional Studies. I pay for school out of pocket.

Dept relocation hours cut to less than half was working in periop but surgery census low level D. As it stands I cannot personally afford to pay more

For school I am a single working mother and a College student who will eventually struggle.

My name is Carla Ruiz. I attend Hunter College and I pay my College tuition with Financial AID.

It has affected my health. I got sick and ultimately It will affect my situation with my kids.

My name is Thalia Toribio. I go to York College and I pay my tuition out of pocket.

The Coronavirus pandemic has affected my CUNY experience because it has made my education harder and with less access resources.

I believe they should not raise the tuition because it is already a lot. It will affect me personally because I don't have a job to be able to fully pay my tuition for next semester.

My name is Anita ahuja. I am in my senior year at CUNY School of Professional Studies. My job pays for my schooling through my union.

Clinicals will be difficult during the coronavirus pandemic.

If the BOT raises tuition, it will affect my budget tremendously. Usually my union pays for the tuition but only to a certain limit; I will have to bear the cost of the increase, making it difficult.

My name is Ahmed Jahangir. I go to Brooklyn College and I'm a senior. As an international student, I pay my tuition out of pocket.

The pandemic has affected my CUNY experience really badly.

The BOT raising tuition would be really bad. We International Students are already paying 100% extra from the regular tuition and this increase will affect us severely. Kindly don't do this to us.

My name is Edith Di Lorenzo. I attended York College in my Junior year and i use TAP and PELL to pay for my College tuition.

This situation has affected the community to take drastic changes in their lives and be able to sustain those changes. A lot of people are struggling with online classes just like me.

They shouldn't because a lot of people do not have the right money to pay out of pocket, I believe there is summer and winter classes that it needs to be paid out of pocket

My name is Fazeela Butt. I go to Brooklyn College and I pay for College tuition out of pocket and with PELL.

Terribly , Online classes are very unorganized but I don't blame my professors. They are human and have families of their own they're trying to take care of while still teaching us. CUNY is doing the bare minimum for their students. The semester isn't even over yet and I already have over 5k tuition due for summer and fall 2020 . My entire family is going through a financial hardship and I have no idea how I'll be paying all this money.

I probably won't be able to afford an increase , it's my last year and Because of COVID I've been laid off . No saying when i might be employed again. Every cent counts.

My name is Sonia Reyna. I go to Guttan Community College and I'm a sophomore. TAP, FAFSA, Out of pocket is how i pay for tuition.

This pandemic has affected greatly my CUNY experience, I attend challenging courses that require a lab. I am a Liberal Arts and Sciences student, and my classes need my full attention in a room where we are ready and engaged. This quarantine has played a struggle to understand my classes at full potential. I have younger siblings where my help and materials are needed. I have a due balance on my CUNY account, I am not sure how it is going to be paid if I nor my father (the main source of income) can not work. Currently, all money we have now has been invested in groceries, and rent. I am a senator at my College, as a leader and a representative to my community, this has affected some of the student resources and events we planned to serve our

students. These programs were full of interaction with each other to bring unity like our brand of school claims. We are still engaging with them via social platforms but of course, it is not the same. This pandemic has greatly affected my day to day and has shifted my journey as a representative and a student.

The Board of Trustees should not be raising our tuition for the simple fact of students having debts now, which makes me believe if we raise the tuition students how they will pay. Student graduation rates and enrolling rates will drop tremendously. The drop out rate will increase, and higher education will not be an option for them anymore. This increase will affect me personally because if I can not pay now with a minimum wage job and a parent working how will I pay later after the increase if the minimum wage stays the same.

My name is Zahir Shadick . I'm a sophomore at York College and I pay for my tuition in loans.

I'm less concentrated/focused b/c I'm the type of person who likes to learn now in actual building where there are less distractions, also I'm more of a hands on learner who likes to learn now in a classroom

As CUNY students we've been through enough with pretty much everything that's been going on and to raise tuition again in the middle of a pandemic is a shame on New York City. Personally this tuition raise would make me have to take out more loans to add on to the list loans I currently have.'

My name is Sandra Cabrera. I go to Hunter College and I'm a Senior. Part financial aid and Part out of pocket is how I pay for my tuition.

I feel very affected from COVID19. I lost my job and need to pay tuition, rent , food, transportation and more. I lost friends, and I have family members infected. It is really sad, emotionally I am very affected.

If the BOT raise tuition, it will be more stressful and difficult to achieve my academic goals.

My name is Ekaterina Loskutnikova. I'm a senior at Brooklyn College and I pay out of pocket.

COVID19 has impacted me severely, there is no money coming in at all

The BOT should not raise tuition. It's absolutely ridiculous, I don't see this money going anywhere and some students are barely able to afford College as it is, there should be no reason to be increasing the tuition this often.

My name is Luz Tehuitzil. I'm a student attending Kingsborough Community College. I use TAP and PELL to pay my tuition.

Coronavirus has impacted the way of learning especially the science courses.

The BOT shouldn't raise tuition because it wouldn't be fair to all the students who pay out of pocket and have lost their jobs because of the Coronavirus pandemic. Not giving them the chance to save up enough for the tuition now and to add more for them to pay wouldn't be right on them. Causing for most to either miss a semester and not graduate when expected or having to drop out of College in general just because they can't afford to pay those extra \$350 that will be added to tuition.

My name is Briasia Moore. I attend CUNY School of Professional Studies and I'm a Junior. I use the Commission for the blinds to pay for my tuition.

COVID19 has impacted my CUNY experience. In particular, it has impacted my inability to participate in student committees and events

The BOT should not raise tuition! It's already stressing enough to get the commission to pay for my tuition so I don't need an increase

My name is Ly Thien Hoang. I am a student at John Jay College of CrI'minal Justice in my first year. I pay for tuition and I pay out of pocket.

COVID19 has impacted my CUNY experience.

The BOT should not raise tuition. I had to move back home, which is out of state to save money. My situation is not as bad as other students. It is best to not raise the tuition on students who are already suffering from the pandemic and the events that caused it.

My name is Inty. I go to Queensborough Community College and I use Pell, Tap, and pay out of pocket to pay for my tuition.

Classes are a bit harder because there is less teacher-student interaction. Also not all students have the same learning capacity in the online classes. Participation is going down. But during this time I guess CUNY is doing the best in their ability.

320 dollars on tuition will take money from other school expenses like food, rent, and school supplies. As a first generation College student, Latino Immigrant, LGBTQ+ that has been abandoned from my biological father it makes it harder to have to worry about every year hikes in tuition and even more that during the Co-Vid 19 era Losing my job and having to shelter with a friend's family.

My name is Claudemir Seneus. I go to Brooklyn College and I am a Junior. I have multiple ways for paying for College. Tap, spell, other federal funds, fees: out of pocket is how i pay for College.

All my classes have switched to online, and it's quite challenging to adjust to managing 5 online Courses.

A tuition hike will affect my fellow peers who pay tuition out of pocket. Many of them are trying to make ends meet, and have their own personal issues they have to deal with. I'm acquainted or friends with some students who pay out of pocket. This will also increase my fees.

My name is Nicholas Fosmire. I am a first year Graduated student attending CUNY school of professional studies. I pay for tuition out of pocket.

I am still working outside and I have to work long hours and get little rest

A lot of people are losing their jobs and the economy is slowing down. Rising tuition is unethical at times like these. The increase will make my life harder.

My name is Brian Kieright nowan. I am a second year Graduated student attending CUNY school of professional studies. I pay for tuition with federal loans.

The coronavirus and tuition hike will impact me negatively. I would have to increase my student loans that I'll never pay off.

My name is Annelies De Jong. I am a freshman attending The City College of New York. I pay for tuition out of pocket.

It has prevented me from being able to make a greater Impact with the undergraduate student government, and it has interrupted genuine learning because now many of my teachers have not given us the same difficulty of work and aren't putting in the same effort to teach.

I believe that tuition should not be raised to \$320 because there are many families who were affected in extreme circumstances by COVID-19 and won't be able to financially recover by the time that fall tuition is due. The virus has hit everyone hard and especially low-income areas which is not only where our Campus is, but it is where the majority of CUNY students come from because CUNY is known for offering the same education for a much lower price than most universities. This will put an even greater strain on students as they will likely have to spend more time working and caring for their families and the repercussions of the virus. Personally, although I am not from a low-income community, I do have to pay for tuition out of my own personal savings account. As a server, I haven't been able to work for a couple of months now and it's likely that I won't be able to work and save as much money this summer. I already know now that it's probable that I won't have enough money for tuition, dorming, and food expenses

combined. Not only have College students not been able to work but many of them also did not receive the stimulus check which puts us even further behind economically.

My name is Lee Durkin. I am a sophomore attending Brooklyn College. I pay for tuition through TAP, Pell, Excelsior, out of pocket fees.

My housing and mental health have both been negatively impacted. If tuition and fees continue to rise, so many of the incredible students that make up our campus won't be able to afford to attend. My housing and mental health have both been negatively impacted

If tuition and fees continue to rise, so many of the incredible students that make up our campus won't be able to afford to attend.

My name is Jeannette Kah Le Guil. I am a second year graduate student attending CUNY school of professional studies. I pay for tuition through loans and out of pocket.

COVID19 has impacted me financially. I am not working and I am a single mother

The tuition hike would affect my family and I want to be able to register for next semester

My name is Nadia Gomez . I am a first year Graduated student attending CUNY school of professional studies . I pay for tuition out of pocket.

COVID19 has really made my life much more difficult in every way. Getting my work done has become much more complicated and taxing and some class projects we had scheduled have become next to impossible.

I think it's profoundly insensitive to raise tuitions in general but especially at this time. Many people have been laid off--my partner has had to take a severe pay cut and many of our lives will be turned upside down by this. It will affect me because I won't have as many resources to complete my program now as I did before.

My name is Katelynn Seodarsan . I am a sophomore attending John Jay College of CrI'minal Justice. I pay for tuition with loans and also out of pocket.

It is hard doing distant learning because I like being in a physical classroom and I don't have the same experience as I do as in person with some professors but it's going well so far. My College adapted fast so we didn't miss out on too many classes.

I don't qualify for TAP or FAFSA. I live at home with my parents but with expenses we have to take out loans and pay out of pocket for College. It's not easy but in this day and age you need a degree. My College experience is great and I don't see where the \$320 would be going. Student debt after College is already high so why try to make it higher.

My name is Shahla Connelly. I am a sophomore at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for tuition using FAFSA.

Raising tuition would affect me because I do not receive full financial aid. I'm a single parent. With the covid epidemic I have to pay childcare and food prices are higher.

My name is Violeta Gomez-Uribe. I'm a sophomore at CUNY School Labor of Labor and Urban Studies. I pay for my tuition through scholarships.

It has been very difficult to keep up with school. Given that we are all experiencing a collective trauma and there are many conceright now such as worries of money and health. Everyone is scared of something and it just has not been getting better.

Unemployment rate has increased to historic levels. The Impact of this on the economic well being of CUNY students who are mostly lower income families. If CUNY increases tuition at a time of crisis it will be against the values of the institution

My name is Natalia Zvereva. I attend CUNy School of Professional Studies as a current Junior. I pay for College with the use of Pell and I also pay out of pocket.

This pandemic frightens me. I am a single parent of an infant and have had to relocate to upstate NY to avoid the coronavirus and multiple members of my family have been hospitalized while testing positive for the virus. I don't know what will happen next but I am hoping all the best.

I am currently unemployed and a single parent of an infant. I cannot afford any tuition raises whatsoever. My Pell grant only covers so much and I need to finish school to provide for my child.

My name is Tsering Yangzom who attends CUNY School of Professional Studies as a Junior. I pay for tuition with the help of Pell and from my job.

The impact of the coronavirus has impacted my ability to focus. I can't even concentrate on my studies. Death toll on the news frightens me everyday.

I took leave from work because I got exposed to covid patient at work. Got some covid symptoms but luckily i am recovering. The Board of Trustees should not raise our tuition by \$320 because in this situation many of our fellow classmates lost their job. They will not be able to pay the tuition.

My name is Joicey. I go to CUNY School of Professional Studies and I am a Junior. Now I pay for College with loans.

The impact of the coronavirus pandemic has made it difficult for me to focus during my online classes. I have not experienced school in this way and it has definitely taken its toll on me. We need to get back to classes.

I honestly don't see why tuition is increasing. It is discouraging. That means I will owe more money from loans. I only have a few classes left and this increase will make it difficult for me. I am not working and due to the epidemic it's going to take time before normalcy. Let's be mindful and stop thinking about your pockets and have a heart.

My name is Nosaiba Saleh. I attend York College and I'm in my Junior year. I pay for College out of pocket.

The coronavirus pandemic has affected me terribly; not only do we have to do everything remotely but the resources that were one all available to get to so freely are not restricted and it has been harder to get in contact with anyone.

I believe the BOT shouldn't raise tuition because tuition is already high and increasing it will make it even harder to pay for those who can't afford it. Many people don't have jobs and having to pay extra for next semester isn't necessary at all!

My name is Peter Puleo. I attend CUNY School of Professional Studies and I'm a Junior. I use student loans to pay for my College tuition.

Having an underlying heart condition has affected every facet in my life even how I conduct the most routine tasks. Besides worrying about finances and health my concentration has not been focused.

The BOT should not raise tuition. Times are especially tough and in New York City the cost of living compounded with current events is trying enough, this is just adding fuel to an already raging fire.

My name is Emelly Bello. I am a senior at Hunter College. I use Pell, tap, and loans to pay for my College tuition.

I am learning now being in a classroom not at home is not something I'm very good with. It's very hard for me to concentrate on my work at home. I live with many people.

I can barely afford school with the help I get now and working part time. Raising the tuition would just make it harder for students and myself. I shouldn't have to take on more debt just to pay for school. No one should.

My name is Dexter Roberts. I go to Bruach College and I'm a senior. I pay for College using grants.

The coronavirus has indeed impacted me in terms of my education. I have to do an online class which I am not great at and is very frustrating as it is. My classes are hard enough and this is just the icing on the cake.

The board of trustees should not raise our tuition \$320 because we already have to pay for school. Now , raising tuition would put more people in a financial hole just because CUNY wants more money.

My name is Linda Haughton. I'm a senior at York College. Tap and Pell is how I pay for my College tuition.

I am not working, due to the coronavirus outbreak I have lost my job. I have been limited the resources finically to pay bills and to eat. I am not suffering more than i have been.

The board of trustees should raise our tuition \$320 simply because of the hardship this has brought upon cuny students. The economy financially is declining and people are losing their jobs and there is other things going on besides money.

My name is Richard Guerra. I go to New York City College of Technology. I'm a Junior and I pay for College through SEEK.

COVID19 has forced me to take classes online and it's not going well for me. Classes are becoming more of a distraction and it's been difficult for me to access services such as tutoring.

I believe CUNY should not raise tuition for CUNY students anymore because college got more unaffordable over the last few decades and more students are drowning in student debt every day. This is impacting the future generations.

My name is Sakia Fletcher. I am a senior attending Medgar Evers College. I pay for my tuition with financial assistance such as Tap , Pell, & loans.

The coronavirus pandemic has us in an Isolated environment, no graduation, no in- person classes, & no senior or campus activities. This is not what I paid all that money for.

With this tuition increase more students will have to delay completing College due to affordability. Most CUNY students already work & attend school but now this increase will force students to work additional hours and enroll in less College courses to offset the financial burden.

My name is Kerryann Bryan. I am a senior attending Medgar Evers College. I pay for my tuition with financial assistance such as Tap , Pell, & also out of pocket.

Tremendously. I am unable to utilize the resources provided on campus. I am a visual learner, therefore the online class is very hard for me to understand the materials.

The Board of Trustees should not raise our tuition because we have lost our jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, it is more than likely this raise will affect students tremendously. We are already dealing with providing for our families, but with this raising of tuition it will be more difficult for students to stay in school due to not being able to pay their tuition. Like myself right now, in an on a graduation hold due to not being able to pay my \$303 balance. It may seem small but it's a lot when you don't have it.

My name is Jecenia Stoamba. I am a student attending The City College of New York. I pay for my tuition with financial assistance such as Tap , Pell.

This pandemic has forced us into Long distance learning and is not really helping. I am one of those who would prefer to attend classes in person. If charging us an extra \$320 is the way to give students a better education then i need to see that.

It will affect me educationally and economically by worrying the increase of tuition

My name is Tasanvir Nagra . I am a freshman attending New York City College of Technology . I pay for my tuition with financial assistance such as Tap ,Pell, Excelsior, State grant.

Since the coronavirus pandemic all of my classes have been moved online and this has been difficult. Having the classroom setting and being able to communicate easier by actually being in the classroom.

Raising tuition will ruin a lot of kids' futures that could not already afford going to College. It would cause people to drop out of College. Raising the tuition \$320 would cause a gap between the students who are affording it barley and the students who won't be able to because of the outrageous prices.

My name is Shadman Rafi . I am a sophomore attending Borough of Manhattan Community College .I pay for my tuition with financial assistance such as Tap.

The coronavirus has impacted my ability to physically be in my classes . I wish I was on campus learning more effectively and I'm not able to use the resources at my disposal.

CUNY shouldn't raise tuition by \$320 because we're in a tough time and already dealing with so much and radiating tuition would make life a lot harder for everyone. It will affect me personally because it won't let me focus on what I have to do College wise and pass all my classes and take care of everything at home and my friends and I'll be so worried about paying tuition.

My name is Shagota. I am a student attending New York City College of Technology. My tuition is paid through Excelsior.

The coronavirus pandemic has caused a lot of stress to my family. My entire family has gotten sick and the fact that we were all laid off from our jobs makes it difficult to cope theis and stay positive.

We are online. There's no reason to raise tuition, in fact we should be getting money back, especially student activity. People are unemployed and some kids don't even have the proper interright nowet struggling. We aren't getting a good education .

My name is Jan Hus Theodore. I am a senior attending New York City College of Technology. My tuition is paid with Tap, Pell, Loans.

The coronavirus has left me stuck at home and not in class .My learning environment is not conducive since I'm in an abusive household and I am distracted from studies most of the time.

That extra 320 dollars could be bus fare, meals, or even a textbook.The board of trustees is looking to charge students this \$320 fee and the money could be used for so many different things.

My name is Metuschael Noncent. I am a senior attending New York City College of Technology. My tuition is paid with Tap , Pell.

The pandemic has impacted me because i have been fired from my job . Colleges have turned to remote learning and that has not been bentifical for me.Remote learning is not very good.

Due to the fact that financial aid doesn't usually cover everything and not everybody has the means to pay for College out of pocket. Most people rely on financial aid for the extra boost and support. Increasing the tuition by \$320 will only make matters worse.

My name is Sudan Muhammad .I am a junior attending New York City College of Technology. My tuition is paid with Tap , Pell, and also out of pocket.

I have had a rough time with school work and it will be hard for me to pay for the rest of the semester because I don't work

This increase should not happen. The money that we pay won't give us any more funds for school. There won't be new technology so there is no point in it. It will affect me personally because I will have to pay more out of pocket next semester.

My name is Giovannie Manuel Cortes Berrios. I am currently attending New York College of Technology. I'm a Junior going into senior year this Fall. Through Access-VR is how I pay for my tuition.

The corona virus has impacted my interaction with others. I have not been able to see my girlfriend ,not been able to see any of my friends has been making me a bit crazy. I'm also worried that class will be 100% online this fall.

The board of trustees should not raise tuition because it affects the students who pay out of pocket and they aren't going to the class in person. Imagine if they are paying \$320, but they can't stand the professor who isn't teaching the class online properly or doesn't give work on Blackboard. So that is why it should not raise it by \$320.

My name is Nicole Goris. I'm a sophomore at CUNY School of Labor and Urban Studies and pay for my tuition with my union.

I am working from home stressed about the coronavirus pandemic and with anxiety. Unable to focus my time, I have to split between me and my daughter. I have to teach my daughter how to do her online education for her first grade class.

It would be unacceptable especially after this pandemic to even think of money raising the tuition 320\$. Yes, we are all affected but corporations and institutions' will get their money back or even more. Think of the people and students.

My name is Deanne Brown. I go to New York College of Technology and I'm a sophomore. Tap, Pell and Asap is what I use to pay for my college tuition.

The coronavirus is impacting my ability to stay focused in classes , complete my school work and I'm worried about passing my classes now. I don't feel as engaged in my classes as I was before.

Raising the tuition 320\$ on top of the money that i get from government assistance will add burden to me . The money I receive left over from TAP and Pell helps me pay for textbooks and supplies for my major. I won't be able to stay in Architecture without it

My name is Rachel Toro. I attend CUNY School of Professional Studies and I'm a second year graduate. I pay out of pocket for College.

The corona virus has forced everyone online and it has been hard completing all required coursework. It was already difficult; now even more so. Financially having to conserve money is now very important.

The board of trustees don't understand raising the tuttition 320\$ is going to be hard, it is already a struggle to pay for school out of pocket. I have to do 2 jobs to afford that. I have already lost one job due to Covid 19 as such keeping the tuition low is even more Important now.

My name is Patrice Moe-Lenon. I'm a freshman at CUNY School of Professional Studies and I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

The Coronavirus has impacted my CUNY experience because I am not sure if I will be able to attend next semester and that is what scares me.

The board of trustees will be raising the tuition 320\$ and that will deplete my already limited resources and what i am living on from a month to month basis.

My name is Ibeth Erazo. I attend New York College of Technology and I am a sophomore. I pay for school out of pocket.

I am doing the dental hygiene and I take some classes with the restorative dentistry department as well. Once in person classes were canceled so did the clinics and labs in both programs. These sections are essential and a requisite for my courses completion.

Because all is going around. The life of every single person in the city has drastically changed. Due to the actual circumstances we have been forced to adapt to a new reality of disease, death and isolation. Many people have lost their jobs, not having enough money to cover even their food expenses. How is it possible that CUNY is thinking about a raise in the tuition fee when people don't have even what to put in their mouth. Not to mention that many students like me are not receiving what we paid for academically.

My name is Isaiah Griffin-Sparrow. I am a freshman at New York City College of Technology. I receive ASAP, TAP, and FAFSA.

Due to this coronavirus pandemic, we have online classes that don't work effectively. I thought that living in the city wasn't the college experience, imagine not even going to school. Unfortunately, that is the reality that we are living in and it's very sad that tuition is still spiking when we have a whole financial situation happening.

I believe that the Board of Trustees should not raise tuition because some families are not equipped financially to handle such a spike and at this time I believe that they shouldn't be looking to raise tuition, especially during this time. If tuition were to be increased I would be paying extra every year because my aid would not cover the entire cost of tuition.

My name is Sabrina Santos. I am a junior at New York City College of Technology. I receive Pell and TAP.

Due to the pandemic, classes that are necessary to be taken in person are transformed into an online course that can get hectic. This is my first semester in an internship. I already had enough issues trying to land an internship and only managed to get a site three weeks before CUNY campuses were closed. Now, our workload is doubled in order to fulfill the 125 hours needed to complete the course. Some courses have changed the syllabus completely and have lacked the communication and support needed at such times.

I believe tuition should not be raised even though this hike will not affect me personally as much as it would for other students but it does not make my opinion less important. As a peer mentor for first-year students and the number one issue my students have faced is paying for tuition.

They struggle to get by in classes because they have to juggle school, work, and home responsibilities at once and the money they make isn't enough to pay off a full semester.

My name is Emma Montero. I am a junior at The City College of New York. I receive a portion of TAP and the rest of my tuition is paid out of pocket.

This coronavirus pandemic has affected my family and me as my parents' salary has reduced and I lost my job.

This is an unprecedented time where uncertainty is rampant. Why implement a tuition hike like you do every year during a time where people are losing their jobs and salaries? If this is an unprecedented time then the Board of Trustees should set a precedent of not charging monies to people who don't have it.

My name is Hillary. I am a junior at The City College of New York. I receive TAP and Pell which helps with my financial aid.

Coronavirus has affected my CUNY experience because I have lost the campus experience that I loved.

The Board of Trustees should not raise our tuition by \$320 because students will suffer financially and besides the conditions of our colleges have not improved enough for the price of tuition to be raised.

My name is Andrew Salmieri. I am a sophomore attending The City College of New York. I receive the Excelsior Scholarship to help with the payment of my financial aid.

The pandemic has made me lose my faith in CUNY. Their response was extremely late and it feels like they are slow to achieve anything when it comes to properly preparing students for online learning.

The Board of Trustees should not raise our tuition because it will affect non-traditional students and students who rely on loans the most.

My name is Jordan Gonzalez. I am a senior at The City College of New York. I do not receive financial aid pay out of pocket.

Tuition should not be raised because there is enough money and my institution is already falling apart due to misappropriation. Maybe if the money is spent the right way, there would be any problems.

The cost of living is rising and I'm still in an entry-level position, working for free doing internships to gain experience and poverty level is still a huge issue because of administrations that take the average tax-payer money and bail out the elite for personal gain.

My name is Elizabeth Rubel. I am a graduate student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay out of pocket for school.

I am grateful for CUNY and SPS for the small and easy transition since COVID. Since we were already an online program, it has felt like the one stable thing in my life since then. I am a working artist, in grad school, out of work due to COVID and unsure when I can return to teaching healing arts in hospitals. I am thankful for CUNY and greatly hope to be able to finish my Graduate degree since I was paying out of pocket.

In these terrifying and trying times, we are doing everything we can to stay sane and balanced. We are still trying to advance our lives, and are going through the process of doing that for ourselves. Most of us students are from and have family in NYC, which is the epicenter of the pandemic currently. Every single one of us will be affected and we will all have trauma coming from this. My hope is that we are all able to continue our studies regardless, but I have a feeling that will not be the case for most. I think any rise in tuition would be unfair and immoral right now.

My name is Alexa Costas. I am a sophomore attending John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I receive the Excelsior Scholarship along with TAP (which doesn't cover all).

It's been a terrible experience since the pandemic. The professors clearly did not get the proper training for this and it isn't their fault. The schools also want to charge us the spring activity fee even though there are no activities taking place.

A lot of students in the CUNY system financially struggle. The \$320 also may not be covered by Excelsior in which people rely on heavily. I know I would not be able to afford the extra \$320 and I know many other people will not be able to either.

My name is Muiz. I am a sophomore at Hostos Community College. I pay for college out of pocket.

The coronavirus pandemic has affected my CUNY experience especially with the online processes and classes which aren't exactly the best.

I pay for college with my hard-earned money. I have to work ridiculous hours to save up the money and pay the tuition. I don't have any financial aid or anyone to support me financially. Raising the cost of tuition will make things worse.

My name is Titi. I am a freshman at Bronx Community College. I pay out of pocket for my financial aid.

The coronavirus pandemic has affected my learning since I am an in-person learner rather than an online one.

The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition which affects me personally because I'm not working. I was a temporary worker before COVID-19. Why raise tuition when millions of students are out of work whether they are essential or not. We are already worried about the virus and it is unfair to hike up tuition when we're in a crisis that we have no clue of when it might end. Raising tuition does no good for anyone. It also deters anyone who wants to take classes from wanting to continue their college education even more so some of us work extra jobs, seasonal jobs, just to pay tuition as it is. Please don't raise the tuition as nobody needs to be stressed over this too.

My name is Stephane Duviella. I am a junior at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I pay for college out of my pocket.

I don't believe that the Board of Trustees should raise our tuition by \$320 at all. It will not only affect me financially but it will also affect the other students as well.

My name is Brian. I am a sophomore at Hostos Community College. I pay for college out of pocket.

I believe that the Board of Trustees should not raise our tuition by \$320 because under extreme circumstances we can barely afford the cost of living at this moment in time.

My name is Stephanie Dorleans. I am a sophomore at Bronx Community College. I pay for my college out of pocket.

The coronavirus pandemic has affected me as I am unable to work to get the money needed to pay for school.

Everyone deserves affordable education. Raising tuition by \$320 is only depriving people of getting the opportunity of going to school. At this point in time nobody would have that kind of money to pay an extra \$320 on top of what they already have to pay.

My name is Quiana Berry. I am a sophomore at Bronx Community College. I receive a Pell which helps me to pay for college.

This pandemic has affected my CUNY experience by making it more difficult to get the support I need to pass my classes since all classes are now virtually online.

The Board of Trustees should not raise our tuition by \$320 because during an economical, physical and emotional trying time like this students shouldn't have to choose between their survival and improving their job outlook prospects by furthering their education.

My name is Nicole C. Agu. I am a junior at the College of Staten Island. I pay for college out-of-pocket and with the help of scholarships.

Coronavirus pandemic has affected my CUNY experience by making it difficult to adapt to online classes.

The Board of Trustees should not raise our tuition because I am unable to afford another tuition hike especially after this pandemic and I cannot work to boost my tuition savings.

My name is Oksana Ksenia Klimparskaya. I am a senior at Brooklyn College. I pay for college through loans.

This pandemic has affected my experience to learn virtually. There are many technical issues and it is hard to cope with.

The Board of Trustees should not raise tuition because this will make things very difficult for me financially.

My name is Natalie Hernandez. I am a junior from Brooklyn College. The ways in which I pay for college are TAP, Pell and out of pocket.

Due to this pandemic, I find it incredibly difficult to concentrate on my lectures and assignments. There is a disconnect between teachers and students that makes it hard to follow along with lessons unless they are in person. CUNY systems keep failing, internet service is very slow and drops out frequently, making it very difficult to access and turn in work.

I lost my Excelsior Scholarship due to a poor schedule recommendation from a Brooklyn College Academic Advisor, so I have been forced to use up nearly all my savings to pay for my tuition. I already work two jobs and attend class full-time. Even then, I can't afford my tuition, and an increase would mean I would have to take few classes and prolong my status as a student and end up paying more money in the long run. An increase would mean I would have to choose between dropping out and working 3 jobs outside of class leaving me with little to no time to complete my school work and study.

My name is Parishta. I am a junior at the college of Staten Island. I pay for school out of pocket.

This coronavirus pandemic has affected me and my family as my parents are currently unemployed.

Since my parents are currently unemployed, they're finding it hard to pay our rent. I have 5 people living at my place including myself and it's hard to pay all this and pay such expensive tuition. Especially during a pandemic, the Board should be more considerate and reduce our tuition rates.

My name is Kimberly Ulerio. I am a sophomore at LaGuardia Community College. I pay for school out of my pocket.

This pandemic has affected me learning face-to-face.

The Board of Trustees should not raise tuition especially during this crisis because it will put financial pressure on us, students.

My name is Denisse Feliz. I am a sophomore at Hostos Community College. I receive TAP which helps me pay for school.

During this time, it is difficult to learn science remotely and do labs based on YouTube videos that don't compare with the questions. Frustrating to sit from 12:00 to 4:00 in a class which duration was from 12:30-3:15. Annoyed when you want to study and the system is down on the blackboard.

The Board of Trustees should not raise tuition because the quality of the courses has dropped. The retention percentage in some of our schools aren't consistent so imagine how it would be if you raise it.

My name is Afiyah Branche. I am a sophomore at Medgar Evers College. I pay for college with the help of Tap, Pell, and the SEEK Program.

This pandemic has affected my experience by causing me to have to adjust my lifestyle to taking classes at home. It is somewhat of a stressful process but I'm slowly but surely adjusting.

I believe the Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition by \$320 mainly because if not all, the majority of the student population has been immensely affected negatively due to the ongoing crisis of the pandemic. Also, even when businesses are reopened and people begin working once again, it will take a while for them to fully adjust financially. For some, things may even take longer (months-years) since this pandemic has tremendously affected the country's economy. Therefore, I wholeheartedly believe that the decision to increase the cost of tuition appears to be unfair and irrational as of current. The reason being, not all students have the ability to receive financial aid and also many are independent individuals who have to look after their family's health and well-being, but most of all their own safety.

My name is Nashrin Akter. I am a student at New York City College of Technology. I pay for school with the help of TAP and Pell.

This pandemic has affected my CUNY experience by having my classes moved virtually and I am out of job during this time.

If the Board of Trustees decide to raise tuition by \$320, I won't be able to pay for my education which in the first place should've been free.

My name is Vonetta Simon. I am a senior at Medgar Evers College. I pay for college with the help of TAP, Pell, through the SEEK Program and out of pocket.

Because of this pandemic, I am forced to learn through online classes.

The Board of Trustees should not raise our tuition as we are already having a hard time paying our tuition now, and with this pandemic many of us are out of a job, so where are we supposed to get this money? Everything else has risen, you're trying to take away our education too.

My name is Jelena Hirv. I am a senior at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I pay for college out of my pocket.

During this time, my family is not able to support me, I don't have a job. This pandemic affected my performance in classes, since all I am thinking of is how to pay for college and housing, as well as nutritious food. Classes are online now and it is difficult to concentrate. Instead of focusing on classes, I am worried about the future.

I believe at this moment it is not the best idea to raise the tuition because due to it many students may drop out of school and the poverty level will be even worse. Many students are not able to afford college anymore, since they have been laid off from their jobs. The increase won't affect me personally since I am graduating in May. However, if I decide to pursue further education, it might be difficult to do due to the increase in tuition.

My name is Phoebe H Collins. I am a senior at Brooklyn College. I pay for college by taking loans.

Due to this pandemic, distance learning for courses that are meant to be in-person is frustrating. It is hard enough to maintain connections as it is, and now it has become even more challenging.

I have no income right now for the foreseeable future because I am out of work due to COVID-19, so all of my expenses (rent, utilities, groceries, school textbooks) are nearly impossible to afford and an increase in tuition (and my loan debt) will continue to put me in an even worse financial position.

My name is Siyi Chen. I am a junior at Brooklyn College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Because of this pandemic, I am now forced to learn through online classes.

The Board of Trustees should not raise tuition especially in a time like this because many students will not be able to pay for this increase due to the loss in jobs.

My name is Kimberly Stewart. I am a senior at Medgar Evers College. I pay for college with the help of Pell.

Due to this pandemic, I am forced to learn through distance-learning.

The Board of Trustees should not raise tuition because there isn't any funding given to the schools for proper equipment to fix the building or enough money for clubs to utilize.

My name is Nojm Ahmed. I am a senior attending New York City College of Technology. I pay for college with the help of TAP.

Due to this pandemic, I cannot work and I'm unable to bear my finances.

The Board of Trustees should not raise our tuition because it will cause students to suffer financially.

My name is Saleh Nasser. I am a freshman at Hostos Community College. I pay for college with the help of TAP.

Due to this pandemic, I am forced to learn from online classes.

Tuition should not be raised because it will cause more stress and it might lead me and others to drop out of college.

My name is Shanelia Rice. I am a graduate at Hunter College. I pay for my college through loans.

This pandemic has affected my means of communication. I am unable to talk to my professor face-to-face.

Raising tuition will affect me due to taking out more loans and not being able to fully pay my tuition and in the long run probably won't be able to finish school to obtain my degree.

My name is Kate Shannon. I am a graduate attending CUNY School of Professional Studies.

This pandemic has significantly impacted my financial status. I have no income at the time and will not have any for the foreseeable future. I have actually not been able to work since November due to undergoing multiple serious surgeries and being on medicine that suppresses my immune system. I have been trying my best not to let my financial worries impact my studies but this is increasing.

CUNY is one of the most affordable school systems in the country. This is one of the reasons it appealed to me. As an individual with high medical expenses and non appreciable employment, I could not have afforded other schools. Now, I have started my degree and feel betrayed by the fact that the Board of Trustees is considering raising tuition \$320. This might not seem like a lot to some, but I am already struggling with tuition and this will be enough to put me over the edge. I do not think I can afford to continue taking classes with this price increase.

My name is Ana Marie Anastacio. I am a junior at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I am paying for my school through loans and out-of-pocket.

This pandemic has affected me because I have less income and the prices for necessities have been hiked.

The Board of Trustees should not raise tuition because we can barely afford anything to begin with. Jobs are limited because no one is hiring during this pandemic. This is a huge financial toll on us as students.

My name is Sakia Fletcher. I am a senior at Medgar Evers College. I pay for school with TAP, Pell and out-of-pocket.

This pandemic has prevented my ability to gain the full college experience for Spring 2020. No graduation ceremony, no physical interaction with peers, faculty or staff and financial instability. Most important the COVID-19 pandemic has been a major destruction for me focus eagle by school work. Leading to academic uncertainty and anxiety.

If the Board of Trustees raise tuition individuals with financial loss, food insecurity and housing insecurities caused by the COVID-19 pandemic will not enroll or have to enroll part time due to the cost increase.

My name is Djenabou Barry. I am a senior at The City College of New York. I receive FAFSA and TAP which helps to pay for my college.

Due to this pandemic, I'm really worried about my final grade because it's my last chance to increase my GPA for grad school.

CUNY & SUNY is well known for its low tuitions that help lower class people like me. Students that are the first generation in their family to attend college are all because of CUNY & SUNY. Raising tuition will only make us suffer financially, leading students to drop out or reconsider their decision of attending college.

My name is Mercedes Aznar. I am a sophomore at New York City College of Technology. I receive a Pell and I pay the additional amount out of my pocket.

Some professors do not know how to use technology very well so the online classes are not ideal during this pandemic.

I was laid off from my job so I am very stressed out about how I am going to pay for rent and thinking about tuition hikes makes me even more nervous.

My name is Cayla Kempf. I am a sophomore at Queens College. I receive TAP and Pell which helps me pay for college.

Coronavirus has impacted my CUNY experience as I am unable to have direct interactions with my campus and professors.

The Board of Trustees should not raise our tuition because it will be very difficult for students to be financially stable.

My name is Tara Santos. I am an alum at the CUNY School of Professional Studies.

The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise tuition right now because many people are out of work and struggling to make ends meet because of an unforeseen pandemic that is affecting us globally. If students are struggling to pay the current tuition, rent, groceries it is only right to push off the increase.

My name is Martina Youssef. I am a sophomore at the College of Staten Island. I pay for college with the help of TAP and financial aid.

This pandemic has affected all students of CUNY in ways that are unfair.

The Board of Trustees should not raise tuition because students can barely afford college as it is. Now it's even worse because so many lost their source of income and are forced to take online classes that they didn't think would happen.

My name is Sydneta McCurdy. I am a senior at York College. With the help of the SEEK Program, I can pay for college.

During this pandemic, it is hard to get food and access to CUNY First.

If our tuition is raised by \$320, it will be very difficult for students to find that extra money while having to take care of other responsibilities which requires the use of money.

My name is Daniella Babae. I am a senior at Hunter College. I pay for college with TAP and out of pocket.

Classes have been hard to manage while I also work remotely full time from my internship and help take care of my family during this pandemic.

The Board should not raise the tuition especially now, with people being laid off or not allowed to go to work like my dad, submitting payments is really hard, and then on top of that adding an extra \$320 is a huge financial burden. Not only does it add to the burden, but it adds to the

mental stress of how it's going to be paid, when you can't even pay your bills.

My name is Jedglen. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with the help of Pell.

My partner has lost her job and finances are tighter during this pandemic. We have two children to care for at home as well.

The Board should not raise tuition especially in a difficult time like this. \$320 is a lot especially for those who have additional responsibilities to take care of financially.

My name is Catherine Morris. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of my pocket.

Due to this pandemic, I will not be able to take my final 3 credits via CLEP exam, potentially inhibiting me from graduating next month.

Many students have lost their jobs, including me. Therefore, raising tuition poses yet another financial hurdle that many will not be able to jump. Tuition raises may even cause students to drop out. The raise would affect me personally if I have to take a summer class in place of the CLEP exam I was meant to take in late March, as I was not planning to have to pay for another class.

My name is Juliet Hernandez. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

This pandemic has affected me financially as I have lost the income I used to receive prior to this happening.

Raising tuition will impact me as I won't be able to pay for my education which is currently a major struggle and sacrifice.

My name is Michelle Horvath. I am a freshman at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with the help of TAP, Pell, out of pocket, and loans.

This pandemic has me worried of how I will be able to pay my balance when I have been laid off.

I think it's wrong for the Board to take advantage of the students during this time, when Americans across the US have lost their jobs. It's unfair to have to choose between paying for groceries or your student loan.

My name is Rachel Marshall. I am a freshman at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with the help of Tap and Pell.

This pandemic has me struggling with time and finances.

With a raise in tuition, this will affect me from going to school as I can't afford to pay out of pocket.

My name is Tara Daniels. I am a graduate at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

This pandemic has impacted me, making it difficult to connect to my work.

The Board of Trustees should not raise tuition at a time when many people are financially strained, this could put a greater burden on people like me.

My name is Lea Benes. I am a graduate at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

This pandemic has affected me because I have lost my job.

Raising tuition will make it difficult for me to afford my education as I've been out of work.

My name is Christina Henriquez. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket and with my employer voucher.

This pandemic has caused major anxiety and strain on my mental health.

I am the sole provider of my family. My employer only pays for 6 credits and I have to pay the rest out of pocket for the additional class I take in order to graduate in time. This is very stressful financially and mentally to have to worry about paying another \$320 with so many other financial burdens that have come up during this pandemic. So many people have lost their jobs/health insurance because of COVID-19 and I would HOPE that CUNY would be understanding and compassionate during this whole thing.

My name is Nyssa Rodriguez. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

I am a working mother to 3 children and I attend school part time. I pay out of pocket so every little bit of money I can save to balance work, life, and school is very important. Raising tuition \$320 will only make it difficult for me.

My name is Katie Gross. I am a graduate student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college through a trust fund.

This pandemic hasn't affected me too much since my classes were already online.

Just because the crisis hasn't affected me personally, I know the increase will be hard on my family who helps to pay for my tuition.

My name is Joseph McIntosh. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

Due to this pandemic, I have no job which means no way of paying for school because I can't get financial aid.

Raising tuition is only going to make things much more difficult, I'm already trying to get a job that will mean I earn a lot less money. And with no help financially it will be much more difficult.

My name is Salma Elshahawy. I am a graduate student attending CUNY Graduate Center. I pay for college out of my pocket.

Due to a pandemic, I was laid off from my work.

Raising tuition in a time like this, is more difficult than ever. Being laid off from work and having more expenses is an additional burden while looking for a job.

My name is Wanda McMillan. I am a graduate at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college by taking loans.

Financial resources have decreased drastically due to this pandemic.

If the tuition is raised, I will need to borrow more money which will keep me in debt longer. I can not afford an increase currently.

My name is Christine Sewnarine. I am a sophomore at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of my pocket.

I have lost my job and because of that I have not only been facing emotional problems but also financial problems. These stressors make it hard for me to focus on class work. It also makes me unsure if I can enroll for future semesters.

I most likely won't be able to afford a tuition increase and will not be able to proceed with my education.

My name is Anureet Kaur. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of my pocket.

It's been hard to focus on my studies and I have been laid off due to this pandemic.

The Board of Trustees should not raise the tuition. My family and I have been impacted badly. If tuition increases I will probably have to drop out. I have no job and everyone in my family is laid off.

My name is Camille Mc Donald. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of my pocket, some help from TAP and Pell as well.

Some family members are out of work and I am responsible for all bills and rent. Required to work 12.5 hr shift at my job three days a week during this pandemic.

It is a hard time for many. Many people don't know how they are going to pay rent. Some people will probably have to stop taking classes to pay other important bills and if tuition is raised then it will make things even worse.

My name is Brigid Kozak. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with federal loans and private loans.

I have a full time job, but my part time work goes towards my school expenses. I do not qualify for any free aid and my full time job covers my rent and bills/expenses, and I do not have money to pay out of pocket.

\$320 can be my grocery money for two months . It is already challenging for people that need to get a 4 year degree to get a crappy paying job because even those jobs are competitive. Times were frustrating already, and add the current pandemic, it's worse.

My name is Luanna Ryan. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with the help of my Union and loans.

Raising tuition \$320 more will put me in more debt than I already am in.

My name is Tova Patton. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of my pocket and taking loans.

This pandemic has me working more hours.

I am barely getting by as it is and if the tuition goes up by \$320 I won't be able to afford to finish school right now and I am already in severe debt.

My name is Sin Ying Wong. I am a first year grad student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college by taking loans.

My professor is sick with serious COVID symptoms so we got cut down on syllabus (/chapters) and exercises, which reduced half of what I should learn while I am still paying full tuition for it. It's not fair.

I am currently paying my tuition with loans. It's a hard time for every American that many get laid off and can't get a job or get paid during this period. The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition as many of us are already having a hard time paying our rent.

My name is Adria Merchant-Bernardez. I am a last year grad student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college by taking loans.

Raising tuition by \$320 is unfair because students are already struggling to pay their bills and this increase is an additional frustration.

My name is Lydia Lynch. I am a last year grad student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college by taking help from my Union.

This pandemic has affected my study and resources to get help.

Raising tuition will put a financial strain on students especially in times like this. We won't be able to pay this increase especially if we are laid off from our jobs during this time.

My name is Sha-niece Chavis. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college by taking loans and having vouchers.

I am already in a financial bind, paying fees out of pocket. An increase will burden me even more especially if it raises by \$320.

My name is Paldon Tenzin. I am a sophomore at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket and Pell.

This pandemic has me stressed, overwhelmed with work and school.

If the Board of Trustees raise tuition, it will add more financial stress on me.

My name is Michelle Osias. I am a sophomore at The City College of New York. I pay for college out of my pocket.

It's hard to make ends meet, businesses are boosting up prices and also there is limited supplies making it hard to afford necessities. With this increase, it will put me along with the many other students in financial stress.

My name is Edny. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket. This pandemic has me worrying about my job.

Currently, my hours at work has been reduced due to COVID19. If there's an increase, I will not be able to afford the tuition.

My name is Crystal Sacchinelli. I am a sophomore at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

I am out of a job and will have to take at least one semester off to catch up back.

\$320 is excessive! My text books each semester already cost that sometimes more.

My name is Shannon McArdle. . I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

I'm a single mom with ONE computer at home. So now I have to work from home, get my school work done and juggle that with allowing my daughter to complete her distance learning now.

As it is, I struggle to pay my tuition as a single parent. CUNY hasn't been the best with working with me in that regard, which is disappointing. The business I work in has been affected by this virus, meaning less work coming in and less money for me. While I'm still working I've had to take a major pay cut. Now I'm worrying about how I'm going to pay rent and my tuition for summer and fall semesters. Don't make it worse by raising the tuition.

My name is Christian Rodriguez. I am a freshman at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

I have been mentally exhausted and worried about the pandemic. It is affecting my job and school experience. I can't give it my full attention.

I believe the Board of Trustees shouldn't raise tuition especially during this crisis when people are losing their jobs or getting a salary reduction. It will be harder to afford the classes.

My name is Johanna Rodriguez. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

I had to care for a sick family member and I needed to submit my work late. This is how the pandemic has impacted me.

With a \$320 raise in tuition, I may not be able to attend college next semester.

My name is Clorene Similien. I am a grad student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket and by loans.

The COVID19 has drastically affected my CUNY experience. I can no longer go to a quiet space such as the library to study or complete my assignments. I am also enrolled in a CUNY TECH works program that teaches you software development. However it is a program that must be done in person to learn the concepts and practice with the professor's guidance.

The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition because America is in a crisis! Many of us have lost our jobs, family members and friends. We are trying to continue with life during the COVID19 outbreak that none of us knows for certain when it will end.

My name is Carol Mako. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college by taking loans.

My husband is an essential worker, making me the only caregiver for my small children. Overnight I have become a teacher to my children on top of already being a full time student and mom. This is how the pandemic is affecting me.

Given so many people are unemployed currently, it will take a long time to recover financially and raising tuition will only make it worse for us students.

My name is Lindsay Britt. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of my pocket.

This pandemic has affected me. I now find myself trying to take care of my two small children, homeschool them, work and go to school. This has proved to be very difficult.

Tuition is expensive as it is, and with a loss of income for some many students during this pandemic it seems cruel to raise tuition for students that are just trying to survive.

My name is Daisy Martini. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with the help of TAP, Pell and a loan to cover the remainder.

This pandemic has prevented me from working and being able to afford school materials etc.

We are currently going through a crisis and lots of people lost their jobs and are not able to afford high tuition payments.

My name is LaParis Harley. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with the help of TAP, Pell and out of my pocket.

This pandemic has affected me financially. No money, bills are piling up, no income.

Everyone was affected by the virus, especially those of us who became ill. Right now most of us are out of work with no other sources of income. Increasing our tuition will only bring more of a financial strain to our household.

My name is Odilia Amoo. I am a sophomore at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of my pocket.

This pandemic has affected me financially.

Raising tuition by \$320 will put a financial strain on me as I will need to take more money out of my pocket to pay for my education while taking care of other responsibilities that also requires financial help.

My name is Portia. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of my pocket.

This pandemic has affected me financially as I am unable to pay my tuition.

With a \$320 increase in tuition, I will not be able to afford my education and so will the majority of the other students.

My name is Stacey Charles. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of my pocket.

My classes have gone from 100% on campus/in-class to 100% online/virtual. This change is certainly not for the better for me. I chose a program that was on campus instead of an online program to match my style of learning.

With Covid-19, we're not even sure when life will return to a level of normalcy. Tuition leniency should definitely be considered to take into account that on campus/in class programs have now been converted to online programs, something that us students with particular learning styles never anticipated. Also, MANY of my classmates have lost their jobs while still having to provide for their families and fully show up as students.

My name is Ohunov. I am a freshman at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of my pocket.

Due to this pandemic, my classes are now fully online which is much more difficult to cope with as compared with in class.

I'm struggling to pay my tuition now much less if there will be an increase of \$320. It will be even worse.

My name is Denisha Ramos Cubero. I am a freshman at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college by taking loans.

Due to this pandemic, I am forced to relocate to another state to help my family members.

With an increase in tuition by \$320, many students won't be able to pay especially since many may have lost their jobs or are laid off during this time.

My name is James Bencik. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of my pocket.

It's difficult to focus on school work while working in a hospital during this time.

I feel that many liberties are taken when the Board raises our tuition. And increasing tuition should be reflected in an improvement in lessons and curriculums.

My name is Earline L Torres. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college by taking a loan.

This pandemic has affected me as my classes are now moved fully online rather than on campus.

The CUNY Board of Trustees should not raise our tuition again this year, especially with the circumstances we are all dealing with due to COVID-19.

My name is Jasper Diaz. I am a junior at Baruch College. I pay for college with the help of TAP and the remainder from my pocket.

My CUNY experience is affected due to this pandemic. Online instruction is not up to par with in person instruction, many instructors are not technologically adept with blackboard or other software programs and typically refrain from using it during the semester as in person instruction is easier and typically available.

I have been recently unemployed since March with no work available for my other job. It would be unfair to expect students to furlough another tuition increase when students face economic challenges and health concerns within their immediate families resulting in increased financial obstacles, especially given the current public health crisis. As a former CUNY Board of Trustee Committee Member and CUNY USS Senator, I hope the CUNY Board of Trustees can work with the Governor and Legislature to prevent another increase and work to find a sustainable solution and source of funding.

My name is Alison Espeut. I am a first year grad student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of my pocket.

This pandemic has affected me and my peers financially.

If tuition is raised by \$320, it will be difficult for us students to pay for our education especially when there is a financial crisis happening.

My name is Gio Lopes. I am a second year grad student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of my pocket.

This pandemic affected how I work and pay for my bills, which includes all the fees for CUNY.

People are going through a lot right now, especially the city of New York. Raising tuition will just add more financial strain causing students to drop out.

My name is Olivia Sammarco. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of my pocket and with some help from Pell.

I take online classes so my semester wasn't greatly affected, however paying out of pocket has become harder as I use a credit card to pay for my remaining tuition.

Paying tuition is already difficult. I may not be able to attend if there is an increase by \$320.

My name is James Pedersen. I am a freshman at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of my pocket.

This pandemic has made work more stressful and tough to concentrate.

I'm at high risk of losing my job, and if tuition is increased I may not be able to continue to pursue this degree.

My name is Mariska Kop. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college by TAP, out of pocket, loans.

I have no job and do not qualify for unemployment so I am struggling to buy food at this point due to the pandemic.

I will have to take out more loans that I can't afford to repay if the Board of Trustees raise our tuition by \$320.

My name is Shanee Morris. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of my pocket and with some assistance from TAP. .

I have already had online classes, but it has been hard as I have kids to now teach at home due to this pandemic.

During this trying time, money in people's pockets is essential and as school is very important so is being able to maintain your family. Raising tuition will put a financial strain on us.

My name is Deborah Owoaje. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of my pocket and with some assistance from TAP.

This pandemic has affected my CUNY experience tremendously. I am forced to learn via online classes.

Increasing tuition by \$320 will make my out of pocket tuition payment increase since I am already TAPPED out. This will put a financial strain on me.

My name is John Sapida. I am a student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I am in my first year of Graduate school.

I pay the CUNY tuition by taking loans, applying and receiving scholarships, and from out of pocket money.

This pandemic has put me in a situation where I do not have job security after 5/15. Could be furloughed.

The decision to raise tuition this year again will put me in an economic hardship. I would not be able to take classes at all because it would be too costly to pay for courses without income.

My name is Danielle Porter. I am in my junior year at the CUNY School of Professional Studies.

To pay for my tuition, I receive a Pell grant and pay the rest with out of pocket money.

Since the pandemic, it's been harder to focus and complete assignments as I am now a full time homeschool teacher to my daughter. Also so many of my family members and friends have contracted the virus and this whole situation has been overwhelming.

I am concerned about the tuition hikes. Since I have been out of work due to this pandemic I am falling behind in my bills and will be extremely hard to catch up once this pandemic clears. If CUNY increases my tuition I will not be able to afford it and will probably have to drop my courses. Please do not increase the tuition especially during this time. This has been financially, mentally and physically draining for us all.

I am Md Ibrahim, a freshman at the CUNY Queens College. I use TAP to pay a portion of my tuition, and the rest I pay it out of pocket.

The coronavirus literally took away our resources and this will affect the type of education I will get as a freshman.

For the CUNY Board of Trustee to raise tuition again this year, this is truly unfair and unjust. I as an incoming freshman will face many difficulties and now the Board of Trustees raise the tuition especially during a pandemic!!! How does that even make sense? Please please reconsider and try to help the students not put them down even more.

I am Caitlin Barlowe, Senior student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. To pay for tuition and college-related fees, I use Pell grant money and loans.

My family has been impacted significantly by the pandemic. My husband's salary has been cut by 25%, I also no longer have access to child care for my 4 year old with special needs.

I am greatly concerned about the tuition yikes this year. The problem is, that Pell Grants cannot cover the full tuition for a full time student. I have to take out loans to cover the rest. So that \$320 won't be \$320 anymore when/if I ever have the ability to pay it off. With compounding interest it will be way more than that. Anyone who has dealt with student loans in the past knows this harsh reality. With me not working, my husband's income cut, and no real answer as to when our lives will "get back to normal", I think it's critical that the Board of Trustees DOES NOT raise the tuition for CUNY students even a penny. Thank You.

My name is Ying, and I am a freshman student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies.

As everyone in the city, I am highly affected by COVID-19. It impacts my life negatively.

As a CUNY student, I use TAP money to pay for a portion of my tuition and for the rest I have to pay it out of pocket.

As of now, I have no hope for any income. Since my employer postponed my work I can no longer afford the tuition. Therefore, I urge you to hold on and not increase any tuition now.

My name is Nancy swezey. I am a graduate student at Hunter. I use pocket money to pay for college. I have been affected by the pandemic almost as much as everybody in the city. I am concerned by the tuition yikes, this year and will urge the CUNY Board of Trustees to reconsider.

I am Layla Q. I am in my first year of Masters at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. As most of Graduate students, I use my personal finance to pay for my tuition.

I am affected by the pandemic. And I am scrambling for work

The tuition yikes will prevent me from completing my degree. I cannot work due to corona so this would stop me from completing my degree.

I am Connie Cheung, Senior College student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I use my personal money to pay for tuition.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, I cannot concentrate on studying and cannot get a tutor when I need one, as I should.

It is not a surprise that the pandemic COVID-19 has slowed down our school routine, many people did not get pay from their jobs, financial status is tight after COVID-19. So why increase tuition now?

My name is Alfred Bona Bossman. I am a Senior student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I am paying for college with out of pocket money.

The pandemic has its toll on me, as well. I work with more stress. And now I have to deal with unexpected expenditures. It is unfair that I BOT will decide to increase tuition despite this situation of uncertainty.

My name is Linda. I am a Senior student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. As of now, I receive TAP to pay for my tuition.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, I haven't been able to work, loss of income, hardship studying because of worry.

If the CUNY Board of Trustee increases the tuition, I will not be able to pay car insurance or groceries, I would have to choose one or the other.

My name is Anaatrie Persaud. I am a Junior student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. As of now, I pay college out of pocket.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, because I pay out of pocket, I will likely have to drop out this upcoming semester due to inability to pay tuition.

Most of us will be strapped for money for a long time to come; the uncertainties surrounding this current pandemic will likely have long-lasting effects. I pay out of pocket and it is already a large sum. An increase just puts me that much closer to having to drop out.

I am Dorie Vinciguerra. I am a Senior student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, my husband is not able to work and he is the provider for the family.

I will not be able to complete my degree by august as expected because of financial issues. Maybe I will not be able to afford school at this current time, let alone if you increase the tuition I will have to drop out!

I am Dariya. I am in my first year at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. As of now, I pay college my personal finance.

My class was already online, so from that perspective hardly anything changed. I was lucky to have some savings for now. But my friends in CUNY, many of them, can barely make rent, and especially international students are extremely worried about the future and about lack of finances

I currently don't have a job and I haven't gotten my license for nursing yet. They cancelled the NCLEX exams for about a month and I don't know if the ones in May will happen, so it'll be even harder to come up with the money. And I urge you to consider those who have little to no savings - they are doing even worse right now.

My name is Bonnie Lin. I am in my first year of college at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I do not receive Pell Grant or TAP, I pay my tuition out of my pocket.

I have lost income because of the COVID-19 pandemic. I have lost my income and raising tuition will be a bigger financial burden on me.

My name is Elena Mouratov and I am a Senior student at the School of Professional Studies.

I am paying college with money I receive from the government Pell Grant and from my personal finance.

Because we were doing more independently.. study and research.. There are no classrooms, no clinical facility expenses to university as it was suspended.. we use technology to connect remotely

My name is Alison Espeut. I am a first year Masters student at the School of professional Studies. I pay my college out of pocket. I have all my classes even before the pandemic, but I have no job. Therefore, any tuition increase will be another burden that I will have to deal with without help.

My name is Agnes. I am a CUNY School of Professional Studies student. I am in my freshman year. I work hard to pay for college. I have been impacted by the pandemic as most people living in the city. I was sick with high fever with 102.8. The CUNY Board of Trustee planned to increase tuition this year, if do, I will have to work more to save money for tuition and will not be able to study.

I am Maida Ortiz. I am a CUNY School of Professional Studies student. I am in my Senior year. I take out loans to pay for college.

The pandemic has impacted me in a way that I am unable to put as much focus as I normally would, especially since I work in an ED and am considered an essential worker.

For the tuition increase, It won't affect me personally, but many students have lost wages over this. Or if they are still being supported by family, their family has lost wages. Also, for those who rely on others to help pay bills (i.e. roommates), they may not be able to sustain themselves especially with increase.

My name is Lyndsay Nadeau. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies.

COVID19 has made it emotionally challenging to stay focused on schoolwork

I have non-covid health issues that have arisen this month and unforeseen medical bills as a result. Any penny I can save counts.

My name is Alexander Vasilyev. I am a senior at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of my pocket.

Due to COVID019, I have lost my job.

CUNY is supposed to be an affordable education for lower income families. It's additional stress to pay extra \$320 especially for someone who lost their job.

My name is Ilia Iglesias. I am a junior at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college by taking loans.

This pandemic has been stressful and extremely difficult to focus.

Financially, these are times of uncertainty and it adds more stress to the current situation. Please don't raise tuition!

My name is Praveen Lama. I am a first year graduate student at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

The pandemic has affected me because now it is difficult to cope up with workload and school assignments while dealing with pandemic situations with kids and the entire family home.

As we start staying home more and other expenses going up while income opportunities go down, tuition raise will definitely affect our budget in terms of paying rent and other bills.

My name is Raissa Fitzgerald. I am a first year student at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

It has been difficult to focus on studies with so many terrible things happening around me. Also, the practicums we were attending at the New York Historical Society have been cancelled and the online version of these are not as useful.

My husband was laid off from his job and we have no idea when he will be back at work. I am already worried about paying my tuition for next semester. An increase would make continuing my degree very difficult.

My name is Ronald Schmick. I am a Senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

Due to the pandemic, I am unemployed.

If tuition is raised by \$320, I will not be able to attend anymore.

My name is Liz Rich. I am a grad student at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay out of pocket for my tuition.

My classes are online, but the COVID pandemic has added stress to my life that makes it harder to complete my classwork.

\$320 is a lot of money. That's three months of groceries for me. I work two jobs to barely afford rent, food, gas, and tuition. An increase in tuition means having to work more hours, and having

less time to study.

My name is Maritza Martinez. I am a senior at Hostos Community College. I receive TAP and Pell.

The Coronavirus pandemic has affected my CUNY experience by moving all my classes to distance learning. I am still trying to adapt to it. I am a visual learner. I like to ask questions in a physical classroom. I am not able to ask all my questions to my professor because it's online and they don't respond to my emails on time because they have so many students sending them emails as it is. Sometimes I have connection issues which causes me to miss the online lectures and miss important information that I need to learn or study for my upcoming exams. Also this is my last semester at a 2 year college and I am graduating with my associate's degree but because of this pandemic I was not able to take my senior pictures and graduation ceremony has been postponed till further notice. I'm supposed to transfer to my 4 year college to continue my education with my bachelor's degree but I am not able to complete my V1 form because I can not go to the campus to the financial aid department to pick up the form and hand it in due to social distancing and staying home. I have to Fax it but I will need ink to print out my V1 form but everywhere I went I have not found ink. my only chance is to order online and deliveries online have been delayed due to this pandemic. They also canceled the reception for accepted transfer students at the 4 year college I plan to attend upcoming Fall 2020, I am not sure how everything will work out with myself transferring to my 4 year college hopefully I receive an email from an adviser to help me with transitioning to my senior college during this pandemic. I am also an essential worker I work at a Food Market I am putting my health on the line every day to provide for the public in their time of need during this crisis and I am exhausted working more days because of this pandemic but I believe it is a great idea to freeze tuition now and prevent it from rising.

I believe the Board of Trustees should not raise our tuition by \$320 because not everyone receives financial assistance. Most students have to take out loans or pay out of pocket. College is expensive as it is so please don't make it more difficult, just make it more affordable for students to receive the education they deserve.

My name is Jasmine Mobley. I am a junior at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay out of pocket for my tuition and some additional help from loans.

The Coronavirus Pandemic puts me into fear if I'll be able to afford continuing school.

The increase, especially during this time of Coronavirus, SCREAMS inconsiderate to the lives of CUNY students. Each individual student may be going through their own version of hell and school is the only thing that saves us. I have been unemployed due to this pandemic but my bills haven't stopped. Now I'm forced to "figure it out". School is the only constant I have left. A spike in tuition would cause me to drop out. I've always loved the togetherness of CUNY, the fact that it SHOWS that it cares about it's students. This hike wouldn't be caring in a CUNY way. This hike is detrimental and down right threatening to the ongoing success of students.

My name is Lauren Dadinis. I am a grad student at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay out of pocket for my tuition.

It is difficult to keep up with school work when there is so much going on

A higher tuition will add more stress to an already stressful time

My name is Lizette Alvia. I am a senior attending CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college by taking loans.

It's hard to focus on coursework. As a full time essential employee, I'm struggling to complete my work and complete my work at my job that needs me more than ever before.

Lots of people have lost their jobs. In my household, I am the only one currently working. An increase would be difficult at the moment as I would have to make a decision between my education and feeding my family.

My name is Stacy Richards. I am a sophomore attending CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

Although, I am already used to online learning, this pandemic has caused a lot of stress and worries in my life making it difficult to focus on my assignments.

I am already struggling to pay my tuition as it is and cannot afford an increase. Family members in my home is unemployed because of this pandemic making it extremely harder to pay my normal bills.

My name is Erica John. I am a junior attending CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

I am a frontline worker during this pandemic.

With an increase in tuition, it will be difficult for me to afford my college education.

My name is Charles Kan. I am a senior attending CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

Because of this pandemic, I am unemployed.

Ever since being unemployed due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, money is a bit difficult to get. With this increase, it will make things even worse.

My name is Morgan. I am a sophomore attending CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with the 9/11 GI Bill, Roth Education IRA.

I've barely been able to turn in work, the subject of my study is changing because of the pandemic, some professors are not being at all flexible on deadlines, I would withdraw from at least one course if I was able to get a refund so this doesn't hurt my GPA.

That's less money I'll have for basic survival-I might not be able to afford food, internet (which I need to do my coursework), not to mention the medication I need as a disabled person to survive

My name is Sandra. I am a sophomore at Hostos Community College. I pay for college with the help of TAP.

This pandemic has made my CUNY experience horrible.

Paying \$320 for tuition will only make us students suffer financially more than we already are.

My name is Viana Jean Pierre. I am a sophomore at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with the help of Pell.

I have family members that died from covid 19, I have friends that are positive. It's been very stressful and hard to focus on my education.

The board shouldn't raise the tuition because many are out of jobs. Everyone in my family has been laid off from their job.

My name is Hamza Alam. I am a senior at CUNY School of Professional Studies.

COVID-19 made it harder to complete my classes and really slowed my progress down.

We attend CUNY for the low tuition. The raise would be harder for some people to afford.

My name is Stephanie Edwards. I am a senior at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

We're in the midst of a pandemic; this is not a time to be raising tuition prices. The economy is not suitable to help students afford paying for tuition at the previous price. The increase is not favorable for CUNY students.

My name is Johanna M Hall. I am a senior at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

COVID-19 has a huge impact on me as I am a Nurse and it is a war with no armor .

With the raise in tuition, I most likely will be thinking twice about going for my masters degree.

My name is Sandra Rodriguez. I am a freshman at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket. ‘

I can barely keep up with schoolwork due to this pandemic and everything moving online.

I already have to make do for rent, groceries and other necessities that having to pay another 320\$ for tuition is cruel and unfair. Especially that we are all going through this crisis. Thinking about having to pay another \$320 out of pocket makes me want to rip the hair out of my scalp.

My name is Eugen. I am a junior at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college by taking loans.

Not much since I have been 100% online the entire time. I have just been stressed out more than normal and it may have affected my work.

Everyone is losing their jobs and can barely afford to pay rent and feed themselves. Asking people who are losing their income sources to pay additional money is cruel.

My name is Kelley Raphael. I am a sophomore at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

This pandemic affected my CUNY experience from in-person to online; broke my routine/workflow.

Raising tuition will make it difficult for me to pay for the college education I deserve.

My name is John Sapida. I am a 1st year - Grad at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket, taking loans and applying for scholarships.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, there is no job security after 5/15. Could be furloughed.

I would not be able to take classes at all because it would be too costly to pay for courses without an income if the Board decides to increase tuition.

My name is Mary Mulvihill. I am a senior at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college by applying for scholarships.

Due to the pandemic, I am currently working from home.

CUNY is currently a high quality education with affordable tuition. With an increase of \$320 it will make it difficult for students financially.

My name is Rosmery Zoquier. I am a senior attending the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of my pocket.

This pandemic has affected my CUNY experience as I am not able to attend my nursing clinicals. All of my clinical hours have to be completed virtually. I am unable to take my CLEP exam so i will no longer be able to graduate as planned

I believe that our tuition should not be raised because COVID19 has impacted CUNY students greatly. Students are losing their jobs and do not have the appropriate means to pay the tuition. I personally am paying out of pocket, since i am an essential worker i still have a job but now im taking care of a sick family member. i am unsure if i will be getting paid for these days that i am off. which would impact my ability to pay my tuition directly.

My name is Sheryl Piechocki. I am a grad student at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

My experience with classes is the same during this pandemic, but my stress level and added outside issues relating to health of family members has interfered with my concentration.

Many students are struggling at this time due to COVID 19. Some have lost jobs or have spouses who have lost jobs. Personally, my spouse's work has been reduced due to the pandemic. The cost of groceries has increased for us. The future of my own job is very uncertain. We do not qualify for any government assistance and will not be getting any stimulus check, since we fall in a gap of not eligible. We are spending more on just necessities but are making less. The increased stress of all of this and also caring for at risk family members is more than enough to deal with. Please do not add to my burdens by increasing tuition. I need to finish my degree in order to have more skills, especially in this time of employment uncertainty. The added skills will increase my opportunities. Please freeze tuition.

My name is Muhammad Abdul-Mubdi. I am a first year student at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

The corona virus has led to uncertainty with my employer. Also, now that I work from home it makes it slightly difficult to focus on school work when I and many others are essentially on call 24hrs a day.

Many people struggled to pay tuition prior to the corona pandemic. Increasing tuition in a time of such economic uncertainty will just lead to high dropout rates and low enrollment.

My name is Lee Cohen. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

This pandemic has affected me financially.

If the Board of Trustees decides to increase tuition by \$320, I won't be able to afford attending college anymore.

My name is Naomi Alvarez. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with the help of Pell and the remainder out of pocket.

I do not have the same resources available and professors still want us to submit work not really explained clearly in a small time frame without understanding how COVID has affected the students.

They should not raise our tuition because we really did not have a full experience given the pandemic and graduation was cancelled for many which is not fair. It personally will affect me because next semester I will not qualify for financial aid.

My name is Norma Pressley. I am a sophomore at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

This pandemic has affected my CUNY experience as I am unable to get the help I need to succeed in my class. Tutors and professors are spread thin and there are issues with online instruction.

I am paying out of pocket for tuition and I only have a set amount reserved for tuition. The increase is not in my budget and I don't work.

My name is Renee Sosnowski. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket and with the help of loans.

This pandemic has affected me by adding more stress.

By increasing tuition by \$320, I will be put into more debt amongst everything else.

My name is Nikita Cassidy. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with the help of TAP, Pell and the remainder amount by loans.

I've had to take out additional loans to cover expenses that I've lost because of losing my job due to Coronavirus.

Many of us have lost income and jobs due to the virus. More tuition will lead to more stress and debt for students.

My name is Sandra Rodriguez. I am a freshman at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with the help of Pell and out of pocket.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, I can barely keep up with schoolwork.

I already have to make do for rent, groceries and other necessities that having to pay another \$320 for tuition is cruel and unfair. Especially that we are all going through this crisis. Thinking about having to pay another \$320 out of pocket makes me want to rip the hair out of my scalp.

My name is Haide Manila. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with the help of scholarships and out of pocket.

If the Board of Trustees raise our tuition by \$320, I won't be able to afford my education and most likely will have to leave college.

My name is Krysten Pena. I am a first year grad student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

I am unable to engage in my online learning due to increased work hours, high anxiety, and fear.

As a nurse working the front lines it is the least they can do for the hard work and probably months of therapy I'm going to need when this is over.

My name is Shalini Gopaul. I am a junior student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

Due to this pandemic, all my classes are fully online which makes it difficult to keep up with.

Raising the cost of tuition by \$320 will cause further financial strain to continue my education.

My name is Lotoya Scott. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

COVID-19 has affected my experience in that before I could focus solely on my studies in the comfort of my home, but unfortunately schools have closed and family members are now home. So now there is a full house for which there is no escape as we have to stay in due to the dangers of going out and getting ill. I am still aiming to carve out ample time to study and focus on my work but I am sure just as it is hard for me, many people are faced with the same dilemma and I am not alone. Even though I am still working my hours are now limited as business has been slow which will impact my future payment plans to complete my remaining courses which will span the rest of the year, as I attend CUNY SPS part time. Even though these are unforeseen times we have to just take it day by day and remain hopeful that this too shall pass.

I am currently paying my tuition out of pocket and with companies furloughing staff I am not sure what the future will hold for me, as the only way I am able to pay my tuition is through a payment plan. I will be unable to afford a future increase in tuition cost, and to compound that I do not qualify for CUNY SPS grants as I am outside of some of the hardship categories. I do believe completing my degree program will allow me great benefits in the future and if I have to stop because of tuition increased costs I will definitely be disheartened as I am a first generation college student in my family. Even if our tuition is being increased by \$1 it will impact persons as this may mean foregoing a meal to pay your tuition. I implore with this ongoing pandemic many lives will be changed and if some persons are not able to complete their programs with CUNY the impact will be felt throughout the economy and families. **NO RAISE IN OUR TUITION** as we fight to stay on this journey!

My name is Nydia Martínez. I am a sophomore at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

I have been having issues completing school work on time plus I lost my part time job that helped me pay for tuition.

I wouldn't be able to pay my tuition if there is an increase in tuition for \$320. I might have to put a pause on my studies. Corona virus has affected me tremendously as a single mother.

My name is Jonathan Roseboom. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

I'm unable to focus on my work due to this pandemic and I'm considering withdrawing.

This is not the time for a tuition increase. Many students are suffering financially and if there is yet another increase, many are most likely to drop out.

My name is Ilyssa Guerra. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket and TAP.

The pandemic has added more stress in doing assignments, especially group projects

This is a financially difficult time for a majority of people. Millions of people, including people attending CUNY, have lost their jobs. There is limited access to seeking a new job or financial source now. Currently, I was searching for a job, but now am unable to do so. My mother is assisting in paying tuition for two children on her own.

My name is Farah Ahmed. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with the help of FAFSA.

This pandemic has given me anxiety.

It would mean more interest on bills I wouldn't be able to pay if there is an increase in tuition.

My name is Joy Leonard. I am a first year graduate at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

Remote learning is way different, and it's much harder to stay on top of readings and papers with everything else that's going on. reduction in group projects/presentations, etc.

Everything is harder right now! Lots of folks are losing income, and my family may too, eventually. But many of my classmates already have lost income if they were working PT, relied on gigs, had multiple jobs, etc. This is NOT the time to increase costs.

My name is Popcorn Redmon. I am a first year graduate at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

I am older, live alone, and truly appreciate the opportunity to share with my classmates and to read their experiences as well. Clearly, it is more difficult to focus and complete assignments amidst the pandemic. I have also been constrained from accessing "live" resources since the campus is off-limits.

I am a flight attendant with JetBlue and have had my hours cut severely. My education is a priority in my life; however, I did not expect my salary to dip by 50% during my graduate studies. It is getting more and more challenging to make ends meet and still pay tuition, buy textbooks, etc. I would be devastated if I had to drop out because I could no longer afford to pay the higher tuition rate. Please do not raise our tuition for the upcoming year!

My name is Johanna Jordan. I am a freshman at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college through the AmeriCorps Segal Education Award.

I am worried about losing my job. This would mean dipping into my savings which is what I had planned to use for the remainder of my school tuition.

If the tuition is raised by \$320, then I will have to take out larger loans to cover this cost.

My name is Olivia Sonell. I am a freshman at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college by taking out loans.

This pandemic has messed up my ability to focus, physically collaborative classes that originally required interacting with NYC's communities are online and utterly unengaging.

I have no work, no money, and no focus, I'm still in school because I like the material and the people. But I'm already not getting what I paid for this semester, and it's certainly not worth MORE money.

My name is Serena McDaniel. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with Pell and out of pocket.

This pandemic has caused more mental stressing all things considered. Hard time focusing as well.

The raise should not be implemented anytime soon. This is a nationwide pandemic with nationwide death statistics exceeding that of 9/11. It would intensify students ability to maintain school as well as a hindrance for those interested in returning to school. Many lost their jobs, loved ones and faith during covid19. The tuition raise should be postponed until some sort of normalcy is regained in NYC.

My name is Donna Scheffler. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

This pandemic has affected me in many ways including no time to uphold deadlines, unemployment, job search, leaving your home and moving unexpectedly, stress stress stress

\$320 could be the difference between me graduating now, or somewhere else later.

My name is Johanna Moran. I am a sophomore at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

This pandemic has affected me financially.

If there is an increase in tuition of \$320, I won't be able to further my studies.

My name is Sarah Alexander. I am a senior at the Graduate Center. I pay for college out of pocket.

I have recently been laid off, and applying for unemployment has been depressing, frustrating, and even more nerve wrecking. I am nervous of my performance in school due to all these other stressors around me.

They should not raise our tuition! Many people are struggling simply to pay grocery bills or tuition as it is priced at prior an increase. It will affect me because since I was laid off I am already struggling to pay most of my bills.

My name is Dominique Bishop. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket as well as taking loans.

All classes were moved to Blackboard/online. Online classes are usually difficult for me which is why I chose in person classes. The abrupt changes have been a bit of a struggle.

We are going through a pandemic that has affected the entire country in one way or another. With the city shut down and businesses temporarily closing, my income is not the same which will make it more difficult to pay for school on a lower budget. Keeping the tuition at the same rate it currently is, would allow me to continue taking my classes without financially crippling myself.

My name is George Athanassiou. I am a first year graduate student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

The pandemic has strained my expenses which makes it difficult to spend on tuition rather than essential expenditures in this difficult time.

Students should not have to choose between eating or providing housing and continuing their education. This act would serve as some measure of relief for students and reduce the burden of

this very difficult situation.

My name is Sydney Reid. I am a sophomore at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

Closures to the library and campus have affected the resources and aid available to me. Also professors and advisors are harder to reach/contact in general due to COVID-19. Overall, this situation has affected my ability to work and financially support my CUNY education.

The Board should not raise tuition by \$320 purely due to the fact that this is a time of financial stress; unemployment has increased as businesses have shut down and many avenues to afford regular tuition, much less a hike in tuition, have been closed/exhausted. Now is a time for CUNY to come together to support its students so that they can continue their education, not stand in the way of that. This is especially true for students who are unable to qualify for/get financial aid but are still struggling to financially pay for their education.

My name is Kenneth Stein. I am a sophomore at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

It is a challenge to keep up. Professors are doing their best, but they are human too. And the technology was not built to support this volume. Additionally, being able to go to the library for studying and completing assignments had made progressing through the program much more possible.

It is a struggle to pay the current tuition amount much less an increase of \$320.

My name is Nilsa Bermudez. I am a sophomore at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

I am very anxious and stressed. It is extremely difficult to concentrate during this trying time!

Do not raise our tuition! I will not be able to afford an increase in tuition. I would have to drop out of the program.

My name is Caroline Ash. I am a first year graduate student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

My grad degree is an online course of study so it's just more work-school work and job work at home - no breaks 8. Hard to work when I am sick, but I'm trying.

This increase of \$320 would put more students in debt and cause more hardship! We are all struggling with the Coronavirus in one way or another- our studies, our family, our own health, and at the same time- keeping sane while staying in with our loved ones!! Please do not put another burden on our shoulders at a time when we don't even know if we will make it. Again we are all in this together - helping each other to survive and thrive. Please CUNY Board of Trustees, put your students first and show them that you care about their welfare by not putting another financial burden on their shoulders!

My name is Quanisha Carter. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

I have had to defer my final monthly tuition payment and am no longer considering taking a summer course due to losing an income in my household. This is putting my potential graduation date back. I just can't afford any extras at this moment.

People I live with have lost their income, leaving me to pick up the balance. I've had to postpone my final tuition payment to try to keep up with my other bills. I already only take 1 course a semester because that's all I can afford to take. I live about 100 miles away from New York City and I don't drive. So, even under normal circumstances, getting to the school to give documents in-person is near impossible. I essentially live paycheck to paycheck and I take care of my disabled mother on top of being a home healthcare worker in an area with poor public transportation. The online school is the most affordable chance I have to finish my degree. A tuition increase would make it very difficult to continue my education and limit my options for improving my family's life.

My name is Heidi Qandah. I am a freshman at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

My husband was furloughed until further notice, His salary is our only income and I am pregnant with a delivery date in August of this year. Add to that we live in the Bay Area with very expensive expenses for rent and insurance.

This increase will burden our budget as we will be having extra expenses this year with the new born baby. Additionally, my husband was furloughed from work so that cuts from our income substantially and now we are taking it one step at a time. if we know that tuition won't increase, that will help us budget our expenses and plan for our future with the peace of mind that we will be able to meet these requirements.

My name is Edith Mejia. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

Stressful times to concentrate on school work.

The Board of Trustees should not raise the tuition by \$320. Instead they should freeze it at the current price. The tuition increase of \$320 will definitely affect my finances and may cause me not to apply for next semester if there's an increase. Due to the COVID-19 crisis both my daughters have lost their jobs. I was forced to move out of my apartment and live with a relative because I can no longer afford rent. Luckily I am still working and I am able to pay for our food and other necessities. I will not be able to pay the full rent but the landlord has agreed to accept as much as I can pay for now. I am not sure when our lives will get back to normal or when will my daughters find a job. The increase is just a burden to those who pay out of pocket and do not receive financial assistance.

My name is Kei Kei Fung-Juli. I am a part time student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

My income decreased drastically. Harder to afford my tuition.

If the Board of Trustees raise our tuition, I wouldn't have enough money to pay my rent, bills and grocery.

My name is Nadia Chilcoat. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

I'm no longer employed, so I don't know how I am going to pay for my last semester. I don't want to stop, but I can't afford next semester.

I can barely afford tuition for the next semester as it is, let alone with the increase of \$320.

My name is Haylee Ison. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

I am struggling to stay on top of my schoolwork due to this pandemic.

Due to the pandemic, I have lost my job and my parents' hours have been decreased. We pay for tuition mostly out of pocket, so it's going to become more difficult to pay tuition at this time if the raise is implemented.

My name is Chana Walter. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

I am homeschooling 4 kids, job insecurity, and not coping with my workload. Might need to drop out of school this semester and will not afford to finish my degree.

Please don't raise tuition. I am struggling now, unsure whether I will get another paycheck. I don't want to need to choose between my future and my survival.

My name is Kathy Siarek. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

Switching to remote learning has been a challenge in my living quarters. I prefer the classroom environment where I can focus and not be distracted by other responsibilities at home.

Since I pay out of pocket, it will be a hefty increase to pay next semester. The cost of tuition, books, and the commute is already high for me and I would hate to pay more.

My name is Fernando. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college by taking loans.

My school is online only. However, my job was drastically reduced and I have job uncertainty at the moment.

With the devastating consequences of the COVID-19, Everyone has been affected. Students depend on CUNY for affordable education especially in difficult times. A city institution such as CUNY, should work for the benefit of the city and its population. A tuition raise at this time no matter how small, would negate all pronouncements made by CUNY about equal opportunity in education.

My name is Kerstin Robinson Knecht. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

As I am lucky to still work although with a 20% pay-cut. I have therefore limited cash on hand like so many others. Raising tuition again makes it inaccessible to your students. Also, my Commencement is postponed and I hope I can still start my graduate studies in Fall 2020 at CUNY.

As I am an immigrant and as I am afraid to apply for any Financial Aid or similar programs in the current political climate and thus pay out of pocket, I do not think it is right to raise tuition while all our jobs and our health is on the line.

My name is Natasha Davilar. I am a freshman at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with FAFSA.

Due to this pandemic, there is less availability of resources for me to succeed.

Raising tuition at this time is very unjust as individuals lose their jobs and resources are already stretched thin. CUNY should be more understanding and allow individuals the opportunity to rebuild.

My name is Edward Lam. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with FAFSA.

Coronavirus pandemic has affected me mentally and financially.

If the Board of Trustees raised our tuition by \$320, I wouldn't be able to afford my education.

My name is Luis A. Gamero. I am a graduate student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

Remote learning is significantly different than in class. I personally feel more comfortable in a classroom setting, which sets a focused environment that is conducive to real time discussion and learning. An environment that not only allows me to thrive academically, but network and develop a comradery with my fellow students.

During these uncertain times of social distancing, layoffs and furloughs, any additional cost to maintaining a proper family life would result in an additional burden that may lead to current students deciding to postpone or stop their pursuit of a degree completely due to this hardship.

My name is Guillaume Louis-Jacques. I am a freshman at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with the help of TAP and Pell.

The stress caused by the corona virus freezes my brain. It makes it so much difficult to concentrate.

Because of the coronavirus, we cannot work, we cannot make money. Rising up the tuition will make it harder for students and parents

My name is Krystle Lopez. I am a freshman at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with the help of Pell and out of pocket.

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected me both emotionally, financially and mentally, for I have lost loved ones due to this virus, both my partner and I have lost our jobs and we have a toddler, along with spending more on food for the family at home for children and the mental stress of my mother still being exposed at work and coming home is extremely nerve-wrecking.

The Board of Trustees should not raise the tuition by any means due to the current events that the world is going through emotionally and financially. Many people are jobless and can barely afford to cover the finances that are needed to survive in New York State and may be suffering from the events, illness or loss due to the virus. Adding financial burdens of an increase in tuition is not an ethical approach to the current situation and hope the Board of Trustees will reconsider.

My name is Kamille Davis. I am a freshman at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

Shifting to a completely online experience in the midst of the pandemic has been challenging, though I understand and support the reasoning. So much of what made my SPS experience so wonderful up until this point, however, has been the ability to engage and dialogue with classmates and instructors. An online system makes some of that possible, but by the time class starts, many of us have been on computers all day, and cannot possibly have the same caliber of conversations as before. Similarly, many of us have been impacted by COVID-19, either personally or professionally, and it makes it much more difficult to bring our best selves to an online system when physical interaction is what so many of us need, especially in times of loss and fear. As someone who is potentially in the middle of a career change, the connections and sharing of experiences in the classroom has been so important, and I feel the loss of those

connections. Again, I completely understand the reasons behind distance learning, but the experience is not remotely similar to what I expected going into this school year.

Again, many students have been impacted, directly or indirectly by this pandemic. We have lost family members, friends, and/or coworkers. Many of us live in NYC, and cannot escape the gravity of this situation. Some of us have lost our jobs, or have family members who have lost their jobs, and are concerned with how to pay rent or put food on the table. Three hundred dollars might make an incredible difference for some, and might be the thing that keeps some students from returning to school in the Fall. For many, CUNY represents a means of expanding what's possible for ourselves and our families/communities, and in the coming months, we will be grateful to have one less thing to worry about. By the end of this global tragedy, many of us will have lost too much, and shouldn't be burdened with an unnecessary financial responsibility.

My name is Ryan Mitchell. I am a first year grad student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with the help of loans.

Major disruption in class schedule and in class learning. Although I work full time, I specifically chose this school and this program because I learn better in a traditional classroom format. Now six weeks into the semester I am basically taking two online courses.

I work full time but am the breadwinner in my family. In addition to the time commitment of working full time and going to school, I also have to make an out of pocket financial commitment to my education. I have taken out a loan for this semester, but a tuition hike at a time when many students are unemployed, underemployed or have competing financial obligations is simply unjust and will affect many people's ability to continue their education.

My name is Euclid Zhang. I am a first year grad student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

I have no access to most school resources due to this pandemic.

Two people in my family already lost their job. We have to pay rent and other costs of living. We can not afford an increase in expenses especially if that increase is \$320.

My name is Robin Marshall. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college with the help of Scholarship and the remainder out of pocket.

This pandemic made it incredibly difficult to get anything from my classes and do more than simple task completion (as opposed to learning).

If tuition increases by \$320, I'll have to work more hours I will have to work during the academic year, which already was too much.

My name is Jessica Rosario. I am a junior at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I pay for college with the help of pell and TAP.

My mom is a single mother who works as a CNA taking care of the elderly in their homes. The coronavirus threatens the life of my younger sister who has bad asthma. My sister is 12 years old and is at great risk. To avoid being exposed to this virus my mom has stopped working. We're now living off of the little savings we have and my part time paycheck. While a full-time student I work part-time at the Queens Library. Our landlord is still expecting the rent even after I have explained our situation. In addition to struggling to keep up with my courses as a full-time student and working, I now worry whether or not we are able to pay bills.

I am not even living paycheck to paycheck. My family and I are living off of savings. CUNY is severely underfunded by the state of New York therefore I don't believe the burden should fall on students to pay for basic needs.

My name is Jesse. I am a junior student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

The transition from in person to online was an adjustment I am still figuring out.

I am already in a debt and wouldn't like that debt to increase more if I have to pay \$320 more for tuition.

My name is Michelle Cruz. I am a senior student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

Personally, I work in healthcare and these are extremely trying times for my family and I.

If there's a tuition increase, I won't be able to afford to attend next semester.

My name is Alexis Grant. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket and with the help of TAP.

I have less time to focus on schoolwork because I am an essential worker. Other individuals in my household are out of work because of the Coronavirus pandemic.

A lot of students already cannot afford to pay the price of classes. It is harder to qualify for Federal Aid as well. I may not be able to graduate on time if I have to pay more for classes. I will not be able to afford a semester.

My name is Rashree R. Pirtam. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

Due to this pandemic, I have lost my job and I am unable to find one at the moment.

Tuition should not be increased since a lot of students must be in situations where they need to provide for themselves or families if they've lost their jobs.

My name is Daniela Huerfano. I am a sophomore at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

I lost one of my jobs and lost hours on the second job. I can't really focus on my homework at the moment.

We are going through a tough time right now. An increase in tuition will make it far more than worst for students who are unemployed.

My name is Kamara Cyprien. I am a senior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

COVID19 has impacted my CUNY experience. Clinicals are converted to home activities, long shifts as a Nurse in the hospitals caused me to not concentrate as well.

Raising tuition is a bad call. Affordability, during the time when the economy is being challenged, this is not an appropriate action.

My name is Alisha. I am a senior attending the New York City College of Technology. I pay for college out of pocket.

COVID19 has impacted me. I am unsure if online classes are the best option for certain classes. I'm not getting the full potential of the class I'm currently taking.

I'm already paying out of pocket. The \$320 raise isn't helping me in any way when the classes I'm taking I'm being limited to the resources I should be using / get which would be provided by the school. Me getting the full potential is out of the question. \$320 is money that won't be able to use for essential resources to stay at home. Because I'm not getting paid due to the fact my job is closed until further notice.

My name is Lika. I am a sophomore attending the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket and with some help from Pell.

Due to this pandemic, it is harder to focus on homeworks.

I do not have loans but I do have to pay for part of my tuition as well as my sisters tuition, it is already hard to cover them so I cannot imagine how hard it would be for me to deal if tuition was increasing.

My name is Briana. I am a senior at Hunter College. I pay for college with the help of Pell, and by taking loans.

Due to this pandemic, it has been moving to online classes a bit more difficult as opposed to in person.

Tuition should not be increased by \$320 as we, the students can't afford it. CUNY should be free.

My name is Julia Schonberg. I am a first year grad attending the CUNY School of Professional Studies where I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

I am in the Applied Theatre graduate program, a program that survives on community and in person connection in the classroom. All of my classes are now online and studying theatre online is an incredible challenge. Furthermore, the financial strain and anxiety of losing all of my income while in graduate school is something I could never have imagined. Not being able to work or to leave my house while studying theatre online, has been an immense challenge.

After losing all of my income due to COVID-19, I am already worried about paying for next semester and earning my degree. Not to mention all of my classes are now online and all of my practical assignments have been cancelled. Realizing that this may continue into next semester, I cannot imagine having to pay more tuition for courses that are not even in their full expression of what they would normally be. I cannot pay my rent, bills or train tickets, let alone having to pay more money for tuition. The financial assistance CUNY is providing during this time is incredible and I have felt so supported by this community. Please do not reverse this feeling and

raise tuition. This would be an injustice to all CUNY students during this time of immense need. We are making an investment in our future and will not be able to do so if we are forced to juggle the anxiety of higher tuition.

My name is Sharin Sultana Arna. I am a senior at Brooklyn College. I received a Pell which helps to pay for my college.

Coronavirus has reduced my earning capacity and I am going through with financial difficulties.

It will affect my financial situation and I might have to pay the tuition from my pocket.

My name is Blossom Akagbosu. I am a senior at the College of Staten Island. I pay for college out of pocket.

I used to work on campus but because of the coronavirus pandemic, I lost my job. This greatly impacts my ability to pay for tuition as well as other personal expenses. It's harder to focus on school work when you're constantly thinking of how you will pay for classes.

I have never been so financially insecure in my entire college career. I am already struggling to afford the tuition right now. By authorizing a \$320 increase, the Board of Trustees are contributing to the struggle that students like me are facing.

My name is Magdalena Butenhoff. I am a first year grad attending the CUNY School of Professional Studies where I pay for college with the help of FAFSA and student loans.

I have had major changes to my work life, which has caused me to take time away from my school work.

The world is going to continue to see major economic shifts that will likely have negative effects on many lives. Raising tuition fees during a world wide crisis will push eager students away from CUNY, either by choice or because they are forced to be able to survive financially. If tuition is raised, I will have to work more hours so I can be able to pay for the increase out of

pocket This would be similar to my situation now, I would no longer be able to devote enough time to studying, causing my grades, knowledge, and overall joy for school to decrease.

My name is Fidel Osorio. I am a junior at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I pay for college out of pocket.

This pandemic has made achieving the same grades harder for me.

I pay out of pocket, I definitely will feel the increase when I pay for school next year. Over the COVID 19 break I had to dip into my personal savings for assistance and I am afraid I will need to take out more loans for next year to pay.

My name is Joseph Small. I am a senior at Queens College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Coronavirus has made my CUNY experience become a hardship because of lack of resources. I am not able to get in touch with my teachers as quickly as i need due to coronavirus

Raising Tuition would cause school to become unaffordable. It will cause a majority of ppl to drop due to inability to pay. People are already struggling to go and pay for tuition so this raise will cause more problems.

My name is Kevin Notice. I am a junior at York College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Due to this pandemic, I'm lacking the resources and the material needed because I can't go to campus.

I already have to work full time and do school, the extra fee isn't fair. It's hard enough as it is for working college students to intern to focus on their careers after school, but now we have to work longer hours to pay these fees.

My name is Alice Shao. I am a senior at York College. I pay for college in several ways such as PELL, Loans, and out of pocket.

This pandemic has affected my CUNY experience by an unexpected transition to distance learning that has not been a successful one for me.

Considering this semester may be an unsuccessful one for many, as well as disappointing, it is unimaginable to consider one would propose an increase, and a large one at that, in light of these circumstances.

My name is Kenny Jean. I am a senior at York College. I pay for college in several ways which include FAFSA, Subsidized loan + out of pocket.

Some of my professors can't navigate Blackboard or are unfamiliar with the technology required to conduct remote learning. Also, I can't gain access to the paperwork I need to be reimbursed for my out of pocket costs.

York College is already underfunded as is. CUNY wants to take more from us & not improve on anything around campus? The more tuition we pay, the lesser the experience and the conditions get on campus.

My name is Ockacia Bigby. I am a junior at York College. I pay for college with the help of TAP.

My mom is the only one working right now and everything outside is extremely expensive. She also has to take on the responsibility of my aunt's kids because she is quarantined in New Jersey.

Personally, I don't receive much from Pell. I don't receive much TAP and my SEEK money that I receive all go towards my books. It's hard when the students have to pay out of pocket. Saving my lunch money to pay a monthly payment of \$300 and change. Yes my mom may make a lot of money for the year. Let's break down that money, school fee, rent, food, transportation, emergency fund, taking care of her parents back home, her husband. It's not that my mom makes a lot of money, she works over time. Taking a night shift although she worked during the day. I hardly see her at times. She hardly has time to sit down and rest. It is extremely unfair to raise

tuition especially with the pandemic that we are facing now. Students like myself who only have one supporter at home are difficult for us.

My name is Antonio Mattis. I am a senior attending New York City College of Technology. I pay for college out of pocket.

Due to this coronavirus, students are having a difficult time navigating and learning online.

I believe that the Board of Trustees should not raise our tuition \$320 because no one is making money right now especially students.

My name is Kimberly Smith. I am a senior attending the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for my college out of pocket.

My program is 100% online so there hasn't been much of a change. My professors had been kind enough to extend due dates for us due to COVID-19.

A raise in tuition by \$320 will affect me financially because I pay out of pocket and do not receive any financial aid.

My name is Megan McGarvey. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college in several ways including loans, out of pocket, and Employer Assistance.

I work in a hospital that is almost completely occupied by Covid-19 Patients. The stress alone of helping the sick while trying to prevent myself from becoming sick is enough. Having to continue my school work during this pandemic has been mentally and emotionally challenging.

Now is not the time to be raising tuition for students. The market place is crashing, people are losing their jobs. Students are already up to their heads in debt between school and the cost of living, especially in New York State. The reason why this school was fitting for me was because it was among the most affordable. Raising tuition by \$320 during this time is downright CRUEL.

My name is Kenneth Lee. I am a freshman attending Medgar Evers College. I pay for college with the help of TAP and Pell.

Classes became harder due to this pandemic, Professors are just assigning work and just asking us to complete the assignment and either upload it on blackboard or email it to them.

The Board of Trustees should not raise the tuition by \$320 because we are already paying a lot of money for tuition that a lot of students currently struggle to pay. If \$320 is added students would have more of a financial burden on them and some who can't afford will eventually drop out. CUNY should not be adding to the students' stress, it should make CUNY affordable or free so everyone would be able to get a college education regardless of their financial situation.

My name is Jody-Anne Wynter. I am a sophomore attending York College. I pay for college with the help of Pell and TAP.

Due to this pandemic, we can no longer attend in person classes or use school resources and are left to completely fend for ourselves as far as education goes.

Because we get subpar services through CUNY that trickles down from the higher ups and spills over into our learning. The Board of Trustees should not raise our tuition by \$320. This will only put more financial pressure on us.

My name is Isabel Herndon. I am a senior at York College. I pay for my college education out of my pocket.

Yes, this pandemic has affected CUNY experience as I am forced to learn online rather than in person.

It's unethical especially during a pandemic to raise tuition. Students can't even graduate and walk but you want to raise tuition. I personally paid for cap and gown and photos which I will not be utilizing now.

My name is Keanya Garries. I am a junior attending York College. I pay for financial aid with the help of TAP, PELL, SEEK.

As a student I have trouble taking online courses even before the pandemic I struggled with my hybrid course which is a core requirement for my major. I purposely try to make all my classes face to face. The adjustment to all online classes is very difficult for me. I am behind in school work because I am constantly trying to make sure my home is taken care of.

I am behind on my work and I also have asthma which makes me very at risk for this virus. The Board should not increase the tuition because at my school specifically there are already plenty issues that haven't been solved. (escalators not working, no cafeteria, security not securing the school safely and other activities that aren't being addressed) increasing the tuition at my college specifically will just make the school look bad charging people more money for an education in an environment that isn't safe or is able to provide necessary needs for students to operate with. Charging people more money isn't solving the real problem. If anything the college should reduce their tuition costs.

My name is Raymond Long. I am a senior at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for my tuition out of pocket.

This pandemic has affected me mentally.

Though I will be graduating this semester, the coming increase during such a pandemic time is not appropriate and will catch current students attending next semester and it is uncalled for. This increase will put financial strain on students.

My name is Kerryann Stanley- Williams. I am a senior attending the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for my college out of pocket.

I have 2 kids. They are now home from school. I have to help both with homework. This takes away from time I need to spend on my homework.

My employer was paying my tuition before I lost that job. This means I now have to pay tuition out of pocket, I had to take a low paying job; personally the increase will hurt my pocket.

My name is George Lewis. I am a junior attending York College. I pay for college with the help of TAP, SEEK and Pell.

The pandemic makes it harder to complete class assignments while having classes online.

It would be completely unfair to raise tuition especially during this pandemic, that we don't have a choice to go through, and have been taken away from our lives. It would affect me because it would make things harder for me.

My name is Judley Baltazard. I am a junior attending the City College of New York. I pay for college with TAP and Pell.

This pandemic has affected me in financial and emotional ways as my whole family is struggling.

Raising tuition will take away from my refund which I use for expenses and household bills. I also use that money to eat on a regular basis. Things are already hard for everyone. This tuition hike would be just another thing me and my family can't afford.

My name is Santana Alvarado. I am a senior attending Hunter College. I pay for college with some financial aid from TAP, some scholarship, and loans.

It's been a difficult transition especially because this is my last semester and I just wanted to graduate. Blackboard as a platform is not conducive to learning and it's hard to stay on track.

Students are struggling so much right now to even make ends meet and keep their families safe. How can you further burden families when we are going through a crisis and so many of us are

out of work? They should take a cut from their compensation as a trustee if they are so pressed for the money.

My name is Saaif Alam. I am a senior at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I get help from SEEK to pay for my college.

If the Board of Trustees increase tuition by \$320, this can affect my ability to pay tuition during Graduate School.

My name is Elijah Parks. I am a senior at The City College of New York. I pay for college by taking loans.

This pandemic has forced me to transition my learning from online classes where I am not getting anything out of distance learning.

Tuition shouldn't be raised because quality education is just not there.

My name is Ymacula Pierre. I am a sophomore at York College. I pay for college with TAP, Pell and the remainder out of pocket.

I have to dispute the balance of my tuition because I had an issue with Financial Aid. I resolved it but my financial aid still has not been activated and my tuition right now is much higher than I usually pay. Due to the campus being closed I don't know how I will resolve this. I am also behind in some of my classes. This is not only due to having to adjust to distance learning but the Coronavirus has affected my family as well. At this point I don't even know if I'll be able to attend school in the fall.

Personally I think it is simply unnecessary to raise our tuition especially this year. A lot of people aren't able to go to work including myself and my parents because we were sick and want to take as much precaution as possible in a time like this. My parents support me and they also have other responsibilities and so do I. It's simply not fair! I thought they'd actually consider decreasing the amount we'll have to pay due to the pandemic we are in right now. The government doesn't even have a clue when this will be over and no one knows when it'll be safe

to go back to work. On my campus I don't really see what money gets used for either. Honestly, we're under equipped. The toilet seats in our restrooms are so old they're stained and rusted ! One of my professors this spring semester requested a smart room to hold class for the entire semester. Instead, they gave him a crammed class with 2 chalkboards and this class is a research writing class for technology.

My name is Farhene Sultana. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college with the help of FAFSA and TAP.

Due to this pandemic, everything is forced to move online.

An increase in tuition will affect the aid I receive. I'm afraid it'll affect the money I get that I use for metro cards, textbooks and tutoring opportunities that I use from the extra cash.

My name is Nicole Solis. I am a junior at Brooklyn College. I pay for my college by taking loans.

My family has been infected by the virus and distant relatives have passed away. We no longer have childcare and my spouse has been temporarily laid off.

We already live paycheck to paycheck. \$320 is money we literally don't have. This tuition hike will take food out of the mouths of my children.

My name is Musharrat Chowdhury. I am a senior at the New York City College of Technology. I pay for college by TAP, loans and out of pocket.

Devastated by this pandemic as I lost my internship and the money I pay for tuition, bills .

As I'm doing my second Bachelor I only get TAP. After TAP I've to pay from my pocket like spring 2020 still has to pay \$1939 . That is a heartbroken stage. I don't have any fixed income. I've to pay mobile internet bills, metro card , food, clothes etc. from any internship if I get one.

After this war it's taken a long time to get back to regular life and job. Please I'm begging you don't increase \$320 . Hard for no income students and families .

My name is Patrick Maloney. I am a first year grad student at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

Due to this pandemic, there is added stress.

There is so much uncertainty right now. They should look to use this time to explore places where overhead can be cut as we all use technology to be productive.

My name is Hira Khan. I am a freshman at Hunter College. I pay for college with the help of SEEK.

Hard to focus on calls and overload of work. Have issues with my internet so it is hard to attend class as well.

I come from a lower class family. I can not afford my tuition without outside help. This would put more financial burden in me during this time when people can't work. This is truly gross to do to students that can't afford it.

My name is Hema Muni. I am a freshman at Queens College. I pay for college out of pocket.

I don't learn as much as I would in a physical class and it seems like a waste of time

I already pay out of pocket, my parents lost both of their jobs. We can't afford it and it's not fair to pay extra money. We did nothing wrong.

My name is Jamala Hunte. I am a senior at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college TAP, Scholarship and Out of pocket.

As a scholarship recipient, I would come on campus for various events to network and get to know my professors and fellow classmates and staff of the campus in person. Now, I am unable to do so. I wanted to get more involved this semester by going to campus more often. With this pandemic, I am unable to do so. I know most of my classes are online, but to know that I am able to go to campus when needed made me have a sense of community.

I think during these times tuition should not be raised because many of the students that attend school may be paying out of pocket. Many of those students may have had to file for unemployment which would not bring in as much money as they would had they been working.

My name is Jasmine Sodhi. I am a junior at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I pay for college out of pocket.

I haven't been able to learn from my classes at all. Some of my professors were unable to provide weekly lectures which has affected my ability to learn visually and virtually. My parents are at home and not working anymore and it has gotten much rough for all of us to think about the upcoming semesters that we might have to pay. It seems easy that now we have online classes we can still be learning, but in reality it is not the same as having classes in person. I definitely understand that under these circumstances we have to be working from home but this semester definitely felt as if I was unable to obtain any information other than self teaching.

If the Board of Trustees raise our tuition by \$320 it will only benefit them and put more money into our education in college. But it will bring us back to a point where we were unable to pay the previous amount anyways and now adding more to it would be a burden. It is not easy for most of us New Yorkers to pay such amounts already and then increasing them by another 300. We receive FAFSA at times and at times we don't, either way we pay around 3,700 per semester if my FAFSA doesn't go through. I highly encourage the Board of Trustees to take a look at where we are in the crisis at the moment where most of us don't even have jobs and we have no clue what's coming next and how bad things might get. If we increase the tuition by \$320 it's only going to make things harder for those who take education seriously and will have more stress to pay the tuition. Majority of college students graduate with student debt and they have enough to worry about. Increasing even by just 1% or a few hundreds are not going to change the fact that we will be adding onto our debts. We understand due to the circumstances we are going

through now, will make them take this decision but it is not for the well-being of all. Instead tuition should be decreased and not increased because with the rate that it's increasing yearly from the time my parents were born, it has done nothing but put more and more students into debt. I highly encourage the Board of Trustees to consider our request and think about how it will affect all of us in the long term. It will definitely help all of us if we do not go through with this plan and rather keep it stable because the truth is we know that tuition will never decrease.

My name is Mark Ogbuehi. I am a freshman attending York College. I pay for college with the help of the Excelsior Scholarship.

No inhouse activities, and no way for me to get that one on one interaction with my professor, plus more work is being given, than if I were actually in class, I can't even get my refund for my tuition, this is really causing a lot of problems.

Students are going through a lot already, and all this is doing is adding salt to the wound, unemployment rate has increased tremendously and counting, people don't have the money, have some heart.it would affect me, because as it is now, I'm still paying for past due balances and this is not helping, so I have to get money from somewhere, on top of that focus in class and maintain straight A's, it's difficult you know, but I believe my fellow Americans that we can make a change not as one but as a team, there isn't any I in team, it would take all of us to stand up as one to make a difference, stay blessed.

My name is Shahida Islam. I am a freshman at The City College of New York. I pay for college with the help of TAP and FAFSA.

Not getting the same education I would in person. I have to teach myself the material most of the time and I can't talk to my teachers in person about certain issues.

Not everyone has the income to support this raise. Especially me since I come from a low income family. That money could be used to buy groceries or saved to invest.

My name is Aaron Greyser. I am a freshman at Hunter College. I pay for college with the help of Janovic Scholarship and Athena Honors.

The pandemic has affected my CUNY experience as such. The education quality worsened due to the lack of a physical element which is very vital for human communication. I have no access to a majority of college resources due to the stay at home order and campuses being closed. What I'm receiving through online learning is only a meager part of the experience I expect and is paid for. This is even more so the case for all the students that pay their tuition from out of their own pockets, many acquiring debt to do so.

The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition by \$320 because many college students, especially within this CUNY, and during such times of economic hardship, are very much low on funds and are under financial pressure. Many will suffer, even if \$320 seems insignificant, to many is the last of their savings.

My name is Shanae Harte. I am a junior at York College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Attending a CUNY school has been an experience I never knew I wanted. I have learnt so much, gained so much and have transformed so much because of CUNY. The pandemic, while it's not reversing what was done, it is causing my learning process to decline and opportunities like the Role Model Program and having a radio show at my college have come to a halt.

This is definitely not the time to increase tuition. Increasing tuition, especially now, would show that the BOT are actually selfish and do not consider students first, which is what we are always told. The unemployment rate in the USA has skyrocketed because of this pandemic. Lots of persons have lost their jobs, cannot buy food, pay rent or pay bills and you think it is okay to INCREASE tuition? That is preposterous and absurd and if this were to happen, my view on CUNY would be changed. Instead of increasing tuition, why not decrease it? Especially for students like me who pay for ALL OF TUITION out of pocket? And I'm not the only person in this household that attends college, I have 2 sisters. So would it be fair to increase an already expensive tuition, in my standards, by 3? The BOT needs to open their eyes and recognize that there are students that literally scrape by to attend college. Imagine putting transportation costs to get to school before feeding yourself? What is being said is that we want to add to a great burden that some students are experiencing? If any member on the BOT has a heart and some kind of conscience, the right thing would be done and I don't think I have to say what the right thing is.

My name is Eshwar Muneshar. I attend Queens College. I pay for my education out of pocket.

We are all distance learning right now at this point in the semester. It has put me at a disadvantage because while virtual classes are better than no classes, they still don't compare in person, face to face sessions where we can ask questions and get the help we need, especially in some of these upper level courses.

In order to curb this pandemic, we all have to stay at home. I get that. This also means staying at home from work, which means we have no viable source of income. The tuition bill is already high as it is and to raise it at a time like this just goes to show that CUNY does not care about its students and their well being.

My name is ALEJANDRA R SHAM LUO. I am a sophomore at Queensborough Community College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Long distance learning has affected me badly in my classroom experience, without the classes on campus I don't find the motivation, it is more difficult to participate in the classroom thus decreasing the enjoyment of the class. I get distracted a lot by just learning at home

In my opinion CUNY has always been a way to pursue dreams to people who come from middle class or lower class, a way to enjoy learning even retire, a way to find a second career in their life because it is affordable and approachable. However, raising tuition will only decrease the way for those people to find opportunities. I, as an international student, don't have a lot of money. My family needs to work hard to support me. I need to pay rent, tuition, books, meals, and other necessities. However, no matter how much I thrift, I am still owing a lot to my family. Moreover, in what I observed CUNY has always been kind to everyone, CUNY is a system that cares about students, that advocates for students, and I am proud to be a CUNY student. Therefore, I think CUNY should keep the tuition as it is. For CUNY is a hope for students who can't go to expensive colleges, a way for students to pursue dreams. This is the image that CUNY gave me, and I don't want that to be changed.

My name is Sarah Clarke. I am a sophomore at New York City College of Technology. I pay for college out of pocket.

I'm unable to use many of City Tech's resources during this time.

My parents are retired and I'm the only one paying for school. I don't want to keep putting my academic progress off just because school is expensive.

My name is Karimah Griffin. I am an Alumna at Brooklyn College. I paid for college out of pocket.

I couldn't get access to the magna career center and the job fair was canceled

A raise in tuition is something we cannot afford anymore. It's not just senseless but greedy and unfair. Lack of funding for CUNY school should not be born on the backs of students.

My name is Melanie Cortez. I am a sophomore at The City College of New York. I pay for college with TAP, Pell, and loans.

I lost my job and only source of income due to this pandemic.

I already have a hard enough time getting financial aid from City college because I have to put my parent's income and the financial aid office has refused to help. I literally can't afford school and have to use my only income to pay for school. I cannot afford increases.

My name is Jasmine Tyson. I am a junior at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

I am paying for school out of pocket and have become the primary source of income for my entire family since the COVID-19 pandemic. I have already taken out a few loans and am not

able to pay off what I owe. If tuition is raised, I will not be able to afford to continue going to school.

My name is Krishna FNU. I am a junior at York College. I pay for college out of pocket.

My family pays for my tuition. Due to Coronavirus my whole family lost their jobs. No one is able to bring in any money. Yes my sister applied for unemployment 2 weeks ago and she is still not approved due to the amount of claims. We were not able to pay our rent this month. Still in discussions with our land lord. I had to request a laptop for a loan from my college because I didn't have any working devices at home.

I strongly request that our Tuition should not raise because I don't even know how my family will be able to pay for basic needs come next week. If tuition does increase I will have to stay home next semester and hopefully if I am lucky get free jobs and save money and then come back in the following semester. Please think about the few students who pay out of pocket. We can't afford to pay the current tuition in this challenging time.

My name is Ricardo Herrera. I am a junior at College of Staten Island. I pay for college with the help of TAP AND PELL

COVID19 has moved all of my classes online and the experience is completely different and arguably, less educational when compared to on campus sessions which has made this semester experience hard.

It's unjust to raise tuition when compared to the student population who can afford to pay it vs. The population who can't, which is literally the large majority of CUNY.

My name is Melissa Salcedo. I am a Sophomore at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with the help of Tap, Pell, ASAP, and FAFSA.

Because of COVID19, everything moved online, my extracurricular activities stopped due to this pandemic.

CUNY should not raise tuition. People wouldn't be able to focus on their studies because they'll have to work more hours to pay the extra \$320.

My name is Kiara Lo Coco. I am a freshman at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with the help of Pell.

Because of coronavirus, it is hard to balance school work with everything I have to do during the day. I have more homework and less time.

If I won't get financial aid, I won't be able to pay for my whole tuition, so raising the tuition makes it impossible for me and other people to be a college student. I already have other expenses not covered from financial aid like metrocards and food.

My name is Petra Gregory. I am a senior at the College of Staten Island. I pay for college with the help of TAP, and the remainder out of pocket.

COVID19 has isolated me from my friends and made my classes much more difficult as I must juggle what I need to do to survive in a broken economy and sick household with professors who are increasing their workload

If there is an increase in tuition, I won't be able to continue going to school full time as I don't know when I will be able to go back to work.

My name is Brianna Rivera. I am a sophomore at Hunter College. I get help from TAP and Pell to pay for college.

I can't communicate with the financial aid office about my account balance face to face. Everything is online.

I won't be able to afford a tuition hike. I went to CUNY schools because it was my only option when it comes to money. Education should be affordable especially if the education and help in

CUNY schools are at its bare minimum. It is unfair for students to have to pay more when the advising in my school is close to no help.

My name is Chelsea. I am a freshman at Hunter College. I pay for college with the help of SEEK.

I've had difficulty keeping up with my class and assignments.

I'm already struggling trying to support my family being the only one working and yet still have to manage with my school work and then with this increase it will only add more to more financial stress.

My name is Shivang Narula. I am a sophomore at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I pay for college out of pocket.

I am an international student and I have to pay \$10000 per semester and due to coronavirus I don't have a job and my parents' job is also down because of COVID-19.

Instead of lowering our fee to instate fee they increased it by \$320!!!! How are we supposed to save money to pay for college? Do they want us to become homeless ?

My name is Susana Navarro. I am a sophomore at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with the help of TAP and Pell.

I'm forced to attend class online which has been difficult; I function better with a set schedule and consistent online systems. Due to the virus the websites I study on often glitch or shut down, or I am unable to stay on the lighter and fluctuating schedule.

The Board raises the tuition almost yearly; this initial raise will be followed by more until students can no longer afford a college that anyone is supposed to be able to attend. There's also the fact that improvements have not been made to the schools every time the tuition is raised. The fact that they do this while no one can protest as well clearly shows that their intentions are

not benign. There is lastly the fact that I would not be able to pay for college once my financial aid is finished, and that happens soon. This and other raises would exacerbate my troubles.

My name is Vinny Thomas. I am a sophomore attending the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

This pandemic hasn't affected me with classes because my whole program was already online. But when I have to pay my tuition for next semester, it will affect me.

You shouldn't raise tuition because some of us have lost our jobs. Can't afford to have higher tuition at this time. It will be hard to finish my program in that case.

My name is Cindy Louissaint. I am a first year grad student at CUNY School of Professional Studies where I pay for college out of pocket.

This pandemic has put an emotional and mental drain on me.

Students are struggling now to pay for tuition. Now with the pandemic students are struggling with no job, living in NY alone, parents are losing their jobs and food and other necessities are expensive.

My name is Eldin S Cruz. I am a senior attending CUNY School of Professional Studies where I pay for college out of my pocket.

Although this term I'm taking my class on line, I am unable to visit the facilities to get some class work done

I lost my part time job that pays my tuition. An increase of \$320 will be financially draining for me.

My name is Bonnie Wang. I am a junior at the College of Staten Island. I pay for college by TAP, Pell, and Loans

Online classes are horrendous. Online tests and quizzes are unfair. Difficult to reach faculties. Unable to register for classes.

If the tuition is raised by \$320, where will that money be applied to? Does it mean that CSI gets Wifi printing? Or more printers? Or better technology? Moreover, this increase will affect me tremendously! I will definitely pay out of the pocket if that's the case. Besides, most students already struggle paying for their bills and whatnot. An increase in tuition is like the last straw on the camel's back.

My name is Ronniece Miller. I am a junior at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I pay for college with some help from FAFSA and the remainder out of pocket.

Hard to keep up with classes and stay on track with the whole semester. Harder to submit forms to financial aid.

If there is an increase in tuition by \$320, I would have to pay more out of pocket and I would have to work more and that will affect my grades.

My name is Ariana Campbell. I am a senior attending Queens College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Class quality declined and too many inconsistent schedule changes on behalf of Queens College (clearly they had no plan)

People are grieving now!! Nobody is working, now is not the time to add an additional financial burden on the students who are already struggling. If they have any human decency, they won't do it.

My name is Elvia. I am a junior at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket because I work full time to feed my kids so I can only take one class at a time and this is not covered by any of the stated grants.

I had to drop my class this semester due to higher workload.

With an increase in tuition, it makes it harder to stay in school with all the challenges I already have.

My name is Mary Mills. I am a junior at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

It is extremely difficult to continue working and to keep up with my courses due to this pandemic.

I will no longer be able to self pay as I do not qualify for financial aid. Essentially I will be forced to drop out of school if this increase happens.

My name is Jasmine Dacosta. I am a junior at Medgar Evers College and I pay for college with the help of FAFSA.

I am struggling to pass a class I need in order to graduate because it is now online.

Taking out loans is hard enough as is. An extra 320 dollars is a lot of money.

My name is Lisa A Sheridan. I am a senior at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket along with TAP, Pell, Scholarship, Loans and Payment Plans.

Due to this pandemic, I won't be getting a commencement! It is sooo. hard to concentrate, and I am taking my hardest classes ever.

I'm graduating - so not affecting me directly. But look at all I did to pay me tuition above!! And I am one of the more fortunate - I worked full time for most of my tenure at CUNY.

My name is Shivana Ellis. I am a junior at Brooklyn College. I pay for college by taking loans.

This pandemic has taken away in class experience.

Loss of wages for many students , hardship during this pandemic, yet the Board of Trustees is thinking about raising our tuition. This is unjust to us students as we are struggling already.

My name is Taslima Sarmin. I am a senior at York College. I pay for college with the help of Tap, Pell and SEEK

During this time, it is very difficult to communicate with Professors, use the internet and technology.

If the Board of Trustees increase tuition, it is going to be extremely hard for me to find the money needed to buy food, purchase my metrocard, etc. if I will have to take that and pay for tuition.

My name is Oyindamola Osunleti. I am a sophomore at York College. I pay for college with the help of Excelsior and some out of pocket.

Most professors don't put much effort into teaching and there are limited resources during this time.

The BOT shouldn't increase our tuition because most of our parent jobs are being affected by the virus and us kids can't work to help our parents due to the virus outbreak.

My name is Adriana Omeroglu. I am a junior at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college Out of pocket and Pell and TAP.

During this time I have to support family members that have been laid off, increase cost for childcare, increased cost for food due to price hikes or scarcity.

Pell and TAP won't cover my tuition in full, as I am a nursing student and I can only take 3 to 6 credits at a time. My out of pocket cost is already more than I can afford, before the price increase. The price increase might force me to take just 3 credits at a time, which will, in turn, postpone my graduation date.

My name is Adonis Leon. I am a junior at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college Out of pocket.

This pandemic hasn't changed my experience due to my classes originally being online.

The BOT should not raise our tuition because a lot of students are not able to work right now and save money for tuition. Raising the tuition will make it harder for students to attend next semester. The tuition raise will make it harder for me to pay for my tuition due to me not receiving any financial aid for the year.

My name is Winie Chery. I am a junior at York College. I pay for college out of pocket and with the help of loans.

I lost my job, can't afford rent due to this pandemic.

If there will be an increase in tuition, I will have to drop out of school, I wouldn't be able to afford anything.

My name is Neonne Ameer. I am a grad student at CUNY School of Labor and Urban Studies. I pay for college by taking loans.

I need access to the library and computers, as well as printing. This is a standoff with what I paid for and not how I want my last semester to be.

We shell out enough tuition to see that it isn't going anywhere. We all are dealing with financial hardship due to Covid-19 and little to no tuition reimbursement is given to students who pay out of pocket or receive financial aid. CUNY is starting to hurt those financially at risk and makes many of us reconsider joining any future programs.

My name is Edwardson Jean. I am a sophomore attending the New York City College of Technology. I pay for college Out of pocket and with the help of a sponsor.

Coronavirus has affected my sponsor who's supporting me with financial aid and also affects my basic daily needs.

My sponsor no longer can help me for next semester because of this pandemic. It's already hard coming up with school money every semester. If this continues I may have to go back home and not continue my education.

My name is Temitope Osidele. I am a junior at York College. I pay for college with the help of SEEK and the remainder Out of pocket.

The COVID 19 pandemic has made it difficult to get the proper educational resources I need.

Tuition hikes will not favor students, especially after this pandemic. Students like myself have lost jobs and do not have steady income, increasing tuition will have a negative effect on students.

My name is Toyin Robinson. I am a senior at Hunter College. I pay for college out of pocket.

My parents have had to dip into my student savings to cover bills at this time.

My parents are one of the millions who has lost their job at this time. My college friends have also lost their jobs which they relied on to pay their bills as well as tuition. This decision is an act of discrimination against the lower and middle class as well as the right to learn. Which violates our "student rights".Attending high school, pursuing a higher level of education was an idea that was embedded in all of our minds.However we did not know the price we would pay for trying to make ourselves the secure people,which this society needs. If college students can not learn without debt,how can we possibly stimulate the growth of our economy.

My name is Roza Yegoryan. I am a junior at York College. I pay for college out of my pocket.

COVID-19 has a major effect since I'm used to being on campus and now I can't even do that, this whole thing happened so fast.

It already is hard for me to find that money to pay for school and now since the COVID it has been a more stressful time for my family and I. This increase shouldn't be happening students including myself are facing major hardships losing loved ones and are financially insecure makes it more difficult to pay that extra \$320.

My name is Sherifa Brown. I am a sophomore attending York College. I pay for college with Excelsior and out of pocket.

The transition is still hard from on campus to online.

I barely work enough hours so I think I will struggle to pay this extra fee of \$320.

My name is Shao Ru Zhang. I am a sophomore attending Baruch College. I pay for college with the help of TAP and Pell.

CUNY shouldn't raise our tuition by \$320 because every year that they raised it there was no difference in the education and resources I am receiving.

My name is Dammon Trimmingham. I am a senior at York College. I pay for college with Some financial aid and some out of pocket.

I pretty much lost out on my senior year! I can't use any of my school resources due to this virus.

Students need more resources and raising that tuition is taking that away. More money is being taken out of my pocket for CUNY greed! York college needs better professors , and more staff. Better curriculum so instead focus on those things.

My name is Elizabeth Chen. I am a junior attending The City College of New York. I pay for my education out of my pocket.

I'm barely learning anything, there's constant disruptions, and all the things that I'd be paying for that aren't strictly classes (e.g. student activity fees) are unavailable. I'm trying to graduate as soon as possible and with my family having absolutely no income because of the virus, I really can't afford tuition.

The fact that we have tuition at all is a shame but even past that, it becomes more and more evident that CUNY no longer exists to provide opportunities to marginalized and forgotten communities, but instead to gut those communities to line the pockets of the board. We know this isn't for any increase in operation or anything even pragmatically useful, and our CUNYs get increasingly worse by the day (please fix our crumbling infrastructure!). With increases like this, I'm not sure if I'll be able to graduate or if I'll just need to drop outs, and this is a concern I've had since my sophomore year. If CUNY actually wants to prove they're still for the students and not the profit, they should be dropping the tuition, with a complete refund for this semester in particular.

My name is Cassandra Yu. I am a sophomore attending Hunter College. I pay for college with TAP, Excelsior, and out of pocket (because Excelsior does not cover the full tuition cost)

Even though professors are very helpful and are trying to provide the same level of experience as an in-class lecture, I still feel like I am not getting the full in-class lecture. It is more like self study rather than professors lecturing. Even if they do lecture, the lectures are shorter.

Tuition should not be raised if students are not getting the same level of education experience. It is more of a self study, in which we learn by reading articles or videos found online. In addition, with this pandemic, many of the summer internships I applied to are suspended. This results in me not being able to get a summer job to enhance my experience. With students already being out of jobs or having difficulty finding jobs, raising the tuition does not seem ideal nor the right approach.

My name is Tiandra Thompson. I am a freshman at York College. I pay for college with the help of TAP and the remainder out of pocket.

I lost my job and had to borrow money to pay the rest of my tuition fees due to this pandemic.

I can barely afford the current tuition fees and many people have lost their jobs due to this pandemic. Tap does not cover my entire tuition fees with this hike I'll have to drop out of college.

My name is Carlos Duque. I am a freshman at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college Out of pocket.

Due to this pandemic, I am having an economic hardship, furloughed from work with no income.

CUNY shouldn't raise the tuition because with the economic impact this situation is taking over me and my family leave me with no other option than freeze my studies until I restart working and get an income to supply for my family needs. Also I don't qualify for any state or federal help to pay for my tuition, so every penny comes out of my pocket.

My name is Tobi Awopet. I am a senior at York College. I receive TAP and Pell to help pay for my education.

Due to this pandemic, I lost my job which was the only source of income.

Schools are 3x more expensive and not getting any better. An increase in tuition for \$320 will only put more financial pressure on students

My name is Baila Landau. I am a junior at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket and with Pell.

I am an essential worker while going to school full time, my workload has doubled and I find it very difficult to juggle it all at the same time

I usually qualify for Tap and Pell, for some reason they are not covering my full tuition now and I will have to pay out of pocket next year. I am barely making bills as it is, I don't know if I will be able to continue next year if there is an increase.

My name is Farrah Isidore. I am a transfer student at York College. I pay for college by taking loans as I do not qualify for financial aid.

Due to this pandemic, in person classes that include labs needed for nursing. I'm not sure how it will affect me getting into the program.

I have three children. It is already expensive as is and if there will be an increase in tuition by \$320, I won't be able to afford additional expenses right now.

I am Ibeth Erazo, a sophomore student at the New York City College of Technology. I am paying college Out of pocket

I am doing the dental hygiene and I take some classes with the restorative dentistry department as well. Once in person classes were canceled so did the clinics and labs in both programs. These sections are essential and a requisite for my courses completion.

Because all what is going around. The life of every single person in the city has drastically changed. Due to the actual circumstances we have been forced to adapt to a new reality of disease, death and isolation. Many people have lost their jobs, not having enough money to cover even their food expenses. How is it possible that CUNY is thinking about a raise in the tuition fee when people don't have even what to put in their mouth. Not to mention that many students like me are not receiving what we paid for academically.

My name is Sabina Dorvile. I am a senior student at The City College of New York. Thus far, I pay college with TAP, Pell, Scholarship support.

Because of the Coronavirus pandemic, I am not able to continue with the initiatives my student government wanted to start. More importantly, since I am a senior, it's been really hard to keep track of my advisory services. Like, contacting the respective parties for a graduation check. Additionally, I might not walk for my graduation ceremony.

The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition because this pandemic has taken a lot from us. Many students are now unemployed and as a result, won't be able to pay for their education. It's inhumane of the Board to burden CUNY students like that. If tuition is raised, many students wouldn't be able to register for class and of course, that hinders them from pursuing their dreams. Raising tuition would mean students would continue to have to choose between a meal and a monthly metro card. It's not fair that students have to go hungry for days just to be able to sit in the classroom to learn. If anything, this pandemic has taught us to be human and have compassion for others.

My name is Sadiya Hussain. I am a Freshman at The City College of New York. I received Excelsior and also pay college out of pocket.

Being a freshman, coronavirus has taken away from me experiencing spring semester for the first time. Additionally, I am a type of student where I have to learn in person with the professor being in front of me. Having to learn material through zoom is difficult because of all the distractions I have at home and not being in a traditional classroom environment.

The Board of Trustees shouldn't increase tuition because it isn't fair. Even though these are horrible times, We're paying tuition but using our own devices, WiFi and having to teach

ourselves through online classes. Even though I do receive excelsior, it doesn't cover my full tuition. Having to pay an additional \$320 is going to be hard as I will probably have to take up extra shifts to pay it back but currently I am unemployed from my job.

I am Mercedes Aznar. I am in my second year of college at The New York City College of Technology. I receive Pell grant but it doesn't cover all.

One of my professors is not dictating classes via video conference and only posting assignments on Blackboard, leaving the students to our own devices. Many of the students are not understanding the material without the professor's explanation.

I don't have an income and the prospects of having one during the pandemic are zero. My Pell grant doesn't cover all the tuition and I don't know how I am going to pay for the difference especially if CUNY raises tuition.

My name is Mariam Chardiwall. I am a Freshman student at the CUNY School of Labor and Urban Studies. I pay college with scholarship & out of pocket money.

COVID-19 has impacted my CUNY experience as my family members are vulnerable individuals and I have utilized more time than usual to monitor and care for their health. Also, members of my family have to seek unemployment or other sources of income and I have been financially assisting to maintain housing costs.

Job security is not confirmed. Prices for goods have inflated. Mobility is an issue and tuition increase for online classes (if it is still applicable) is unfair. CUNY should not raise tuition!

I am Estefania Gorin. I am a Freshman in the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay college out of pocket.

I will be unable to pay for my next semester due to the unemployment COVID has brought upon nearly everyone. A freeze in tuition or some financial help would unburden myself as well as

hundreds of other students. COVID has made my CUNY experience seem like it will never be fully realized and that I may not graduate.

The increase will affect me because it will force me to drop out. I will be left extremely burdened because I won't be able to have a career for a very long time, which will affect my own life and the relationship between my family and I.

My name is Dilnoza Karimova. I am a sophomore at The New York City College of Technology. I receive Tap to pay for college.

Since the transition of online learning, I had been uncontrollably anxious about timed testings that are structured poorly. I was also truly surprised how little CUNY was prepared for this upcoming event, professors have poor technology skills and lack effective teaching through online which potentially will be reflected on our grades. In addition to that, most professors had not been lenient or flexible with the course despite the fact that we are being taught online now. The expectations of the course is unchanged which is not fair because most of us including myself deal with various things at home. My mom is a nurse and she has the virus. It has been truly overwhelming and CUNY is not doing enough to support their students but raise the tuition every year!

I used to work part time before the pandemic started which helped me with my daily expenses and covering my tuition but I've lost my job since the pandemic had started and I truly don't know what I will do for the next semester. It is scary and mind boggling what future will hold for CUNY students. But increasing tuition will worsen the situations of thousands of CUNY students that are trapped and affected by the coronavirus pandemic.

My name is Tiffany toma. I am a sophomore at the College of Staten Island. I pay college with money from ASAP, Tap, and Pell Grant.

COVID19 has made things harder to focus since I have 2 kids at home. Worried about my studies and mental health juggling everything.

CUNY should not hike tuition because there is still lots to improve on campus and in the college. Increasing it will affect us negatively.

My name is Yailin Dominguez. I go to the College of Staten Island. There, I am a Freshman.

I pay college with out of pocket money. The Pandemic affects me financially and academically.

CUNY should not raise tuition. It is hard enough working full time to pay for school when at the same time you try your best to have your attention in your academics .

My name is Melissa Salcedo. I am a Freshman at the Borough of Manhattan Community College.

I pay college with money from Pell Grant and Tap. The pandemic affects me in a way that I can't focus on classes because i'm home now.

It is unfair to increase Tuition because we don't have money for that nobody's making money during this pandemic. Also with those Extra \$320 it could be someone's transportation or food.

My name is Angela West. I am in my 1st year of Graduate School. I go to John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

I took Loans to pay college.

COVID19 has affected me immensely. I intentionally avoided online education for years because I need the structure and don't learn well this way. I don't feel like I'm getting the full experience, especially considering the varying degrees of availability or tech-savviness from our professors. We also pay fees for things we no longer have access to.

CUNY should not raise tuition. Firstly, how are people going to pay for it if they can hardly have a job? Secondly, for those of us who didn't have a job (but was looking for one) and have to rely

on loans, it's just contributing to more debt. Tuition shouldn't be raised when the value of the education and experience decreased - it's selfish.

My name is Deja Johnson. I am a Junior at the Borough of Manhattan Community College.

I pay college with money from Tap, Pell Grant, & FAFSA.

The pandemic affects me, it's made contacting the offices that I need like financial aid a little bit harder.

I make under \$20,000 a year, if raising Tuition, it might make it harder for me to graduate on time.

My name is Lucia Veliz. I go to John Jay College of Criminal Justice doing my third school semester.

I pay college out of pocket.

I lost the college experience and was not able to work to pay off tuition due to pandemic.

I believe the Board of Trustees shouldn't raise out tuition because globally we are in a crisis. A lot of people lost jobs and can't afford to pay off rent or anything they really need for school. Raising the tuition will only make it harder for students to focus on academics and worry about finances.

My name is Nikoloz Abuladze. I am a Sophomore at John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

I pay for college out of pocket money.

Due to the extreme situation in the globe, International students are affected the most. The money which was used to pay for college does not come from my home country. I cannot mobilize myself as efficiently I would like for education. I cannot afford another increase.

It is already a lot (almost 10,000 dollars) for international students.

Aida Eloumri is a Sophomore at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice. She uses TAP & Excelsior money to pay for college.

Classes have been moved online. Lack of communication from some professors. Not a lot of info on Fall classes, club statuses are up in the air.

During this pandemic, the last thing that students should worry about is how they're going to pay for their education in the fall. A lot of students work on campus and are not getting paid anyway and work outside of school has been laid off. Students should not be penalized with a tuition hike that is not going to benefit the CUNY community. Of classes were going to be online in the fall, where would all of that money go due to the campus not being open. With the tuition hike and if classes are going to be online before a lot of the monies are going to be sitting there especially with the student activity fee that goes towards it's clubs in the student technology fee, printing, and student activities.

My name is Yenni Galan. I am a Junior student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies.

I pay college with TAP and Out of pocket money.

I'm a pharmacy technician and it's made keeping up with normal activities difficult. I'm having to run errands for most of my family members that live nearby because they cannot leave their homes. It takes up a huge chunk of my time during the day. Moreover, my hours at work have been irregular, making everything a struggle.

Being able to afford tuition is already a challenge. As working adults, TAP does not cover all of our educational expenses so we end up paying out of pocket. I am sometimes forced to postpone my education because I cannot afford to pay tuition.

My name is John Gallagher. I am a graduated student from The City College of New York.

I paid college mostly with out of pocket money.

I'm not a current student but a CCNY graduate (class of 84) and a person who works at BMCC. The pandemic has had a terrible impact on our students. They lost part time jobs and their parents full time ones. They are already food and housing insecure and this just made it even more difficult..

If you and your family lost your income this year the tuition increase is equal to your food budget that already is depleted. It adds significant risk to an already challenged student body that is at risk of homelessness and is already doing without meals. It also increases the TAP Gap, hurting the colleges.

My name is Sadiya Hussain. I am aFreshman student at The City College of New York.

I receive Excelsior and use out of pocket money to pay for college.

Being a freshman, coronavirus has taken away from me experiencing spring semester for the first time. Additionally, I am a type of student where I have to learn in person with the professor being in front of me. Having to learn material through zoom is difficult because of all the distractions I have at home and not being in a traditional classroom environment.

The Board of Trustees shouldn't increase tuition because it isn't fair. Even though these are horrible times, We're paying tuition but using our own devices, WiFi and having to teach ourselves through online classes. Even though I do receive excelsior, it doesn't cover my full tuition. Having to pay an additional \$320 is going to be hard as I will probably have to take up extra shifts to pay it back but currently I am unemployed from my job.

My name is Sarah Russo. I am a Senior student at Hunter College.

I received Merit scholarships, a little bit of fafsa aid, and out of pocket money to pay for college.

It is so difficult for me to focus being stuck in the house with my family. Somehow my professors have added more assignments because we “have more time now” ... which is just false. In my home We all have to use the internet, so the WiFi crashes almost everyday. My sister and I both got laid off, so we are worried about our financial situation and what to do next. I am just thankful I am graduating and don't have to pay another semester of tuition because my family definitely couldn't afford it now.

It is criminal to increase tuition in the face of an economic depression. How dare you make life even harder for working class students who are trying to get an education to better the life of not only themselves, but also their family and community. An additional \$320 would be the deciding factor for thousands of already broke young people to not pursue secondary education. I ask the trustees to reflect on their own personal six figure paychecks before condemning thousands of nycs most vulnerable to a future without education. This decision to increase tuition now will be felt in the years to come when New York has a lack of educated professionals and even more people dependent on state assistance.

My name is Paige Beaucant. I am a Freshman at Hunter College.

I receive Pell Grant and Tap to pay for college.

I'm a Freshman at Hunter and instead of being in school and learning in person, I'm online either via Blackboard Collaborate or not even engaging with my professors because not all of them are using that tool. Remote learning could never compare with online learning and I can't wait to go back to in person learning. I feel like myself as well as other students are being cheated. We aren't working, we've lost our jobs (some permanently), we are worrying about groceries and how to afford them. I don't get to experience team work collaboration, I don't get to enjoy learning the way I should be- just like every other student would agree.

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, I have lost both of my jobs- one of them being a permanent loss. This in turn, puts financial stress on me which affects my mental health. I have been feeling extremely stressed and overwhelmed which makes school right now harder. I know that many other students feel the same as I do. My dear friend, Samuel, is thinking of withdrawing this late in the semester (out of Hunter this semester) because his laptop which was very old broke and he can't afford a new one. He's also disabled and therefore doesn't work. I think this is so unfair to

do to students during a crisis such as this. Students are struggling, especially those in CUNY. I can't qualify for the stimulus check because I don't make enough money to file for taxes and I live at home (I'm an 18 year old freshman) so I am a dependent, so where is the help for me? My parents can't receive \$500 for me because I'm over 17, people like myself are stuck in a position where we are powerless.

My name is Pooja Chopra. I am a Senior student at Hunter College.

I receive Tap, Pell Grant, and some external scholarships to pay for college.

All of my scholarship money has been going to paying for familial expenses (rent, food, utilities). My family is burdened with saving this money up and allocating a certain amount for each month. We don't even know how long this pandemic is going to last. Like many other families, my family is surviving on the edge. Both my parents got laid off. We JUST got unemployment benefits (which barely cover any costs).

\$320 dollars is a lot. That is at least six weeks worth of groceries (providing, we buy just what we need). The increase will affect not only my life and my expenses, but my families. It is just one bill that pushes us closer to financial instability. Please understand that for working class communities in NYC, every dollar makes a difference.

My name is Destiny Howell. I am a Freshman student at Hunter College.

I receive Tap, pell, and fasfa to pay for college.

My online classes experience was not productive. For example, we would take 20-30 minutes of helping the professor on how to use the blackboard ultra to do lectures. It is so glitchy. For example, the white board disappears with all of the notes and diagrams. The audio is on and off without the professor and students knowing. Also, professors feel less motivated to teach us! They do not have the necessary tools to teach us. No white boards, markers, or online programs to help us. CUNY needs to invest more!

I thought CUNY was for the poor and minority people who wanted to change their fate. I thought CUNY was a good system to make education affordable. I would truly appreciate it if they do

not raise our tuition because of this pandemic. My mom is currently unemployed and things would not get back to normal right away. So I do not think it is a smart idea to raise tuition while this is going on. Why raise the tuition if the quality of CUNY isn't great at all? The building still needs to be repaired. The professors aren't that great. The quality in general isn't up there.

My name is Jose Menjivar. I am a Junior student at Hunter.

I pay college through Excelsior.

It's been difficult to adjust to classes. In addition to uncertainty of the housing situation is a source of stress. While we were promised credits, the vague terminology produced more questions.

It doesn't make sense to increase tuition at the time being. People have other expenses to worry about due to the coronavirus. While I won't personally be affected by the tuition hike, it's unfair for people struggling to pay off other bills at the moment.

My name is Andrew Shkreli. I am a junior student at Hunter College. I received a Tap and Pell Grant to pay for college.

I was forcibly evicted from my dormitory and still don't know if I'll be allowed back there next year. Considering this, I still don't know if the financial aid that went towards my dorm expenses will be given back to me or apply to dorm costs next year. I've also been falling behind in my academics due to personal difficulties that COVID-19 exasperated.

I don't think the Board of Trustees should punish students already experiencing financial strain, especially considering the pandemic. The increase in cost will also strain my resources, as I hope to use that money to cover necessary expenses such as textbooks. I also don't want to have to work to meet extra costs, as I believe I should prioritize my academics.

I am Laura Sedra. I am a Freshman student at Hunter College. I pay college with money from Pelle, TAP, out of pocket

I chose to live at Hunter for my first year, which meant that I had to pay thousands of dollars out of pocket. Now I feel like all that money has gone to waste, since the majority of my second semester has been moved to remote learning. I also feel that I do not have the same resources available to me now.

CUNY shouldn't raise our tuition, as right now students are practically teaching themselves. It is not fair to charge them extra when they are staying home studying on their own. Also, many parents are stuck at home unemployed and relying on unemployment checks. This shows that right now many families are going through a financial crisis, and may not be able to support their children with extra money for school.

My name is Xin Weng Hunter College. I am a Junior from Hunter College. I receive money from Both Pell and TAP for college.

The remote distance learning is a big challenge for me. I lost track of things often which is no good to me and others.

If the increase does happen, I might be forced to drop out of college.

My name is Christine Ramiro. I am a Sophomore student at Hunter College.

I pay college with TAP, Pell Grant, and Scholarship.

The coronavirus pandemic has negatively affected my CUNY experience. I do not have access to the school facilities, which provided me with places to study independently. Additionally, being stuck inside has lowered my motivation to continue to do my schoolwork in a timely manner.

The increase will affect me personally because I will have less money available after scholarships. In addition, I feel that I will have to take money away from supplies I need, as one

textbook can be \$200 or more. Lastly, I feel this will make it harder for me and my friends, who may already have increased anxieties and stress from the effects of Covid-19.

I am Maria Coutroupis. I am a Sophomore student at the Borough of Manhattan Community College

I receive money from TAP and FAFSA to pay for college.

I don't like online courses , online courses for me are not working. I'm not learning anything.

A lot of people will drop college after covid 19, because they will not be able to pay the increase in tuition and fees. Why make it harder ?

I am Hiren Bip. I am a Sophomore student at The Borough of Manhattan Community College.

I receive ASAP, Pell, and I use Out of Pocket money to pay for college Tuition.

It has made it super hard to focus on school work since I am now home watching my cousins and family more.

I had to work less to afford going back. I live about an hour away and ASAP thankfully helped me with traveling expenses and textbook expenses.

My name is Melane Andeliz. I am a Junior student at The Borough of Manhattan Community College. I receive FAFSA money to pay for college Tuition.

I am impacted by this pandemic. Sometimes it is difficult to work online if the sites are down.

Raising tuition is incredibly irresponsible and shows the students that the board does not care about them or their wellbeing. This will affect my family because I come from a single mother

household and it is hard for her to make money especially with this going on in the world . It is just irresponsible on their part. They don't care about the students.

My name is Aidin Murtha. I am a Senior college student at Hunter College.

I receive money from Scholarships and I use out of pocket money to pay for college Tuition.

As a senior pursuing a BA/MA in mathematics and a BA in German, many of my classes this semester were independent studies. Unfortunately, the covid pandemic has made scheduling meetings with professors extremely difficult. As such, most of my classes have been reduced to little more than e-mails with my professors. Similarly, I also TEACH a course as an adjunct lecturer; my experience as an educator has also been dampened by the pandemic as my course's transition to the online format has severely reduced my ability to interact with my students.

For me, personally, as I will be graduating, this hike in tuition has no effect. However, as a soon to be alumnus, I find all of the recent tuition hikes shameful, and this one in particular is sickeningly irresponsible. The primary purpose of CUNY is to provide affordable higher education to the city of New York, and this is simply not the reality of the situation anymore. This hike makes me believe that Hunter truly does not care about the well-being or safety of its staff and students. The conditions at Hunter are unacceptable for how much money the institution receives from its students and benefactors, and I reiterate, this tuition hike would be the most severe blemish to-date on an already tarnished reputation.

My name is Dammon Trimmingham. I am a senior at York College. I attend school by receiving some financial aid in addition to paying some expenses out of pocket. Because of COVID19, I pretty much lost out on my senior year! I can't use any of my school resources.

I don't believe the Board of Trustees should raise tuition because students need more resources and raising that tuition is taking that away. More money is being taken out of my pocket for CUNY greed! York college needs better professors and more staff. Better curriculum is also needed, so instead, focus on those things.

My name is Ashlee Basant. I am a sophomore at Hunter College. I pay for school out of pocket.

Both of my parents are not working at the moment and it has been very hard. Due to that reason I can't even take summer classes for now I would have to pay that on my own. Additionally, it has been hard to stay on task for classes due to WiFi connections etc. I am also sick as well so it has been hard to turn in work on time.

The Board of Trustees should not be increasing tuition at all. It is unfair to the students who are already paying so much and having to deal with other expenses. I would most likely be unable to afford the tuition if this does happen. Families are going through so much during this time and this doesn't ease any pain.

My name is Tyerence Brown. This is my last semester at CUNY SPS, however, I am seeking to attend Baruch College in the Fall. I pay for school through loans and expenses paid out of pocket. I don't think the BOT should raise tuition because the extra money for hiked tuition is needed to help me recover from financial setbacks caused by the pandemic.

My name is Zoe Schacht-Levine. I'm a second year at the CUNY School of Public Health. I pay for school out of pocket. COVID19 has impacted me by shifting all my classes to online. I also am out of a job, can't pay for rent and don't have enough money for food during this time.

I believe the BOT absolutely should not raise tuition, especially since we are getting less now than we were before. No access to in person classes and teaching, no access to gyms and libraries and other things my tuition pays for. Lower quality education. I can't learn as well as I was before the crisis.

My name is Julie Seepaul. I'm a senior at York College. I pay for classes out of pocket. I don't believe the BOT should raise tuition because students like me have no job and no finance coming from anywhere.

My name is Jasmine Shaikh. I am a third year at Hunter College. I receive TAP and Pell and also pay the remaining balance out of pocket.

The COVID19 pandemic has affected me personally. I was pushed out of my dorms back to the state of Connecticut in a household that is mentally taxing. I lost my job due to the fact the schools are closed because I am an after school teacher. I don't do well online and that has been affecting me a lot academically. Rather than a tuition increase they should refund our tuition and all dorm fee and meal plan fees.

If the tuition is raised I will have a lot of issues because I have been out of a job for quite a while now due to the virus. I have been paying for housing out of pocket because I'm from another state. I will not be able to go back to school.

My name is Julian Rendon. I am a senior at Queens College. I receive TAP, Pell and SEEK. COVID19 has forced us into distance learning. It is already challenging for me to study because of personal issues.

The BOT should not raise tuition because many students will not be able to financially recover from this pandemic and increasing the tuition will just burden them with more problems.

My name is Erica Caguana. I'm a Junior at York College. I pay out of pocket for tuition but also receive TAP, Pell and student loans.

The COVID pandemic affected my CUNY experience because when I have in between breaks I would go to the library to get some things done or to have things printed out without wasting ink at my own home. I believe that the board of trustees shouldn't raise the \$320 dollars because for me, personally, I wouldn't be able to pay off the amount that's left once TAP, Pell or the student loan kicks in and I am only working two to three days out of the week.

My name is Khilola Vahobova. I'm a Junior at Brooklyn College. I receive Pell to pay for school. The Pandemic has truly made it more difficult for me to learn in my classes and to stay motivated at home with the lack of in class learning.

The BOT should not raise tuition and fees because this year I only received half of the Pell Grant allocated towards students tuition, which means I must cover anything that Pell won't. My sister will also be attending college for the first time and my mother can't possibly pay for both of us as she also has rent and other bills to pay. In order to support my mom, I will have to pick up additional shifts at work to pay the remainder of my tuition myself which will take away from my study time.

My name is Juan Burbano. It is my second year at Queensborough Community College. I pay for school out of pocket. The new online classes are not worth what I pay for. The BOT should not raise tuition because the price is already high.

My name is Kailani Genaro. I'm a senior at Hunter College. I receive TAP, Pell and pay out of pocket. COVID19 has impacted me immensely. I am unable to reach financial aid to submit a document therefore unable to process my aid for the year. I cannot pay it because I was fired from work too. I can't register for classes because I have a tuition balance.

The BOT should not raise tuition because our school walls are breaking in, mice are on our campus, classes overcrowded, etc. We do not deserve to keep paying higher tuition costs when the school is falling apart and students are struggling.

My name is Ana Economou. It is my first year at CUNY SPS. I pay for schools through loans. COVID has impacted my mental health; I am way more stressed now. The BOT should not raise tuition because I'm paying full price with loans and no scholarships, and already have a substantial amount of debt.

My name is Alisha Ajani. I am a sophomore at Hunter College. I pay for school out of pocket. Because of COVID, I'm not able to have in person class and receive the level of education I paid for. The BOT cannot raise tuition because we're not getting the level of education we are currently even paying for.

My name is Lashana. I am a freshman at York College. I receive TAP, Pell and I pay out of pocket. COVID has impacted me Drastically because I am unable to focus Because i have to change my routine. Tuition should not be raised because I cannot afford to pay my bills since covid 19. I lost a lot this year and please don't raise tuition because I cannot afford my education to be taken too.

My name is Soneya Uddin. I am a senior at York College. I pay for school through Pell and TAP. Because of COVID, I am financially broke with no work. If the BOT raises tuition, it will impact me because I'm currently doing a second degree and can't afford the spike in tuition.

My name is Firdaws Roufai. I'm a sophomore at Hunter College. I receive TAP and Pell. Because we had to transition to distance learning due to COVID, my online classes are not nearly as effective as in-person instruction. The BOT should not raise tuition because I pay for monthly unlimited metrocards, text books, food, and other utilities out of pocket it will make it even more difficult to do.

My name is Sharia Morgan. I'm a student at Queensborough Community College. I receive TAP, Pell and ASAP. COVID has affected me because I'm not getting the education that I need these online classes are not teaching me anything.

The BOT should not raise tuition because I have many friends who pay thousands of dollars towards tuition because they are not in ASAP and don't receive PELL, or TAP and this will make them either have to drop out of school because they already can't afford the tuition or they will continue to be in debt.

My name is Paige Sanderson. I'm a freshman at City Tech. I pay for school by receiving Pell and TAP. COVID has forced us into distance learning; I personally don't like online learning, I prefer in class because it is better for me.

The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise the tuition by \$320 because a lot of students are already struggling to pay the current tuition. The only reason why I am accepted for grants from the state is because I don't make a lot of money from my job, my mother is on disability, and my dad passed away when I was eighteen years old. But if my situation was different I would have to pay out of pocket like so many of the friends I have at school. Please don't raise the tuition because if they do, a lot of students probably won't be able to keep attending and graduate.

My name is Ashley Sheppard. I'm a lower senior at Hunter College. I pay out of pocket to attend school.

I'm a media student so the majority of my class are hands-on in studio production. During this pandemic I will not get any hands on experience.

The trustees should vote no to the tuition increase. During this pandemic I'm currently not working, I still have an outstanding bill for my tuition for the spring. If the tuition raise I won't be able to attend in the fall or next spring.

My name is Sabrina Shelley. I'm a student at York College and I pay for school out of pocket.

The COVID19 experience for me has been horrible. My family lost their jobs and the rent is still going on along with my tuition with CUNY. It's so much money since we pay fully out of pocket as well my sister who pays out of pocket. Our tuition is double and we are economically injured.

The BOT should not increase tuition at all. It's already unfair. We paid a big amount already when it was supposed to go to the school and now we have distance learning. I don't know where the rest of our tuition is going. The increase will affect me personally because if I can't afford what I pay right now how can I even afford to pay more? I don't have the money to begin with.

My name is Arianna Ali. I'm a senior at York College. I pay for school with Pell, TAP and out of pocket expenses. The Coronavirus has affected my CUNY experience due to not being able to utilize the resources on campus. Distant learning is not the same as being involved on school campus.

Tuition raises will affect me personally during this time because with bills already piling up and due to unemployment it is tough to meet daily life expenses. Raising tuition will add to the strain that many are experiencing during this time.

My name is Nodira. I'm a third year student at York College and I pay for school out of pocket. COVID has infected my kids and my father. The trustees should not raise tuition because it's already too much.

My name is Hemwatie Rupa. I'm a freshman at York College. I pay for school with TAP and financial aid. COVID has put my freshman year of college online. I learn a lot better in a physical class with the professor there so I have been struggling to do classes online lately. The BOT should not raise tuition and fees. My mother is a single mother. She wouldn't be able to pay \$320 out of pocket because she's the one who does the grocery shopping and pays the bills. It's hard for me to get a job even though I'm looking, but even if I got one, I would be making minimum wage.

My name is Aalliyah Allen. I'm a sophomore at York College. I pay for school with TAP, Pell, Excelsior and out of pocket. COVID has impacted me because I can no longer work. I worked as a work study.

The BOT should not raise tuition because there is no way we will be able to pay our tuition. Personally I can't afford it. I can't see how you have a governor like Cuomo trying to ease the burden of tuition with things like the Excelsior scholarship still has CUNY tryna add more fees

to our tuition that we can't pay now. It makes no sense. It shows they don't care about the people. This also feeds into the racism in this country.

My name is Selina Oriekhoe. I am a second year master's student. I pay for school out of pocket. COVID has impacted me. I was displaced from my unit. I'm an OR nurse but they shut down the OR until mid April from the beginning of March.

The BOT should not raise tuition. BY \$320?! Are you kidding? The fact that they raised the price to \$455 last year was ridiculous. I pay 100% out of pocket. My rent, groceries, books, transport, etc. all together is so much. I couldn't afford my bill this year that I had to use the payment plan. I get paid twice a month, one paycheck goes to rent solely and the other paycheck goes to tuition and groceries. Increasing the tuition by \$320 will make me unable to finish my degree, which would be very unfortunate since I only have 5 classes left. Even if I didn't, isn't CUNY supposed to be the affordable alternative? I recommend CUNY to all my friends when they ask me for which school they should go to. I've been a CUNY student since graduating high school. That's almost a decade now. I got my ADN & BSN from CUNY. I decided to continue with CUNY for my masters because I've had great experiences since the beginning. Please keep CUNY affordable.

My name is Melissa Sipione. I'm a senior at CSI and I pay for school with Excelsior and out of pocket. The pandemic has made it much harder to learn important material from every one of my classes. It's difficult for me to learn online, I've never done it before and now can attest to why it doesn't fit for me.

The BOT SHOULD NOT be raising our tuition AT ALL. Not only are students struggling to pay their personal expenses but the BOT wants to put more strain on these students by increasing their tuition! Students come from all over the world, trusting the CUNY system, to experience what it feels like to have QUALITY EDUCATION at a reasonable price. All they're doing is continuously increasing tuition, yet complain that our retention ratings are so low, as well as our incoming freshmen. If they really cared about the students they would prove to us, in other ways, that they can continue to provide the necessary resources for all of our students. Give every student a shot at success!

My name is Nikea Coleman. I'm a Junior at Brooklyn College. I pay to attend school through loans and Pell. COVID is impacting me; I'm failing my classes, I can't Register for the fall semester due to financial aid issues.

The BOT should not raise tuition because most students are not working, even if they were they shouldn't have to stress about having to pay for classes!!! If you raise the Tuition it can cause students to be in debt, drop out or fail classes.

My name is Bryan McTiernan. I'm a student at the school of Labor and Urban Studies. I pay for school out of pocket. My class was switched to distance learning. A disappointment, especially considering that I am paying the same price for a lower quality of educational experience.

A raise in tuition will make life more difficult for myself. I am currently out of work due to the Coronavirus crisis. Expenses like food and transportation were already a strain for me and increasing tuition will only be more difficult choices to my life.

My name is Mubaraq Adanlawo. I am a junior at the City College of New York. I pay for college with TAP and out of pocket.

Because of the coronavirus, my hours have been cut at work and I can barely afford my house rent and now I can't pay my school fees and I can't even register for classes. If the raise is passed, then someone like me will be affected in a really bad way.

My name is Elvis Vallejo Palma. I am a freshman at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with the help of TAP and Pell.

COVID-19 made it much harder to learn the necessary curriculum by not being engaged in a normal classroom setting. Doing things online even with help being offered still feels like I'm

doing the learning on my own with no one to confide in about how difficult it is to be a student working online.

\$320 is first of all a lot of money and at the slim chance anyone who actually cares is reading this it is extremely difficult even with help to pay for textbooks apart for tuition as well as other needs like transportation and other personal things while being a full time student in NYC at a time where a lot of people are wondering how to care for family as well and no one can get jobs I'm a freshman in college and hopefully this helps.

My name is Yarielle Feliz- Colon. I am a junior at The City College of New York. I pay for college with help from Out of pocket, SEEK, TAP, and Pell.

COVID-19 brought the whole school to a halt. The quality of classes has drastically declined. Why should I pay for a level of quality in which I'm not receiving? Teachers don't even know how to work the systems and It can easily be cut off by the internet and lose so much information due to outages.

I have to pay more in a time when everyone is getting and earning less. This is ridiculous, and inhumane that people think college students, of all people, can handle a tuition raise when half the time this year, the escalators were off, food choices were extremely and unnecessary expensive. Where is our money going?

My name is Pallak Malhotra. I am a sophomore attending LaGuardia Community College. I pay for college with the help of TAP and Pell.

Due to COVID-19 I am financially unstable.

If the BOT decides to raise tuition by \$320, it will be impossible to pay my tuition.

My name is Noor Sharlin Jahan. I am a junior at The City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket.

I have to start paying for my summer and fall 2020 session and I'm still paying for my spring 2020. I literally have to work since we went into social distancing. I might have to take the semester off because i cannot pay which sucks because i was two semesters away from graduating

These are students who work and go to school and have other responsibilities we're not rich that you can hike up the price just because.

My name is Ottavio Castaldi. I am a freshman attending Hunter College. I pay for college out of pocket.

I feel out of touch with my education. Zoom classes can only do so much and I do not feel I am getting much out of my classes since in-person classes ended. It's simply made it worse overall.

My parents are helping me pay for college and I am fortunate for that, but there would simply be more strain on them or loans I would need to take out if the tuition is raised. This is unfair to the students, as we are getting less out of our classes since we have moved to distance learning, and we barely enjoy the benefits of our tuition money as it is.

My name is Marguerite Coles. I am a first year grad student at Hunter College. I pay for college by taking loans.

My classes were moved online. Some of my professors have had difficulty transitioning. There have been a lot of changes to the syllabi. It's also just hard to concentrate on class when the world is going to hell in a handbasket.

Students are struggling enough financially already in the current climate, and the economy is imploding. Many, including myself, don't qualify for the stimulus payments. I already won't be able to have a job because I'll be doing classes full time and doing a year long, time intensive internship for my program. Adding more costs on top of that is just salt in the wound.

My name is Makeda Andargachew. I am a sophomore at Hunter College. I pay for college with TAP and PELL

Because of the COVID situation, learning has become difficult. I am thankful for my professors' efforts to make the situation better, but it's hard to concentrate at home. I also know that my professors are even more limited in what they can teach.

CUNY students are already struggling as it is. I am personally lucky enough to receive enough financial aid that I do not have to pay anything. I can't imagine what would happen if there was a price increase since a lot of students have jobs to support their families.

My name is Maame Tiwaa Ocran. I am a sophomore at The City College of New York . I pay for college out of my pocket.

Because of this pandemic, I lost my mother who was a Nursing Educator at Jacobi Medical Center.

Personally tuition shouldn't be raised because now my father has to help pay my tuition along with other house bills.

My name is Toni Collier. I am a freshman at the Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with the help from ASAP.

Professors are not available to speak to and are assigning extra work compared to when the class warning person.

They shouldn't raise the tuition because CUNY prides itself in being affordable, if it rises less people will apply to CUNY. Not every student is eligible for tuition assistance.

My name is Anslem Joseph. I am a junior at Brooklyn College. I pay for college with TAP, PELL, EXCELSIOR

Doing online classes is stressful to manage.

I believe tuition shouldn't be raised because everything is already too expensive and in this economy and pandemic we need to put our needs first before our school.

My name is Michael Osei-Bonsu. I am a freshman at Hunter College. I pay for college with TAP and SEEK

It's hectic now. The workload is even more overwhelming than it was before.

My family isn't doing the best financially; the refund checks I get back help a lot at home and if the tuition is raised, I will get less money back and after allocating morning for books and other expenses, I'll have nothing left.

My name is Adamma Ogbennaya. I am a senior at Hunter College. I pay for college with Pell, TAP and out of pocket.

It has made registering for next semester and talking to people who can help a lot harder.

Even though I get partial financial aid, it's still a lot if you include me and my 4 siblings who are all also in college/graduate school.

My name is Adam Fane. I am a senior at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I pay for college out of pocket.

Covid 19 impacted my learning habit, while at the same time, it made shift all of my summer plan, which was to work on my LSAT skill.

I believe the Board of Trustees should not raise the tuition because many students struggle with obtaining the fund for their current tuition. And many of us have to work two jobs while taking over 5 classes a semester in order to graduate on time.

My name is Matthew Simbana. I am a freshman at Queens College. I pay for college with TAP, financial aid, and out of pocket.

This pandemic has absolutely demolished my ability to learn. Everything is so needlessly convoluted and difficult. The workload is all do it yourself with no ability to use professors as support.

I can barely afford to pay this tuition others would deem minimal especially coming from an already alarmingly low income household.

My name is Tania Campos. I am a sophomore at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with the help of FAFSA and ASAP.

This pandemic has affected my CUNY experience because I don't like online classes and learn best face to face. I also can't take advantage of the tutoring available, or the workshops hosted on campus or any of the other events.

I will be transferring to a senior college by Fall 2020, and most 4 year CUNY colleges don't have ASAP which I relied on to cover my tuition. This means I will have to pay out of pocket.

My name is Yomairy Vargas. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college with a pell grant and out of pocket.

I honestly felt really scared and upset the last day of in person-class and at the same time I understood that it was for our safety but I never agreed that professors and staff had to be visiting the institution for almost a week to prepare remote learning. Besides everything, we are still getting fees in our tuition and on top of everything it's been almost a month and we still take classes with a poor quality app and my expectations was that CUNY will develop an app or type of website for CUNY students to make our remote learning easier for everyone. It's disappointing!

We might be paying less than in private institutions and that's part of what makes CUNY and SUNY different. We're NOT having a good quality of learning, we're not using classrooms and there's a very small percentage of students that walk-in in a week so the light bill, water, food, cleaning , and other services are not being used. So what is the point of increasing tuition instead of decreasing or freezing it at least ! We're receiving classes in pajamas ! we're afraid to go outside ! We don't even have enough for our own bills and food. There's no reason for raising tuition AT ALL!

My name is Jennifer Pajak. I am a junior attending John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I pay for college by taking Private loans; I'm out of state so my tuition is absurdly high.

I'm a student from out of state, so I left my family and came to NYC to attend John Jay. Because of COVID I can't go home to be with them, so now I'm basically stuck here not even attending school or work. I chose John Jay for the experience of attending my classes in person and having quality interactions with my professors, who are experts in their field. They offer a lot of valuable life lessons and career advice that we simply just aren't able to get through an online class environment. I understand all students are deprived of this, but it especially sucks for me considering I pay four times what most local students pay, if not more, to attend the college, receive the same education, and utilize the same facilities and resources. So basically, I'm paying almost \$10,000 a semester to sit in my apartment and take classes online that I didn't sign up for online, and I'm missing out on all of the in class experiences and resources that I specifically chose John Jay for.

To be blunt; we are broke !!! All college kids are typically broke, but this is especially true for students living in New York City. CUNY was once free, so why are we hiking up tuition so much, for something that originally didn't even require tuition in the first place? You're preying on struggling students who can hardly afford to pay for tuition as it is. For students who pay out of pocket, that \$320 could have been their groceries. That \$320 could have fed their family. That \$320 could have covered their commute so they could even attend their college period. That \$320 could have covered their textbooks. That \$320 is VITAL to our survival in this city. For out of state students like me , that \$320 will be exponentially higher, just like every other hike in tuition, someday when we can finally pay it, due to the crippling interest rates we face on our loans. CUNY should be protecting its students, not monopolizing their wallets. John Jay for example probably already makes enough money giving out usage of the campus for the filming of various TV shows, inconveniencing students and making them late to class on a regular basis.

Given that extra business, you couldn't possibly convince me that the college truly needs that extra \$320 from each and every student more than the students themselves do.

My name is Nelissa Rodríguez. I am a sophomore at Hunter College. I receive TAP which helps with my tuition.

It's been hard to interact with professors. I'm more of a hands on... in person student.

There are a lot of students paying out of pocket, who are out of a job right now, so they wouldn't be able to make enough to pay their tuition in full. It will be hard for them to concentrate on their studies and extracurriculars if they are worried about paying for their tuition. Additionally, even students who do not pay tuition... still have other expenses that they need to take care of like rent, cable bills, other loans, etc. Therefore, raising the price would continue to stress the students out after the quarantine.

My name is Anissa Zibo. I am a senior at Hunter College. I receive Tap and Pell that helps with my payment.

I am afraid I can no longer focus on my classes. Therefore I think my grade will drop and ultimately affect my GPA. I also have been struggling with my mental health

I am low income as it is. I rely on financial aid and refunds to sustain myself while I go to school.

My name is Malka Tomsy. I am a sophomore at Kingsborough Community College. I pay for college with the help of Pell.

It has affected me psychologically, emotionally, socially and physically. My family can't afford to pay a lot more we live paycheck to paycheck. It has been really hard

Many CUNY students can't afford to pay and live a day to day life. Personally I have so many health issues but I want to finish college as well. I lost my job due to the coronavirus. My mom

is the only person in my life who helped me through and all my siblings are special needs so it's very difficult.

My name is Tyler Campbell. I am a sophomore attending The City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket.

I have been drowning in school work. Unfortunately, the pandemic has also closed down everywhere, so people can't even hang out with their friends at a diner or a movie. It honestly feels like house arrest with countless amounts of work to do from my school.

Raising the tuition would make absolutely no sense. During a pandemic, one would expect for people to be understanding. If anything, the students that agreed to do a regular class in a classroom setting within their schools should be the ones to get a discount on their tuition for as long as the school is not holding regular classes in the institution.

My name is Christina Marrow. I am a sophomore at Bronx Community College. I receive a TAP that pays for my education.

Well, my experience thus far has been interesting . For the most part I travel a lot less . However I haven't been able to step foot on my campus which has limited my resources from computer loans to quiet study time in the library .

We as students already have a lot on our hands . CUNY is supposed to be an institution that allows students an opportunity to become great. We are already paying for college and we also understand that college isn't a privilege so why make it harder ? This tuition hike will result in me getting 4 jobs and/or cutting my classes or better yet leaving college all together. There many things I have to worry about but for now at least my education is not one of them .

My name is Lauren Turner. I am a senior attending the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with Pell, out of pocket, loans

Yes, my husband has been sick and out of work since we started sheltering in place. My daughter, who attends Queensborough Community College has lost school time. We are struggling to pay bills, tuition, light, heat and food.

This kind of increase consistently affects those of us trying to improve our circumstances. As contributing members of society we add to the fabric of this city instead of becoming a burden. To dangle an education in front of someone then tell them they cannot have it is a misuse of the system. To some \$350 does not sound like a lot, but when you are just making what you have covered the basics it's everything.

My name is Maryam Oguntola. I am a freshman attending John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I pay for college with the help of the SEEK program.

As a first year student who has never taken online classes, I am struggling to focus and concentrate while staying at home.

The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition because it would affect students who either pay out of pocket and students who are struggling to pay for college. Tuition increase puts lower income and undocumented students at an unfair advantage. The tuition raise would make CUNY less accessible for people in poverty and immigrants.

My name is Shidedsi Martinez-Santos. I am a sophomore at LaGuardia Community College. I pay for college with TAP, Pell, ASAP, and out of pocket if Tap/ASAP doesn't cover it which has happened twice.

It has affected me a lot. School is not the same, I have to teach myself all the material while having to teach my two younger nieces that I take care of everyday because their mother is a nurse. Some professors are being considerate and giving us less work. Other professors are just drowning us in assignments and deadlines. I already have to pay tuition out of pocket because TAP didn't kick in and ASAP can't help because without TAP and FAFSA helping first they can't do anything. I'm without a paying job, struggling to pay rent (I'm not for NYC), struggling to buy groceries, stressed at school work, and having to teach and take care of two girls ages 3 and 8 and having to somehow still pay for tuition this semester is frustrating.

After this pandemic and many people living paycheck to paycheck, I think it would be right to actually lower tuition or give back the money that was paid/going to be paid from us the students. Online learning is NOT the same as going to class, asking in person questions, and having the material be taught to you. It does not make sense to charge someone for services they are not receiving. \$320 may not seem a lot to upper class people, but to the majority of the New Yorkers/ non New Yorkers that live paycheck to paycheck and still pay for school to try and better their socioeconomic status through education it is a huge amount of money. In my situation that is half of my rent money that the Board of Trustees would be asking for.. and rent in NYC is not cheap. I would greatly appreciate it if you guys at least gave us either our money back, gave us a major tuition relief, and not increased tuition.

My name is Jose L Torrejon. I am a sophomore at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I pay for college out of pocket.

I lost my job. I have to take care of my elderly parents. I cannot see my wife because she is a nurse.

The BOT should not raise tuition as it will put a major financial strain on me.

My name is Cristina Stivala. I am a freshman at Hunter College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Since the whole online learning is very new to students and teachers everyone is disoriented. I'm finding it extremely difficult to do well in certain classes because of the distance.

We should be paying less since physical classes are cancelled. I'm struggling with school because I need to work and make money to provide for myself and my family during these difficult times.

My name is Yesenia Kim. I am a freshman at Hunter College. I pay for college with DOE Voucher and out of pocket

It has caused stress over continuing my education and whether I should drop out due to the pandemic.

If they raise tuition, I will not only be unable to attend next year but I will be forced to stop pursuing my education degree due to lack of funds.

My name is Isabela Buitrago. I am a freshman at Baruch College. I pay for college with TAP and Pell.

I am now not able to attend school physically, yet of course I understand it's important to practice social distancing.

Well I am very lucky to receive FAFSA, and TAP but not everyone has that privilege. In addition my refund check goes towards monthly metro cards and books, if they increment the tuition, I'll have to start paying these out of pocket. For other kids, especially those whom are undocumented they pay for everything out of pocket, this would take a huge toll on their families, especially since these families are very rarely offered job security due to their immigration status. Overall this would be terrible, and professors have already expressed they don't get paid well, which is outrageous considering it's higher education. The CUNY system needs more funding but not from its students, or staff, it has to come from budgeting correctly.

My name is Trisanique Malieka Mcleary. I am a sophomore at Queensborough Community College. I pay for college with the help of financial aid.

I have been doing online classes sometimes. Also I have been trying to keep up with the work and it's hard at times. In closing I just pray this virus is going to be over soon so CUNY can reopen again.

The BOT should not raise tuition because not everyone has that kind money. A lot of students can possibly be in debt with the school. Some jobs also are paying minimum wage paycheck to workers.

My name is Joselin Cruz. I am a freshman at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college Pell and out of pocket.

It has been really hard especially for me because first I was exposed to COVID-19 at work and then I have to stop working to take care of my son.

If the BOT raises tuition I would not be able to take more than one class. I am not able to pay for my classes in full and financial aid just covers part of it. My journey will be so long if I only take one class per semester. I would not be able to succeed and achieve my goals.

My name is Nadege Belhomme. I am a student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of my pocket.

I could not submit assignments because I could not read my homework. I was working many days in a row after hours due to coworkers being affected directly or indirectly. When I got home, I was exhausted.

I may not afford to pay for my college if the tuition raises.

My name is Annaliese Gayle. I am a senior at Hunter College. I pay for college TAP, federal aid, and out of pocket.

I was already having issues with the financial aid office. Now I'm uncertain about the money I currently owe. I don't believe students should have to pay for this semester at all.

The Board of Trustees should not increase tuition at all, especially when it will not improve the quality of education/campus resources.

My name is Alexis Fisher. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college with Pell and out of pocket.

Unfortunately, I have had to relocate home and have had a really hard time concentrating on school work. Some of my professors are still assigning a lot of work and it is hard to balance and focus when so many people in our city are dying. I miss my friends, my classes, my professors, and the learning environment at school. Not having access to this is devastating and I was sincerely enjoying my classes this semester. I also had an internship that was sponsored from CUNY that I have to do remotely now.

Because, our city is facing a global pandemic and our people are dying. This would be a shame on the Board of Trustees if they raised our tuition. How do they not see that we are suffering emotionally and physically? Several of my classmates have been diagnosed with the coronavirus. This tuition hike would mean I wouldn't be able to get some groceries for my family. We deserve a partial refund, not another charge!

My name is Jamell Henderson. I am an Alumni.

I worry as I have applied to the Ed.D program at the College of Staten Island and I don't know how this will impact my journey if I am chosen to be in the cohort; I worry about covering this financially as well as connecting with the cohort and experts who will be teaching us

Students are hurting, and literally dying and the BOT should have a heart and understanding that you cannot operate this great university on the backs of students.

My name is Yunis Wong. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college with the help of TAP and Pell.

The pandemic caused the loss of part-time jobs and increased my financial burden. Also, I found a hard time to adjust to the remote classes in the beginning.

The increased tuition will increase my family financial burden, especially if we lose our job during the pandemic.

My name is Edna Lopez. I am a senior at Hunter College. I pay for college by taking loans.

It has become very overwhelming. It has also been a mess throughout this entire experience, I'm not that happy with this virtual semester.

The tuition should not be raised because everything is already more expensive, so since the workforce is extremely slow at the moment, we have other bills to pay. I have to save for my tuition and it is even harder now that I have less work and bills to pay. I also have a child to take care of so finance has only become more difficult especially during these times. It personally just increases my stress levels.

My name is Anna Troia. I am a freshman at Queensborough Community College. I pay for college with the help of financial aid.

The coronavirus has affected my CUNY experience very badly. From going to face to face classes & learning the materials & hearing other students ask questions would help me understand the material much better. The teachers are trying to help as best as they can but the learning is much harder. Also, being home does not motivate someone to finish their work or to enjoy it anymore.

I believe that the Board of Trustees should not raise our tuition by \$320 because if we keep going up, the price would be unreachable to middle class families like mine. The graduation rate will go down if the price goes up. My financial aid may not cover the tuition & i may have to pay something out of pocket. Which is not okay because me & my mother are struggling as it is, any more bills & i wont be able to continue my education.

My name is Paola. I am a student at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with the help of FAFSA.

This pandemic has affected my CUNY experience as there are less classes, it's not the same learning when you have online classes vs in person classes and less productivity.

Students can't afford a raise. This can harm students' lives because we will not have enough money to buy food or a metrocard. It's not fair to raise because nothing else will be better or superior in our college.

My name is George Messoloras. I am a junior at York College. I pay for college with the Excelsior Scholarship.

The coronavirus pandemic took me away from my school. I miss my academic life, my professors, my friends, etc.

The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition by \$320 because it creates added pressure and problems for many students. There are some students at York who don't have access to the internet and food whenever they need it and they live in shelters. An increase to tuition by over 300 dollars will certainly make things needlessly harder for them in a time when simply being social is not possible.

My name is McAland. I am a senior at The City College of New York. I pay for college with TAP and PELL.

It has created an environment where it is hard to learn. Professor's now have altered their classes and it makes it different to keep up, and technology hasn't always worked as planned.

Due to the virus and the stress students are enduring an increase would add to the level of anxiety. Also during this time many people aren't working, and having them choose between school and potentially their next meal. Please hold in to account these issues when considering raising the tuition.

My name is Tauhera Jinnah. I am a junior at York College. I pay for college out of pocket.

This increase will affect not only me but my parents who are helping me pay my tuition. We are working less hours and none at all. We have other things to finance such as food and rent and bills

My name is Jessica Espinoza Perez. I am a sophomore at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with the help of the Excelsior.

I am not really learning from my class, my professor doesn't really "teach". I am trying to transfer to John Jay college and I am unsure of what's going on in this process.

It is an extremely difficult time to keep up with the expenses. Nobody in my family (household of 4 adults & 3 kids) is working and the money that we do receive is only enough for food and medication because we might have caught the disease. I can barely keep up with my tuition before, much less if you increase it. If I have to choose between my health and education, the answer is clear: I choose my health.

My name is Tasif Kazi. I am a senior at Queens College. I pay for college with TAP, Pell and loans.

Extremely hard to learn during this pandemic.

I don't think there is enough of a chance to raise tuition and I believe it's already a lot higher than it used to be. It's getting harder and harder to pay for it without taking out bigger loans.

My name is Maryfe Coronel. I am a freshman at The City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket.

The corona virus slowed down my ability to pay the rest of the tuition since I could not work anymore. It's been a struggle to study and do homework at home since it is not the best environment for school learning. Sometimes the internet does not work appropriately so I get logged off of class meetings or finish my assignments less promptly.

This increase will affect me personally by causing me to take more shifts at work. This means I won't be able to have more time studying and doing homework because I will be working in order to pay this tuition raise. Additionally, I won't be able to buy my other school materials like textbooks, online programs and a new laptop because of this tuition raise.

My name is David Sewsankar. I am a senior at Brooklyn College. I pay for college out of pocket.

It has made me go from loving it to hating it. My professors seem to lack empathy for the pandemic we're in. CUNY seems to have that same lack of empathy for the economic crisis that has arisen due to covid-19.

Currently I have to make the decision between registering for summer classes or helping pay rent this month. An extra \$320 will discourage me from taking my final 2 classes to graduate. Lastly, my future is in jeopardy. My hope for financial mobility is linked to my degree, if I can't afford it I can't move forward.

My name is Celine Ramsingh. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college with the help of the Excelsior.

Due to COVID-19, I have stopped working which stops my income. Even though I receive Excelsior, I have summer classes and fees that need to be paid.

I believe the BOT should not raise tuition because I am not working due to the pandemic in order to pay the tuition raise.

My name is Khaleel Anderson. I am a faculty at Queens College.

We're forced to do office hours online making the impact of connecting with students tougher.

It's highly inappropriate for the university to consider raising tuition during a pandemic crisis.

My name is Renee Slon. I am a senior attending the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college Out of pocket & employment reimbursement.

Yes, I am working more hours in the ED. There is much stress, anxiety and fear. However I am lucky to have a job unlike many others.

It will make my life even more stressful if the BOT raises tuition.

My name is John Mabery. I am a freshman at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with the help of scholarships.

I have experienced psychological effects from being a front line worker, which has impacted my ability to stay on top of my schoolwork.

My scholarship money is about to run out and I need to apply for student loans or, worse, pay out of pocket for my education. Now is not the time to hike tuition, as it would be detrimental to my progress as well as many others. Do the right thing.

My name is Lyne Bercy. I am a junior at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

Since the pandemic I have been out of work and unable to fulfill my monthly payment plan

During this pandemic, it would be hard on the majority of students who are out of work to pay an increase of \$320.

My name is Melanie Seeman. I am a freshman at the City College of New York. I pay for college in multiple ways including Pell, TAP, Honors Scholarship, rest out of pocket.

Well the switch to remote learning was anything but smooth. Technical difficulties continue to disrupt my learning experience, which makes it harder to focus during lectures. Confused professors make for even more confused students. Some of my professors are still trying to get things together. It is also very much harder to concentrate at home because of noise and frequent interruptions that affect both my in-class performance and out.

Our tuition has been increasing for the past couple of years, but yet our government funding hasn't increased. Why is that?? As a sophomore entering her junior year, the last thing I need is another increase. It's bad enough that the tuition increases as you go further into college, and now they want to add more?? There's no reason why this should be allowed. If this keeps on, I'll be paying extra money out of pocket every semester, and I don't have a job.

My name is Miles Cohoe. I am a sophomore at The City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket.

All classes have been shifted online. My daily interaction with fellow students has been eliminated. I am receiving less than half of the experience I am being charged for.

It's already hard to afford the tuition as it is for me. Money is greatly mismanaged in city college. Why should it go up in the wake of this pandemic?

My name is Cassidy Canberg. I am a student at The City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket.

I'm unemployed and have no source of income. My parents' businesses are seeing a dramatic fall in sales. Online classes are difficult to focus and hinder collaborating with peers.

I will have to pick up more shifts, taking away from my academics. My parents will feel increased pressure. I have a sibling also in CUNY so we'll have to pay a \$640 increase in tuition in total.

My name is Sela Schneidinger. I am a freshman at The City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket and with the help of FAFSA.

I don't have a job now and these online classes are still something I'm getting used to. I believe that we shouldn't be paying full tuition for half a semester or more of online school. It's not fair and we could use the extra money, especially now.

I would have to pay an additional \$320, which would result in me working a bit more and having less time for my school work.

My name is Dorothy Slater. I am a senior at Hunter College. I pay for college with Tap, Pell, and Seek.

Graduation in terms of being present in a space. my internship because now we have to do things remotely.

If tuition does increase my pell and Tap will not. I do rely on pell and Tap for additional financial support. Since I am not guaranteed a work study job.

My name is Anna Compton. I am a sophomore at Hunter College. I pay for college with TAP, PELL, and loans.

I've lost both sources of income to this virus. Honestly I'm not even sure how to continue paying for housing in the fall without income. It scares me to think that tuition will go up despite the economic trouble a majority of all CUNY students are currently facing. The COVID crisis has impacted me as a student with an IEP. Online classes have been a major bump in my college career. I've always avoided taking online classes because of my learning disability. I'm worried about my GPA and how this will impact my financial aid, as more than 90 percent of my tuition is covered by TAP and PELL. Now, because summer classes are online I will not be taking classes as this has been an extremely difficult adjustment. Due to not taking summer classes I will be graduating a semester late and will not receive tap, as this is an additional semester for me.

CUNY students cannot afford a tuition hike. We have been laid off. I am not sure how we are supposed to come up with an additional 320 dollars when we are paying for resources currently that we are not even receiving. I've been a student at Hunter College since August and still have yet to find a therapist through the references the counselors on campus have given me. We don't have enough counselors on campus yet we are being asked to pay more money for wellness fees?

My name is Diana Pelaez. I am a freshman at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college out of pocket.

This pandemic significantly affected my CUNY experience by making it much harder for me to even learn from the classes I'm currently taking. I was also planning on taking summer classes, but now I have to take my summer classes online. I was planning on taking courses that are more challenging for me, and now this pandemic caused me to become more hesitant on taking these challenging summer classes, since I was looking forward to being lectured by a professor in person. I was also looking forward to meeting new people in these courses, making connections that would've possibly benefit me in the future. This pandemic has also caused me as well as many other individuals I know who are also CUNY students to have more of a difficulty with focusing on our classes since we are all already occupied with keeping ourselves and our families/friends healthy. I know many people who unfortunately passed away due to this pandemic, and I have relatives and friends who are very ill.

I believe the Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition by \$320 because we are already experiencing economic difficulties as a nation, and we are already struggling with making money since a lot of people are unemployed due to this pandemic. We will unfortunately not be able to afford as many things as before this situation occurred. I know many other individuals who aren't financially stable who have to still pay a certain amount of cash out of pocket to their CUNY colleges, and this increase will make it extremely difficult for them to pay. This increase will affect me personally by it significantly making it so much more difficult for me to pay for my tuition. Even with financial aid, I still have to pay a big amount out of pocket and if our tuition is raised, I will not be able to pay my tuition and attend the classes I'm supposed to be attending. I can not afford to take out loans due to various and very valid reasons. We all have a lot on our plate already because of this pandemic, and an increase in tuition will only make things worse for all of us.

My name is Nika. I am a junior at Baruch College. I pay for college with the help of the Excelsior.

Excelsior doesn't cover my full costs of attending college, and my parents do not financially support me with college. This means I work to make up the difference. During this pandemic I have not been able to go to work, meaning I have no way of covering my textbooks and tuition.

This increase could mean I wouldn't be able to attend. As a 19 year old going into their senior year, I am incredibly proud of my academic abilities, especially as a disabled student. However, tuition hikes like these make it incredibly difficult to attend college.

My name is Kerwin Simon. I am a student at CUNY School of Labor and Urban Studies. I pay for college out of pocket

Changed my in class experience to zoom classes. The entire syllabus had to be changed to accommodate online, which I am having difficulty with. My focus and attention toward the professor is a challenge. The in-class discussions are what we look forward to. This environment helps us prepare for the real world as we know it.

Raising tuition at this time is unacceptable. Many students are unsure of their job status after covid-19. Today and for some time to come, many of us will continue to struggle to pay rent, feed and care for our families. I agree that CUNY needs a raise but timing is everything, this is not the time. We are making the sacrifice to stay in school, added tuition raises will quarantine thousands from receiving education. Everyone is fearful during this pandemic creating added stress by raising tuition at this time will increase students panic and lose hope in CUNY. CUNY is known for providing hope and security, let's keep this hope alive for many. Please think about this, it will affect many.

My name is Ishrat Jahan. I am a freshman at Hunter College. I pay for college with TAP and Pell

It cut short my first semester here and drastically impacted learning. I am not getting the same quality of teaching I would have if I had attended in person lectures. Furthermore, paying for

summer classes has been far more difficult as I am out of a job and am put in a strenuous financial position.

\$320 is a lot and I fear that this “minor” tuition hike will give incentive to further raise tuition. The majority of students at CUNY are low income students who chose CUNY due to its low tuition. To rob us of that is to rob the schools most valuable asset. Furthermore, students already have to pay for housing, transportation, educational materials, etc. Why add to the burden by raising tuition? What exactly are you bettering by taking more money from students?

My name is Margaret Stone. I am a junior at The City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket

It has been much harder to get the help I need from professors. I have also missed class time because of COVID-related technical difficulties (my internet is much slower than it was before the pandemic). It also takes much longer for me to obtain the resources I need for research. The numerous changes to the schedule that resulted from CUNY going on pause and changing spring break dates with very limited notice has rendered course syllabi inaccurate, making it harder to stay on top of schoolwork. There have also been times when technical difficulties caused class disruptions, and class had to start and stop multiple times.

So many students and their family members have lost their jobs and/or are facing financial strain. New York City is the world epicenter of the pandemic, and many students have been or will be infected and face the financial burden of the associated medical expenses. I lost my job because of the pandemic, as did one of my family members. This increase would place additional financial strain on my family.

My name is Alondra Resendiz. I am a sophomore at Queensborough Community College. I pay for college out of pocket.

The coronavirus pandemic has affected my CUNY experience dramatically because I would use the computers from the library to get my work done. Being around campus would be very helpful for me because I had easier access to whichever department I needed. Now that I'm it's harder to get done what I have to do.

Increasing tuition by \$320 because not everybody has the money for it. If financial aid is able to cover for it's ok for those that have financial aid, but not everybody gets financial aid. Me personally, I don't get financial aid for being undocumented so this would be more money for me to pay out of pocket.

My name is Zeynep Akca. I am a graduate student attending CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of my pocket.

Online classes are an adjustment. Future tuition payments are a scare.

I am an international student and based on current exchange rates this would be almost 7x as much for my family which is a difficult adjustment given the changes in economy during the pandemic.

My name is Lunisha Augustin. I am a sophomore attending Brooklyn College. I pay for my college out of pocket.

I am paying tuition to be only submitting one assignment after the other . It is harder to get the campus's resources I need. I am also not going to be attending graduation this year.

Without our current situation increasing tuition shouldn't be normal. Also, I won't be able to afford my degree if that happens . I will not be getting support to help with tuition.

My name is Mahmeema Mohiuddin. I am a freshman at York College. I receive TAP and Pell.

In my building we live with 22 people and already 7 of them have been infected. And one lady had died. Everyday we are passing through a very horrible situation...My mom is also sick. Fortunately it's not covid-19. But... even we went out the last day after 32 days as we had no food left to eat. So, in these circumstances how can I concentrate in my study and these all. It's hard to do things like normal.

I have to pay my tuition by TAP and Pell. Also I have to help my parents to run households by the refunds. Since I have a speech disability, I can't get a good job. So, it would be very difficult for me if the board of trustees raise the tuition.

My name is Tiffany Whyte. I am a junior at York College. I pay for college out of pocket.

COVID19 has made me face a loss of job, failure in classes- unable to study, increase medical expenses.

CUNY should not raise tuition because I cannot afford to pay any increase. I lost my job and unable to pay rent so as soon as the pandemic is over I won't even have a home much less to pay the current costs. So an increase would only add more insurmountable challenges.

My name is Md Masudur Rahman. I am a sophomore at York College. I pay for college out of pocket.

COVID has impacted me. It became so tough financially. It affected my work and family life.

I am sure so many people have lost their job. Especially those who lay out of their pocket like me. So I believe CUNY shouldn't raise the tuition fees especially in this pandemic situation!

My name is Marilin Antoncuri. I am a senior attending York College. I received a Pell which helps with my tuition.

The coronavirus impacted me greatly because it set me back an entire semester since my study abroad trip was canceled. Initially I was distraught and upset but I didn't take it to heart because I understood that nobody intentionally set this up. However, now the impact of the coronavirus has seeped into my internship (credit bearing). My internship site was shut down. 50% of my grade is based on my evaluations from my field supervisor. CUNY has not refunded even a tad bit of the tuition. The quality that I personally get from in person courses is not the same with online ones, even through blackboard ultra. It took several weeks for things to settle and now we're nearly the end. Yes, there is support and essential services still being offered but CUNY can do

more for its students. I am not a student who simply goes to school and has nothing else to worry about. I had an on campus job and CUNY said the federal work study students would still be paid. Unfortunately, I have not received any federal work study pay and I have reached out to my York College campus financial aid office via email. CUNY should make sure staff is pushing for these payments to happen. CUNY promises to do a lot but do not fully come through. Thankfully the actual professors are doing an amazing job to support the students but of course CUNY administration seems to care only for their administrators. The classroom setting where breakthroughs and epiphanies happen, should be the center of CUNY's agenda. By this I mean, students first.

Education is already unattainable for so many individuals like myself who come from underserved communities. One might think that students have Financial aid to cover most of the tuition and TAP. This is true but relying on government assistance is a stressor of its own. Parents are distrustful of assistance and institutions like the government. A student cannot have a full time job that is reported because it increases one's income earnings, especially when combined with a parent's earnings. Where does the money of each increase go to? It is not evident in the school. Professors and certain staff genuinely care about educating students, expanding our horizons and pushing us to work for career paths we never thought possible but that is not the case with certain administrators. I have to help my mother take care of my grandparents, who both tested positive for the coronavirus. We live in an urbanized neighborhood, as do my grandparents, so we use public transportation to travel. It is not an easy thing and the uncertainty of tuition cost is sometimes unbearable. Tuition is taken care of with financial aid but everything else in one's life still needs attending to (bills, rent, food, helping family members and etcetera). Simply put, the true exercise of empathy needs to be practiced. Students are a vulnerable population.

My name is Brianna Maxwell. I am a sophomore at York College. I pay for college with some help from TAP and the remainder out of pocket.

I suffer from migraines and I'm in excruciating pain having to sit in front of a screen all day. I cannot focus on my homework due to the amount of deaths happening to people that I know.

I already work full time to pay for my tuition and due to the virus I had to stop working. I will most likely have to drop out the coming semester especially if there is an increase in tuition.

My name is Kevin MacColl. I am a faculty at York College.

It would be a financial burden on the majority of this student population if the BOT decides to increase tuition. Most students come from underserved and low income families.

My name is Hillary Deane. I am a junior at York College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Being at home has caused many distractions causing me not to focus as effectively as I would at school.

Personally I'm out of work, this is my first time paying tuition by myself. It's been stressful because I need to take summer courses to graduate Spring 2021. But this raise will hinder me from my goal cause I will need to work overtime and won't have time to focus on my studies.

My name is Tanuja Anirude-Deonarine. I am a student at York College and I pay for college out of pocket.

The workload hasn't been minimized due to this pandemic but even though 2 members of my household tested positive and had to be attended to at home. Most professors aren't able to teach online due to not being aware of the techniques.

Due to being quarantined I've had to stay home from work without pay. I usually do payment plans for my tuition and this increase would take a toll on me where I would have to borrow money in order to make these payments. I don't think this is the right time to raise the tuition when we're all suffering from a pandemic.

My name is Giassary Chinchilla. I am a freshman at Queensborough Community College. I pay for college with the help of FAFSA.

I started class online, I lose my job and I don't know how to pay my bills

I'm a single mom, I have to pay a lot of stuff. With this tuition increase, it will make my life more stressful than it already is.

My name is Bowlee Kortee. I am a sophomore at the College of Staten Island. I pay for college out of pocket.

I was out of work for a while and wasn't getting paid. My aunt is out of work right now and it's been hard balancing school work with online classes.

This will affect me badly. I provide for myself and I haven't even been able to pay for my spring 2020 tuition.

My name is Danilo Bonilla. I am a freshman at Queensborough Community College. I pay for college with help from ASAP and TAP.

Coronavirus has taken a big emotional and physical toll on me. All the members of my family that work have been let go and therefore I became the sole breadwinner. My job has not closed so far but we have had our hours cut drastically. All of these challenges and plus the basic survival needs have required me to take a second job overnight to make extra income all the while still doing my classes and assignments. It has been emotionally and physically exhausting but my family and my future depend on my actions right now. Also, people need to eat and my jobs both deal with food and customer service so I'm also doing my little part to help others.

The Board of Trustees should not raise our tuition because it's not fair that people should worry about an extra additional charge when they are just trying to feed themselves and their families. Yes, it can be argued that this will not go into effect until a further date, however, the toll this pandemic has taken on us, the recovery will not be right away and it will be a long process.

My name is Rochanda Rocke. I am a senior attending York College. I pay for college with the help of TAP and Pell.

Everything is online however, I have to pay to print and use my own laptop

The Board should not raise our tuition this year. Most of us have to print and use our own technology at home, we even have to pay for printing supplies, use of the internet etc but, we pay for that in our tuition. Another reason is that I am laid off and I have no income coming in. If I have to go to a class in the fall but financial aid doesn't cover it, I would be on my own with little to no savings for that occurrence.

My name is Britney Dixon. I am a senior at York College. I pay for college with Pell.

I lost my job due to COVID-19.

I don't think it's fair to raise tuition only because we are going through a recession right now and a lot of people are losing their jobs.

My name is Yajahnia Nubyahn. I am a freshman at the College of Staten Island. I pay for college with the help of Tap, SEEK, Pell

The coronavirus pandemic affected my CUNY experience making the rest of the Spring semester be virtual. It was more challenging for me than I thought it would be to transition online. The learning just isn't as effective and obtainable through a computer as it is face to face.

I feel that raising tuition by \$320 is not helpful at all to any student. Tuition is more than expensive enough as it stands. Many students struggle hard to meet their payments. Raising the price is just discouraging and unsympathetic to the youth and lower income families. This increase will affect me personally because I am a part of the lower income family group that could not afford the price of half of tuition a year on our own. We, the youth are the future. Don't make things harder than it has to be for us to succeed.

My name is Shannon Johnston. I am a sophomore at the College of Staten Island. I am in the ASAP program. But I pay for my tuition out of pocket

With the transition to remote learning, I have been stressed out because I am trying to complete the work to the best of my ability, and also help my siblings out with their online classes, I especially have to help my brother out a lot because he has special needs, he is autistic. I do miss my campus a little because I would always see my friends. I am a bit worried that my campus may not open again for the fall semester, cause I have heard things that colleges are considering going fully online for the fall semester, but I am not 100% sure if that is true or not.

They shouldn't increase it again because of people that only have one income and also for people who have been having financial issues. For example, both my parents work but my dad is our only income. My dad is a cop, and he's been having issues at his job, which is causing him stress at times. I also have 2 siblings (a younger sister and a younger brother) which also have to be provided for. In my opinion, I think the tuition should be reduced, because of the financial stress and personal stress people have been facing due to Covid-19.

My name is Imma. I am a freshman at the College of Staten Island. I pay for college Out of pocket and ASAP

I'm struggling with the online assignments, having a very hard time keeping up. I don't know if anyone else has experienced this but I honestly can't learn like this. Putting a strain on my education.

People are already struggling to pay the tuition as it is and adding more money will only bankrupt us instead of helping us. This is the reason why people are discouraged from attending colleges because of the amount of money they charge you, just so you can get an education and make something of yourself, you must bankrupt yourself first. They're only thinking about themselves but never think about the people working paycheck to paycheck trying to make something of themselves.

My name is Xuanyu Pi. I am a freshman at Queensborough Community College. I pay for college out of pocket.

This is my first semester as an international student. Just two months after arriving in a new country, I have to isolate myself in a small room of 10 square meters. After class, I will go to the library to study and have an ESL course at campus. The inability to go to the library means that many textbooks without an electronic version cannot be read. This directly led me to spend more time on my homework. Some exams must be taken online, and many unexpected things happen on the website. Like one of my exams has been done three times, and the score on the blackboard still shows 0 points.

As an international student, our tuition fees are more than three times the normal, plus rent, transportation, food. Our pressure is already great. This semester only took 5 weeks on campus and became an online class. Most of the courses are now self-study, and the online courses are not affected by all aspects of the quality of the courses on the campus. If so, why do we have to pay so much to learn online in a rented room? Wouldn't it be more convenient to have online classes in my home country?

My name is Joseph Dolcemaschio. I am a senior at College of Staten Island. I pay for college with the help of TAP, FAFSA, and ASAP.

I had to take the semester off because it was becoming unbearable to cope. This is very unfortunate and should not be done now.

The cost of living is already high enough in New York. Now with a pandemic why is it going up? This is unfair to everyone.

My name is Victoria Oriente. I am a freshman at College of Staten Island. I pay for college with the help of TAP, FAFSA, Excelsior

I am not receiving services in a satisfactory way. Communication with my teachers has been low due to the pandemic. I can not seek the library nor can I go to the cafeteria. I have low access to the things I need to succeed. I do not have the health center or counseling center to go for free checkups and useful resources. I miss going to clubs and seeing my friends in the LGBT resource center. I feel lonely, confused, and depressed. Phone calls and video chat are not the same as in person, especially when you have trash internet connection.

We are not receiving the quality we are paying for. The course I am required to take in the Fall for my major only has 1 class available. 1 CLASS. That is unacceptable. Classes are overcrowded with students, I have over 70 students in my Math class alone. There are holes in the ceiling, and garbage bags over the toilets. There is barely any security. I do not feel safe on campus. Anyone could walk in any classroom and cause harm to faculty and students. The cafeteria prices are outrageous. Do you forget that we need to eat? Why is it \$7 for a sandwich? You are raising our tuition, yet we are receiving nothing out of it, NOTHING. And it is a disgrace. Everyone should have access to an education. A proper education, with paid teachers able to instruct the courses we need. I can not afford an education. The only reason I attend CUNY is because of financial aid. If you are going to raise our tuition, at least have properly functioning toilets, and safe classrooms.

My name is Angelina Ashack. I am a freshman at College of Staten Island. I pay for college out of pocket.

Taking classes is harder and the workload the teachers give is way more extensive in comparison to before the coronavirus. The virus adds stress and in addition to the pressure of college it all just feels overwhelming

We barely have money to pay for the regular tuition, so adding more money to it makes no sense. We have lives and jobs and those jobs are impacted so negatively that work is scarce.

My name is Kaira Chen. I am a junior at the College of Staten Island. I pay for college with TAP and Pell.

Everything has changed and everyone is trying to adapt to the new environment including myself. Everything is online and it's hard to contact the professor when in need. Everything we can do according to our timing.

With the virus going around, a lot of people have lost their job and are unable to pay for living expenses, an increase in tuition is just too much. Many people can't earn enough to pay for their tuition, no one wants to be behind in their education just because of money problems. Even for

those that could pay for the tuition, people are already losing money and going through hardship like the Great depression, an increase in tuition is not necessary.

My name is Niiru Takahashi. I am a sophomore at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I am an International student, hence I pay for college from savings which I am running out of.

Since I am an International student, I am paying double tuition compared to residents, hence of course I expect the best quality of class. However, due to the pandemic all classes have shifted to online which I do not feel any worth for those.

Simply put, I am pretty sure they cannot provide the best quality of class and never satisfy the students' needs, especially for International students like me.

My name is Anthony Rubin. I am a senior at the College of Staten Island. I pay for college Out of pocket, and with scholarships.

Completing classes online is hard.

I believe the Board of Trustees shouldn't raise the tuition if students are in debt or in need of help to pay the tuition.

My name is Nnamdi Ibeh. I am a senior at York College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Distance learning has made classes harder not only classwork wise, but because some of these professors aren't able to work well through blackboard and don't know what they're doing. This makes it difficult for the students to work from home and deal with the Coronavirus epidemic as a whole.

How will the increase improve the Board? Every tuition increase has failed to show me where my money is being put into. Worst of all, I pay out of pocket, so paying even more would make my life more stressful.

My name is Avassa Arjune. I am a freshman at Queensborough Community College. I pay for college out of pocket.

My family lost their job, and I'm expected to pay my tuition in full completely out of pocket. It's not fair that I'm paying my full tuition when my family has to worry about food and rent and bills. I'm barely holding on as is.

I cannot afford my tuition now, how will I afford an additional \$320? I'm not getting any help from the government. I do not get a stimulus check. This will put more of a strain on my family.

My name is Chris Discala. I am a junior at the College of Staten Island. I pay for college out of pocket.

The pandemic has made my CUNY experience tragic. Two of my professors do not know how to hold class anymore yet I still paid for it.

I work 45+ hours a week ALONGSIDE being a student to pay for this. Raising my tuition means I have to work more and focus less on my studies, making my GPA lower.

My name is Nicholas Vecchio. I am a senior at the College of Staten Island. I pay out of pocket.

The coronavirus pandemic affected my CUNY experience by showing how deadly this disease can be . I've never seen anything like this in my entire life and by not seeing my friends from school and not being in the classroom stinks. Hopefully this will be contained so this way I can go back to school not only to learn however, graduate on time .

Tuition should not increase during this time because some students have school work, they have to take care of their families and work. This is not what CUNY should be doing; they have to understand we are in a crisis that needs to be taken seriously. As now students should be focused on their health and safety first then worry about the other things that are important.

My name is Lynsi Appiah. I am a sophomore at the College of Staten Island. I pay for college with help from ASAP, TAP, and PELL

It made me depressed and less motivated to do school work. Professors give more work online than in class and certain professors are asking for doctor notes knowing we're going through a pandemic. Staring at my screen for class work gives me headaches. People's family members are passing away and grieving and they have to worry about handing in class work due next class.

Believe it or not us college students are already broke because of paying for school, books, classes, so why raise tuition by \$320 if we can barely afford college. We're going for a better future to pursue careers and the more expensive college becomes might as well learn everything we need to know at home. It's cheaper online than it is in person. I prefer it in person for socializing reasons other than doing it at home.

My name is Joumana Abouelela. I am a freshman at the College of Staten Island. I pay for college with Pell.

The coronavirus pandemic has affected my CUNY experience negatively because I am no longer learning properly I am just submitting assignments. The assignments are longer and harder to complete now than before we began distance learning. Lastly, not all professors are understanding of students who are struggling during this crisis.

The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition by \$320 because there was already a tuition increase last year yet it's still the same quality of education. If tuition just keeps increasing after students have already accepted a CUNY school then CUNYs should lose their "affordable" reputability. Students already work hard to pay tuition and it's not fair to make their life harder for money that won't even go towards their education.

My name is Jenna Brown. I am a junior at the College of Staten Island. I pay for college with Excelsior.

Everything is online which makes it harder for me to pay attention and focus on my work. Information is harder to come by, and if I have questions, I have to go through a bunch of different people to get a simple answer.

CUNY should not raise tuition. Although Excelsior pays for my tuition, I have to pay for all winter and summer classes, plus any lab materials. I'm on a single-parent household income with 3 kids attending college, so it will be harder for me to pay.

My name is Simeon Coulter. I am a freshman at Hunter College. I pay for college by a mix of loans and out of pocket expenses.

My education has suffered greatly, some of my classes have been interrupted, nearly stopped, or uninformative because of this virus. I've nearly lost all interest in my classes due to them switching to online and despite my efforts to keep up with the work I'm constantly falling behind due to taking care of sickly family members. So overall my education has suffered and my workflow has been completely flipped on its head.

This will fall on deaf ears but the \$320 hikes may cause me to drop out of college. It has already been a huge financial risk for me to attend college while at the same time having other obligations outside of school. Attending college for just one year has set me back with a large amount of debt and due to the fact that I won't have a job anytime soon that debt will soon grow insurmountable.

My name is Tasmia Rahman. I am a freshman at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college by Financial Aid and out of pocket

I had to be in an online class which I hated because I think it's double of work I had to do. Not getting enough help. Also no work so it's hard for me to play from my pocket.

Personally it's already hard for me to pay from my pocket and if that rises then I cannot pay without a job. If there is no job then how will I pay?

My name is Max Muller. I am a freshman at The City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket.

Classes are now online which I did not sign up for. I paid for housing for an academic year and now had to move out. Professors are also terrible at teaching online.

CUNY is already expensive for me as it is. Housing at the towers is expensive, and I only have so much money for my education. Raising the price of tuition for class quality that is diminishing is just adding extra unnecessary burden to the equation.

My name is Julia. I am a sophomore at Hunter College. I pay for college with the Excelsior.

I feel like these online classes have hindered my ability to learn and retain the info being taught to me. Completing work in a timely manner at home is difficult since I've been accustomed to getting much more work done in the library. It's been hard to get motivated to attend class and hand in assignments on time.

Numerous students and their families are already going through financial struggles as many of them have lost their jobs due to the pandemic. Raising tuition would not only add to that stress, but it's also unfair since the quality of education isn't what people paid for in the first place (zoom/online classes). To be honest, I'm not sure how it would affect my Excelsior scholarship.

My name is Raadiya James. I am a senior at New York City College of Technology. I pay for college with Federal subsidized/ unsubsidized loans.

It's been a difficult adjustment and still is, to get comfortable with distance learning. I had to turn a shared living space into a learning environment, upgrade internet service, and basically fill in a lot of gaps where the teacher was falling short due to online teaching. I know we're in a pandemic but I miss being able to interact with a teacher and ask questions during the learning experience. Some teachers share YouTube links of recorded lessons and it just makes me feel like I'm paying for an educational streaming service.

First, I can barely afford tuition at the rate it is now. Second, there's no improvement, things have only gotten worse. Third, CUNY is a publicly funded school that is supposed to be affordable, and I think this hike is going against its own purpose.

My name is Johnathan Mahones. I am a senior at New York City College of Technology. I pay for college out of pocket.

The remote distancing made my python class harder since I am antisocial and online tutoring is dreadful.

CUNY colleges really need to be tuition free. My mom has so many bills to pay and I can't pay for a high tuition cost.

My name is Omar Rojas. I am a senior at New York City College of Technology. I pay for college with Excelsior.

Distance learning isn't beneficial, my parents don't work (no money earnings), I lost my job so no money.

Besides distance learning will have an impact on everyone's grades, I will have to get a loan because I wouldn't work for at least 3 months, it won't let me graduate on time

My name is CHRIS ESTRADA. I am a senior at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I pay for college with TAP and out of pocket.

Being taught online for a language course is much more difficult. One of my professors just uploaded Power Points and to just learn from them. Why am I paying to read some power points?

I am not working anymore due to COVID-19. Many of my friends who are CUNY students as well are relying on unemployment benefits to support themselves, now we need to pay extra for

school? Where is the money going ? The campus is closed, why are we paying extra when we are not getting what we are paying for this semester?

My name is Jacqueline Beckvermit. I am a sophomore at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with Financial aid and loans

Yes, I'm a painting major and going online has been challenging. I miss my awesome teachers and the studio. But the professors are really making it better by being so attentive and understanding.

I will have to take out larger loans. As an art student, painting and drawing supplies do not come cheap. I really feel there must be another way for the board of trustees to raise the money other than charging their students who have chosen this school for the great education at a great price for the first two years.

My name is Cindy Lucero. I am a junior at New York City College of Technology. I pay for college out of pocket.

Just made my learning experience so hard. There are professors who still don't know how to handle technology and provide the correct resources.

As a current student , we should actually be getting a refund back because we never signed up to this whole virtual education. We aren't using their institutions anymore so why should we pay an additional \$320? This affects me because I pay out of pocket!

My name is Lourdes Santana. I am a junior at the College of Staten Island. I pay for college with Pell and loans.

I'm a special education student and not computer savvy so for this reason it's hard for me to keep up with my distance learning process.

It means that from now on, I won't be able to pay for my medications copayment and my grocery list is going to greatly reduced

My name is Britney Mak. I am a freshman at Queens College. I pay for college with Excelsior and out of parents' pockets.

For my ARTS class, I never got to use some of my supplies making me feel I wasted money on something that would have been used had the pandemic not happened. Assignments and lecture means have to be altered making learning more flexible for me but at the same time, stressful. Because of no in-person classes and not going to campus, I don't interact with clubs in the same way.

Raising tuition is disrespectful to students financially suffering whether it's their jobs, rent, affording supplies to deal with the virus, and other situations. Funny enough, most college students are left out of the stimulus check so to increase tuition isn't helping them. For me, it makes me reconsider being in college despite the scholarship and means of paying for it I already have.

My name is Omar. I am a sophomore at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with the help of Financial Aid

I am a CUNY student and employed there through work study. I am not receiving payment because schools are closed and it is very difficult to do school work from home.

Many people like me are out of work. I am spending the little money I have on staying alive. I do not have the money at the moment to think about tuition, let alone a raise in it!

My name is Leonardo Matone. I am a sophomore at Hunter College. I pay for college out of pocket.

With classes on zoom, material is harder to learn, and my quality of education has greatly decreased.

As someone already paying out of pocket for my tuition, I don't want to see the amount I owe increase, especially as I and many fellow students have planned for constant tuition and barely manage to get enough together as it is.

My name is Joselina Pérez. I am a freshman at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with the help from TAP, ASAP and Pell.

Yes, I am not into online classes so it has been difficult, I can not work online.

The economy is going down, many people have so many bills to pay and not getting enough money, tuition is just classes that don't cover books, transportation, food and other, it is unfair to raise the price.

My name is Maxwell Jiménez. I am a sophomore at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with the help from TAP, and Pell

I feel like the money I pay for tuition is not worth it because it is like I am learning by myself. Instead CUNY should give us back some money especially now we need it. This is a big crisis and we don't know when is going to end

CUNY should give us money back. This is a crisis where no one is making money and unemployment is full every day.

My name is Angels. I am a sophomore at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with the help from TAP, and Pell

I'm so used to being in the classroom and speaking to people that this is getting to me. I'm supposed to be graduating and feel locked up and disconnected with the world. I like to build relationships and during this time I have been able to .

The graduation rates are already low in CUNY school there just go down more. Many students are working 2 jobs sometimes just to pay for college and pay bills . With raising it you will only hurt us students. There is going to be more stress students have to worry about to get this money to pay for college. Because unfortunately not everyone gets help with pay for college.

My name is Christian Rivera. I am a sophomore at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with the help from TAP, and Pell

The Coronavirus pandemic has affected my CUNY experience because it was difficult to have access to technology. I did not have a laptop at home and my library was closed. After it was announced that CUNY and SUNY schools were transitioning to distance learning, I bought a laptop. I was able to quickly adjust to distance learning because I took hybrid classes before but It was difficult because the change was so sudden. Due to the coronavirus, many planned trips and opportunities were cancelled that I was looking forward to. Maintaining contact with faculty was difficult because the change disrupted so many events and appointments with advisors.

I don't think the Board of Trustees should raise out tuition by \$320 because there are students that are paying out of pocket that do not receive enough financial aid or no financial aid. Increasing the tuition would lead to students having to pay more when they should not have to. During this pandemic, businesses are temporarily shutting down, and some students that work are receiving unemployment benefits (which might be less than what they were receiving monthly at their regular jobs). Students are already paying from their own pocket, including rent, groceries, health bills, and other required bill payments. The increase will not affect me personally because I do not work and I am eligible for full financial aid but increasing the tuition would lead to more stress for students that don't get financial aid

My name is Denise Rojas. I am a freshman at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with the help from TAP, and Pell

Since it is my first year my thought was experiencing a full first year of college and getting a feel of what it is like. Being able to adapt to a new environment and meeting new people as a

freshman in college. During the first semester I was able to reach out more to my professors during their office hours and meet in person, but now that opportunity is no longer available and it is more difficult to interact with them.

I believe the Board of Trustees should not raise our tuition overall because of this pandemic that we are in and how it is affecting so many people in this world. People are already struggling with the fact that many have lost their jobs making it hard to support their family, themselves, and to have the life they had before. Many students who had jobs don't have them right now and it will affect them financially and raising tuition is not helping the cause. Rather than raising tuition it should be lowered to help students get back on track and be financially stable to be able to pay for college and have a good college experience without worrying so much about the money that they have to pay.

My name is Sam Gustafsson. I am a sophomore at Hunter College, I pay for college out of pocket.

I've had to do all my classes online, and it is very hard to get the help I need for my classes. I am trying to keep my grades up the best I can.

I can not find a job due to the virus and therefore struggling to pay for rent, food and school as it is.

My name is Alondra Estevez. I am a sophomore at Hunter College, I pay for college with the help of TAP.

Due to COVID-19, I lost my job. Financial Aid packages decrease so I most likely would be paying out of pocket in the year.

In my opinion the Board Of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition at all because as of right now with the COVID-19 as me and my family loss our jobs many people also has loss their jobs and have no income or their income has just decrease because of this pandemic which no ones knows when it would end or how it would keep affecting Everyone not only as students also as parents,employees, employer., and as household Ect. This would affect me personally in many ways because as of right now I was eligible for Financial Aid program Tap and recently file for

my 2020-2021 school year and the financial Aid package decrease which most likely for next semestre I would be paying my own tuition out of pocket but at the same time with the COVID 19 I have loss my job.

My name is Flabica. I am a freshman at Hunter College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Why should I be paying full price for tuition when I can't get the same college experience? Why does it have to be so much money in the first place? What does tuition money actually fund?

\$320 is what my family spends on food per month, that is a lot of money for me. I don't see how these tuition hikes are improving the quality of learning or the quality of the school. It's like the school gets worse every time they raise prices, so it seems to me that the money is going to places and people it shouldn't.

MY name is Joann Villacres. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college with the help from TAP and Pell Grant

There is less motivation and there's always a sense of panic in the air.

CUNY is a public university system and should be funded by the state, like it was in the past, not by the students.

My name is Dennis Guncay. I am a freshman at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with the help of Tap and Pell.

The course is hard online to work with.

It will affect me in a way because it's going to cost more to pay and plus it will give less refund back for students who need other supplies to buy for a class.

My name is Brianne Soogrim. I am a sophomore at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with the help of TAP, Pell and ASAP.

I could not register for classes because the tuition is too much to handle for my family at the moment.

I already could not attend due to tuition being too high. The TAP, and the Pell grant only covers about 1/6 or even and 1/8 of my tuition. So my family is still majority paying out of pocket & I was full time to be a part of ASAP program.

My name is Marianne Joy Montarde. I am a freshman at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college out of pocket.

I am a student who is trying their best to keep my grades up for a scholarship to ease the financial burden that my mom has undertaken. As someone who cannot work due to a slow recovery from a recent medical procedure, I cannot support my mom properly in this pandemic. Schooling has become tough due to a lack of communication between professors who lacked the skills to navigate online learning in a way that's beneficial and has negatively affected my schoolwork and my motivations.

As someone who just got back out of a major spinal correction surgery, money is especially tight and the financial strain is taking its toll on my mom. We don't always have the money to pay the bills and qualifying for scholarships is tough for me in this current situation. If the tuition to me is raised, I can no longer get the education I need to help support my mom later on.

My name is Simantini Deonarain. I am a junior at Baruch College. I pay out of pocket for part time studies which included the last two semesters, and now my upcoming semester in the summer. For full time, I do receive fafsa and tap.

I'm very upset due to the fact that tuition wasn't lowered or refunded in the least, despite the physical atmosphere of school not being in use, and being charged for it still.

It makes no sense for tuition to be raised when many students have lost their jobs. I personally am a grocery store cashier and with the unbelievable fear I feel going to work, I've had to take extra days of work to afford tuition.

My name is Scarlin Mejia. I am a sophomore at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with TAP and Pell.

I'm having a super hard time with my online classes, I'm lost most of the time and really hard to study and an apartment full of people.

I believe tuition shouldn't be raised by \$320 because many of us students with financial hardships, students that don't have the means to pay those extra dollars and whose parents can't help pay, their only choice will be to drop out.

My name is JD. I am a junior at Brooklyn College. I pay for college with a work program and out of pocket.

Made classes that are easy in person extremely difficult online especially with professors unfamiliar with technology.

As stated in the description of this, it's hard to see where money goes when there are so many issues that make the everyday task stressful and difficult for students. Add in over crowded classes, underpaid Professors who don't care about your grades even though they affect things on several levels financially, professionally and academically, and you're left wondering how it's fair you pay substantial money and can't receive basic services and rights as a student.

My name is Nah'sarah Fofana. I am a freshman at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I pay for college with the help of Tap, Pell and SEEK.

I'm unable to go to work, and college students who are dependents of their parents don't get the \$1,200 check either. I don't pay out of pocket but I have friends who do, and this would impact them negatively. At one point Cuny used to be free, now the tuition continues to increase and

especially after the pandemic it's not fair to us. When the pandemic began even after a student was tested positive my college was still unsure if they would close to protect our safety before the governor shut it down. Cuny needs to do a better job of putting students first.

It would affect me personally because it would leave less money for me to take additional classes in summer and winter and I really need to so that I can graduate early and get started on my career which is the whole point of why I go to college in the first place.

My name is MELISSA OLAYA. I am a senior at The City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket.

I lost the ability to talk to my professor face to face for help. The ability to use the resources to help me with my education

CUNY shouldn't raise our tuition by \$ 320 because there are many students just like myself that are unemployed. Not only that it would make it harder for us to pay back out loans. Many students have lost their family members; they help them pay for their education or even a place to stay.

My name is Nancy Ng. I am a senior at Hunter College. I pay for college out of pocket.

I've always had a problem with CUNY since 2014. The coronavirus pandemic didn't make any difference with my experience with CUNY. Needless to say, I am still disappointed by the management of our schools/system

Where is the money going? None of our bathrooms work, our technology is ancient, and nothing has improved. Explain why we should pay an extra \$320 for what? CUNY should be free for all students.

My name is Richard Y. Aguilar. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college by taking Federal student loans

It's made it harder to learn new material because we no longer have in-classroom instruction. Additionally, the anxiety and stress from this pandemic has caused me to miss deadlines.

The \$6.7k we pay per year is already expensive. Many of us come from lower-middle class families, including myself. Some of us are even poorer still. It would make it harder for me to afford this, and I'd have to take out MORE loans.

My name is Brandon Bradley. I am an Alum at York College.

Due to COVID-19, Commencement has been postponed.

There are those who pay out of pocket which will become impossible if tuition prices increase.

My name is Mélida Ortiz. I am a sophomore at the Borough of Manhattan Community College. I use TAP and Pell in order to meet tuition costs.

Like all CUNY students, the coronavirus pandemic has negatively affected me. I don't have a computer at home and the classes have only gotten harder to understand, as many students struggle with technological knowledge.

Raising tuition would be a disaster for students who previously had to work. I used to do work as a work study, but now with everything on and off campus closed: many of us can't pay for our own studies. Moreover many of us have families to support and any increase would negatively affect our budgets as we struggle to put a plate of food on our tables.

My name is Khumoyun. I am a freshman at The College of Staten Island and I pay out of pocket for tuition.

Due to the coronavirus I can no longer pay for tuition. Students need help, not to be slapped with a hike to their tuition.

My name is Gurjeet kumar. I am a freshman at BMCC and ASAP covers my tuition.

The coronavirus pandemic has made it harder for me to learn online.

The BOT shouldn't raise tuition as students struggle with their ability to find and keep jobs.

My name is Raymundo C. I am a freshman at Lehman College. I rely on TAP, Pell, SEEK, and loans for tuition yet still have to pay out of pocket

The coronavirus pandemic has forced me to drop two of my classes as the difficulties of online learning became something I could not bear.

It would be fair to raise tuition, not at this time. Raising the tuition will force students to drop out of college as they can't pay. This is just injustice, we are doing things online, and it makes no sense. What if the BOT were in our position, in having to feed our families, in having to take care of them; how would they feel?

My name is Jonathan Gerbehy. I am a senior at the Baruch and I take out loans for my tuition

Like all CUNY students, the coronavirus pandemic has negatively affected me. These online classes are absolute garbage. I did not pay for this and can't believe that I'm not able to get a refund.

The BOT are a bunch of crooks. How about instead of raising the tuition they all take a pay cut?

My name is Sherry. I am a Junior at the CUNY Grad Center and I take out loans for my tuition.

Like all CUNY students, the coronavirus pandemic has negatively affected me. All of our classes are moved online. Because my program is a clinical doctorate program, we have to complete a certain number of hours of clinic work in order to graduate. The pandemic has halted on site clinic work which may delay our graduation pending when we can begin our clinic work again.

The BOT should reconsider raising tuition. Our program requires us to complete residency during our fourth year with no classes on campus. We still have to pay full tuition even though

we are not taking classes. A price hike will add more stress and more of a financial burden for us.

My name is Angrej Singh. I am a student at Hunter and graduate next year. I pay out of pocket for tuition even though I receive financial aid.

The coronavirus pandemic has negatively affected my classes. Staying at home reduces the impact of learning and the experience of being in person and gaining hands on experience. This shouldn't be what I'm paying for, online courses shouldn't increase but decrease if we all are home and not earning anything. We all have many bills to pay and catch up on. Money is not free!

The BOT shouldn't raise our tuition because they've already been raising tuition every year in the past and it's ridiculous that we still have to pay for colleges in 2020. Let's face it, America is not a developed nation anymore, all it cares about is profit and continuing the legacy of capitalism.

My name is Romario Ferreira. I am an Upper Junior at Brooklyn College and I pay out of pocket for tuition.

Like all CUNY students, the coronavirus pandemic has negatively affected my classes. Classes are terrible online. It's difficult to get hold of professors. I pay out of pocket and having no work now makes paying for school even worse. We still have to pay fees for facilities when we aren't even using the facilities.

The BOT shouldn't raise tuition because tuition is already pretty high and we pay for things such as facilities and labs which we might not even use for all of this year. Sounds like they are just trying to recuperate what they lose this year.

My name is Beatriz Fonts-Castillo. I am a student at Queensborough community college and I graduate next year. I use TAP and Pell to help with tuition

Distance learning is not the same. It is much more difficult to understand the material from Blackboard posts as opposed to lectures. Many professors haven't even been in contact for weeks.

I heard a rumor that in-person classes won't resume until Fall 2021. If that is true, they should be lowering tuition, not raising it. You can not compare online teaching to in-person classes. I'm one of the lucky ones, despite losing my job, I receive financial aid so I should be fine unless they reduce the amount they give me. How about all of my peers that have lost their jobs and pay out of pocket? CUNY continues to take more and more from us and give us nothing back in return.

My name is Grisel Mauras Williams. I am a senior at Hunter College and I pay out of pocket for tuition.

My lectures and studio classes got disrupted by the coronavirus pandemic.

The BOT shouldn't raise tuition because students are already struggling and with loss of employment are facing financial hardships.

My name is Raymond. I am a freshman at Kingsborough and get my tuition covered through ASAP.

Like all CUNY students, the coronavirus pandemic has negatively affected my classes. After joining the KBCC community I really liked my time there. Missing out being at the campus is super saddening. Learning is better in person than online.

Considering other students, they have their own issues as is already. Making the payments higher will hinder them even more. At worst, it will end up forcing them not to continue their education if cost is the problem.

My name is Sara. I am a senior at Hunter and have to pay out of pocket for tuition.

The coronavirus pandemic has negatively affected me. I really thrive in the physical environment. It's difficult to learn and feel motivated via zoom. I was really enjoying my classes and coursework and now I feel very isolated in the education experience like it doesn't matter.

CUNY was founded as a public institution for students to receive a free and quality education. CUNY is set apart from other institutions in its affordability. Why would you make CUNY more inaccessible? Will the funding actually go toward increasing students' resources?

My name is Oleksandra Shvets. I am a sophomore at Hunter and receive both TAP and pell.

Under the coronavirus pandemic it has become hard to deliver information virtually, a lot of students struggle with having proper wifi connection. There was a lot of setbacks once the pandemic started causing teachers to pile on more work to make up for the days missed

Even though I'm covered by FAFSA, there are many students working jobs to pay for the tuition since they are the only ones financially supporting themselves. It is unfair to raise tuition cost without reason other than continuously exploiting students knowing that they have no choice but to pursue higher education for a greater paying job.

My name is Lisbeth Rubi. I am a junior at Hunter College and receive both TAP and pell as well as a tuition waiver.

The pandemic has affected my experience because I can no longer run experiments in the lab. I also no longer have a place like the library where I used to go for quiet studying.

This increase seems like it has no real purpose. Right now there are people who can't even afford groceries, but have to pay more for school they can't even take full advantage of? This is only adding to the hardships the entire world is going through right now. I'm sure the increase is unnecessary.

My name is Adonis Caramintzos. I am a senior at Hunter College and pay out of pocket for tuition.

The coronavirus pandemic has disrupted quality of life. Made my education far less effective and had disrupted the social connections I have made at CUNY.

This tuition increase would make education far more difficult in being able to access. Forcing many students to become a part of an indebted generation. I will be an alumnus that will have to worry about the weakening state of adequate public education financing.

My name is Annmarie idowu. I am a senior at Hunter College and pay out of pocket for tuition with some support from pell.

The coronavirus pandemic negatively affected me as I am an essential worker at Mount Sinai Hospital

If tuition is increased I will have to choose between school and work, I won't be able to afford it.

My name is Maya Freeman. I am a junior at Hunter College and use TAP/FAFSA to meet tuition costs.

The coronavirus pandemic negatively affected me as a loss of in person classes has made it hard to get help. Teachers seem less interested in teaching. I have less communication with them and others. As a sociology major these are interesting times.

I am in debt now. The additional 320 is unfair. CUNY has millionaires for alum and they charge the undergrads ridiculous prices. CUNY was free not that long ago. The president of CUNY Salary is comparable to CEOs. He should fundraise for the students and faculty. The price gouging and lack of humanity during a global crisis is absolutely cruel and inhumane. The \$320.00 would Cost me more since I have no income. Why be inhumane when we are all suffering in our own ways. Be humane, think of others.

My name is Shuhashini Khan. I am a freshman at Hunter College and rely on Loans, Pell Grant and out of pocket costs for tuition; which is causing a lot of struggle for my father because our income source stopped at Bangladesh due to the pandemic.

Like many CUNY students, the coronavirus pandemic has negatively affected me as my academics have become more challenging.

Raising tuition would be devastating. As I have mentioned earlier, pell grants and loans don't cover everything for my family. My father has a low income source and is also paying the school fees for my little brother and college tuition for my older sister who is a masters student at The New School. My father hasn't been earning at all since Bangladesh is basically in lockdown. We have already been struggling with paying for school. I don't know if I will be able to do the Fall '20 semester because we might not be able to afford it. I also dorm so this is terrifying.

My name is Annaliese Gayle. I am a senior at Hunter College and rely on TAP, federal aid and out of pocket costs for tuition.

I fear that the coronavirus pandemic will further delay my graduation.

The students do not need a tuition hike. It's opportunistic of Hunter College to increase tuition during a vulnerable time. #freecuny

My name is Nafisa. I am a freshman at Brooklyn College. I pay for college with Tap.

Because of COVID-19 pandemics a lot of students lost their part-time or full-time jobs. Some of them are sitting on unemployment benefits.

My name is Elena Alimova. I am a senior at Brooklyn College. I pay for college out of pocket.

I am a student who does not mind a few online classes here and there. But when the classes that are necessary to be taken in person are transformed into an online course it can get very hectic. This is my first semester in an internship. I already had enough issues trying to land an internship

and only managed to get a site three weeks before CUNY campuses were closed. Now, our workload is doubled in order to fulfill the 125 hours needed to complete the course. Some courses have changed the syllabus completely and have lacked the communication and support needed at such times. Blackboard has its hiccups here and there. This has given most students the worst online experience and most online courses are not like this.

I believe tuition should not be raised, and should not be considered to be raised at all. I cannot say this tuition hike will affect me personally as much as it would for other students but it does not make my opinion less important. I am a peer mentor for first-year students and the number one issue my students have faced is paying for tuition. They struggle to get by in classes because they have to juggle school, work, and home responsibilities at once and the money they make isn't enough to pay off a full semester. I also work with CUNY Explorers where we emphasize "college is affordable" and "college is for everyone" but is it really? Is college affordable for students who only make a minimum wage income? Is it affordable when tuition hikes are being considered from time to time? Is college really for everyone when students aren't provided the resources need to succeed in college and again aren't able to PAY for it?

My name is Esther Boorstein. I am a Senior at Brooklyn College. I pay for college out of pocket.

The pandemic has completely changed my experience, professors have not been helpful at all, making tests much harder with a lot more homework

A tuition hike after a semester where we weren't attending in-person classes? This is outrageous. Also considering that there have been no improvements to our campus and a lot of the buildings are outdated, classrooms with missing tiles, lights broken, and no ac. Ingersoll, Boylan, and Whitehead are in stark need of an upgrade. There needs to be improvement of the campus before there should be talks of increasing the tuition which seems to be happening every year, which does not seem to even be doing its job. I have friends whose reasoning to go to CUNY is due to the low tuition and without that the only thing to expect is a lowering of standards for the college as the student body will be limited.

My name is Erica Gambino. I am a Junior at Queens College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Coronavirus pandemic has affected me mentally and financially. Switching from classroom learning to virtual took a while to adjust to. Financially I lost my part time job.

I think we as a country are going through a difficult time, especially economically. With most students without an income it would increase stress on the students and their families during this already stressful time.

My name is Mur Afra Humaira. I am a Freshman at the Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college out of pocket.

All 5 of my courses have become online, i can't print anything from school even though i paid money for it. I paid for student activities, and there's really nothing I'm getting from it. No clubs, nothing.

I pay out of pocket and due to the pandemic, there are less jobs available. It would be unjust to hike tuitions now because people are already having economic trouble and increasing tuition is an added burden.

My name is Osa Onaghinor. I am a sophomore at The City College of New York. I pay for college with Pell/Tap/Out Of Pocket.

First, I have not been able to finish my first year of college on an actual campus. All of my classes are lecture classes, and adjusting to online was and is still a little difficult. There are a lot of classes that don't work online. It defeats the purpose of the actual class. Not only is it hard to keep up with a whole bunch of emails from teachers, administration and the city but it can be overwhelming.

The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition because it is already very expensive. Alongside tuition we are paying for books, transportation, fees and food. College seems to be more of a privilege than a right. I pay for most of my tuition out of pocket because I don't get enough financial aid and an increase in tuition is just a set back. Most students now don't have a job because of the coronavirus pandemic, so how is CUNY still charging/expecting us to pay?

My name is Elodie Dorvile. I am a sophomore at York College. I pay for college with Pell and Tap.

While I am accommodating just fine to the remote learning; however, I learn better in the presence of the professors.

I would like to start by asking the most absurd and obvious question here, why should our tuition be raised? I simply can't comprehend it. The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise the tuition by any means. If anything, they should instead consider lowering the tuition due to the fact that so many CUNY students have been laid off from work (or their parents, whoever pays the tuition) as a result of this pandemic. This implies that the Trustees are telling the students not to come back the next semester because they can't pay the tuition. Personally, I receive assistance from Tap, if tuition is set to raise for the next semester I'll receive less money that won't fully cover my education cost.

My name is Naydeline Mejia. I am a Junior at Brooklyn College. I pay for college with Pell and Tap.

The coronavirus pandemic has halted my CUNY experience. The quality of my courses has greatly decreased as courses have moved to remote forms of learning for our health and safety. Professors are expecting the same type of engagement and academic excellence, with half the quality of an in-person course. Not to mention, the number of assignments has increased which has put even more pressure on students to perform well, while dealing with the mental and emotional impacts of working from home and living through a global pandemic.

I don't think the Board of Trustees should raise our tuition by \$320 because that money should be going towards students and their well-being during this time. A lot of students and their families are being laid-off, groceries are becoming more sparse and expensive each day, and not to mention the costs of therapy, a service which is sure to be exacerbated during the COVID-19 crisis. Personally, the increase scares me because as the economy crashes, there is the possibility of students losing state-funded financial aid and I am someone who relies on financial aid to fund my education; right now I am not in a position to pay for my CUNY tuition out-of-pocket.

My name is Mariana Proshak. I am a Junior at Brooklyn College. I pay for college out of pocket.

I would rather go to school and be present to learn more from professors. Online studying is good but not that sufficient. Hard to follow an online schedule and homework deadline since you have a lot to monitor from home such as work, personal life, etc.

This is a good decision and I do support it. However not next year since it's been a huge financial stress for everyone and to keep everything running smoothly I would postpone it to the better times.

My name is Aseefa Farrouk. I am a senior at York College. I pay for college with financial aid.

It's harder to learn online without classroom experience. I'm worried for the safety of my family if we were having classes on campus. It's unfair that we are not getting a refund for things we can't have access to.

The increase will affect me as a student that gets financial aid in a negative way. It's unfair that we have to pay more next year but not get a refund for this year. They should at least give us a refund for the resources that are not being used currently.

My name is Cindy. I am a junior at the City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket.

My classes haven't been affected, I grew up with computers so it doesn't really matter to me if classes are online or not as long as the same material is provided. Learning wise, it hasn't changed.

You shouldn't raise our tuition because I personally am paying for my own college education out of my own pocket. Since the beginning of high school, I worked part-time to save money for my college education. And the money gained here isn't much either. Because of COVID-19, my current part-time job is closed until further notice. I do not qualify for unemployment or the stimulus check because of personal reasons I do not want to disclose. I live with my family who thankfully provides me with shelter and food but they do not help me with my college tuition. Since I started college (2017), tuition was raised after every year, I had to put more hours in my part-time job and less effort in my studies causing my grades to decline a little. I understand the majority of students do not pay full tuition like I do because they receive aid (I don't) but it changes for students like me who have to work harder or give up in their college education because their parents do not have enough money to support them, because they themselves don't have enough money to support themselves on a dream they want to accomplish. I chose CUNY because of its tuition rate compared to other schools (since I can't receive aid) and I know that its education is great compared to other much pricier colleges. It is at times like this, that you SHOULD NOT raise tuition because many students like me were halted from their part-time jobs, the ONLY resource they have to continue being in college, not their parents, not the aid, THEIR JOB. This will affect me personally in the way that I would need to put more hours in my part-time job IF they decide to open again for business whenever that is. I have a wonderful internship that is helping me build my career thanks to the many wonderful faculties at City College. I'm afraid I would need to reject this internship in order to afford tuition. And it is

extremely sad that I have to choose between my part-time job and my career.

My name is Melissa Issac. I am a freshman at Medgar Evers College. I pay for college with Tap and ASAP.

Having remote classes have made learning more complicated and stressful. Especially the fact I'm in my first year of college, I wanted to get more adequate with the campus and get out of my comfort zone. Now I have to focus on learning a different way of learning and worry about my family, friends, and everyone else going through the pandemic.

The board of Trustees shouldn't raise the tuition by \$320 because of everything that's going on. More than ever parents are not working and those who pay out of pocket going to have a hard time paying for their classes and might even drop out of school. Education is the number one thing that everyone should be giving the opportunity to afford. To be able to educate themselves and make their dreams a reality.

My name is Djene Isaac. I am a sophomore at Medgar Evers College. I pay for college with Tap, pell, and asap.

The coronavirus has affected my CUNY experience in a lot of ways. I wanted to interact with my fellow students in the classroom and not online. Having all online classes is extremely hard and stressful, having to navigate the internet constantly and making sure you are not missing an assignment. Staying home all day can be a struggle when you have to complete a lot of assignments.

The coronavirus has affected a lot of families. Some people have lost their family members, and some have lost their jobs. Taking advantage of the situation is extremely inhuman.

My name is Jenny Qu. I am a senior at Queensborough Community College. I pay for college with Tap, Pell and ASAP.

The Coronavirus hasn't really impacted me as I have access to a computer and I can still take my classes online. Some my professors using zoom or blackboard collaborate ultra to teach their class.

The board of trustees should not raise tuition because even though I attend CUNY tuition free, I know some students pay tuition out of pocket. Tuition may be a big financial barrier, especially if

they are from a low income family and/or they do not have a job to help to cover the cost. Even if a student is getting financial aid, it may not be covering the entire cost and there are other expenses besides tuition, like textbooks and transportation. Furthermore, if a student gets a refund check for textbooks and metrocards, an increase in tuition may decrease the amount of money the student gets for those expenses.

My name is Althia Morancie-Edwards. I am a Junior at The City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket.

I have lost a lot of family members. My mother has also lost her job, and she is the one who pays my tuition.

The increase would hurt those who aren't financially stable to pay. It would affect me greatly because I am not sure when my mother would be able to get her job back because of the industry she works in.

My name is Tyanna Green. I am a junior at Brooklyn College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Yes very much so it's harder when my teachers don't know how to use zoom so they just post notes.

I pay out of pocket and my parents aren't working right now only me and my older sister and she alone has to pay off her school tuition still even after she left and it's hard cause they trying to raise rent and stuff so we can get pushed out but it's like we don't know what to do.

My name is Steven Le. I am a junior at Baruch College. I pay for college with Tap and Pell Grant.

It hinders personal interaction with the professors and students and hinders the professor from physically demonstrating their lessons.

When tuition is raised, it gives me less resources to purchase textbook and school supplies that are necessary for my academic journey. Textbook are no longer cheap and it is not something I can't rent anymore when homework or assignment have been moved to online platforms.

My name is Lloyd Pierre. I am a sophomore at Queens Community College. I pay for college with Pell.

In terms of learning the subjects; it is a bit harder without meeting tutors face to face.

Prices at some local supermarkets are up. Price gouging is everywhere and it is a strain on those who were already financially challenged. Money right now should be spent on: medical masks, essential grocery items and the needy.

My name is Kleo Bollguri. I am a freshman at the Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college out of pocket.

The lessons are all online. And they have changed most of the classes for fall2020 into fully online too. The quality of these classes is terrible and I barely learn something from the professor. It's all on me.

First of all I am paying twice as much as residents because I am an international student. Now just like residents here are suffering from COVID-19, so are we. So is the rest of the world. My family is not working either because of the pandemic. And they are my only source of income. It's absurd that they wanna increase the tuition. This would only make my situation worse and make it a lot harder to be able to pay. Not only shouldn't they increase it but they should try and find ways to help us overcome this pandemic by maybe decreasing it because the quality of the lectures is a lot worse than it was in person. How can we pay more and get less from the school. It's unjust!

My name is Roussena Jean Pierre. I am a sophomore at Medgar Evers College. I pay for college with a pell grant.

The pandemic has affected my CUNY experience mentally. I did not get the opportunity to fix my GPA the way I wanted to this semester. I really hope I get to go back on campus next semester.

The board of trustees should not raise the tuition by \$320 because there are a lot of people who might have plans to go back to school to follow their dream and save just enough to pay their tuition raising the tuition up to \$320 might affect these people. Raising the tuition will affect me personally because the pell that I am getting might not be enough to pay for all my class which

going to make me work more hours which can affect my grades.

My name is Shamia Rahman. I am a sophomore at The City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket.

I am attending online classes and I am missing out on events. We don't have the same opportunities available.

I have to pay more and that is stressful to my family since this is a difficult time already. People can't work so they might need to work to make up for being behind on bills. It's hard on my undocumented friends as well since they cannot even apply for benefits such as unemployment benefits but are fired or laid off.

My name is Mary Cuevas. I am a sophomore at York College. I pay for college with Excelsior.

My parents are currently not working, and I have to pay part of my tuition out of pocket. Not only that but we have rent to pay for and also food expenses.

The \$320 increase will create a big change on top of what I have to pay towards my education. These \$320 could be used towards my family's weekly expenses like groceries or rent.

My name is Malaika Casimir. I am a senior at York College. I pay for college with Pell, TAP, & out of pocket.

One of my parents contracted the virus while working at the hospital and has been out of work for a while because of it. Due to the fact we are a household of 5 people and there is only one person working currently, we are struggling to pay for food and groceries.

It is difficult to save money for the next semester to take care of all our needs especially considering the difficulties people are facing currently because of the conditions COVID-19 has required us to set for our own safety. The tuition hike already would have been difficult before this pandemic.

My name is Adeola Lawal. I am a senior at The City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket.

Not really. Although in person classes are lacking there are adequate resources to make lectures the same as from home.

I think they should raise it. Tuition hikes are a thing across the world and most students receive aid to cover tuition. Those who pay out of pocket can Afford the 320 hike.

My name is Saba Nasim. I am a senior at Brooklyn College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Scraping every dollar trying to pay tuition for summer and fall approx \$7k. Last year of college really affected my mental health.

My Family can't even afford to pay for food and rent. Three family members lost their jobs during covid-19. Am using everything I earned from my internship to help pay for rent & food. And still have 7k tuition left to pay.

My name is Mariia Sarlayan. I am a freshman at The Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college out of pocket.

First of all, the quality of teaching has changed drastically when the classes were moved to an online platform. Most of my professors do not give lectures anymore, they only provide the material to study on my own and extra assignments. I feel like if I wanted to study on my own I could do it without the school but why I choose to go to school is to get the experience and the knowledge of people I respect which are the Professors. However, I feel the lack of this sharing with the start of pandemic.

In addition to that, I am not able to use school resources like the library, computer labs, or study space. I cannot work with my peers the same way we did in in-person classes. We are not encouraged to have interesting discussions and do the best in class.

I was lucky to have a normal semester in Fall 2019 that's why I am very understanding of the situation and CUNY's decisions at the moment, patiently waiting for the next semester and being excited for in-person classes and communication. That's why I am still paying out of pocket as an international student, even though I do not think online classes are worth the same money and it is very challenging for me.

But now I learn that CUNY is considering increasing tuition. Plus, some of the classes I have already registered for fall are switching to online learning as well because of the pandemic. And I can imagine all the classes will have the same fate eventually. It makes me really upset that I will still have to pay out of pocket, even higher price for the worse quality of education than I applied for when I came to BMCC. I love my school but the school should also love its students, especially international students, who contribute to school's achievements and success. It is unfair that we have to pay the full price for online classes, we have to pay 3 times more than american students and we have to pay even more money with the increased rate.

As an international student I pay out of pocket. The price for me is about three times higher than for a student who is a resident of the United States. There is no financial aid or loans available for me from the government. To keep my F-1 international student status I have to maintain a minimum of 12 credits per semester which is a lot of money. I do not have a family living here like most of the american students and BMCC doesn't provide housing, I have to pay for my accommodation. Being a full-time student, I have to work to find money to pay for my school, my accommodation and other necessities. I have to find time for work when my main occupation is already a full-time student. There are very few jobs on campus, I tried getting a job for two semesters, I couldn't. So, I have to find some other means of earning money where the rates are so little that even working 4 days a week is barely enough to cover the necessary expenses. I am not even talking about savings or cases of emergency, medical bills. Plus, I also have to study outside of school and work, do well in classes, turn in assignments on time (I want to maintain a 4.0 GPA). And on top of that, international students have harder time to transfer later, so I need to participate in all the extra-curriculum activities to be considered on the same level as other students for the future transfer and to receive potential scholarships in a senior college. With the COVID-19 I am not able to work and get any financial support and I still pay full price out of pocket because CUNY didn't consider changing anything for international students. How is it possible for me to pay even more in this case?

I don't understand how the school can be so proud of their successful students with high GPAs, who will later transfer to prestigious schools (NYU and Columbia are on my list) and at the same time try to do everything possible during hard times to get rid of these students, to not even help with tuition but raise it even more! I believe in CUNY's sense of community and I always felt like I was a part of it but right now CUNY is proving the opposite with thousands of international students left not knowing what to do

My name is Julie Medina. I am a sophomore at LaGuardia Community College. I pay for college with TAP, Pell, and ASAP.

Lack of concentration and there's more stress and more work to do now rather than in person.

I am supposed to be transferring to a 4 year after December and I'm considering going to a school like Fordham university or Hofstra but their tuition is too high and my financial aid doesn't even make half of It doing this would bring more stress.

My name is Geraldine Guese. I am a senior at York College. I pay for college with TAP, Pell and out of pocket.

I was supposed to start working again for my seasonal job but because of the coronavirus, I can't work to earn money to pay for school and other expenses.

Many students who also work during school time stopped working.

My name is Maheen Rahman. I am a senior at The City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket.

It's been overwhelming with sick families that can't work and people passing away. The quality of the education we're now getting has dropped so low, it almost feels worthless. It might jeopardize my chance of even continuing school.

My name is Sinthia Reya. I am a senior at Lehman College. I pay for college with Tap.

I need to order some books. But it's not possible due to lack of money.

It will be a tough situation for students. We all have less money and mentally support.

My name is Korbae. I am a student at The Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with Financial aid and pell.

My family is affected by this pandemic due to lack of housing, being homeless and loss of jobs because of the economic crisis.

I am currently an attending student and I feel like it's unfair for those who can't afford to pay for school due to the economic crisis and loss of jobs during this pandemic.

My name is Tami Gold. I am a 33 year faculty member at Hunter College.

As a professor I can say that after 3 weeks of virtual teaching -- it is not the same as teaching in the classroom! The increase in tuition has many students even more depressed. This impacts their ability to learn, which has a direct impact on me and my profession.

This is not the first tuition increase. Each one hurts our students. And now it is devastating. Many of our students have precarious living situations. Others have parents who are essential workers - MTA workers, nurses, food service, etc. Students are frightened. They speak openly to faculty and staff. They can not take on an additional tuition hike. Free CUNY Now. If not now when?

My name is Maria Garvutenko. I am an alumni from The City College of New York.

It is unfair for CUNY to increase the cost of education on top of an inevitable decrease in the quality of this education. Everyone is in the same boat with the health crisis: losing jobs, health, loved ones. CUNY has no right to take it out on the students. Even airlines are refunding unused tickets despite prior years of ripping off customers: it is very sad that CUNY has finally hit rock bottom and could learn something from Spirit Airlines.

My name is progga choudhuri. I am a junior at the City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket.

I don't have access to a nearby library. Everyone is staying home due to the pandemic so it is hard to find a quiet place to study during the day.

Especially with the remote classes, I am not getting a high quality of education. I don't understand why CUNY continues to raise their tuition. If anything I should be getting a refund this semester because I haven't been able to print out papers, go to the gym or study at a library for exams. The libraries are usually overcrowded and I have to look for an empty classroom to study in. It is unfair to the students of CUNY paying out of pocket or getting limited financial

aid. Please reconsider for our sake.

My name is Agnes Fury Cameron. I am a faculty member at Hunter College.

Many of my students have been directly affected by the pandemic, both through their health, and their finances. As a faculty member, I have been transitioning my class to online learning, but, with students and students' families losing jobs because of the pandemic, it's been really hard to continue as normal. The virus has both highlighted and exacerbated existing financial barriers, with many students finding themselves in really dire straits.

Many students at Hunter are already unable to imagine how they might pay for next years' tuition because of this crisis: it's a really hard decision at the best of times, and this increase may push a number of them out of college altogether.

My name is Jacqueline. I am a freshman at Guttman Community College. I pay for college with Fafsa ,tap and pell.

Ever since CUNY transitioned to online learning it has been a bit hectic in the beginning because I am not used to doing online classes. At times it is hard for me to hand in work because I wouldn't understand it's better for me to learn it in person.

I believe that the board of trustees shouldn't raise tuition at all because some people who are not able to fill out financial aid applications cannot pay for college at all and have to take out loans. I also believe that it shouldn't be raised because Fafsa or tap probably might not give me enough to pay off for everything and I would have to do it myself. Which is hard for me because I am still looking for a job.

My name is Taylor Bellman. I am a sophomore at York College. I pay for college with Tap and out of pocket.

Well COVID-19 has affected my cuny experience by cutting my school Face to face and athletics short.

Well as college students we have a lot to pay for like food, bills, books, and school so raising the tuition will only stress people out and cause a lower numbers of admission because we can't

afford it.

My name is Ian Hansen. I am a Faculty member at York College.

I teach at York College. At a time when some faculty and staff are known to have died from COVID-19, and so many people have lost employment, it is wrong to tax working class CUNY students with a tuition hike rather than increasing the tax burden on the inordinate number of billionaires who live in NY state. It is time for them to pay their fair share. CUNY tuition should be completely free anyway, but now especially. A tuition hike during this time is morally perverse.

My name is Sanjidha Khan. I am a junior at The City College of New York. I pay for college with 1 Pell Aid and out of pocket.

Classes have been remote, which does prevent me from learning to my full extent as I am better with in person lectures. I don't have a stable environment at home to study, so I haven't been able to give my full effort in my classes. And I've also been struggling with constant worry about my grandparents who live in my household and are Covid-19 positive. I have to take extra precautions, making sure my parents are safe while also making sure my grandparents make a full recovery. So I've had a lot more responsibilities around my house while also having to balance 5 classes at the same time. The endless stress has taken a toll on me mentally and physically.

Personally I think it's absurd for CUNY to increase our tuition considering that almost everyone is unemployed. The quality of our education that we are currently receiving due to the pandemic is already below what I paid for. As a student who barely gets financial aid and pays out of pocket, I feel like the Board of Trustees is targeting us at a vulnerable time instead of being practical with what they're offering and what their students and faculty are facing. Realistically, we will have to continue practicing social distancing, and it seems like fall of 2020- classes will still remain remote. I am not going to pay more for mediocre education, if anything tuition should be lowered, especially when we are facing a crisis during times like this.

My name is Joseph Connolly. I am a faculty member at The City College of New York.

This is especially inconsiderate timing to ask for a raise in tuition in the CUNY system. This pandemic has placed many students of the entire cuny system out of work. After all my years of attendance at CCNY, tuition was raised every single year. I saw no improvements in facilities on campus, decreased funding for clubs, cuts in shuttle buses, and so on. There seems to be no significant improvement after these tuition raises. So why even raise it if it doesn't improve the overall quality of the student's experience? Tuition should not be raised this year, especially because so many students are struggling now as it is to make ends meet for a variety of reasons. So why make those very students suffer and more anxious about having to make ends meet? Especially when the funds are clearly not going to improve the experience at CUNY.

My name is Nayelly Rojas. I am a freshman at York College. I pay for college with SEEK.

I am an athlete, I was working hard everyday training for my softball season and I didn't even get to play my first game because of the virus. I am also on a reversed sleeping schedule where I sleep throughout the day and stay up at night. I don't have any motivation to do anything and I am now depressed in quarantine.

Many classes are hard to pass so I do not like the idea of me having to pay a lot of money to take it over for a decent grade. Most of the money I get from seek to buy books and supplies will all go towards my tuition and pay out of pocket for those materials. I do not work because I am a full time student from a low income home and I am a student who wants to graduate in 4 even with my mental health problems of Depression and Bipolar disorder.

My name is Keyla Cabrera. I am a sophomore at York College. I pay for college with Tap, and out of pocket.

With the shut down of many campuses I can no longer see my advisors, professors, classmates, teammates because we are being asked to stay at home to stop the spread.

Many people are being laid off from their jobs. We are unsure if we will be returning back to our campus. Meaning there's a possibility we will still be doing online learning. And what's the point of an extra \$320 raise in something the students won't be benefiting from.

My name is Jeremy Sapeg. I am a junior at York College. I pay for college with SEEK.

I have a minor form of ADHD, so I'm someone who tends to lose focus a lot, so I of course take lecture classes instead of online, so I can stay more focused. Since this pandemic occurred we had to move to online classes completely. It hinders with my ability to not go & do something else.

It wouldn't be fair. This national emergency has affected many of us students financially & to raise our tuition would make even more difficult for us to complete our degree plans. Even harder if we're students who pay out of pocket for tuition.

My name is Ezequiel Aviles. I am a sophomore at Queens College. I pay for college out of pocket.

My father has been affected with COVID-19. He's the person who works and pays the bill. It's getting hard with him not working.

I get no help to pay for tuition or books. Increasing the tuition is going to make it hard for me to pay for class, which means I will need to take less classes to afford it. Which means I would need to stay in school longer.

My name is Ruth Wangerin. I am a faculty member at Lehman College.

First, I had to redo my syllabus and create recorded lectures and new online work for students, all for no extra pay. Second, I am struggling mightily to keep students on track with their educational plans but have "lost" a number of students from my classes due to the difficulties they're going through during the pandemic. Third, I am suffering the pain of sickness and death all around me and especially all around the students.

First, I believe public education should be free and paid for out of our taxes, especially for our population of students, many of whom can't afford even the relatively reasonable cost of CUNY. But on a practical note, it's obvious that we will lose students because they simply can't pay. Some of them have told me already that they're having trouble making payments this term, much less any hope of re-enrolling for the fall. If we are worried about enrollment and sustaining the

rich diversity of our educational programs -- and faculty -- we ought to cut rather than raise tuition.

My name is Jamaar Watson. I am a student and a staff member at York College. I pay for college with Loans/Tap/Pell/Out of Pocket.

The coronavirus pandemic has further made it more difficult in terms of affordability and access.

If the raise will help and increase the access for students and create more resources in regard to student/faculty relations. If it does not do so it should not be done so that students will be able to afford transportation, tuition, living expenses, and other things.

My name is Victoria Coronel. I am a freshman at The Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with ASAP.

The Coronavirus pandemic has affected my first year college experience, I have started in the spring semester and this pandemic has ruined my opportunity to learn in person, meet people, and gain academic experience with my peers, and professors.

The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition, because many CUNY students can't afford it as we have financial issues in our lives especially with our families. This increase will not only affect me, but also thousands of others in different ways. The increase during this time is irrelevant because many of us have lost our jobs, can't go out and we have to look out for our health. What's more important? Our health or money?

My name is Andrew Levy. I am a faculty member at The Borough of Manhattan Community College.

I'm spending countless hours online comforting and reassuring students, which I don't mind, but it has completely changed how the semester typically works. Many students, as well as faculty and staff are suffering. Lots of unemployment, illness, anxiety.

In the midst of an unresolved pandemic that has and will continue to enact harsh economic and health consequences for CUNY students, many of whom are now unemployed, whose parents have lost "essential" jobs, to ask of these families an additional \$320 is to be living inside an illusion, to willingly ignore the disparity in our city, and beyond. The raise in tuition would be a most despicable act, causing untold harm to many people. A BOT that would support such a decision at this moment should be permanently disbanded.

My name is Anthony. I am a student at York College. I pay for college with Pell and out of Pocket.

One of my professors was changed. It's not what I paid for, very unfair.

No one is able to work if you're a student. So how would you be able to pay more?

My name is Jaquan Eleazard. I am a junior at York College. I pay for college with Tap.

The workload has become really hard to complete because they are online and I'm a visual learner.

I currently pay some money out of pocket and the increase hasn't been seen in the build since i started going to York College.

My name is Katherine. I am a senior at Queens College. I pay for college with Financial Aid and Loans.

It has affected my experience by making me feel like classes have been cancelled with all these breaks !! It's hard for me to learn online, which is why I have never taken an online class before in my life !!

I myself do not have enough money to pay for school. My siblings are no longer in college because both have graduated and one has dropped out. Now its a 50/50 chance that financial aid will not longer cover me because im the only one going to school and apparently my parents

make to much money. Which Is UNFAIR because all the money they make goes to the rent, food and hospital bills!!

My name is Jessica. I am a junior at York College. I pay for college with Tap, and Pell grants.

We're broke, laid off.....

The Board of Trustees has raised our tuition just last semester, there is no reason why you would need to raise it again if we didn't even physically attend school this semester. Its outrageous. You're supposed to make college affordable for students isn't that the reason of CUNY? we're students, we're not a millionaire like trump, or someone well off with a set career. How are we supposed to pay tuition if you keep raising it every semester?

My name is Jamal Chesney. I am a senior at York College. I pay for college Out of Pocket.

I can't work to earn some money to cover a part of tuition. I also can't do research to get stipends to help cover tuition. I don't have any other help other than me being able to cover most of my tuition bill on a semester-ly basis.

Not only is tuition already mind-blowingly expensive already per semester to cover, but it drains my finances from other aspects of my life. Tuition accounts for more than 85% of my financial expenses and increasing the amount would just result in me considering dropping out of college. I just want to be able to have a career in Physics that would require a substantial amount of tertiary education as a Wall. It's unreasonable to have that tertiary education even behind a even higher Pay Wall, just to be even Considered in the industry. How else am I supposed to put myself in a position to succeed if a tuition hike just makes it more out of reach?

My name is Devine Chisholm. I am a sophomore at York College. I pay for college with Fafsa, Pell, and Out of pocket.

Can't go to school. Can't workout for my next season, and can't pay my tuition.

That Just does not make sense at the moment especially for what's going on in the world right now. With a lot of people being out of work and not able to pay tuition already as it is, it will just make it more difficult for students to pay.

My name is Man Wan. I am a sophomore at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

As a registered nurse I have been required to work more hours than usual. More time is required for home maintenance, such as multiple food shopping trips due to purchase restrictions, empty shelves, and longer wait time in stores to promote social distancing. More laundry is performed to ensure my work clothes are free from contamination. Additional time is also required to procure PPE that my employer cannot provide. Furthermore, as citizens, we are obligated to check and help our elderly and less fortunate neighbors with these chores as well, so they can also remain safe during this period.

A tuition hike during a COVID-19 crisis is unjust because many people have either lost their jobs or furloughed. Although I am an essential worker and fortunate to continue working, other family members of mine are currently laid off or lost their jobs, and currently need my financial assistance.

My name is James Romberger. I am a faculty member at Hunter College.

I must teach my class online via Zoom, Blackboard and email--- which I am able to do easier than most, I think, because of the nature of my non-testing, primarily art-related class. But still, my students are missing the interactions that happen in person, where they learn so much from each other--that I think are very important.

I graduated from Columbia and CUNY Graduate Center and I teach at Hunter. I believe that online classes which are what will be the norm for the foreseeable future (and which are more difficult and time-consuming for professors, who are clearly not being paid adequately for the extra work involved); are less worth the tuition as it is or was because the students are not getting a major .benefit of the college experience: the social interaction, the forging of lifetime

friendships, the personal contact with brilliant professors and fellow students. A tuition hike at this time is thus unconscionable and absurd. In fact, some classes need to be refigured entirely because they do not work in online form in any way approximate to how they should to get the proper result: education.

My name is Monique James. I am a student at York College. I pay for college out of pocket.

The whole "experience" is gone and it's harder to access people and various resources.

First of all, we should definitely be refunded for lab & equipment fees since there are no labs. Second, we may have to take classes from home still, so most students will be using their own equipment, not Cuny's. Last, a lot of people lost jobs and job opportunities, so where are we getting extra tuition money from?

My name is Sachin. I am a sophomore at Queensborough Community College. I pay for college out of pocket.

It's hard because keeping track of all assignments and when things are due . Also you can't get the best information online. And when you don't understand things it gets annoying.

It will be harder to pay for class. And for those like me who pay out of pocket that digs into our savings more.

My name is Onica Alexander. I am a senior at Queensborough Community College. I pay for college with FASFA.

This has affected me because class being online has decreased the learning material for the year.

This will affect how I have to pay for my semester and also not being at work because of covid-19.

My name is Hasibul Hasan. I am a junior at The City College of New York. I pay for college with Excelsior and out of pocket.

Professors have been very helpful for the most part. I don't know if I can afford tuition for next semester.

We are going through a crisis where many people are afraid to work and as a result are not able to afford daily essentials. Hiking tuition now can mean people will have to choose between taking a semester off versus getting groceries or paying rent.

My name is Joshua Velez. I am a sophomore at The City College of New York. I pay for college Out of Pocket.

The pandemic itself has already been stressful on my family and I. Attending classes has become somewhat a burden because professors have complied so many assignments and exams that were not originally that much. School has become twice as hard being online. Also, my family is concerned about tuition payments and how this semester has impacted it. They are asking me why we should have to pay an "x" amount of money if everything is online and the standards aren't that same, especially since the student-professor interaction isn't as prominent as before.

I don't believe in paying extra money if I'm not seeing where my money is going, specifically if it's not impacting my education directly. My family is already living check to check and we are on a budget. We've sacrificed many things just to make a payment on time for these past two semesters. Simply increasing tuition would be a real struggle for my family and I. School is the most important thing to me but adding tuition costs only stresses my financial situation.

My name is Lilianapalen. I am a sophomore at York College. I pay for college with Tap and Pell.

The COVID-19 has come to change everybody's life. It has been a really difficult time for everyone at home. My family are all out of work because some of our job places are closed and my brother and grandfather used to work in a grocery store, but my brother got sick. We live five people in a three-bedroom house and one bathroom so you can imagine it is not easy, it's really

hard to concentrate to do school work. For my part, I am trying to keep up with my class so I might give my family a better quality of life in the future.

I believe they should not increase tuition no even a cent because all people are facing a very difficult time. Millions of people are out of work and are using their savings to survive. CUNY should support students instead of wanting to make them quit.

My name is Marie Medjine Antoine. I am a sophomore at The City College of New York. I pay for college with Loans.

It has made school difficult. A couple of my teachers have been understanding but some of my classes need outside materials, I don't have the resources to make completing assignments hard.

I mainly pay for school by using loans. Increasing tuition would make my future harder, as well as school year.

My name is Erik Freas. I am a faculty member of The Borough of Manhattan Community College.

I'm not a student, but the coronavirus took my father's life three days ago, so I can relate on some level to what some of students are going through, and indeed, a few have reached out to me, either with stories of lost loved ones (in one case, three family members), ill family members whom they are caring for, and certainly stories of either lost employment, or working double-time to make up for income lost when other family members lost their jobs.

Clearly a lot of our students are not only suffering health-wise, but their finances are taking a major hit. Consider also that health issues will likely mean increased healthcare costs.

My name is Jenifer. I am a senior at The City College of New York. I pay for college with Tap, Pell and Loans.

I have no space to study at home, and I can't concentrate.

The quality of education has already decreased due to pandemic. Why raise tuition?

My name is Kosta Rizo. I am a student at The City College of New York. I pay for college Out of Pocket.

My work ethic, which includes studying, has been devastated due to being home all the time. I am unable to interact with my peers, except through social media. And finally, I'm unable to communicate with some of my professors, even through email.

CUNY should not raise tuition because the value of the tuition would outweigh the value of the CUNY experience.

My name is Evelyn Capellan. I am a senior at CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with PELL, Scholarship, and out of pocket.

It is difficult to focus when completing assignments. More responsibilities at homes since my children are attending their classes at home and we live in a small apartment. I now have less time to allocate for my classes because I have to make sure my kids are attending their own classes, I have to go to work for more hours now since some of my peers at work are sick.

With the current events, people are losing their jobs or at least part of their paycheck. People are now purchasing more items for the households and those items are ridiculously expensive but necessary, like face masks, hand sanitizers, disinfectant, medicine, etc. Kids staying at home need more food at home. These are some of the difficulties we are facing. If the Board of Trustees raises our tuition, it takes away the possibility of complete our degree on time because students will not be able to enroll in classes and pay the tuition.

My name is Laura Jimenez Perez. I am a junior at The City College of New York. I pay for college Out of Pocket.

Many important projects/lessons were cancelled. I am unable to really participate in club activities. My classes are very boring now.

It will be my last year, but I am already struggling to afford tuition. Im an international student, so I can only assume my individual credits will go up significantly. There have been many hikes since I came into school and I don't see much difference on campus. I think there should be a better allocation of funds within CUNY.

My name is Burnsley Lafleur. I am a junior at The City College of New York. I pay for college Out of Pocket.

My household income has significantly decreased. Many of my financial supporters have been heavily affected by the Corvid19 pandemic. As for myself, I would have to take a break, possibly permanent, from CUNY due to financial issues.

An increase in tuition cost is unwarranted, especially during this pandemic. If this goes through, college will be even less affordable for me. Therefore I would need to take a break from CUNY or transfer in order to search for better opportunities.

My name is Yana Zheng. I am a senior at Queens College. I pay for college Out of Pocket.

Online learning is obviously not ideal. Glitches, unresponsive/incompetent professors, exams made harder just because they are online, these can all effect a students grade and if they will be getting into the next step in their career.

I am not able to get FAFSA anymore just because my mother worked and I was able to work two years ago. In these desperate times, we should not be forced to pay more. Keep in mind that many college students out there do not receive the stimulus package, FAFSA, and unemployment like myself. The last thing we need is to be bombarded with more bills to pay.

My name is Royal S. I am a junior at The City College of New York. I pay for college with Pell, Tap, Tuition Waiver.

The shift to online coursework has made it difficult to remain motivated. Some courses are extremely unclear in regards to student requirements and overall course outcomes.

Simply, increasing tuition at this time is unjust because there is a prevalent, widespread, and evident lack of personal cash flow for individuals and households throughout the United States.

My name is Yasmin. I am a senior at The City College of New York. I pay for college with Tap and Pell.

Math tests might be administered orally. In addition to the bb collaborate ultra who has made learning very difficult for someone who is used to learning in a classroom.

The money could be used for funding in other areas of the Cuny system given that I don't directly pay for it. The government should use it wisely in other areas and not charge us since we might not even be able to attend school and use all the fees we get charged for.

My name is Sarah Baah. I am a sophomore at York College. I pay for college with Excelsior and Out of Pocket.

I can't go to school. And I'm taking online classes now.

I don't have enough money to even pay tuition right now. Raising it will be harder for me and my family to afford. Since I don't work because of COVID-19.

My name is Micheal Danaeifard. I am a sophomore at Brooklyn College. I pay for college with Excelsior.

The Coronavirus has impacted my life into a mess, first of all college is harder, people dying and I have to pay for tuition in the summer.

They shouldn't raise tuition since everyone is going through this episode and everyone has no money.

My name is Jonathan Shannon. I am a faculty member at Hunter College.

At this moment of great uncertainty, personal loss, and increasing economic precarity for the majority of the students we aim to serve at CUNY, an increase in tuition (even a modest amount) would not only be a kick in the teeth but send a strong message that the CUNY Board of Trustees cares little for the students it serves (yes, the Board serves the students). After half a semester of online teaching and learning, do you imagine that students will be prepared to relinquish even more of their scarce financial resources when it is not even clear that we will return to the classroom in the Fall semester? I have no doubt that the Board could raise the same amounts through public sources let alone private philanthropy. Rise to the occasion and serve our students. Do the right thing. Do NOT raise tuition at this moment. Perhaps consider a more radically compassionate approach and LOWER it.

My name is Maricruz Flores. I am a junior at Brooklyn College. I pay for college Out of Pocket.

The coronavirus pandemic has affected my experience because now I have to take all classes online. Most of my teachers just assigned reading and essays. I lost the opportunity to have in class discussions and hear my classmates points of views. I feel like my education was compromised by the pandemic.

The tuition shouldn't be raised during the pandemic because most of us are unemployed during this time. I am personally unemployed and right now I am using my savings to survive during the pandemic. The CUNY schools should be considered and think of students well being that even after the pandemic is over many of us have a long way to go to be economically stable again. Raising tuition will hold many of us back because we won't be able to afford it.

My name is Jessica Martinez. I am a student at The Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with Tap and Out of Pocket.

This increase will make me feel like I want to drop out. This will distract me from migraine knowing that my anxiety will increase that will distract me and more stress. Knowing that I have to pay out of pocket with the help of my parents, it won't help us because I don't have a job, and this will make me have to be a part time student instead of full time. If this will cause me to do that then I'm just gonna pile more stress, I would feel hopeless, angry, annoyed and leave.

My name is Denisse Marone. I am a student at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college Out of Pocket.

I lost a business that supported me which was a small restaurant and a barbershop.

I believe that this year has brought hardship to all in one way or another and it would be great if this year we did not get a raise in our tuition. In my case until this period is over and we can go back to work or look for a job it will be really hard to make ends meet.

My name is Frances Alswang. I am a faculty member at Hunter College.

As a faculty member at Hunter College, the majority of my students and advisors are now unemployed and their parents have been laid off due to the pandemic. They are struggling financially, many families are food insecure, some family members are sick with Covid19, and a raise in tuition would guarantee that many students would NOT be able to continue their college education and would have to drop out. It would be immoral, unethical, and inequitable during a public health and economic crisis of this magnitude to ask students to pay more in tuition.

My name is Jamescy Exime. I am a junior at The City College of New York.

It has made it difficult to learn, because so many of the things we were suppose to be learning will be cut off because we have missed so many class days in the midst of this pandemic.

The tuition shouldn't be raised because there are a lot of students who pay for tuition and because of the pandemic most of them were in able to work.

My name is Tali. I am a senior at Hunter College. I pay for college Out of Pocket.

Learning virtually has put many obstacles in actually learning.

Tuition should not be raised because we are not getting the fullest learning experience online. As an art student I can say that I no longer have access to the studios or materials I typically use for classes. Also there is no way to do work study and part of college is campus which we no longer are attending to. All in all this may affect my graduation date which will make me spend more on classes.

My name is Blanca Vazquez. I am a retired faculty member from Hunter College.

A tuition hike and "wellness" fee when students are hurting, have lost jobs at CUNY and in the public and private sector, is counter-intuitive (we do not want to see enrollment go down), and just plain cruel.

My name is John Pantazi. I am a senior at Hunter College. I pay for college with Pell, TAP, Excelsior.

I can't work anymore, and am still currently waiting on unemployment which is stressful on its own. Studying at home is not ideal, due to the fact that many students simply don't have a quiet space to focus on their studies. Many students are doing worse in their classes because of this, and some professors are making matters worse by assigning more work, thinking "since they're home they have more time to study." This is NOT the case. Friends and family are dying, and attention/focus can't be directed towards schoolwork.

First I just want to say that the Board of Trustees is being very inconsiderate of the current situation at hand. Unemployment is currently at 22 million Americans, equating to 20%. During the Great Depression, the percentage of people unemployed was 24.2%. Families are struggling to pay for rent, there is a shortage of food, and there is too much stress in the world right now. The virus has CRIPPLED the economy, and raising tuition at a time like this is unjust. Doing this would make you no different than a thief taking money from a struggling family.

My name is Gabriela Flores Dominguez. I am a junior at Baruch College. I pay for college Out of Pocket.

The coronavirus pandemic has affected my CUNY experience by no longer having a quiet place to do my online work and my regular project, as I only found quiet on campus that I couldn't have at home. CUNY no longer being open meant that many of my classes changed as the way my teacher teaches. I have an amazing professor but sadly is not the same the way they thought in person and the way they do online.

I don't believe that they should raise tuition especially in times of the epidemic. Many people are being laid off from their work and as a person who pays out of pocket I don't believe prices should go higher for online classes that are not the same as the ones we had in person. My parents pay my whole tuition right now and my dad as a dishwasher in a Chinese restaurant was one of the first to get laid off when the whole epidemic started as businesses went down for the simple fact that it was a Chinese food restaurant. My mother was laid off when social distancing began as many people no longer wanted cleaning service for fear of the epidemic. If prices go up then many people like me will have to drop out of school, till there's more income coming into our households. Yes some will pay higher prices but the people who will leave school will be more and the losses that CUNY will have will be greater than just leaving prices as they are. Many people already saved up for next tuitions but if tuition is raised that means somehow now they will have to raise money in an epidemic and that's very unlikely right now.

My name is Rebecca Talal. I am a senior at Hunter College. I pay for college with Pell and Out of Pocket. It has been difficult to fully grasp concepts during online learning. I am taking summer classes which also worries me greatly. I don't have a job right now so not only learning, but paying gives me a lot of anxiety.

Before COVID-19 students have been scraping as much money as they can to pay for tuition. The current situation has left people unemployed and on the verge of homelessness. Now, it is even harder to pay for tuition. CUNY also prides itself on manifesting an affordable, high-quality education. If tuition is increased during such a tumultuous period, it doesn't maintain its affordability.

My name is Ricardo Miranda. I am a faculty member at Hunter College.

I've moved my classes online.

Public education should be freely available. We pay taxes in order to build a stronger community. It should be our taxes that pay for CUNY so that impoverished families can afford higher education. The privatization of public education must stop.

My name is Say Sanchez. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college Out of Pocket.

Classes have moved online and have become more difficult to manage, especially with exams (I live with 5 other people). My father, who pays for my tuition out of pocket, lost his job a few weeks ago, which makes tuition payments extremely difficult (I have about 2 left).

\$320 is far too much for families who have been affected by lost wages — it is extremely unnecessary during this time, and will make access to an education more difficult for thousands of students. CUNY should be doing everything in its power to make classes accessible for its students during this time of need — to hike the tuition now of all times shows the CUNY systems' money-hungry intentions and how little it cares for its students. Tuition hikes should ESPECIALLY not occur if classes end up moving online for Fall 2020.

My name is Udari Amarasinghe. I am a student at Brooklyn College. I pay for college Out of Pocket.

I have short supply of food and not secured places

I think I will have to work more if I had to.

My name is Allan Shikh and I'm a sophomore at Hunter College. I take Fafsa, have a scholarship, and still need to pay out of pocket for tuition

This pandemic has been a pretty negative experience. The school has had a lot of trouble moving everything online. My biggest issue has been getting effective communication from my professors and the department heads.

I understand we're in a financial crisis right now but the money just has to come from somewhere else. I'm fortunate enough to have scholarships and financial aid but even so, a tuition hike would be brutal. There are plenty others who don't have what I have and the hike would be even worse for them. People just cannot afford it on top of everything else they are paying for.

My name is Faisal Afridi, I'm a sophomore at Hunter college and I use financial aid to cover tuition.

Covid-19 has made it exceedingly difficult to keep up with classes. I myself, among countless other CUNY students face immense opposition and anxiety about our futures.

There are too many CUNY students who can not afford this to justify raising tuition.

My name is Miguel Rojas, this is my last semester at Hunter College, and I use TAP, Pell, and out of pocket costs for tuition.

I will miss being able to graduate due to this pandemic.

I don't think raising tuition is fair to students that have to pay out of pocket. From experience it's hard to have to pay tuition while paying the bills needed to be paid for survival.

My name is Jessica Arroyo and I'm a Junior at Hunter College. I pay out of pocket for tuition.

I'm currently out of a job and have already been struggling to finish school since I have been paying for school on my own all along. I don't have access to school resources such as the library which I would use in order to limit how much I spend on books. It has also taken away from enjoying the interactive aspect of the classroom.

Raising tuition will make it more difficult to pay for school. Because we're not allowed on campus, we'd be paying more for less access to the resources we need to succeed. Also, it'd be a nice cause if it were going to our hard working and dedicated adjunct faculty but it is not.

My name is Gabriella Vetrano, I'm a junior attending Macaulay Honors.

Because of this pandemic I've had to move out of my dorm and switch to online classes. I worry my senior year will not happen. This has caused great anxiety and I've switched to teletherapy.

The reason I'm going to a cuny is because it's affordable. I'm lucky enough to have a scholarship but whenever student fees are jacked up that's coming out of my pocket. Each time it increases I'm forced into a worse position.

My name is Janiah Taylor, I'm a freshman at Hunter College, and need to take out loans for my tuition.

Since this pandemic many of my professors are older and have a hard time adjusting all of the content to an online learning experience. The workload has intensified and it can be very stressful.

Since I do not qualify for financial aid, i can only take out loans that are accumulating interest as I type. CUNY is supposed to be an affordable option for a quality college education and raising the tuition will make it harder for students like me to be able to graduate debt free.

My name is Dina Vukel, I'm a senior at Hunter college, and my tuition is covered through Pell and scholarships

Since remote learning has begun, I am no longer able to use many resources provided by Hunter. I am no longer able to print materials as I was before the pandemic. I am also no longer able to use the library to study.

Raising tuition will not affect me personally but I can see how it will negatively affect others. Many students and parents are unemployed at this time and struggling to pay for rent and necessities. Increasing the cost of tuition will only make this time more unnecessarily stressful.

My name is Carina Richardson, I'm a student at BMCC, and I pay out of pocket for tuition,

I am in a science course that requires a lab. Because of the virus, I am missing out on valuable lab experience.

It is already a stretch for me to afford tuition at the present moment and, with me not even being able to have full access to facilities needed for my course, it is entirely unfair for me to have to pay more in tuition. I have also lost my job due to the pandemic and money is already tight so a raised tuition would simply result in me no longer being able to attend school at all anymore.

My name is Loveth Edema, I'm a junior at Hunter College, and I pay out of pocket for tuition.

The sudden switch to distant learning was hard to adjust too! It was a necessary switch but it is still difficult as someone who is a more hands on learner. It is also difficult to reach out to college officials for issues or advice regarding decisions for my major as the pandemic has left many with a much busier schedule.

I pay out of pocket, \$320 is the amount some people make in a month's worth of work. Any tuition spikes will increase the demand for students who work to pick up more hours no matter how small the amount may seem. There are also many expenses students have to keep in mind

that are not including tuition such as rent, textbooks and transportation if classes will be held on campus again.

My name is Kumchai Praonpoj, I'm a junior at Hunter college, and I pay out of pocket for tuition.

Everything about this pandemic has been difficult and raising tuition would hurt hard working people.

My name is Reshma Haidi Gobinraju, I'm a freshman at Hunter College and pay \$6,500 for tuition.

Under this pandemic I have no job, no money for school.

A tuition hike would affect me because I'm not working and my mother isn't working either. We got laid off from our jobs. I have no one to support me financially.

My name is Joanna Vila, I'm a junior at Hunter, and pay out of pocket for tuition.

This pandemic has made things much harder. Online studying is not for everyone.

These are hard times where not everyone has a job or the ability to pay for certain things. It's unfair to raise tuition, especially to students who are struggling maybe more than usual right now.

My name is Kayla Johnson, I'm an upper freshmen at BMCC, and I rely of TAP, Pell, and loans for tuition.

All of my in-person classes have been moved to remote/distance learning. It is difficult for us students & teachers to try to duplicate a classroom setting.

No, tuition should not be raised. Some students have a hard time paying for school on it's own and this would most likely cause a lot of drop outs, stress, and more. Doing this especially during a global pandemic is unethical.

My name is Amanda Ramkishun, I'm a first year grad student at the CUNY school of Professional Studies, and all my tuition costs are out of pocket!

COVID-19 has greatly impacted my financial situation. I have to pay for tuition, utilities bills have gone up since being at home, buying more in food, and working less hours. I am a student living in Canada and thus am ineligible to apply for CUNY scholarships or the CUNY COVID-19 Emergency grant. This makes it incredibly difficult to support myself financially. Because I am not living in New York, I am also unable to receive counselling services through CUNY SPS and thus am finding it even harder to take care of my mental health. I am going through a really difficult time, and feel all alone that CUNY is not doing enough to help me in regards to my well being. More importantly, because I live in Canada, I am paying substantially more due to the currency exchange rate from CAD to USD. One class costs me \$1500 which is just too much! The \$320 increases in tuition and fees for the next academic year would make this even worse especially at a time where the world is in crisis and I am barely able to afford the current student fees.

Please do not raise our tuition by \$320. If you increase the fees, I would be in a tremendous amount of financial stress. That extra \$320 could be going to buy basic supplies that I need to survive. \$320 could be used to supply me with a month's worth of groceries so that I can put food on the table for my family so we don't go hungry. \$320 could be money that I used to donate to my local food bank for others to not go hungry. \$320 is taking 40% of my biweekly pay cheque that could be spent on a down payment for tuition. \$320 is just too much money that unfortunately I do not have at the moment and can not afford to lose so unjustly.

My name is Isola, I'm a freshmen at CSI, and I pay out of pocket for tuition.

Coronavirus pandemic has affected my Cuny experience in many ways. I got used to homeschooling for the first time in my life. It has been hard switching from on campus to online study. As a new student who had just started to get to know life in CUNY I am feeling a little bit disconnected. I hope we all will get back soon to our before Coronavirus pandemic life. In the meantime I am doing my part and staying home.

\$320 more is a very big jump for everybody, especially for some of us that everything is out of pocket. For me personally as an international student who is not even allowed to work would be very hard to pay such a big tuition. Coronavirus like most of all families right now economically hit my family too. So, please don't raise it. Thank you!

My name is Maria Garcia, I'm a 1st years at BMCC, and I use both TAP and out of pocket costs for tuition.

I'm limited because I didn't have a computer when online learning was implemented. I had to buy one on payment and get it shipped to my home. Which delayed my ability to access my assignments and lectures.

Raising tuition would probably make me have to get a second job ; and require me to take fewer classes a semester. Making my degree harder to achieve in 2years.

My name is Miriam Jovanovic, this is my first semester at CUNY Graduate School of Public Health, and 100% of my tuition is paid for out of pocket.

School was already online. Now further diminished to online with barely present professors, professors who are not paid enough to care.

This is putting me further in debt. The tuition money goes to higher level administration, not even towards professor salary raises. The professors and students get the short end of the stick. CUNY standards are falling rapidly, professors are not paid enough to care. CUNY has become a joke. It's not affordable anymore.

My name is Priscilla, I'm a senior at Hunter College, and my tuition costs come from TAP, Pell, and out of pocket expenses.

I have no space to do my school work and complete certain assignments such as for theater class. I get no interaction with the professor and have less time to communicate regarding questions. I have lost motivation to complete assignments and often have chores to do at home and need to cook for myself, taking away time from school work.

I wouldn't be able to spend this \$300 on textbooks and school supplies. I would have to save more and spend less on food... I would need my Pell to increase if that is the case. We are already paying way too much for a college education as New York citizens. We pay taxes and we pay for every other fee. Tuition shouldn't be raised at all. It should be lowered!!

My name is Laurie Williams, I'm a sophomore at Hunter College, and I pay out of pocket for tuition.

This pandemic has made me unable to attend events. It has affected my classes. It has made it harder for me to learn and understand material.

Since I pay out of pocket these hikes will further deplete my resources. My mother would have more financial strain since she helps me pay college fees. In addition, she already has the pay bills since every home all the time and takes care of my grandmother. Overall, I see a tuition increase as unnecessary since students are not getting the full college experience and it's the worst timing for me and many other students.

My name is Alison Duverge Cordero, this is my last year at Brooklyn College, and i rely on pell and out of pocket costs for tuition.

The pandemic has affected the way classes are held. My math class looks like a Khan academy video. I have to wait for the lecture to end so I can take my notes at my own pace.

Depending on how the situation evolves, the Fall 2020 semester could be held fully online. If that is the case, I think the school will be saving themselves a lot of money because students will not be using a lot of campus resources to warrant an increase. Even if classes return back to be

held on campus, I don't think students will see an improvement in their experience. A lot of students have lost their jobs and the stimulus check barely covers rent.

My name is Monique Clarke, this is my first year at QCC, and my tuition is covered by ASAP, excelsior, and financial aid.

I was infected with the virus I was out of school and now I'm way behind in my classes.

With the stress of worrying about yourself and your family in this pandemic, the stress of worrying about paying extra on our tuition is enough to cause mental health issues as most of us are out of a job.

My name is Brian Sukhnandan, this is my last year at Queens College, and both Tap and pell cover my tuition.

This pandemic is terrible, I can't learn shit.

\$320 is a lot more for a struggling student, especially when CUNY can allocate funds to each individual college instead of it going to waste by administration pocketing money (cough cough, CCNY).

I'm a senior in my sixth and final year at City Tech, to pay for school I use FAFSA and out of pocket when the tuition isn't fully covered. No TAP received this year/exhausted.

I didn't learn anything this semester. Some professors did not teach. I don't feel so good about passing in some of my courses despite having a cumulative GPA of 3.6. What am I paying for exactly?

I have taken dozens of courses that cost roughly ~\$950 each and I did not learn much, if not anything in those courses. I passed those courses with A's so what does that tell you? That is not the only issue. Textbooks are also expensive and oftentimes, courses cover less than half of textbooks. What I am trying to say is, even if you had taken over 10 courses and had covered

over 10 textbooks, you may still find yourself lacking in terms of skill set and you may have a hard time looking for an internship because employers don't want you. I have grown tired of CUNY after witnessing my fellow students struggling to find jobs out of "college". I make less than \$1000 a month at my part time job and recently, I had to borrow from my grandma. Do you know how humiliating that is? The fact that CUNY won't refund students' tuition because of this pandemic is already annoying. Now they're asking to increase tuition? The Board deserves to be jailed!

My name is Tariq Huggins, this is my 4th year at Lehman College, and I rely on pell and out of pocket expenses for tuition.

The coronavirus pandemic has affected my education this semester negatively. The cancellation of on-campus classes was intrusive and disruptive as it happened during the week I had an exam. After classes moved online, my coursework became exceedingly more difficult due to the lack of contact with my professors in a physical setting. The classes I'm taking this semester are math courses that aren't designed to be taken online and even with online video meetings it is harder to learn the work than if we were still having classes on campus. In addition to the added difficulty, with the exception of one exam I haven't received grades back for ANY of my work and still have to spend hours completing said work which is unfair when considering the fact that my professors are unresponsive outside of online class hours.

The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition by \$320 because we aren't taking on-campus courses anymore which has degraded the value of our education. We shouldn't have to pay money for extra fees for maintenance of things we can't take advantage of because we can't go on campus. The increase will affect me personally because like many other students I am a dependent from a low-income household that already struggles paying bills and now because of the corona pandemic, the main monetary provider in the household is laid off and is reliant on unemployment.

My name is Antonio Escobar, I'm a junior at Hunter, and receive the excelsior scholarship.

I was looking forward to participating in more extracurricular activities at Hunter, it was put at a halt because of the coronavirus pandemic. I was not able to join the clubs I desired to join. Also,

learning the topics from my classes are a bit tedious via online learning and I prefer the classroom interaction.

The idea that the Board of Trustees are raising the tuition by 320\$ clearly shows how much they do not take a student's needs in consideration. We are currently living in a time where many people are being unemployed and not being able to meet their needs to live during the coronavirus; I strongly disagree with the decision to raise the tuition by 320\$. This will definitely affect me due to the fact that I barely receive any financial aid and raising the tuition would make paying for my tuition even more tedious than it already is.

My name is Jeanne Ngoma, this is my 3rd year at BMCC, and my mom is my provider for my tuition costs.

My parents are not working anymore. My country's economy is very low compared to the US, so I'm having trouble with paying tuition for upcoming semesters. I'm not able to feed myself very well anymore. This is so hard....

To be honest, I won't be able to afford this increase since my parents are not getting enough money anymore. This may lead me to find another college with a lower tuition fee or wait until they gather some money for me to study.

I'm a third year student at York college and receive both excelsior and tap.

This pandemic has led me to clinical depression and poverty.

Raising tuition will make me more depressed and poor.

My name is Jayden B, I'm a junior at York who receives excelsior.

I can't attend classes in person. It's also very hard to communicate with some of my teachers online instead of office hours. Lastly, I am more worried about my grades for my classes.

I don't pay for school, my parents do. I don't want to burden them with a higher tuition. Although Excelsior pays for most of my tuition, it doesn't pay for everything.

My name is Sunja Jean Baptiste, I'm a sophomore at Hunter who gets tap and pell but must still rely on out of pocket costs.

I am unable to utilize some of the resources such as a quiet library which helps me focus on school and it's distracting being at home. That has affected my ability to efficiently work and as a result my grades are suffering. Also dealing with losing my job and having no source of income how would I pay for my summer class and following classes?

I won't be able to pay for my school if it continues to raise the tuition especially given I no longer have a job. Also it's hard to be paying \$320 on top of what's already coming out of pocket to pay for school. It's really too much given the point in time and also what's going on. It's very insensitive and annoying especially given that we can't even attend school as usual

My name is Joseph Maldonado. I am a junior at New York City College of Technology. I pay for college out of pocket.

We are forced to use online learning as an alternative. It affects the way people learn and how effectively we can retain material. If I wanted to take online classes, that's what I would've signed up for when choosing classes.

The tuition situation at most, if not all, CUNY based facilities of learning is quite abysmal. It's unfair that we, as students, are forced to quickly adjust and expected to adapt to this new online curriculum at the drop of a hat. The COVID-19 situation only makes matters worse. How can you propose taking more money, when over six million people have already filed for unemployment? Money is extremely tight, and is being conserved for food, toiletries, and medicines for the people that are either at high risk of catching this virus, or have been already affected.

My name is Heidy Animas. I am a freshman at The City College of New York. I pay for college with the help of TAP and Pell.

I am no longer able to interact with professors and fellow classmates. I am not receiving the traditional learning experience on campus that is being paid for.

CUNY schools are known to be affordable schools for minorities and raising the tuition will defeat the purpose of CUNY's existence.

My name is Bridget. I am a junior at Queens College. I pay for college out of pocket.

I don't feel like I receive the same education as I do in person. Every class has a different mode/system. Some teachers have been more flexible and understanding, while other teachers have made the situation more difficult.

Most people have lost their jobs, myself included and it's going to be hard to pay for college and even harder when it goes up hundreds of dollars.

My name is Nick. I am a senior at Queens College. I pay for college by taking loans and having some help from my family.

The physical sciences are very difficult to practice when not in person. The inability to safely work in our labs adversely affects productivity and the learning experience. I also have friends and family who directly were impacted by it, and our family has indirectly been impacted.

It's as though the students, who are in a poorer learning environment, are punished for the epidemic. As much money is put into groundskeeping during a packed semester on campus could certainly be used to aid in online learning, and if anything the school should be saving money from it, begging the question of where the money goes. As it stands we receive a highly unsatisfactory online experience through the school and CUNY as a whole, and there is little redeeming factor to continuing in an institution that so blatantly cares not for students.

My name is Yat-Saint Chiang. I am a senior at Queens College. I pay for college from Military scholarship

Individually studying instead of making best use of campus and scenery. Photography class projects are repetitively accomplished.

Raising tuition at this time is unjust because professors are using their own money if they can afford zoom membership. Which I did not directly benefit from the board. They are raising tuition just because of the bad economy.

My name is Victoria Pope. I am a freshman at Brooklyn College. I pay for college with the help from FAFSA and TAP

I lost all motivation to finish school. It's frustrating because school is where I can breath.

I don't know how I'm supposed to pay for that if the FAFSA return is what I depend on for bus fare and food along with my school expenses.

My name is Diana Yakubova. I am a junior at Queens College and I pay for college by taking loans.

There is barely any contact with professors when you have questions. They barely answer and they give double the load of homework.

We as students suffer as is and CUNY does not provide the best ways for us to achieve an affordable education. Raising tuition will make me take more loans and then pay more interest when I'm out.

My name is Diana Liu. I am a sophomore at Brooklyn College and I pay for college out of pocket.

Out of class learning experience does not compare to in class experience. Not as easy to ask a professor about course topics where I have difficulty in, and not as easy to explain. Lack of visual interpretation of topics, less engaging.

There is no reason to raise tuition prices because we are currently getting a much lower quality educational experience, not to mention limited access to campus resources such as the library, various clubs, computer labs, printing, and tutoring centers. This increase is not warranted as it benefits no one but the CUNY business since none of the money has been going to increase and better classroom sizes and funding is cut in many departments.

My name is Jasmeen Kaur. I am a junior at Queens College where I pay for college with TAP, Pell and out of pocket

Yes, because the transition to online schooling is more of a workload. It's hard keeping up with all your classes when you're a full time student and the professors assign you so much work.

What is the point of raising the tuition by \$320 especially when the majority of us are affected by the COVID-19 epidemic financially? It just makes it that much harder for us.

My name is Steven Pacheco. I am a junior at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I pay for college with the help from SEEK.

This COVID-19 pandemic has put a tumultuous strain on my network and I. Many of the people I know have lost someone to the virus, know someone who's battling with it, or has been contaminated themselves. Between working full-time, being an entrepreneur, a family man, and a full-time student, all of the screen time and radiation has been unpleasant and nearly impossible to efficiently manage. Not being able to have human contact with my networks has also tested my wellbeing on a number of levels. Being that I live in an apartment building, privacy feels like it's been gutted with all of the different distractions coming from my roommate and my neighbors. I wish classes would have been suspended until further notice.

The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise tuition because it's already unaffordable for the overwhelming majority of the student population. Not to mention, CUNY initially started out as a tuition-free institution. So, there's no reason it cannot return to that status. As a student who has

an overdue balance of over \$7,000 in tuition – and was almost unable to return to campus this semester – it is ineffective to have to worry about paying that balance and staying on top of my grades. Lastly, the economy is in an unstable position at the moment and it's unfair to have the burden fall on the more vulnerable population of students to cover gaps as needed.

My name is Thierno Souleymane Diallo. I am a junior at Brooklyn College. I pay for college with the help of TAP and Pell.

It restrained me to be able to go to the library and have the tools that I need to fully complete my semester.

I believe that increasing tuition will impact a lot of students especially those who can't get financial aid. Because the coronavirus slows down most businesses and most people (students and students' parents) are not able to work at this moment.

My name is Russybel. I am a senior at New York City College of Technology. I pay for college TAP, Pell and out of pocket.

Impossible to learn at home. I live with 6 people. My professors are not doing a good job at all. My classmates are failing and dropping out.

No they shouldn't raise tuition for a system that's broken. They should stop advertising and work in the problems Cuny already has (poor staff, crap online blackboard and horrific department heads). My classes will most likely be online to raise tuition and still make us pay for fees that no longer exist is ridiculous.

My name Gabriel. I am a freshman at New York City College of Technology. I pay for college out of pocket.

My professors are not even teaching me at this point. I've been given exams that have nothing to do with what they actually do teach. Taking classes at home is impossible.

Raising tuition for a system that already has issues is a big mistake. The students already know there is a problem and raising tuition will only cause less people to enroll and riots.

My name is Rokhaya Gueye. I am a junior at New York City College of Technology. I pay for college with TAP and Pell.

Yes it had because these online classes are worse than ever

Where do they think this money is coming from? We're dealing with a pandemic, we're laid off from jobs and the little money we have is for food and other necessities. Instead of raising the price they should aim to give us better professors.

My name is Brock Goode. I am a freshman at Queens College. I pay for college by taking loans.

I had to leave the dorms and move back to Colorado where I am struggling to attend online classes, make rent payments, pay for my loans, and pay for food. If COVID-19 had not turned into a major pandemic then I would have a job at a movie theater a few blocks from the school; however, that theater has shut down so I am currently unemployed.

I am financially struggling just to feed myself, let alone buy textbooks for class and I have been this entire semester and the previous one. A tuition hike will increase the amount of loans that I'll have taken out, which come at an %11.63 interest rate, and I will be paying out of state tuition. This will add to the payment amount I'll have for next semester. This tuition hike feels like a way for CUNY to let me know that they don't care about my attendance or my financial well being, and that I should transfer to a school that does appreciate my time and energy and that does care for my attendance and financial well being.

My name is Elizabeth Mak. I am a senior at Baruch College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Baruch doesn't even effectively use the money now. \$320 won't help us if our tuition money won't even give us a full education.

My name is Amber Chau. I am a sophomore at Baruch College. I pay for college with the help of Baruch Dean Scholar scholarship and TAP

It has affected my quality of education. It has also affected my student fees to be put into use for my well being and placement on campus. The virus has also lessened my hours of work and productivity.

The board should not raise our tuition because putting this hike for health wellness budgeting just deters the ability and wellbeing of students; which causes them to work more, eat less, and study less. It puts a stress on my family to pay the tuition of the other college students in the family. Every dollar more in tuition hikes revolves around more hours of work and less focused on pursuing higher education for me and my family in CUNY education.

My name is Ashley Chau. I am a junior at Brooklyn College. I pay for college out of pocket.

It's hard to get together the money for tuition and am unsure if I'll be able to make enough for next semester since it'll be hard to get a job afterwards and I can't work right now

I will not be able to attend school I'll have to work extra hours and have less time to focus on school if I do find a way to make up the money

My name is Lanise Robinson. I am a freshman at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with the help of TAP and Pell.

It is harder to focus in class. My learning experience is at a stop. The classes are harder and the worker load is greater

The hike on Tuition could make a difference if I have enough money to pay for school. It could hinder me from being able to purchase a textbook for a course. I might have to pay more out of pocket.

My name is Yunkyong Lee. I am a senior at Queens College. I pay for college out of my pocket.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, all the classes on the campus became online classes, and online classes make students hard to understand and focus on the class. I know professors and students are trying their best during this hard time, but in THIS SITUATION, increasing tuition does not make any sense.

Since the coronavirus is spreading out all around the world, a lot of people lost their jobs or laid off from their job. They don't even know when they can go back to their work. People who get laid off or lost their job are suffering because they cannot afford their rent or even daily necessities. Increasing tuition in this crisis is an absolutely unreasonable decision.

My name is Maryna. I am a student at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with Pell.

First of all, I really need to work with my Professors. Second, I do not like to study at home because I lose my attention. Third, It is a good experience because before I was afraid to take online classes But now I know how it works

First of all, a lot of people are unemployed. Second, the government gives money But it is not enough for life and pay for a school. Third, not all students have support from parents.

My name is Laura. I am a sophomore at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with the help from my sponsor.

I'm an international student who came to the states to have the American experience attending at BMCC. Unfortunately this pandemic has changed my experience. Taking classes online is not what I want to do but I understand this is something that no one controls.

I came here looking for having the experience to attend a college. I paid high prices as international student. It would be unfair paying more if I' taking my classes online. I cannot

work and my sponsor lives in the states too so increasing tuition would be too much for us. Honestly this is unfair without having the experience that I wanted.

My name is Alya Sugirin. I am a sophomore at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Online classes have made it harder to actually learn material. It is not the same as in person.

CUNY is known to be one of the most affordable colleges and it should stay that way.

My name is Tehmeena Khan. I am a sophomore at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with TAP and FAFSA.

The COVID-19 has affected my CUNY experience in various ways, one of which being that I will not be having a graduation ceremony and will have my Associates mailed to my house. Also the translation from in person to online was and is a hassle because not all the professors are helping us. Some of them do not respond to emails and haven't gotten to us since in-person classes ended and the others are giving us triple the assignments during this Pandemic, not realizing that majority of the students are not mentally ready for this as half of all college students are in depression.

I definitely think that the Board of Trustees should not raise our tuition because as we are in a global pandemic, millions across the United States and thousands in New York City are currently unemployed and are struggling to make ends meet with rent, bills, food and other necessities it will be hard for those who pay for college to pay that extra \$320. The tuition hike in a time like this is just inhumane and definitely shows that this country is not for the people but for the corporations.

My name is Sandy Dai. I am a student at Baruch College. I pay for college with TAP and Pell.

The coronavirus has affected me in that our classes are online now, which means changes to the original syllabus plans. I am finding the new curriculum much harder in terms of increased

difficulty in communication between group members and the additional workload assigned. I am worried financially since I lost my job due to the pandemic and don't get much financial aid to begin with. It will be difficult to pay for more classes even if I wanted to drop a current class.

I believe the Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition because the coronavirus is already hitting us financially and increasing our tuition would make it much worse. With many companies heavily impacted, a lot of us are having troubles finding jobs. Without jobs, many of us can't even support ourselves (transportation, classes, food, etc.) If there were protests to begin with before the pandemic, there will certainly be even more protests now and after the pandemic. So the Board should seriously try to understand and work something out.

My name is You lim kang. I am a junior at Queens College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Bad because (science) Professors don't recognize the fact that this is a global pandemic and make the material harder

Huge financial burden on all of us. Especially me because I'm paying out of pocket and I'm having a hard time now too paying everything.

My name is Lesli Cuamani. I am a sophomore at Baruch College. I pay for college with Pell, TAP, and out of pocket

Not being involved in school and clubs. Not having in person classes. Affecting my lifestyle.

I feel like the increase will affect me since it will make me have more money come out of my pocket, I won't even have the on campus college experience, and won't even be having the normal club experience either.

My name is Ferhana Chowdhury. I am a sophomore at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with help from FAFSA.

It's getting hard to catch up with online classes. But our professors are really supportive, they are all really hard working and doing their best to teach us.

In New York everything is really expensive and as a student I'm working part time and pay my rent so it will be tough for me to spend money on my education.

My name is Anish Patel. I am a junior at Baruch College. I pay for college with help from Pell Grant and TAP

It has affected my CUNY experience based on how I am taking a language class and it's affecting the way I'm learning. I'm taking French 1001 and I'm afraid that I'm not learning anything and if campus opens for the Fall semester I will fail the next class which is 1002. This is a required course and if I fail I won't be able to graduate on time.

They should not raise the tuition because we were ensured a full learning experience and this promise has not been kept. The Online experience prevents us from getting a proper education compared to regular in class sessions. Plus the government fails to understand the pressure upon families in times of crisis and I feel like colleges should understand the circumstances for students.

My name is Pawandeep Kaur. I am a junior at York College. I pay for college out of pocket.

For students like me who pay the tuition by themselves it accounts me financially that I barely get to manage for one semester while working during summer please don't raise it .

My name is Nuzhat. I am a sophomore at Hunter College. I pay for college with help from Pell.

Unemployed and stressed about everything because of this pandemic.

I do not think the Board of Trustees should increase our tuition and especially at this time it is just unacceptable. We do not know what is holding for us in the future and how long this

pandemic will last. So please I think this decision is just inappropriate. And also we have to take care of our family and it costs money.

My name is Alize George. I am a sophomore at York College. I pay for college with the help of TAP/PELL

I no longer have a physical connection with the classroom as to where I know my professors and peers. I have to stay on the computer for hours and hours to do classes plus homework. Plus, I'm a hands on learner so it's a little harder for me to focus but I've been able to adapt.

A lot of students can not afford it and for some, they rely on the extra money left over from financial aid to be able to buy other necessities for school. I usually save the extra money and use it to pay bills due to the decrease in hours worked during the school year. Many students have been laid off and many did not receive a stimulus check so where does that place them? There's no financial cushion for them and even if they're living with their parents there's a high chance that they were laid off too. There's only so much that \$1200 can take you. During such a crisis like this where people are struggling financially, emotionally, socially, and physically, CUNY needs to be more understanding. They should even look into reimbursing us for the tuition paid because we barely had classes during the quarantine. We were off for spring break, recalibration, and the recess. At times with certain professors they don't know how to use Blackboard or run into technical issues which either takes up a lot of learning time or they post the slides and we're basically teaching ourselves.

My name is Rebecca Heuler. I am a freshman at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I pay for college out of pocket.

My mom single handedly supports me and my brother who are both going to be college students next year on a job based off of commission. Due to COVID, she's close to making minimum wage. This alone will not be enough to support our family especially in NYS. Going to a CUNY was supposed to be a money saver, but raising the price is just going to defeat the purpose.

My name is Swapnil Barua. I am a senior at Queens College. I pay for college by taking loans.

Of course. It's so hard to do the assignment and under the class online.

We are now locked down in our home. Our family and I have no income. We are already behind the due dates of our payments. As for tuition If there is more burden for us, this will be very unjust to us.

My name is Tiandra Thompson. I am a freshman at York College. I pay for college out of pocket.

I'm not learning much of anything anymore just submitting assignments before 11:59.

The board of trustees should not raise tuition because like a lot of students I can't afford it. I can barely afford the current tuition. My mom works multiple jobs to pay for my tuition out of pocket. I was let go from my job due to the strike of the corona virus. I recently received tap but it doesn't cover the whole of my tuition and I will have to pay the rest out of pocket. Last semester I was at risk of dropping out of school due the stress of having to find money to pay my tuition. I can't afford to pay more money for tuition and my mother tries but she can only do so much. My mother developed the flu and was extremely ill for weeks and was unable to work. I fear I might have to put a pause on my education if the tuition is raised. I'm begging the board of trustees to put themselves in the shoes of those students this tuition hike will affect, what was your family in our situation?, how would you feel? Please don't do this to us.

My name is Javid Tilakdhary. I am a freshman at York College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Learning in the classrooms would sometimes be better in certain situations than through distance learning, because more would have been learnt in the actual classroom than through the internet.

Our tuition shouldn't be raised, because I am an international student and I am already paying the most tuition out of all the other students. Raising the tuition would add more to my expenses and as an international student in the US, obtaining a SSN and getting a job is really hard. So where are we going to get this money from to pay for our tuition that is already high, and they want to increase it more.

My name is Priya kaur. I am a junior at York College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Due to this pandemic, online classes are very difficult especially since I am a Nursing major.

The BOT should not raise out tuition as we have other expenses to worry about.

My name is Joshua Greaves. I am a senior at York College. I pay for college with help from TAP and Pell.

I was unable to grasp certain concepts due to not being able to meet in person for class.

It will be harder for us as students to afford school, especially with all of the amenities taken away from the York College Campus recently, there should definitely not be a tuition increase, that would be ridiculous.

My name is Vicky. I am a senior at York College. I pay for college by taking loans.

I can not be in class physically. I need to teach myself a class that I'm paying the same amount as if I'm physically there.

I believe the board of trustees shouldn't raise our tuition because right now it's a tough time for everyone in the whole world, and the CUNY Board of Trustees are worried about increasing tuition, really? That is how CUNY cares about their students? Instead they should decrease the tuition and other extra fees. America is considered the number one country for education but if this continues it will be the last in education. At this point i'm thinking about going to college in Europe much cheaper and affordable

My name is Taraeah Hill. I am a junior at New York City College of Technology. I pay for college by taking private loans.

Only two classes out of the four I take know what they're doing. My Organic Professor Peter Spellane has no idea how to do online classes at home. This is a real struggle for everyone taking courses with professors who aren't Tech savvy.

When Fall semester starts I'll be a senior and it would help me not to pay for something I'm not getting. I didn't choose an online degree course so I believe I shouldn't pay for something I'm not getting. Since I've transferred to this school I've had nothing but problems and unprofessional encounters. If we're not getting the education we paid for we do deserve money back. Not everyone can pay for school and anything helps especially those who are having a hard time during COVID-19 such as myself. Lives are being lost and I rather not worry about an increase in school payments as well.

My name is Emily. I am a sophomore at City College of New York. I pay for college with TAP and Pell.

This pandemic has affected me pretty badly. I lost my part time job. I've been home quarantined and my schedule is just messed up.

CUNY shouldn't raise their tuition at this point, many students can't afford to pay tuition. If they increase tuition most students would have to take a gap year to make money and give up school.

My name is Efrat Jahan. I am a sophomore at New York City College of Technology. I pay for college out of pocket.

Difficult to learn the concepts in all our classes. Some professors is difficult to communicate through email

They shouldn't raise tuition because a lot of students don't learn through online. We need a one on one conversation with the professor. We aren't using any on campus item to have a reason for a tuition hike.

My name is Tasnia Islam. I am a junior at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I pay for college with the help of TAP.

I can't learn properly at home. It's not the same experience as in person. I'm struggling in my math course.

If CUNY raises tuition, it will mean I'll have to sacrifice a necessity for school. That's not fair. CUNY is supposed to be affordable. Raising the price will defeat the purpose. Don't deny low income families of higher education.

My name is Raven Beckles. I am a freshman at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college out of pocket.

It changed my CUNY experience to a negative one because taking classes at home isn't what I signed up for ,and with this virus happening the semester is being rushed because we have to make up for the time that we were on a rest period .So now I feel more than before and overwhelmed .

People are having trouble paying for the class they are taking now .Some of these grants don't cover the expenses for all the tuition so by increasing the tuition is putting off a lot of people in a compromising position.going to college is supposed to help us not put us more in debt than it already does .

My name is Saul Tapia. I am a senior at Brooklyn College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Professors are not engaging with their students as they used them to. Several people in my family are getting sick and dying. I have loose work hours and my debt is starting to increase.

Professors shouldn't be paid the same amount of money for online-courses.

Claiming that "we are getting creative" is not an excuse to keep charging students for the same amount of money. Thousands of students became homeless.Professor is not engaging with their students.Administration offices on campus are not responding to the emails

My name is Eriq Lundy. I am a sophomore at Queensborough Community College. I pay for college ASAP, TAP, PELL

The Corona Virus affected the CUNY experience that I no longer physically get extra time for exams since I have a learning disability. Second, it's affecting me registering for fall 2020 classes at my senior college since they delayed the registering for transfer and new students. Third, that it's really hard for me to concentrate since classes are now online.

I don't think they should be raising tuition since a lot of people are out of work and are struggling to eat and pay mortgage/rent. The increase wouldn't really affect me since with the senior college I qualify for financial aid. In addition, I'll be getting scholarship money and I plan on getting a work study job and doing part time at my local grocery store.

My name is Bibi Ally. I am a senior at New York City College of Technology. I pay for college with the help of Financial Aid.

I am lacking resources to complete my assignments and I don't have a quiet place to get my work done. I have to be home with my noisy child all day homeschool him and do the work that CUNY gave me, which seemed to have doubled for every class since we started distant learning.

It affects me because I'm not always granted financial aid and I have no source of income.

My name is Khalid Lewis. I am a sophomore at the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I pay for college out of pocket.

Yes the coronavirus has affected my CUNY experience. I tested positive twice for coronavirus in April. With my fate being uncertain it was very hard to focus on class.

Tuition shouldn't be raised because many of my classmates and students have lost their jobs, although they've lost their jobs they haven't lost their drive or thirst for knowledge. Raising

tuition will serve to create another obstacle that people who have the desire to learn will have to hurdle.

My name is Amanda Seims. I am a freshman at Queens College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Less interaction. I prefer a physical learning experience with personal engagement, however the online system is generally well. Labs however are not able to be conducted at home as they would in a lab, so that is something the course currently lacks due to social distancing orders.

Due to government bailouts and other inefficient use for tax funds, it is unjust to demand higher tuition from students to generate our educational experience. We pay taxes for a reason, and until the subsidies go to the right institutions, demanding more from anyone is a disgrace.

My name is Sarah. I pay for college out of pocket.

It's just harder to focus with everything going on

I'm the only one that pays for my college but also pays for bills and groceries since my dad had to file for unemployment. I won't be able to afford my tuition as it is and the increase will make it more difficult.

My name is Andrew Sylvester. I am a senior at the New York City College of Technology. I pay for college with the help of TAP and Pell.

The pandemic made it harder for me to excel in my classes. Learning subjects such as math is much more effective in an actual classroom. Taking lab courses online doesn't allow me to properly learn how to use the equipment.

I believe it shouldn't be raised because resources such as labs aren't being utilized heavily because of distance learning. Students will be paying an increased tuition for resources that aren't being used. I'm also concerned if my fafsa would be able to cover the expenses of a hike.

My name is Daniel Medina. I am a junior at the New York City College of Technology. I pay for college with the help of scholarships.

I've missed a few classes to the point where I need to drop a class. I'm not going to get assistance for ever, tuition needs to go down. We are CUNY students, the most vulnerable students.

Tuition increased last year, there is no improvement to the system and to the campus I'm in. The people who are in charge of spending the tuition money are parasites that use our tuition to fund other than our education. I do not want to be the fuel for a speaking heads project.

My name is Alana Teemal. I am a student at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college by taking loans.

It makes no sense to raise the price ! I'm a nursing student and I'm already studying and working hard to maintain and keep up with living over a roof and having enough food to eat

My name is Thiana Ruiz. I am a sophomore at the New York City College of Technology. I pay for college with the help of Pell.

I am a chemistry student and I would need to be on campus for my science classes that require a lab. Which i cannot do if all of my classes are online. Also most professors and students are not very prepared to do online classes, we are doing the best that we can with what we have.

All the classes are still full priced for things we are not using because CUNY has moved online and raising the tuition price is unnecessary.

My name is Palak Sewani. I am a sophomore at Baruch College. I pay for college with TAP, Pell and loans.

I am not given the same opportunities as before. Trying to do school from home isn't easy because home life can be distracting. I'm not getting the same education as if I was still going to In person school.

My family doesn't have any income currently and paying rent is just as hard right now. I don't need tuition to increase when I'm not even going to school. I don't need more debt and my family definitely doesn't need more stress to pay it off.

My name is Maria. I am a freshman at Queens College. I pay for college with the Excelsior Scholarship.

It's made it difficult to fully understand the material, especially keep motivated well staring at the same walls every day.

There isn't a need to make it more difficult to attend college, especially when many people are low on money because of the epidemic.

My name is Arooj kousar. I am a junior at York College. I pay for college with TAP.

I had taken classes that were in person since I do not prefer online classes, however, because of COVID-19 I have no choice but to take it online. That is stressful.

They should not increase the tuition because my parents are already struggling managing paying everyday living expenses and rent. This will put me at risk to increase my work hours once I start working which will give me little time to focus on my education. My dad is the only person who works and financially supports our family but now his health is coming in the way since he has a pinched nerve. Sometimes, it's hard for him to walk without limping.

My name is Chyong Yunn Chang. I am a junior at the CUNY School of Professional Studies where I pay for college out of pocket.

The pandemic has caused my family severe financial threat. My children are home and I have to pay for a babysitter to watch them while I go to work. My fiancé is out of work so the whole family depends on me to support and pay bills. Now I have no money to pay my tuition. I am working the front lines of the COVID 19 crisis, which made it hard to go home since I must self quarantine. Hopefully we can get a break for fighting the pandemic risking our lives.

Nurses are working selflessly and tirelessly through this pandemic. This crisis has taught us how important nurses are and that we need more nurses!! Nurses that are seeking further education to advocate for the nursing profession should be supported by the government, schools, and community. Tuition increases make it hard for nurses working on the frontline to accomplish his/her goals. Please consider waiving tuition increases and provide tuition reimbursement to help more nurses to become APRNs!

My name is Yafranny Nunez Rodriguez, I am a sophomore at York College. I pay for college out of pocket.

It's very hard to stay focused. Classes have gotten harder. There are a lot of papers due

We pay more for our tuition. We also have to buy Books. We already pay too much for our education, when we don't even get a good amount of education.

My name is Emmanuel Estevez. I am an alumni at The City College of New York.

As an active member of the alumni association I cannot promote my alma mater as we are unable to host events to foster the cultural melting pot and academic pursuit that CCNY offers to all.

As the income gaps between the haves and the have nots continues to widen, it's important to provide affordable education to those who aspire to further their academic achievements. Life is becoming inherently more expensive and funding for educational programming that is available to the general public is at all time lows. CUNY is a beacon of hope to the millions of New Yorkers who have nowhere else to turn - The money to keep this institution operational should come from those who possess wealth and not those who are struggling to put food on the table. This is essential to maintain a higher standard of living for all New Yorkers so that being a New

Yorker can always continue to be a sense of pride for those of us who have worked so hard to uplift ourselves, our close ones and our communities.

My name is Anosha Arshad. I am a sophomore at Brooklyn College where I pay for college with TAP, PELL and FAFSA.

Remote-learning, no access to libraries

I don't think my Fafsa will cover my aid completely if it increases, plus I already am paying extra for wanting to take summer classes so I can graduate on track.

My name is Olivia Murphy. I am a senior at The City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket.

It has never been more exhausting getting my work done. I feel demotivated and am having trouble staying afloat. My family is stressed about our financial situation as well.

Not just for me, but for all students this is unjust. We are going through a crisis, and to raise tuition at this time, knowing people can't fight it the same way right now is sneaky and disgusting. Students and their families need support. Even after this crisis ultimately ends, everyone will be economically disadvantaged. There are students who are suffering academically and even dropping out. To add a hike in costs is too much.

My name is Susanna. I am a student at Queens College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Cannot interact with students and professors directly and cannot do or use any school activities/ establishments like gym, library, study rooms, peer review/ help center. Even when sending emails I get slow responses or no responses. Even lost my job during the pandemic and cannot save or make money.

My name is Yashira. I am a sophomore at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with TAP, PELL and out of pocket.

My education is totally online and has been stripped of its benefits from in person learning. Classes being totally online is not stimulating or as successful at helping me learn and retain information better.

Seeing as how the quality of education has gone down and many students are struggling with this form of learning, I don't see why there would be any spike of tuition when students are already suffering from the situation as much as everyone else. There are no custodians, tutors, nurses, counselors, teachers, security, or any faculty doing the exact same work as before the quarantine order began. Although I respect the need for all these people to be paid and taken care of just as much as anyone else, I fail to see how trying to squeeze the money out of students (who are the group that mostly don't qualify for stimulus checks and don't all have jobs or stable lives) would make the situation better. Asking for money from this group that most likely can't even afford it and aren't getting the experience they paid for in the first place is ridiculous.

My name is Juliana Khaitova. I am a sophomore at Queens College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Material is difficult to understand because the majority of my professors just tell us to read and write reflections. Less time is dedicated to explaining the material. Communication with departments has proven to be challenging as well.

My family is struggling financially because my parents and I are out of jobs. They are struggling to pay bills and support their children while I have no more means of income to pay for tuition.

My name is Bushra Miah. I am a junior at The New York City College of Technology. I pay for college out of pocket.

I am continuing to take classes remotely, but the quality of my education is greatly suffering with professors unable to navigate and successfully teach through strictly online resources. The pandemic is getting in the way of the on-site resources that CUNY charges me for like technology fee and etc. I am unable to make use of those facilities from home, therefore I'm

being charged for things I am unable to use. I also have a small balance that I still have to pay for this semester, but without a job and barely any money for essentials, I am worried about how I will pay.

The tuition should not be raised by this amount (or any amount at all, really). It is a time of struggle for all of America, I truly understand, but it is not okay to charge nearly the price of one credit when facilities aren't being used by the students. Students are not receiving the top of the line education (with respect to what they were receiving on-campus) whole distance learning. It is extremely stressful on us students, as we are essentially teaching ourselves the materials and coursework. It becomes unfair to the students.

My name is Diana Santamaria. I am a freshman at York College. I pay for college out of pocket.

The coronavirus has stopped my family from working. My mother pays for my tuition and she can no longer provide for my tuition for much longer. Raising up prices would lead me to dropping out.

If they increase tuition, then there would be no hope for me in getting an education.

My name is Aarionna McGlashing. I am a sophomore at York College where I pay for college with Financial Aid.

This pandemic has made it harder for me to focus on classes due to the fact that i'm an essential worker, the on campus experience usually lets me put aside enough time to get my work done but being at home has left me unmotivated and worrisome.

Tuition fees have already been raised during the last couple of semesters, we are having a worldwide pandemic so how will we be able to pay extra fees when we are already having issues to pay the current amount

My name is Jonathan. I am a junior at York College. I pay for college out of pocket.

I have paid for 2 labs which I'm not able to use. I paid for classes in person which are more productive, now I'm taking them online. I paid for an in person library and devices(printers, computers, books, etc..) for which I don't have access now.

A hike in tuition is unfair because most people don't have a job because of the coronavirus. Campus is closed .

My name is Irene Sosa. I am a faculty at Brooklyn College.

Witnessing very depressed students fighting really hard to come to their online classes, do their academic work and trying to keep themselves and their families safe. Many of them lost their jobs, many of them several people in their family lost their jobs.

95% of my students lost their jobs, many of them several people in their family lost their jobs. The other 5% are working in hospitals, delivering food Uber eats, one is a cashier in a supermarket. My classes amount to 60 students. Example: Student got COVID, two weeks later his father got it (a policeman) this week his mother got it (nurse assistant)

My name is Kyaw Htet. I am a sophomore at Queens College. I pay for college with TAP.

It affected my CUNY experience as I have to be more careful of going outside by wearing a mask and gloves and being six feet away from a stranger whenever I have to get the essentials.

The Board of Trustees should not raise our tuition by \$320 because not all of us can afford going to Queens College if the raise of tuition goes through, especially for the students who work while being a student on the campus. It will affect me personally because I will have to pay more for the student loan as I am unsure that I will be able to pay it off if the raise of tuition goes through. No college should make their students suffer paying for the student loan after getting their degrees they worked hard for.

My name is Zahid Rahimi. I am a junior at Queens College. I pay for college with TAP and Pell.

The switch to remote learning has caused a great lack of communication between us students and our professors. Many professors have changed lecture times causing overlap in between my courses. As a full time student it also causes a lot of confusion and making it challenging to stay organized and keep up with all my courses

The increase of tuition will greatly affect many, as a student that receives the minimum TAP/PELL there remains an outstanding balance which I must have to pay out of pocket, on top of other school related and personal expenses that I must manage like textbook, travel and meal plan!

My name is David Ramirez. I am a junior at Queens College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Has made it 10x harder to grasp concepts since most of my professors have not been responding to email, been emailing us YouTube links instead of teaching, and there is no way to contact them since their emails are flooded.

Will make it difficult to buy textbooks and online courses such as webassign if there is an increase in tuition.

My name is Lauren Haller. I am a freshman at Queens College where I pay for college out of pocket.

Yes, forced online school is hard. I had a parking pass but clearly can't use it now after CUNY was shut down, so I paid to have my dad's car sit in front of my house.

My parents aren't just paying for me, they are also paying for my twin sister. My dad has to get a second job to be able to send us to school. We literally are barely staying afloat. How are we supposed to pay MORE than what you're already asking for us when there's no money to give you?? You can claim to value our education over anything else but really you just care about the money and that's it.

My name is Althia Morancie-Edwards. I am a student at The City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket.

I have lost the only source of income my household has. I am not sure how I would be able to finish paying my tuition and my tuition for next fall.

I believe they shouldn't because not every student is financially able to handle the tuition increase. Also, the tuition hike might cause students to have to drop out of school because they have other responsibilities that need to be paid for.

My name is Nirmal Singh. I am a senior at Queens College. I pay for college with the help of TAP, PELL and Loans.

As a film student, our hands on experiences are limited.

Our learning is limited - especially in terms of hands on majors such as film. This is not our fault and we should not be penalized. We are suffering enough, like everyone at this time.

My name is Luis Alvarez. I am a student at Bronx Community College. I pay for college with the help of TAP.

I wouldn't be able to finish my Degree. I'm a student with a disability and I have to take my time . So I take 3 classes a semester access VR helps but they only pay a certain amount

My name is Ishra Khan. I am a junior at Lehman College. I pay for college with TAP, Pell, and student loans.

I'm unable to meet my advisors even though there is an online section. I needed to meet my advisor in-person for psychology graduate programs info. There are so many resources I wanted to apply but can't for the pandemic situation.

I won't be able to afford it. It will be very hard to pay for tuition. I have lost my job so there is no earning source.

My name is Jessica Marrero. I pay for college with TAP and Pell.

Class became harder when the switch occurred. Some professors are not doing live lectures so students are on their own.

Many CUNY students are low income and are living check by check, with the increase, it will affect students emotionally leading them to fail or score low in classes.

My name is John. I am an alum of The City College of New York .

Greedy and unjust, it will force families to take out unnecessary loans when the spirit of the CUNY system was it's free tuition. Stop forcing people into debt!

My name is Sofia. I am a sophomore at Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college out of pocket.

It's harder adapting to the new online style after attending in class sessions. As well as living in a larger family, resources aren't available and we don't receive full in person interaction which prevents deeper experience interaction with real educators who have field experience.

As a first generation college student and having to provide for family and working full time it complicates me personally . Having a full time job already providing for a household \$320 is something that could be used for home instead of tuition. Education is necessary but we shouldn't have to pay more, especially those who don't have full access.

My name is Sharon. I am a senior at Queens College. I pay for college out of pocket and with Pell.

I am not learning nor retaining information from online lectures to write quality notes to study for exams. I was sure to have an A in all classes, and know this will not be the case without midterms.

Tuition hikes for a lesser quality education? For a PUBLIC education? Rip off! And a disappointment if they do, especially when Seniors are graduating without knowing how to write basic grammar at BA level in too many cases. And adjuncts receiving peanuts for pay??

My name is Shariyar Nabil. I am a sophomore at Queens College. I pay for college with TAP, FAFSA, SEEK

My learning effectiveness went down since the pandemic began. I am not able to learn much while at home because there are too many distractions regardless of whether someone else is in hold of them. Home is a comfort zone for myself and many other students which is also a distraction to our learning.

It may affect students who have to work part-time while attending college, however, put at as much focus onto work as attending college. It may bring an increase in students dropping out of college early on due to financial incapacibilities.

My name is Star Cordice. I am a junior at Brooklyn College. I pay for college with TAP.

I'm a visual learning so learning in a class environment has diminished since the pandemic has started. I was looking forward to getting more involved on campus that would cater to my career path, as well as my other hobbies. I'm not able to mingle on campus in order to network.

My name is Chad and I'm a graduate from Baruch College.

The Board is greedy to ask for a tuition hike. They have no morals and values. They keep trying to oppress the inner city kids who use the system.

My name is Virzhiniya Toneva and I go to Hunter College.

Unfortunately, I lost my work based on the coronavirus. It is a very difficult time for me! I was not able to submit an application for unemployment based on technical issues. Nevertheless, I take the classes online.

The coronavirus is a public-health world crisis and should not affect the tuitions. It affects the people from all over the planet. Education is important for our better life. For ours and our children's future! This is a reason to not increase the cost even if they should decrease tuition!

My name is Natalie and I'm a sophomore at the College of Staten Island and I pay out of pocket for tuition.

I lost my job due to covid-19 and a tuition increase will force me further into debt.

My name is Fiona Kearney, I'm a senior at Baruch College and I rely on loans and out of pocket payments for tuition.

It's been harder to learn and focus in class due to classes being moved online. I am also missing out on networking opportunities. I also feel that I am learning less in my classes.

Our tuition shouldn't be raised because in these uncertain times many people are losing their income and will have to take out loans. Many students have lost jobs and internships and may not be working in the summer. We could also be paying more money to have access to less things such as the library, activities clubs and events. The increase in tuition makes it harder for me to pay tuition as I'll have to find a way to pay the increase and my internship may not happen over the summer

My name is Dora Lombardozzi, this is my third year at Baruch and I pay out of pocket for tuition.

The coronavirus pandemic has made things complicated. Schools should give the option for remote learning if they learn how to properly do it. Just because classes went remote doesn't mean that the teachers should be assigning extra work. We are trying to survive a pandemic and extra work is a waste of time and not appropriate.

The board shouldn't raise the tuition because CUNY is supposed to be affordable. \$320 is a large jump for 1 year and that makes a big difference especially in out of pocket payment. People go to CUNY to get an affordable education; it used to be free but now that we have to pay to attend, raising the tuition goes against that purpose.

My name is Naiomy, I'm a sophomore at BMCC and rely on tap and pell for my classes.

I have had a bad experience with online classes , this semester I only took June because I had no other choice and I was doing poorly . Now all my classes are online and the school environment isn't the same as the home environment while learning. I cannot concentrate the same , and studying for classes has become way harder than usual because of all the distractions I have at home. I feel like this semester will probably be a very poor one academically speaking . Honestly , I have lost most of my motivation for school.

I am receiving aid , but I will not qualify soon, and that means I will have to pay out of pocket . \$320 may not seem like a lot , but those \$320 when totaled in can help pay my transportation fees(metro card) that I use to get to and from school . I am also a single mother so that money will impact my budgeting at home

My name is Kermina, I'm a junior at John Jay and I rely on loans and out of pocket payments for tuition.

This pandemic is horrible, I lost my job. I don't appreciate you raising my college money when i see no change.

My name is Silvia Pérez, I'm a senior at John Jay and I rely on financial aid and out of pocket tuition payments.

This pandemic has affected my mental health because it has been very difficult to focus and try to stay motivated. I participate and attend my classes but, being able to do my assignments has been a great struggle for me. I have been speaking to friends and peers and I feel like a lot of us are feeling the same thing. Also living in fear of the virus has also been taking a toll as well.

It would be a great disservice to raise tuition during a pandemic. it shows that the board of Trustees have no morals, it is insane that a human being has the thought process to even think that it is okay to raise tuition when there are students who can't even get food on the table during this time. It saddens me that the Board of Trustees isn't looking for ways to implement help and some help during a great time of need. This is what New York City is about, being strong in times like this and being able to help others. CUNY should be better than this!

My name is Hadja Bah, I'm a student at John Jay and I rely on TAP and Pell.

I've had to grow accustomed to distance learning in a space not conducive to do so. Certain classes are also not optimal for online learning, such as labs, which makes it difficult to transition. The workload has also increased since social distancing has begun.

Considering the recession we are undergoing and the amount of individuals who have lost their source of income, this tuition increase is simply unnecessary. My father has lost his job and my mother is unable to work. I am also reliant on federal assistance to pay my tuition and am unsure of how that will be impacted by the pandemic. The tuition hike creates another unnecessary burden and financial strain on myself and my family, during a time of absolute uncertainty.

My name is Asslye Rodriguez, I'm a sophomore at CCNY, I usually pay out of pocket for tuition. Just last semester I received help from TAP for undocumented students, however it did not cover the entire tuition and I had to go out of pocket as well.

This pandemic has affected everything, it is the worst thing that has happened. Some of my professors are being lazy. They prefer to send recordings and us studying out of our time. No longer having class online lecture, just connecting for attendance and if you have a question, however it is very rushed. Some of my professors are cutting off class time, sometimes I lose an hour and a half from my laboratory class. Sometimes I don't have recitation class because it is canceled saying we are "advanced", what if I still have questions from previous chapters, we still can practice. Aside from that, they barely teach and they assign you a whole lot more of things due in a short amount of time. And a whole more issues such as internet connection being sometimes bad and I can barely hear the class because it is cutting off, etc.

It would be extremely unjust to raise tuition because CUNY is not offering anything good. This is a complete disrespect towards hard working students. Everybody has a different situation at home, the trustees could be good because first of all they have documents so you are able to keep your fancy jobs and still be paid or receive the compensation from the government. Students who are undocumented, that live by paycheck that lost their jobs, their family lost their job as well. How do you expect them to pay a rise in tuition when they are only thinking on HOW TO FREAKING SURVIVE? Honestly, this is ridiculous, I could go on, but people who have money might not understand the struggle that a lot suffer during these times.

My name is Natalie Rodriguez, I'm a second year at Queens, and although I get excelsior I still rely on out of pocket payments.

I suffer from anxiety and depression. Having academic responsibilities during such a rough time where I know so many are suffering, I have to worry about economic issues, and my family's health is overwhelming. I know hundreds of other CUNY students feel this way too. Additionally, we all have our own personal issues. It's a tough experience

Tuition should not be raised, by doing so the board of trustees is explicitly saying students who are poor or cannot afford tuition are not worthy of education. We all deserve an equal chance to prosper and tuition doesn't allow that

My name is Carina, I graduated from Hunter College in 2019.

The Tuition hike during the pandemic would create more chaos for students who are dealing with the health crisis and homelessness simultaneously. The tuition hike ultimately will lead to higher dropout rates among vulnerable students such as the homeless.

My name is Joanna Jainarine, I'm a freshman at Queensborough and I pay out of pocket.

CUNY has transitioned to online classes, making it mandatory for all students to continue their classes online. If I wanted online classes, I would've signed up for them at the beginning of the semester, rather than paying the out of state tuition for on campus classes. Students should be given the chance to continue classes in a physical classroom, because that's where they learn best, with being able to ask questions, and getting hands on examples and assistance. Many students are already having trouble in class because college professors are inept at doing their job in the first place, can you imagine how much worse it is for these professors who lack teaching degrees to become online classroom professors? Classes are difficult enough as it, costly too. Forcing students to take online classes is just wasting their money and setting them up to fail, only so they can pay again to retake the class. But that's all that college is about, right? They care little about education and more about the money in their pockets. Online classes should've been a choice, we're literally suffering a global pandemic right now, and you all expect each and every student to be able to cram a rushed Calculus lesson into their heads to study for an exam? You still expect students to pay for their tuition when they can barely afford the bare necessities because no one has a job right now? Start caring about human beings rather than your money and your CUNY system won't be so flawed.

Tuition is already expensive enough, why are students paying so much for an education they can literally teach themselves? The only thing making college important is the degree certification we get at the end of the school year. Most college students probably go to class for the mandatory attendance grade, learn nothing in class, and then go home and teach the material to themselves with YouTube or Khan Academy, and so many other things more suited at teaching than the majority of college professors. So tell me what CUNY's purpose for raising tuition is? It sure isn't helping the students whose futures they're supposed to be guiding, so then what's the purpose if not more money for the school board?

My name is Cruz Gonzalez, I'm a first year at Hunter who used Pell.

Our teaching has been moved online where we no longer have the quality of teaching we expected. We have a hard time finding tutors. Finally we no longer have access to services such as gyms or the student life center.

I believe this shouldn't be done because we are in the midst of a crisis meaning many will have a hard time paying more in tuition. This is also unjust since we use the money for things such as textbooks and online portals. This money is also used for our transportation to and from college.

My name is Matthew Ahrens, I'm a freshman at City Tech and I get my tuition through FAFSA.

My spring semester sucked with COVID 19. People depend on their paychecks, the stimulus check. How can they pay an additional 320?

My name is Rossella Ginestri, this is my last semester at Queensborough and I pay out of pocket for tuition.

COVID-19 has affected my CUNY experience because distance learning is much harder than actually being in class and visually seeing how to do the work.

I believe tuition shouldn't be increased because not everyone has the money that they keep raising and it risks people from actually attending college . It would affect me personally because it's hard enough to already pay an raising it won't make anything better

My name is Farhat Hyder, this was supposed to be my last year at Queensborough and I relied on FAFSA for tuition costs.

This pandemic has affected my education. I was supposed to graduate by summer 2020 and now I won't get the experience I wanted.

I lost my job over the COVID-19. While I was working I barely made enough to help me survive and raise tuition for what? to make the poor more poor?.

My name is John Carlos Rodriguez, I graduate in fall 2020 from Brooklyn College and used loans for my tuition payments.

This pandemic cancelled my masters internship. I have to attend classes online. It's hard for me to do my capstone project.

The BoT shouldn't increase the tuition because I already paid out of pocket and I'm paying other bills. It is hard for me to keep track of everything

My name is Feyzanur Kara, this is my first year of grad school at Queens College and I pay out of pocket for tuition.

I lost my job that I paid the tuition for. I lost my paid internship. My family lost their jobs. I haven't done an assignment in weeks and my research stopped.

I have another year to graduate and even before pandemic I was having a hard time paying for tuition and trying to make a living in New York City by myself. Now that I lost my job and paid internship with no one to support me financially I don't even know if I'll be able to attend school next semester let alone pay a tuition hike.

My name is Marilyn Ridley, I'm a senior at the CUNY School for Professional Studies and I use both out of pocket payments and scholarships for my tuition.

These increases are going to make it harder for me to pay for tuition during downturn in income

My name is Michael Yarbrough, I'm an assistant professor at John Jay.

I have gotten sick. Many CUNY faculty and staff have died, sometimes with no acknowledgment from their campuses. And most importantly, at least 25% of my students have had COVID-19, 60% have had a family member with it, and growing numbers are mourning family deaths. See <https://www.nydailynews.com/opinion/ny-oped-what-cuny-teaches-us-about-the-coronavirus-20200417-a3632rnkmjadldaoutmzyrimy-story.html>

I teach Law & Society at John Jay. My students are researching the impact of the crisis on their lives. Already we know that many have lost jobs and are unable to make ends meet. Why would we ask them to pay more when billionaires are hoarding cash? Aren't we supposed to stick together and not hoard? Tax the wealthy, not CUNY students.

My name is Desiree M Dejesus, this is my second year at BMCC and I pay out of pocket for tuition.

You can't raise tuition when people are losing their jobs and are trying to make or save just enough to continue on with their education.

My name is Sadat Rahman, I'm an alumni from York and the SEEK program.

Raising tuition will hurt my friends.

My name is Anastasia blue, I'm a senior on TAP.

Classes have become so much harder. Not having the teacher there really is a stress. This whole pandemic made school so rushed.

I feel like students are saving money right now with everyone being home they should need to raise the money. 320 is a lot of money to pay on top of what we already pay. The school doesn't show a change for the good with all the rise in tuition.

My name is Sadia Hoque, I'm a junior at CCNY, paying for tuition with TAP, FAFSA and out of pocket expenses.

Online classes are a struggle to deal with because my internet sucks and the connection may be buffering and causing constant disconnections. More assignments are due and more deadlines to be aware of. There's still a lack of understanding, especially people who are sick and affected or in risk of being so because they're busy taking care of loved ones and stuck at home with no money to cover basic survival necessities.

Raising tuition is unjust and unreasonable because it causes unnecessary stress and anxiety, especially for many students who already can not afford to pay for meals and books and have families of their own or are currently unemployed and looking for a job. This is extremely unfair and insensible

My name is Arjun Kapadia, I'm a grad student at queens and get my tuition through access vr.

We have to do our course online for the remainder of the semester and my agency might not be able to cover the increased tuition bill in full. I might have to pay out of pocket.

My name is Matt Brim, I'm a faculty at the College of Staten Island.

This pandemic has revealed the urgency of supporting public higher education, Tuition hikes at CUNY are classist and racist.

My name is Nikola Baci, I'm a third year at Queens College and I pay out of pocket for tuition.

The coronavirus pandemic has made my education more difficult. The online classes are very challenging especially for math classes. We see professors struggling to write on the board they hold by their shoulder and the quality of the video via Blackboard collaboration is so low, we can barely decipher what the professor is writing.

I hope the board doesn't raise tuition. Not now at least. We are paying for classes that are covering only half the material of what was described in the syllabus. Hard to have a normal class. And total chaos, where professors are having trouble updating the students about the Grades, the changes in syllabus and the exam dates. On the other side we are having home exams and crossing finger and hoping students show integrity. As an international student I pay \$7000 per semester and I don't deserve to pay even more in such a crisis that is rising so many problems to CUNY schools.

My name is Melkisedec Francois , I'm a freshman at John Jay, and I pay for school through TAP.

My mom is on social security disability income and my dad is an Uber who is having a hard time finding work during this pandemic. My dad, sister, and I also have to be extra careful when going outside for necessities because my mom's condition makes her vulnerable to COVID-19. I was laid off from my job placement site through CUNY Service Corps and I am currently looking into alternative sources of income to help support my family. Thankfully, I was able to borrow a laptop from my school which I am grateful for. It's been a struggle to keep up with my assignments as online courses are not currently my strong suit and I have to take active steps to manage mood swings due to my anxiety.

A tuition increase wasn't a good idea before this pandemic, but now it would just be cruel. The Board of Trustees must not be tone deaf to the current state of things. People are suffering in more ways than one, and if you think that we're being dramatic, just turn on the 24 hour news cycle. Maybe \$320 is not a lot of money to most Trustees, however on principle, if there was ever a time to take a stand and show compassion for the students of this university, now is that time. I don't even know if my TAP will cover the \$320 increase and I personally don't want to find out. As a Freshman, I'm worried about how much tuition is going to increase by the time my class graduates, I'm worried about how many of us are going to have to drop out of school before then, I'm worried about how many of us have to choose between food, rent, and tuition. This is unjust, why does it take a pandemic for you to see that? There's a disconnect between your Board of Trustees and students, let's fix it. Thank you for your time.

My name is Denisse Gachupin, I'm a CUNY student paying out of pocket for tuition.

I no longer have access to my college resources. It's different being there in class. With the crisis, there is a minimum cost of income, and any extra money is going towards other needs. Having the tuition increase is money that can go somewhere else in our budget, like food, Bill's, etc.

My name is Robin Green.

I am a Brooklyn College Alumni and I believe that a \$320 tuition hike would be detrimental to the current and aspiring CUNY student community. During this time, hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers have lost their jobs and that includes CUNY students. Now add on increasing rents, transit prices, food and other obligations students have to face while living in the city, this would make it impossible for many students to continue their studies or attend school! Why must the students continue to pay for the lack of funding from our city? A tuition hike is not the answer. Students deserve the right to have access to AFFORDABLE higher education.

My name is Omar Pineda, this is my second year at the CUNY School of Professional Studies, and I pay out of pocket for tuition.

This pandemic has affected my ability to pay for classes.

These are difficult times financially for most of us and the increase by \$320 can decide whether or not we can sign up for an additional class and graduate on time.

My name is Kate Little.

I'm a former public school teacher, civil rights lawyer, and lecturer at Yale law school. I care deeply about the access to education in this country and the disproportionate burdens born by already marginalized communities. I'm also lucky to know multiple faculty members for CUNY

and the passion for the students they serve. I stand with them and others calling for a fairer more equitable world.

My name is Yarmina Peralta, I'm an alumni for York and had to use loans for tuition.

CUNY should remain the affordable, quality options for students. The tuition hike is unjust not only during this time but in general because the cost of living in NYC is rising as the wages continue to stay the same. In order to improve their quality of life our students will have post graduation we need to ensure we are providing them access to it. Raising the tuition is denying students access.

My name is Mohammed Sayem Uddin, this is my senior year at brooklyn college, even with TAP and Pell I still rely on out of pocket payments.

The quality of education is below poor due to this pandemic. TCUNY is saving tons of money by putting classes online, they should ask the federal government to help them instead of students who will have difficulty getting jobs until everything goes back to normal which won't happen until next year.

My name is Gabriella Abreu, this is my third year at The CUNY School for Professional studies and I pay out of pocket for tuition.

My teachers have been a great support during this time. However due to outside factors such as getting laid off and worry about paying tuition, rent and other bills, it has made it difficult to concentrate on school. I am hoping things get better.

Raising the tuition especially at this time would not be great. Especially during these tough times where students are highly affected by the pandemic. Many of us have lost jobs and are barely making ends meet while trying to get a great education. Raising tuition would put most of us back. One of this things Cuny promotes is affordable tuition. However raising tuition completely contradicts this. Personally I have been one of those affected by the pandemic and can barely afford a roof over my head. Each time tuition is raised, it makes it difficult for me to continue

taking classes. I have been employed by CUNY for over 5 years and it was only last year, I resigned to pursue a job in my major. CUNY does great by their students, but raising tuition would have the adverse reaction and allow for many students seeking affordable education nearly impossible. Many of us do not qualify for grants because of our age or other reasons, and it is because of affordable tuition that we are able to strive for a great education provided by CUNY. Raising tuition will make this difficult.

My name is Jane Guskin, I'm a PhD student (3rd year at CUNY Graduate Center), faculty (adjunct), and alumni.

As a PhD student I pay no tuition; I support myself through teaching as an adjunct and savings from prior employment. When I was a full time undergrad at CUNY (2015-2017) while working at a nonprofit I paid tuition out of pocket but got tax breaks and some merit scholarships through the CUNY BA program that covered much of the cost; my salary covered the rest.

I am an adjunct faculty member at Queens College (since 2018), a current PhD student at the CUNY Grad Center (since 2017), and an alum of the CUNY BA program and Queens College (2017). As adjunct faculty we were not paid for the time spent converting to online and we are not paid for course prep or grading, just for class time and office hours. Now the pandemic threatens our jobs. Students can't afford tuition right now. They need a refund for spring 2020 and they need for CUNY to be free so they can continue to attend and we can continue to teach them. The state needs to pay the full costs of high quality public higher education by taxing the wealthy. Otherwise CUNY is just reproducing social inequalities instead of challenging them.

CUNY should be free. CUNY's opportunity programs have a great success rate because they give students the support they need. That's the model that should be extended to all CUNY students to ensure that the whole people of New York can build their skills and develop their talents to address this pandemic and future crises. The state needs to stop shifting the cost burden onto students. Any undergrad tuition hike (and any tuition at all right now) will affect me personally as an adjunct because enrollment will drop and I will lose my job. And every time enrollment drops, that means students are giving up their dreams.

My name is Briana, I'm a student at the CUNY School for Professional Studies and I pay out of pocket for tuition.

Being that all my classes were online already, not much has changed. However, the course work could have been minimized a little to accommodate for changing times. Since the coursework was already online, some professors expect us to still keep up with it without being as understanding with everything else going on around us.

The board should not increase the tuition due to it already being an economically hard time for everyone. We just want an education and not have to worry about how we are going to pay for it or if some people need to take out extra money. Personally, I need to pay out of pocket and my dad has been generously paying for school since undergrad and now grad school so I don't need to have the burden of loans. So the increase will affect my dad and my family, as that money could have been spent on something else such as bills and necessities during this time especially with everything being so uncertain.

My name is Tiffany Barrios, I'm a junior at Queens and I receive both TAP and Pell.

Online learning makes it hard for me to follow up with the lessons. Along with worsening my mental health. Yet I can't do anything about it.

Raising tuition is unjust. Loans are always being pushed on students and I think it's unfair. About 60% of students come from low income families who can barely afford transportation, supplies, food, etc.

My name is Diahann Perez. I'm a student at Brooklyn and receive both TAP and Pell.

Most of my classes require fieldwork so I can learn from active teachers. Some assignments are left unclear. Most of those assignments I would have to go outside or use the studio art room as help.

The point of CUNY schools in NYC is for students to go to affordable colleges. Most of the residents of NYC do not make much money especially during this pandemic. Why does CUNYS want to slowly have the same tuition as Private colleges.

My name is Josiah Ramesar, I'm a freshman at BMCC and receive both TAP and Pell.

I have had all my classes be online. Many of my professors are not keeping up to date with the class. I am not learning to the best ability I can.

We cannot afford a tuition hike because so many students pay out of pocket. Students should not have to sacrifice rent or food in order to just pay for school. Many people use the remainder of financial aid to pay for textbooks.

My name is Shira Safia, I'm a junior at Brooklyn college and I receive both TAP and Pell.

The coronavirus pandemic affected my CUNY experience since all classes are now all held online. It is significantly more difficult to study at home while attending to family responsibilities. Moreover, some professors increase the workload and even give less time on exams, which makes it even harder for students to do well during this time.

During Covid-19, many students are unemployed and their families are struggling to make ends meet. Raising tuition will make it so much harder for students and is unjust, especially now that classes are all being held online. Personally, I will need to start paying out of pocket if the tuition increases and I am not able to afford that given the current circumstances.

My name is David Stein, I'm a freshman at Brooklyn College, and I pay out of pocket for tuition.

This pandemic has led to so much emotional stress.

CUNY has just received millions of dollars due to the coronavirus stimulus package. Use that money for the good of the students and not to line the pockets of the presidents of colleges. Student lives matter. We are not suckers!

My name is Sabina Buniatof I'm a senior at brooklyn and even with TAP I still need to take out loans.

COVID-19 has made my education worse. The school is not ready technologically for distance learning. The professors do not even hold online live classes. They expect us to self-study without adequate teaching.

Tuition is already high for a public school. the more you increase tuition, the more debt many students will be in. During this crisis in our economy this is not the right time to increase tuition, on the contrary, there should be more scholarships (need based and merit based) available for students in this challenging time.

My name is Jonathan, I'm a sophomore at Brooklyn, I pay out of pocket though I also received a NYS scholarship for academic excellence.

I'm part of clubs in which most of the events got canceled. I didn't get to go to the internship fair because of the virus. And, I work better academically in a structured setting like a classroom, online classes don't compare.

Most of my cost is out of pocket because I'm not eligible for any financial aid nor any other scholarships. I'm not wealthy, but there is an expected family contribution, and it doesn't matter whether actual family contribution is \$0.00 to financial aid. If I was wealthy, I'd have went to a better school than cuny, it's known that wealthier schools have better resources. I try to get back some tuition by getting the nypirg refund, because they should be audited like every other club, but they stayed out of their office for the first 10 days this semester, they also owe me money from last semester when I did fill out the form but they seemed to have just ignored it.

My name is Jonathan Graber, I'm an upper Junior at Brooklyn College and I pay out of pocket.

I am not able to get the in person lectures and lab experiences which are helpful in the learning process. The online lectures do not have the same capacity to facilitate truly learning a concept. I am also missing out on all of the campus amenities, such as the library, the gym, the laboratories, and in person advice. Advisement over email is not nearly as smooth as it is in person.

We received a lesser product the current semester for what we paid for, to raise prices would be unfair. Regardless of the current semester, it seems the economic effects of the Corona virus will be felt for at least a couple of semesters to come. Therefore, to raise tuition now would potentially exacerbate that strain.

My name is Bobby Tawil, I'm a sophomore at Brooklyn college and I pay out of pocket.

Not having class in person makes it much harder for me to learn. Classes like English are very hard to do online. I'd learn better by doing my own research on things than these online classes and for much cheaper.

We are not even on campus anymore. Everybody is struggling financially right now. CUNY should not raise the tuition, when everybody's struggling, especially if we don't even have in person class.

My name is Efrim Lebovits, I'm a third year at brooklyn and I pay out of pocket.

Just like everyone else: this pandemic has made college more difficult for me than it already was as I'm a night student and work full time. Now I can't even learn the material in a classroom.

Tuition has skyrocketed in the past few decades and it has gone way past inflation rates it makes no sense to raise it even more when people are already struggling and getting laid off from work

My name is Shanice Anderson, I'm an upper junior at Queens and I pay out of pocket.

I can't cover the cost of my tuition for the 2019-20 school year, because I can't work during this pandemic. So I have no income coming in and the money I do have saved I have to use to survive by buying essential needs.

I may not finish my last year of college and that will suck because I worked really hard the past 3 years to get where I am. I earned my degree and it will be devastating to know my financial instability is the only thing holding me back from my goals.

My name is Ismael Almonte, I'm a sophomore at CCNY in the SEEK program.

After the pandemic my experience has been let down by a lack of focus and resources. It's hard to contact others and overwhelming amounts of extra work. We just went through a crisis and to raise the tuition is unjust. We are all going through a financially difficult time.

My name is Marwan Abdelazeez, this is my 3rd year at CSI and I pay out of pocket for tuition. Raise tuition and students will drop out.

My name is Ashley, I'm a junior at CSI and I receive both TAP and Pell.

It has been very hard to keep up with the online school. People are losing their jobs. People who are usually enrolled in cuny come from low income families

My name is Sophia DeMartino, I'll be a rising Junior this fall at the College of Staten Island, and I receive Discover Student loans.

My father had a severe pay cut while expected to work the same amount of hours as before. My mental state is currently deteriorating as I relied on being outside and in nature for emotional support and healing. I quit just before the pandemic was declared and I have no money or

adequate savings to help contribute to my family's financial struggles right now. And I'm still expected to pay my loan's monthly payments during this in full!!

I don't have the money for a tuition increase! We have significantly less income right now - we are barely surviving as we had always lived paycheck to paycheck. This tuition increase will also contribute significantly to my student debt and I can barely afford the LOAN for my tuition right now. I'm struggling to survive. My father may or may not need surgery but we won't know until this pandemic is over. This is so disheartening to learn that there will be another increase. This school is not benefiting me in the slightest. I have tried countless times to utilize the available resources and I've gotten no response from any of the staff members. I shouldn't be paying so much money when most of the available resources are unavailable all of the time. I'm struggling. This is a pandemic! A national emergency and all this college can think about is raising tuition bills! Why?! We are people too! We can't afford this school! I can't afford this school!

My name is Edgar Rodriguez, I'm a junior at CCNY and I pay out of pocket for tuition.

None of my parents are working including myself. We are struggling and CUNY has not made me feel better.

If this happens I may not be able to continue my education. I've already taken out loans and I don't know if I can afford more

My name is Olly Oke, I'm a sophomore at CSI paying out of pocket.

I feel like COVID-19 has taken away from my college experience. It has ended my sports season and well as put a hold on some of my studies due to my lack of a laptop. I am more of a hands on learner where I have to be there to understand and it being shifted online has been a hindrance.

Personally I already struggle to pay the tuition. For there to be an increase in tuition during the time of a pandemic where it's hard to even earn money is an even bigger struggle. I'm not sure whether I would have the financial capabilities to meet the increase.

My name is Alberto Ballesteros, I'm a sophomore at CSI and receive both TAP and Pell.

We are all essentially paying for in class instruction but receiving online class value which is not what we paid for. The uncertainty of my job is really weighing on myself and many others in the same situation.

Increasing tuition in this dire time when many are strapped for cash and not sure if they'll be able to pay for things next month is incredibly inconsiderate of CUNY. It is a disservice to what CUNY stands for and its students which are already being greatly underserved at a high price tag.

My name is Shemar Branch, I go to CSI and will be graduating in 2023. I rely on TAP and loans for my tuition.

I miss having physical classes on campus. The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition by \$320 because most people aren't really financially stable to pay that much money.

My name is Melodie Perez, I'm a sophomore at CCNY and although I receive both TAP and FAFSA I still must pay out of pocket for tuition.

Covid-19 has negatively impacted my experience. It is harder to concentrate on course work and grasp material when staring at a computer screen and only having access to professors by email!

Since financial aid barely covers my tuition, this will cause an even greater out of pocket expense which will cause me to need to work more hours. Getting another job and working more hours will take away my time for studying which will ultimately lower my educational performance!

My name is Alexis, I'm a senior at CSI and I rely on both loans and out of pocket payments for tuition.

It's very difficult for me to focus on my work and I don't feel like I'm learning like I would in class.

The tuition shouldn't be increased because for the majority of the spring semester we didn't get full use out of our tuition expenses. We pay to be on campus including parking passes and we aren't on campus.

My name is Gabriella Feeney, I'm a sophomore at CCNY and I pay out of pocket for tuition.

I'm not able to have an in person class experience, not able to access proper mental health services, loss of student life participation.

Many students pay out of pocket. Although some are able to afford to do so by scholarships etc, \$320 is just enough to cause a student to place a hold on their college education. While in the midst of this pandemic, people are losing their jobs (like myself) and I will not be able to contribute to my education.

My name is Toni Scarpati, I'm a CUNY Alumni and my daughter right now is a senior at CSI.

She is an honor roll student at csi that is now failing a class! Instructional time has been lost with transferring remotely. Her syllabi have changed.

People have lost their jobs. Lives have been lost. Financial hardships are far worse now than ever before.

My name is Rabia, I go to CSI and receive TAP.

Nobody is working at the moment, raising tuition will make our situation worse.

My name is Gianna, this is my 2nd year at CSI and I receive TAP though still pay out of pocket.

Learning is much harder now, especially with my professors that don't even have blackboard accounts.

The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition especially after a pandemic. Not only is it difficult for students to continue education now, it'll be more difficult with a tuition raise.

My name is Anastasia, I'm a junior at CSI and I receive a work voucher though still have out of pocket payments.

I am having a hard time keeping up with assignments and worrying about failing and having to take classes over again and having to pay out of pocket if I fail!

How are they funding Harvard for the rich people yet raising CUNY tuition the money needs yet forgetting who really can't afford this on their own. I can't pay out of pocket if I fail the semester I'd be in debt and can't afford for this to happen.

My name is Enfany Hernandez, I will graduate from CCNY this year and have paid out of pocket despite receiving TAP and Pell.

Since this pandemic I am not able to go back to work, I have a child at home, my family including myself have contacted the virus, and getting access to advisors is difficult.

Not everyone is currently working at the moment which isn't fair for those who pay out of pocket like myself. How are we going to afford next semester if you increase the tuition?

My name is Fariha Rashid, I'm a freshman at queens and need to take out loans to supplement out of pocket payments as an international student.

Learning from home is difficult, I cannot concentrate as much as I could at college in class. Always worrying about family members being safe during this pandemic. Parents don't live with

me in the USA, I am worried about them. Also worrying about tuition, because parents cannot and should not work and if they dont work how would I get money and i am an international student, my tuition is already high.

I AM AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT, I CANNOT WORK IN THE STATES, SO I DONT EARN ANY MONEY, MY PARENTS EARN MONEY, BUT DURING THIS PANDEMIC EVERYONE IS JUST TRYING TO SURVIVE AND OBVIOUSLY MY PARENTS ARE NOT WORKING, I TAKE LOANS AND MY PARENTS PAY OUT OF POCKET, JUST THE LOANS ALONE IS NOT GOING TO COVER MY TUITION ON TOP OF THAT, IF THEY RAISE THE TUITION, IT WOULD BE MORE DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO PAY MY TUITION, PLUS I AM NOT GETTING THE PROPER EDUCATION THROUGH ONLINE CLASSES, SO THEY SHOULD REDUCE THE PRICE IF ANYTHING!!! LAB CLASSES CANNOT BE DONE ONLINE, AND I MAY HAVE TO TAKE THOSE CLASSES AGAIN ANYWAYS, CAUS I AM NOT LEARNING ANYTHING ONLINE, SO I DO NOT THINK CUNY SHOULD RAISE TUITION!!

My name is Stefany de Brito, I'm a senior at CCNY that receives TAP and Pell.

I have been furloughed from my job, I am currently relying on Unemployment insurance benefits in order to pay my own bills. In addition, only one person in my family is considered an essential worker and she is the only one that has income right now. I Live with a toddler and two dogs, I am not able to concentrate or even participate during my classes because of the constant noise. When problems arise and I try to contact my professors, some of them take days to answer emails or do not even bother to answer. It is very hard to focus for me on anything else than the rising tolls of people losing their lives or getting sick and this whole situation has vastly affected my mental health to the point where I go through days of depression knowing that relatives are sick and friends are losing their parents/grandparents.

Tuition should not be raised because I am a student that, like Many on CUNY, has to pay her own bills. This means that I have to work at least 30 hours per week in order to be able to survive. As a consequence of this situation I am part of the working class that relies on hourly minimum wage pay. In other words, I live check by check. This way of living does not allow you to have a monumental amount of savings. In my opinion, it seems unfair to even consider the possibility of raising tuition especially after this time. This global pandemic has affected everyone economically, emotionally and physically in some way or another. After all this is over, I expect and hope to go back to my normal life, in which I work tirelessly to pay bills, with the

sole distinction that I will have even more debts and bills that could have not been covered during this time where I was not working. This means that I will have to work more hours and will be able to give less time into my studies. Therefore, although \$320 does not have a markable effect on some people's lives, it has an effect on mine and hundreds of other students that find themselves in this same situation. \$320 makes a difference for people like us, people that could use it to buy groceries, pay for childcare, or tools for learning.

My name is Deandra Kellman, I'm a senior at CSI and still have out of pocket payments after TAP and Pell.

My classroom time has become limited with zoom partnership during distance learning.

It already feels like the school have a problem with budgeting themselves. Taking an extra \$320 from students won't help get the college back on track and will put financial strain on students.

My name is Valeria, this is my first year at brooklyn college and I rely on out of pocket payments and loans for my tuition.

This pandemic has made it more difficult to access certain facilities that help with academic struggles.

As someone who is paying out of pocket with no help from parents and is covering the majority of my tuition, the tuition hike poses a difficulty and frustration. A tuition hike during this time of crisis also creates major frustration since I am currently unable to work, posing the question If I'll even be able to continue my education.

My name is Elizabeth Otoo, I'm a junior at CCNY and pay out of pocket for tuition.

Both my uncle and my dad passed away during Covid-19. It's hard enough figuring out how I'm going to pay my tuition every semester. My dad is the one who pays and now he's gone. Right now I still owe \$400 and if this tuition hike is approved it could have been \$720.

My name is Mariham Sedrak, this is my third year at CSI and I need to take out loans for tuition.

Covid-19 has affected my CUNY experience by stopping all the labs and practical classes and now we just read the lecture or labs without any contact with the instructors, so that my academic grades get decreased because I'm understanding better when I see and have contact the professor.

Now in this crisis time we don't use any facilities in the college ,no classes,no labs ,and there is no library or group classroom.

So that is why you increase the tuition fee even if we don't use anything and all the classes become online classes only .

Which should be decreasing the fee, not increasing it .

My name is Brenda Onger, this is my first year at CSI and I rely on fafsa and out of pocket payments.

It's been difficult for me as I'm getting a lack of attention because it's a whole new process of learning.

We shouldn't raise tuition because not all of us are able to pay the tuition fee and most of us are having difficulties with online learning.

My name is Chidera Obi-Eyisi, I'm a freshman at CCNY and rely on TAP and Pell.

Learning online is quite difficult. Some professors are more understanding than others but overall adjusting has not been easy.

Tuition shouldn't be raised because we are in a pandemic and a lot of us are already struggling with bills we have to pay. It will be an additional burden on us students if the tuition is raised.

My name is Lara Colombo, I'm a freshman at CSI and I pay out of pocket.

It has been hard to go from in class lectures to online. I no longer have the lab time to do experiments as I did. I am lacking in hands on experience.

It is not fair that students and families have to face the increasing tuition based on a situation that no one prepared for. Many people lost their jobs to pay for school and it is hard enough to compensate for the tuition. My family works hard to send me to school and based on the current situation, there is no reason why it should be harder for everyone.

My name is Naomi Henry, this is my first year at CSI and I pay out of pocket for tuition costs.

I'm out of work so I might not be able to pay some of my tuition. People might not be able to accommodate for a tuition hike, especially the ones paying out of pocket.

My name is Amine Ridaoui, I'm a member of the class of 2020 at CCNY and I'm in SEEK.

I've been hurt by a lack of resources to study promptly and efficiently. Person to person classes are what I signed up for and this change has made my academic life much more difficult.

Why would The Board raise tuition in the first place? Seems like predatory behavior from the board.

My name is Sekou Blow, I'm a sophomore at CSI and I pay out of pocket and am in the ASAP program.

I'm missing my friends and professors from campus. I wish the coronavirus pandemic would come to an end so we all can go back outside again and everything goes back to normal. I think being at home is a little problem for me due to some distractions but I'm trying to stay focused.

I may not have that amount of money to pay for Tuition. It could affect my chances of getting my degrees to achieve my dream goals.

My name is Sabrina Benet, I'm a junior at CSI taking out loans.

This threw us into online classes where I personally do not work to my fullest potential. I'm feeling super run down and uninspired by the amount of work I get. It has 100% been a difficult time to be a CUNY student, or student in general.

No, the Board shouldn't raise tuition. This is a really bad time to raise tuition because of our country's current situation. We are dealing with a loss on more levels than usual, loss of jobs, pay, loved ones, routine. It is completely unnecessary to raise tuition now, so many people are dealing with hardships.

My name is Semije Skudrinja, I'm a sophomore at CSI and despite receiving TAP and Pell I still pay out of pocket.

I have been doing distance learning which I am grateful for but it is not ideal. I do not learn well in an online environment, which is why I didn't sign up for online classes. I feel like this year I'm going through the motions but not actually learning anything.

The Board should not raise the tuition because I have lost my job and due to the amount of money I made the years prior I will not be receiving much financial aid to help pay for classes. Most of my tuition will be paid out of pocket and I won't be able to afford it.

My name is George Cooke, I'm a senior at CCNY paying out of pocket.

I couldn't pay the tuition on time and I'm not able to talk to an advisor. This will affect me dearly because I'm already having trouble paying for tuition now plus since Covid-19 I haven't been able to work to even pay it off and this will pre-long my graduation. I know this is how a lot of students fill the board of trustees always raising tuition other than helping us fight for more

funding all Cuny schools and most programs have been terminated because of this shortages of funds.

My name is Carolyn Morel, I'm a freshman at CCNY and need to pay out of pocket despite receiving TAP and Pell.

Classes have completely moved online, meaning i have to sit through video courses in a noisy environment because i don't live alone. Some professors I barely hear from, and the lack of a proper learning environment has hurt my studies and performance. I don't even know how to reach the registrar's office and I just feel very lost in this situation.

The reimbursement check I recieve will be smaller. I depend on this money to purchase all of my books and other necessities for school. It's also not fair to hike tuition right now if the guarantee of my being able to use the school facilities isn't guaranteed for the time being.

My name is Marina Ghobrial, I'm a senior at CSI paying out of pocket for tuition.

Some professors haven't been that responsive so we're forced to learn on our own. Online exams are made harder because they are open books so I'm struggling with a class. Not the same experience as learning in a classroom.

My dad pays for me and my brother. We are not covered by Fafsa or Tap because he is a part time student. So he pays out of pocket. We are already struggling financially and had to take out a loan. A \$320 increase means a \$640 increase for us. And With COVID, we aren't earning the same.

My name is Kimberliesa Bowen, this is my second year at CSI and I pay out of pocket.

My classes fell behind because of this pandemic. Sometimes it's really hurt for me to pay attention to all my classes and work because I'm not in school learning.

I pay for school out of pocket so it's going to be difficult for me to pay an extra \$320. I work a part time job to pay for school. School it's going to be too expensive for me and everyone else who pays out of pocket. A tuition hike is unnecessary and selfish of the state because not everyone have financial aid or assistance for tuition.

My name is Mariah Ramirez, I'm a junior at CCNY receiving TAP and Pell.

Since the pandemic all my classes are moved to a digital platform. From my experience, multiple teachers use different platforms- resulting in confusion for myself and my classmates.

The board of trustees should not raise the tuition because there are many students depending on financial aid to get them through their education. Raising Tuition will lead to students being at a disadvantage which may result in students abandoning their studies, or taking out loans that they cannot afford.

My name is Lucas Carvalho, I'm a senior at John Jay receiving loans and Pell grants.

The COV-19 pandemic has completely overhauled my academic experience with CUNY. The transition to online learning has been difficult nonetheless. The inability to work, socialize, and learn in person has affected me dramatically. Adapting to this new reality of social distancing has been the most challenging factor through it all.

In times like these, to propose an increase in tuition goes to show the greed and the lack of empathy the Board of Trustees has toward its student body. As a CUNY student, I am well aware of the cuts to crucial departments like advice, wellness facilities, and childcare centers. These departments are underfunded, understaffed, and unsupported from the top down. Although the proposal appears to attempt to remedy these issues, I have noticed that the previous proposals that have passed have not addressed these issues. How will I know the increase in tuition will be utilized effectively to support the student body if in the past it's been different? As a full-time college student living in NY, the cost of living has been increasing exponentially while the price for public education has done the same. It is impossible to expect students to pay the increase in tuition when the overall economy is on standstill. It is immoral, unjust, and overall wrong for the Board of Trustees to push this proposal at a time like this.

My name is Chad Henry, I'm an alumni med student from CCNY who had to take out loans.

Pandemic has put a strain on the finances of many. People are unable to work and make ends meet. Doesn't make sense to raise tuition now especially considering we cant even use the campus.

My name is Richard Kish, this is my third year at CCNY who relies on tap, pell, excelsior, and is still taking out student loans.

I relied on my college for Internet access, so I had to start paying for service. Trying to reach help through the college is much slower; I applied for an Internship Program at my college over a month ago and have yet to be accepted.

Not only are the university's physical resources no longer available to us, a lot of students, including myself, have lost their job or their work is severely compromised. I don't get any assistance from my parents so I relied entirely on loans and having a job prior to the pandemic; financial stability is unsure for thousands of students in the same situation.

My name is Angelina Coronado, I'm a student at CCNY receiving Pell, loans, and making out of pocket payments.

College education is now limited to distance learning through the form of video chat discussion and Blackboard discussion posts. As an English literature major and Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow, I notice how the coronavirus has imposed great pressure on my peers — not only in terms of how the great change to the quality of our education but the changes in our family dynamics, health, and economic means. Class plans to go on field trips, attend literary readings, and other experiences vital to our growth as students have been completely cancelled.

I arrived at CUNY in search for a quality, affordable education that would provide me with ample resources for scholarship and research. As a transfer student, I can proudly say that I have experienced far more support at CCNY than I did at my previous private liberal arts Early College. I can go on about how tuition hikes affect students such as myself who have found an

intellectual home at CUNY, but my greatest concern rests in how this will affect my peers in tremendous ways — especially in light of this pandemic. I compel the decision makers on this matter to re-evaluate how they are supporting the CUNY colleges. I ask them to explain how these consistent, yearly tuition hikes (as well as the persistent budget cuts) are serving a purpose to the students, the overworked and underpaid adjunct faculty, and the overall university legacy and mission. A \$320 increase here and a budget cut there soon reveals striking austerity and detrimental effects to the overall CUNY system. If the decision makers care for this reality, then a re-evaluation needs to be made.

My name is Victoria Sparandera. I'm a junior at CSI and I pay out of pocket.

My classes are now online. I am unable to participate in social events. I am also unable to use the library, which is where I spend most of my time.

I am unable to get financial aid but that does not mean yearly tuition is easy for my family and I to pay. My parents and I all lost our jobs due to COVID-19 so paying tuition this fall will be much more difficult. Raising tuition during this unprecedented time is sick and twisted, especially considering we may continue distant-learning through the fall. Students are essentially teaching themselves during this time so paying more for tuition is just ridiculous.

My name is Tayvhon Pierce, a LaGuardia Community College graduate and current student at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, receiving TAP, SEEK, and taking out loans.

The coronavirus pandemic has taken our campus away. The place that continues to inspire so many people to strive for success. It has put a strain on many students including myself mentally, economically, and academically. It is difficult to focus on keeping up with assignments when a global pandemic is threatening our idea of the future. The world is on hold but our bills keep coming, the assignments keep coming. I have multiple people close to me who are sick and one who has passed away since corona. My bedroom now being my classroom, workplace, and meeting room makes it difficult to declutter mentally.

Now, We could talk about numbers.: We can talk about The 500,000 CUNY Students that are suffering from the Tap Gap which is at about 80 million dollars and rising because of tuition increases such as this. Or The Student to counselor ratio being 900 students over the

recommended ratio of support; overburdening the present counselors and preventing many students from accessing mental health services - a barrier they now would literally be paying for. Or the almost 50,000 food insecure students, me being one of them, already choosing between education and dinner

But I want to talk about CUNY's mission statement to provide affordable education. "a vehicle for the upward mobility of the disadvantaged in the City of New York using CUNY's own description." Let's talk about how these tuition hikes are a direct contradiction of this mission as well as a violation of the state education law. Let's talk about why the students are being profited off of instead of provided for.

Better yet, what is the mission of the Board of Trustees? The state education law says: The Board of Trustees are responsible for the governance, maintenance and development of both senior and community colleges. CUNY is supported on the assumption that the University will continue to maintain and expand its commitment to academic excellence and to the provision of equal access and opportunity for students, faculty and staff from all ethnic and racial groups and from both sexes

How does raising tuition increase the development of any of the CUNY schools that now have to find the money the state won't cover because of the fixed TAP amount? In what ways does affordable correlate with tuition hikes? How can a student be asked to pay more for the mental health services they aren't provided, or for the classes that are being held in trailers, or the adjuncts who aren't getting paid enough to provide the educational experience students need. This is not an expansion of equal access and opportunity, it is the cultivation of its demise.

If I was a trustee, I would want people to trust me. Trust me with the vehicle that is providing upward mobility to the disadvantaged, and know that I will keep it affordable, find ways to expand opportunity programming, request the necessary funding from those that promised to fund it aka the state. I would hear the student's pain and minimize the burden on their backs instead of adding to it in \$300 increments. Where were you when the students were in Albany advocating for funding? From CUNY's mission statement, that seems to be more of your responsibility than the students.

An additional tuition increase will threaten access to a college education and undermine CUNY's mission to provide opportunity for the low-income and working class students of New York City. A reality that has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 outbreak.

My name is Jason Morency, I'm a member of the class of 2020 from CCNY receiving TAP and Pell.

It's hard with online classes. Lots of responsibilities at home. I am afraid to go outside and get what I need.

I will not be able to pay for a lot of things. I already struggle to pay my rent. Having the extra cost will force me to work more and take away from my already difficult studies.

My name is Erin McLaughlin, I'm a grad student at Queen's college taking out loans.

The board can't raise tuition. Students are wracked with expenses because of coronavirus. Students are losing their jobs. Students are paying CUNY to go there and classes are being moved online.

My name is Bryana Paulino, I'm a sophomore at Lehman receiving Tap and Pell.

The coronavirus pandemic has affected immensely my CUNY experience, first and foremost, because we are now forced to take online classes due to the restrictions and it's something that has been pretty new to me and honestly not easy to adapt to whatsoever. I, for one, had to withdraw from classes because the situation at home has made it very difficult to focus or remember about taking digital classes. I've had some family members who have become infected and have needed assistance and in return I became infected.

It's detrimental to the amount of stress that this pandemic has bestowed on us, especially those who have lost family members including me. Financially, my family and I were impacted

because no one is no longer working and with the stagnating amount of people filing for unemployment it's been difficult to make ends meet.

As I mentioned before, financially me alongside many other students were affected immensely by this pandemic. It is something that is out of our control, and many students can't afford paying more money to attend college. It puts those with low income at a disadvantage because they might have to take some time off or put them in debt in order to stay on track for graduation. I think it's important that every student's opinions are taken into consideration when this will mostly affect us.

My name is Antonia Exinvil, I'm a sophomore at CSI who needs to take out loans despite being in ASAP.

This had made it hard to tackle classes. Online classes are harder and confusing because I am a kinesthetic learner.

The board shouldn't raise the tuition because in my case I was kicked out the dorms and forced to live home where it is harder to do classes. Raising the tuition would make it harder for us all and cuny continuously takes from us with no remorse.

My name is Joshua, this is my first year at BMCC and I'm receiving fafsa.

This pandemic has made me extremely unmotivated and it is making classes much more difficult.

The board shouldn't raise tuition because there are enough students who could barely afford the tuition now, it would be cruel to raise it even more

My name is Yancey Batiz, I plan to graduate from BMCC in 2023 receiving fafsa.

Some of my struggles under COVID-19 include having to social Distance with my friends, Learning from a distance online, and having no job.

No one is capable of working during this time. It's unfair to raise tuition, some people barely afford to buy groceries.

My name is Haneen Ali, I'm a CSI freshman receiving TAP.

I'm out of a job because of COVID-19.

This is a time where people are in need of money. Raising tuition will only have a domino effect and people won't have enough money to nourish themselves and their families. Tuition costs should be reduced if anything because the campuses aren't even being used. Everything is remote learning.

My name is Eleni Dipka, I plan to graduate from BMCC in 2021 and receive TAP and Pell.

I've been forced to take online classes even though I didn't sign up for those. I don't do well in online classes so it's either I wasted an entire semester and take the no credit or I take a hit to my gpa. I understand the safety measures taken to keep us safe, but hiking tuition on top of that is just wrong.

Millions of Americans are on unemployment and are looking at a "Great Depression" like recession so they want us to give them MORE money that most students didn't have to begin with?

My name is Steshulya, I'm a junior at Brooklyn College and pay out of pocket.

It's impossible to have the full course covered in many classes. All the labs are canceled. Each professor teaches his class in a different manner which may be confusing. The quality of education became worse.

I pay my out of state tuition out of pocket. Now as everything is closed all over the world it became extremely hard to earn money to cover tuition. Considering the fact that we all were affected by the pandemic in the Spring 2020 semester and the education level only worsened while we still had to pay the full price for the education, I consider the raise in the tuition for the future semesters extremely unfair.

My name is Sebastian Smith, I will graduate from Brooklyn college in 2022 and I pay out of pocket for tuition.

Online classes are not worth the money I paid for the semester. Professors have been unorganized and bad at communicating. certain professors are choosing not to video chat their students.

It's going to affect me because I'm paying more for a worse education. CUNY raising the tuition in a time like this is a tone- deaf move, and makes me wonder who is on this "board of trustees' '. have they been living under a rock? They should take some of these online classes and see if they feel it's worth the money they charge.

My name is Christopher Deanne, this is my first year at BMCC and I receive financial aid and make out of pocket payments.

The coronavirus has put a huge damper on my CUNY experience. Not only did all my classes go from in person to online (which I never intended to take) but the work load has seemingly gotten harder and the professors are less available. The experience of being in a classroom and learning first hand from a professor has been taken away and not all of my professors do zoom meetings meaning, we are basically teaching ourselves. Not only are we teaching ourselves but there is no sympathy for students who have had a hard time grasping the lessons or the assignments. It has completely altered my experience with the CUNY school system.

The tuition should not be raised for many reasons, one being a lot of people have lost jobs and cannot afford the tuition as is and are struggling to make the current tuition payment. With a hike of \$320, this will put an already heinous strain on people's pockets and make it harder for people to 1) feel like school is not a burden and 2) probably even be able to attend school like they wish to do in order to succeed. It is not only unjust but inhuman to take from people who have already

had everything taken from them due to this virus. We as students know that CUNY is not liable for this outbreak, but neither are we and it seems like we are already being penalized with distance learning and now have to worry about not being able to make tuition next year. It is unfair, it is unjust and it is inhuman to kick students while they are down. That extra \$320 can go to people's food supply or day to day needs such as medicine and bills they already worry about. Not every student is an 18 year old with the luxury of living at home with their parents and not having to worry about paying bills or their next meal. A lot of us are already struggling, have been and are struggling even more due to this pandemic. This is outrageous and should NOT be allowed.

My name is Diya Qazeili Moushahwar, I'm a sophomore at BMCC receiving TAP, Pell, and paying out of pocket.

I work as an ASAP tutor so I luckily have gotten to keep that job but the workload and homework has gotten very overwhelming. I'm doing more labor now in the pandemic than I was before. I am very privileged to still have my job.

Next year I will be at Hunter College. Pell and TAP are not covering all of my tuition and I am waiting to hear back from Hunter as to if they will provide a transfer scholarship for me. Another \$320 for school is money that could go to my rent, my health insurance, my bills, my groceries. When your annual income is below the poverty line, every dollar counts.

My name is Kathy Velasquez, this is my second year at BMCC and I receive TAP.

This pandemic has been really bad, I'm not able to walk down the stage for graduation or even experience my real last semester. Although class is taking place online it doesn't feel like I'm in school.

It isn't fair to raise tuition at all, especially because of what is going on now. Personally I'm not sure if this is going to affect me but I know it will affect other Cuny students in a negative way.

My name is Bola Ghaly, I'm a freshman at CSI receiving TAP, Pell and excelsior.

This pandemic has made me more disciplined and organized.

The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition because I don't think that it's fair for students to pay that much extra and it might cause more people to drop out of college.

My name is Maria Perez y Gonzalez, I've spent 28 years as a faculty member at Brooklyn College and graduated from John Jay College: Class of 1987.

COVID-19 has created an isolating situation and made stressors that were unthought of before this for both students and faculty. It has hit our students of color even more so due to the inequities they experienced before this crisis hit in terms of socioeconomic indicators and even immigration status. For students who are parents, this was exacerbated because they have to also educate their kids from home while taking classes from home.

Raising tuition would be a devastating blow to students' ability to have to pay an increase during a time when so many of our students and their family members are unable to work/have lost their jobs due to COVID-19. This would have a particularly catastrophic impact on students of color as these communities have been the hardest hit in terms of infection and deaths. Our students need degrees to be able to achieve their goals in the near future and this would be another obstacle mounted upon the numerous others this virus has already imposed upon them.

My name is Lucas Agudelo, I'm a student at BMCC on the GI bill.

I've had to adapt to an online world with classes being taught all virtual. My days are monotonous and this quarantine is very boring. School work is becoming tedious and my motivation waning.

Raising tuition does not have an effect on me. But I'm the lucky few. Others are not. They pay out of pocket. With little form of income now due to the pandemic, how are they to pay this new increase fee? The teachers are moving everything online and are doing an amazing job teaching classes that were many times meant for personal and in person interaction. Is this new hike to

pay them? I doubt it. Since we aren't going into campus and or using facilities, how are you justified in raising tuition? For who? Who is this money going to?

My name is Peter Damour, I'm a senior at Queens College and I pay out of pocket.

I'm not in the correct head space to do any work. Financially I can't even afford school. Every student should be granted a pass grade for this semester. Students have jobs. Students are parents. Some Students are essential workers.

A tuition hike makes it worse for current students. Students are already stressed out and dealing with so much. For me personally, not only do I need to figure out how I will pay for school but the stress to academically succeed also weighs heavily on me.

My name is Imam H Mihan, I'm a senior at CCNY and I rely on TAP, Pell, and out of pocket payments.

I have lost my job. Currently facing a very tough situation due to the pandemic.

I can barely pay my tuition fees next semester. I have no idea what I will do if I don't get my job back. Increasing the tuition will only add to my sufferings.

My name is Viktorija Molodecka, I'm a senior at CCNY. I used to be on FAFSA but because the civil engineering degree ALWAYS takes more than 4 years, most of my Pell ran out and I'm starting to pay out of pocket.

I do not learn well at home. I need the college campus to get away from my home life and be in a productive learning environment. Being at home for quarantine canceled a lot of labs and in person tutoring which takes away even more from my educational enrichment. Not to mention there are no club activities going on anymore so I'm really only getting the bare minimum from my tuition! I can't go to campus infirmary, I can't use the tech labs or borrow laptops because I

live 2 hours away on public transport which isn't safe to use given the risks of living with elders. We should be having decreased tuition if anything!

Starting to pay out of pocket really puts financial strain on my low income household. Having to pay more while traditional work hours are cut is extremely difficult and unfair given my quality of education has gotten worse. If the college needs more money, it should be provided by the government or donation, not from the expense of the students. The reason a lot of students are in CUNY schools is because of lowered tuition relative to private schools and we can manage paying and working at the same time but that dynamic gets blown off with the pandemic and raising tuition is unfair and hard to manage.

My name is Loaiza Rivera, I'm a senior at CCNY and need to take out loans.

Things were bad before - they are inexplicable now.

The quality of CUNY is beyond subpar. I wouldn't mind paying more tuition but the quality that we are already receiving is despicable. Let's fix the quality of CUNY now; then we can talk about tuition hikes. If you need examples, look at Bard High School Early College at 525 East Houston Street for ideas on what an affordable, quality college education looks like. Until then, stfu on tuition hikes - or make the cuts where they are needed: the salaries of school presidents like Boudreau at CCNY and the salaries of other overpaid staff throughout CUNY.

My name is Ashley Sheppard, I'm a junior at Hunter paying out of pocket.

I haven't been not able to get the hand on experience in my production classes.

I won't be able to afford to go to school when tuition is raised. Since the pandemic I haven't been able to work. I haven't even finished paying for the spring semester.

My name is Abby Annaccone, I'm a freshman at CCNY and I rely on Pell and loans.

I was made to leave the state when we were kicked out of dorms and commuting to work became too impractical.

My dad lost two jobs because of this pandemic, and I was prevented from starting a position that took me a year to find. We were already struggling to afford for me to go to school before the pandemic, and raising tuition would only worsen that burden, especially now that 2/3 of the people chipping in are unemployed.

My name is Ariana, I'm a 2019 graduate from CCNY.

Many students have to work to pay for their tuition/support themselves, which is difficult enough in itself. Increasing tuition when the economy is so bad, many people are out of jobs, are sick, and are caring for loved ones is incredibly insensitive. Students are doing more independent learning now than ever and those with children and loved ones have even more pressure beyond their education (caretakers, educating their children remotely, elderly being moved from nursing homes, coping alone). Thus, increasing tuition can be detrimental to these students completing their degrees. Please have compassion, especially during this crisis.

My name is Swathi Mettela and I am a Maculay Honors Alumni.

CUNY is supposed to support students in getting an education and our student body is much poorer and includes more POC than another other institution in our state. We have a responsibility to aid these students so that they are able to make it through this difficult time.

My name is Pulkit Singla, I graduated from CCNY in 2019.

Students should not be forced to pay more especially now. People already do not have money. I am a CCNY graduate from 2019.

My name is Cindy Chee and I'm a CUNY alumni.

Many members of families are losing their jobs because of the pandemic. As times are tough, people are trying to survive off what they have saved up while they were working. Most CUNY students have part time jobs. However, many of those jobs have been taken away due to restrictions and quarantine. With economic hardships already in place, increasing tuition will add more financial uncertainties.

My name is Sammy Ahmed, I'll graduate from Hunter in 2023 when I receive TAP.

I have to be in online classes, when I paid for in person meetings. I shouldn't have to pay more for the same services.

My name is Chantal Garrido, this is my 4th year at CCNY and I receive Tap and Pell.

Studio classes have become remote. Architecture program feels very different.

If my tap and pell can't cover it, I can't pay for tuition and it'll be my fifth year transferring within the school in my first year. I can't work to cover the amount because I am already saving up for my last year of college.

My name is Judy Sanchez, I'm a third year at CCNY and I pay out of pocket.

I've had no interaction with people and no job opportunities.

We can't raise tuition because there are no jobs available as they used to.

My name is Isaac Corniel, I'm a sophomore at CCNY and I pay for college through tap, excelsior, loans, and out of pocket payments.

Things have been harsh for me during this pandemic, the BoT shouldn't raise tuition because it's not fair because students already have to deal with college tuition, exams, essays, and assignments. Furthermore, they have to pay for transportation such as the subway and train.

My name is Nada Elsayed, I'm a junior at CCNY on TAP and Pell grants.

It's hard to get work done from home as an architecture student going to the studio was essential to focus and get work done. I'm now unemployed and don't know when I'll have a job again. In addition, classes aren't fully successful being taught virtually.

The increase is simply unnecessary especially under today's circumstances, people are barely affording a living with the coronavirus pandemic. Also nothing has improved in the CUNY's system for them to increase tuition. What we pay is already a lot looking at the experience we get.

My name is Belisa Byberi, this is my third year at CCNy and my family supports me for college.

My family owns a small business and has had these hard times since it closed. We all are having financial issues.

These hard times should lower our tuition. \$360 is food for the entire month for us. We can not afford paying extra especially these days that business and jobs are closed. This is a world pandemic and during this time school should be lowered. We are not using the campus facilities so I see no reason to raise the tuition.

My name is Alix Salomon, this is my second year at CCNY and I'm on TAP.

The coronavirus pandemic has deprived me of my already paid resources at my CUNY campus. It has made it extremely difficult for me to obtain just learning experience. It has made me wary of the effect that adjusting to this learning mechanism will have on my future GPA.

As an architecture student, the constant demand for students to purchase their own materials are high. Whether it is wood, acrylic, or foam board that we're using, the amount of materials and tools that is required is excessive and very expensive. This pandemic has prevented many families from receiving any source of income. Raising tuition means taking advantage of the students and their families who are not able to afford it.

My name is Georgette Clarke, I graduated from Hunter in 1997 and I paid for college with grants and out of pocket payments.

Students lack access to campus resources, family loss and economic hardship. Many students who attend public colleges already struggle financially. The pandemic just worsened their plight.

This crisis has devastated every student and faculty member financially, academically and emotionally. To raise tuition at this time, would destroy the lives and future of all stakeholders! It would be the equivalent of shooting someone who is already dying from stab wounds!

My name is Anamaria Jovel, this is my third year at CCNY and I pay out of pocket for tuition.

I am forced to attend classes online, many of which do not work well without collaboration or material and workspace, such as my Studio and Ceramics courses. Now I must worry about internet at home with both of my siblings now home as well and my parents working from home. Now I have multiple responsibilities outside of school because I must also help my family deal with this new reality by cooking, cleaning and caring for our pets while balancing school work which hasn't been adjusted to this pandemic. I spend my days worrying for my dad who is an essential worker, and spend nights up trying to complete work I couldn't in the day because of my other chores now that I am home. I was forced to leave behind my belongings at the dorms because they were taken by the state, and still don't have specifics of where and how they were moved. It has become much harder to handle my workload now through this pandemic.

Raising tuition in this time will only ensure multiple students cannot afford to return to school. For my family we are struggling to get necessities in this time because my brother, sister and I returned so suddenly home and were suddenly in need of supplies in order to achieve our school and work responsibilities. We cannot afford a price hike for tuition. With my sister being laid off we only have one source of income in our home with my dad, and a tuition raise would be too much to handle at this time.

My name is Mamadou C Diallo, I'm a junior at Hunter College on Tap and Pell.

This Pandemic, it changed everything. The quality of the education has diminished dramatically. Furthermore, I am lost with the courses provided online because of a lack of support like one on one tutoring sessions.

They should not raise our tuition simply because this pandemic is affecting everybody economically and also the quality of the service they are offering is not worth a penny more. They should instead reduce tuition.

My name is Irene Boso, I'm a senior at Hunter College receiving TAP, Pell, and loans.

I have become financially during this pandemic unstable and higher tuition will cause more issues for me.

During this pandemic, my family does not have money to help me pay for college now, if there is an increase in tuition I will not be able to continue my education. I will then have to choose between school or pay for bills.

My name is Diana Ferreira, I graduate from Hunter in May and get financial aid through Tap and Pell.

I feel like remote learning isn't as effective. I'm not paying attention in my classes, professors keep assigning more work, and I feel like I'm not learning anything. On the upside, it's convenient to do classes from the comfort of my home.

Tuition already increases by \$100 a year and there will for sure be a recession after this pandemic is over, so to increase it to \$320 is absurd. Many people have lost their jobs and they can not afford basic necessities and bills, let alone a tuition hike. In case the Board of Trustees doesn't know, the cost of tuition is one of the main reasons why people drop out of college - they simply can't afford it. As a graduating senior this semester, I believe it's selfish to raise tuition \$320 to all my underclassmen friends and teammates that struggle to pay tuition as it is.

My name is Shania, this is my third year at Hunter right now I'm on Tap, excelsior, BUT next semester, out of pocket due to poor spring classes during COVID-19 pandemic.

Remote classes are overwhelmingly poor, and not worth the original cost. You are unable to learn at the same capacity. Also access to campus is pointless with mandated social distancing. Library access might as well not exist.

Raising tuition will make it harder for me to attend classes in the Fall. Every penny counts, and if classes continue to be remote, or fears over COVID-19 continue into the Fall semester, I doubt my educational experience would justify a tuition hike. Moreover, my parents have lost their jobs during this pandemic, and I doubt I will be able to afford tuition next semester.

My name is Cielo Jimenez, I'm a Macaulay Honors student graduating in 2022 and I pay out of pocket with support from my parents.

I am currently taking 8 courses with a busy schedule all while trying to take care of my family of 6. We are left with so much responsibility including shopping for food (which there Clearly is not enough on the shelves). So we are focusing more on our health rather than schoolwork and it does take a toll on all of our academics. Furthermore, many family members have unfortunately contracted Covid-19 and only some made it through and that takes a toll on my family and the extended. It is all chaotic and personally my experience is a lot harder. And I am sure I am

speaking for all of my family and a majority of students, faculty, and everyone outside of an educational institution.

I am lucky enough to have my tuition paid by the Macaulay Honors College. But I still pay for CUNY fees and textbooks, unlimited metrocards, unlimited Long Island railroad cards, groceries, personal items, etc. So I can not imagine adding another \$320 to my CUNY fees. And I can not imagine those who are not as fortunate to have their tuition covered at a CUNY institution or have any financial aid what-so-ever. And to raise the tuition another couple of hundred dollars coming right out of a pandemic where millions are filing for unemployment and are coming out of a chaotic is not going to help the situation. And many already struggle to pay for college and other items. It is unjust and unfair to make a tuition hike.

My name is Farrah Roesch, I graduate from CCNY in 20203 and I'm on excelsior.

I cannot do schoolwork at home. I have no attention span. That \$320 can be better spent on groceries. groceries and anything helps. i'm no longer employed

My name is Lydia Godman, I'm a student at Hunter and I receive TAP, loans, Excelsior, and make out of pocket.

I dorm and I had to move back upstate. Also, the quality of learning is nowhere near the quality of in person learning.

I live in a single parent household and paying for school is a struggle as is, even with the help we get from the aids listed above. A tuition increase for the next academic year, especially given that millions of Americans are losing/have lost their jobs, would put more strain on our financial situation.

My name is QinYan Chen, I'm a freshman at Hunter receiving tap, pell and excelsior.

So much extra work. Learning is difficult in classes that require hands on activity. Teachers are trying their best to calmly do things but the workload is ridiculous. My life for the past few

weeks has just been “oh there’s a pandemic going on haha yea no one in your family can work you’re running out of money. FAST. The mortgage? Food? Bills? Phone and internet? Pftthahaha good luck with that. But you know what don’t worry that 10-12 page paper is still due actually even sooner than before. 2 papers a week, long discussion boards all due on Thursday. Oh and that book you were struggling with? Yea read it in 2 weeks on top of books from the other classes THEN write 2 papers on it. Then repeat for all the other books until the end of the semester. What do you mean you don’t have time for it? Just stop making breakfast and lunch for your family. Not like there’s food to cook anyway.” I didn’t even mention how my Humanities class which went on many field trips to shows and plays has been reduced to a mere watching a video over Ultra, which doesn’t even work on my laptop.

I really appreciate the teachers doing their best but it’s obvious that the quality of education has dropped significantly. Even without this pandemic inflation was not that extreme for a tuition increase. It’s utterly ridiculous that they want to increase tuition when they can’t even properly take care of the schools and it’s needs. How embarrassing it was when I brought my friend for a visit and her strongest impression was that there was a rat in the cafeteria. How about you restore the lecture halls before coming for any more of our money.

My name is Ayesha Hena, I’m a 3rd year at Hunter receiving Tap and Pell.

The coronavirus pandemic has affected my CUNY experience because I do not have the resources that I need to keep up with my studies.

Even at the moment, the tuition is difficult to pay. There are many students who don’t have financial aid that would help with tuition or even if they do, oftentimes it won’t be enough to cover the costs and most likely would end up paying out of pocket when the money should go towards their families. The stress will increase in students and it will reflect poorly in their academics. Please do not raise the tuition.

My name is Tiffany Gonzalez, I’m a junior at CCNY taking out loans.

Not having a space to concentrate yet being held accountable for the same amount of work (if not more) causes a lot of anxiety and stress, leading to more difficulties concentrating. Sitting in

front of a laptop all day every day without having anything to put your mind off of the stresses of the pandemic has me in this state of constant anxiety without rest.

I personally will probably have to drop out. It is a struggle as is with taking all the loans and not being able to work enough hours to maintain grades is going to make it unaffordable for many of us. It is a stretch as is. Education is the future of, not just the students, but the world in general therefore I don't see the reason in making it more difficult to obtain a degree.

My name is Ana B, I'm a third year at Hunter taking out loans.

This pandemic has led to personal Financial hardship. Paying for tuition is hard enough already. Especially now during Covid 19. Tuition fees should not be raised.

My name is Carmen Chen, I'm a senior at Hunter on TAP and Pell, taking out loans, and paying out of pocket.

I take art studio classes so that is difficult to learn through online. it is better taught in person. I'm not learning as much as I want, and effectively.

A lot of us aren't working right now so it will be an extra strain on our pockets. it is ridiculous they would consider an extra raise when we are barely utilizing the school through even its basic use.

My name is Alyssa Bueno, I'm a freshman at Hunter paying out of pocket.

This has added more stress to my daily routine making it extremely difficult to focus. Organizing with professors who are not communicating over email has been a burden. I am worried that my grades will suffer, affecting my grad school applications. Raising tuition would affect whether or not I'm willing to continue taking classes.

My name is Virginia C. Shields, I graduated from Hunter in 1959.

As an officer of the Scholarship & Welfare Fund of the Alumni Association of Hunter College we will find it extremely difficult to continue to aid as many students this year as we have been able to help in the past. Every year as tuition goes up we find we can help fewer students, and often at lower levels of aid.

My name is Imam H Mihan, I'm a senior at CCNY and I rely on Tap, loans and out of pocket payments.

I have lost my job. Currently facing a very tough situation due to the pandemic. I can barely pay my tuition fees next semester. I have no idea what I will do if I don't get my job back. Increasing the tuition will only add to my sufferings

My name is Isabel Laus, I'm a freshman at Macaulay Honors which covers my tuition along with out of pocket payments.

Personally, raising the tuition would not be detrimental for me, but it would be terrible. We should not be paying more for education and should be accessible. Raising the tuition would make it less accessible for hundreds of people, and this is completely unjust.

My name is Danyel Marie Felder, I'm a freshman at Hunter I receive Tap, Excelsior and make out of pocket payments.

The corona virus has affected my CUNY experience because most of the time it doesn't even feel like I'm attending school anymore. I attend my classes, but I'm not paying much attention anymore because now there are more distractions around me. I'm sure a good handful of my classmates are the same as me because no one asks questions or talks anymore. We're not mandated to anymore, so we won't. Additionally, the professors are quite lenient with us because they don't know what we can or can't do. So work can be handed in late with little to no consequences, so I just hand in work late at this point to be honest.

I don't think the tuition for CUNY should be raised because we don't have all that we did when we would attend the university. We don't use the lecture rooms for lecture, the computer rooms, library, nor the cafeteria. All we use is our computers and the materials that we have at home or purchase ourselves. Therefore, we shouldn't be paying as much as we do or even more than that because what are we even paying for? Whatever the teachers are teaching it would probably be easier to watch someone on YouTube teach it because they have better quality mics, video and equipment. We shouldn't be paying more for below quality schooling. This increase will affect me because if this virus continues to get worse or there is a second wave, then one or both my parents could lose their jobs. This would mean that there would be no one to pay for the tuition especially when there are more important things to spend the money on at this moment.

My name is Lauren Zavala, I'm a freshman at CCNY and I pay out of pocket for tuition.

COVID-19 has affected my college experience at CUNY by making me need to move to an online way of learning. It has also caused me to have to leave New York and go home. As it is my freshmen year, COVID has also ruined my first year experience of college on a campus. I have missed out on the campus and dorm life I was supposed to be experiencing for the first time. Even though I had all of the first semester and part of the second, doing most of my second semester from homemade it feels like I never left home in the first place.

I am a student who pays out of pocket. I am lucky to have parents that can get by paying for my college out of pocket. However, they also pay for my brother's college on top of mine. If the tuition was to be raised, it would still likely not give us any kind of aid, but would make it infinitely harder to pay out of pocket. We struggle as is now, so any kind of increase would make staying at the college hard. I also find it unfair that we are paying the price for this when are being put at just as much of an advantage as the school. Most of us and our families are losing jobs and work and struggling to make it by during this time. The aftermath is going to be just as hard, if not harder. Continuing, if we are not able to start school in person on time, which is a very reasonable thought, we would be paying more for a lesser online education. Even with months of preparation for online class, nothing will ever be the same as being in class. I find it ridiculous that we would pay more when we can't use the resources promised to us on campus and for a hindered education.

My name is Brittney, I'm a sophomore at Hunter and I pay out of pocket for tuition.

Remote learning makes it harder to learn and it has made it harder to concentrate on schooling.

Why should we get charged more for something we can't control? I pay out of pocket for my schooling and 320 is a large amount of money to increase the tuition for someone who doesn't get any aid in their schooling.

My name is Nicole Christopher, this is my 4th year at hunter, and I rely on tap and pell.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic I'm not working and taking online classes. I feel that due to the loss of jobs a lot of people's income is compromised for future payments. Having a spike would make things worse.

My name is Nancy Campos, I graduate from CSI this year and pay out of pocket.

I am currently unemployed, and it's been a struggle to get in contact with an unemployment specialist during this time. It's very stressful not knowing if I'm going to be able to afford going to college next semester.

I believe right now is a critical time to not increase tuition because money has been out of reach due to this pandemic.

My name is Shahina Begum, this is my 2nd semester as freshmen in Hunter College and I receive Tap and Pell.

As a freshman, remote learning turning online is kind of sudden and you don't expect it. I love online classes though and it's better than actually going to college. I miss my friends though.

The board should definitely not raise our tuition by \$320 because I don't receive as much money from pell and tap and then to increase the tuition will just hurt us. A lot of us are struggling to even find a job, mind you pay off their college tuition so it's not fair.

My name is Tatiana Lammie, I'm a junior at Hunter and take out loans.

I was kicked out of the dorm building and now returned to my home state. Online learning is not effective and overwhelming. Professors are piling up the work and it's hard to retain info.

Given our circumstances, we should be given financial relief. It's ridiculous that they would use this time in which many are facing financial hardship to make more money. I already take out loans.

My name is Say Sanchez. I'm an upper junior at Hunter paying out of pocket.

Classes have moved online and have become more difficult to manage, especially with exams (I live with 5 other people). My father, who pays for my tuition out of pocket, lost his job a few weeks ago, which makes tuition payments extremely difficult (I have about 2 left).

\$320 is far too much for families who have been affected by lost wages — it is extremely unnecessary during this time, and will make access to an education more difficult for thousands of students. CUNY should be doing everything in its' power to make classes accessible for its' students during this time of need — to hike the tuition now of all times shows the CUNY systems' money-hungry intentions and how little it cares for its' students. Tuition hikes should ESPECIALLY not occur if classes end up moving online for Fall 2020.

My name is Udari Amarasinghe, I'm a graduate student at Brooklyn College paying out of pocket.

I have a short supply of food and not don't live in a secured place. I will not be able to afford a tuition increase without taking on more work.

My name is Nachama stern, I'm a junior at Brooklyn college on financial aid, tap and pell.

I'm hardly learning anything and my classes are not going well. Many people are out of jobs right now and raising tuition would not be good for the student body

My name is William Goldstein, I'm a graduate from Brooklyn College.

There is no excuse to raise tuition when the school already has not delivered for its students and now there are millions more out of work.

My name is Amit Charran and I'm a senior from queens. I get financial aid and whatever financial aid does not cover I pay the rest myself.

My classes are terrible. I get so much work and I barely have time for myself. I am stressing out about so many things and a harder work load is making my time so much worse.

They should not raise tuition because it put so much unneeded stress to people. Especially with the current time, people do not need more stress. Especially since some people might have lost someone right now.

My name is Wilbert Disla, I'm a freshman at CCNY and although I'm an excelsior I still have out of pocket payments.

Distance learning has severely diminished the learning capacity of classes.

A person like me who is on excelsior isn't guaranteed each semester it is hard because of next semester I don't get excelsior I will have to pay the whole thing out of pocket and I have 5 siblings who all also lay for school and it will be more difficult on me and my family. Please don't raise the tuition price.

My name is Alexa Abbatiello, I'm a junior at CCNY taking out loans.

Just like every other college student in the world, I am no longer able to attend my classes in person, and I am now forced to get my education online. Learning from my professors via Blackboard Collaborate and Zoom has not been easy. This transition to online learning comes with technical difficulties with WiFi connections, lagging audio, and broken video cameras that we do not have to deal with face to face education.

I personally believe it is unfair for the Board of Trustees to raise our tuition during a global pandemic. College students pay for the experience of learning from their professors in person on a college campus, where they can take advantage of many services and programs available to them. If we as students can not use those services and programs available on campus, I believe we shouldn't be paying for them, let alone paying more than we did before.

My name is Stephanie. I'm a senior from City Tech on Tap, Pell and Liana.

Things have not been clear when signing up for the future semester. Raising tuition will affect us a lot, most of us even with help can't barely afford it now imagine if it goes up.

My name is Erica Kreisberg, I'm a junior at CCNY set to graduate next year. I pay out of pocket with some merit scholarship and aid from TAP.

I have had labs classes cancelled with lackluster teaching online to make up for it. Professors who try but not enough to understand their students' struggles to complete their work on time and studying for exams. Exams that put more pressure on students by having a computer camera on the student the entire time in a feeble attempt to prevent cheating while raising anxiety tenfold. How can I concentrate, focus, or learn with all of this?

A tuition hike is uncalled for, for many people including myself, it's hard to stay motivated for class online as well as not getting the on campus resources that are paid for through tuition.

Without access to those resources why should we be paying for them. Online access has been established and tuition for this type of schooling should not increase.

My name is Victoria Williamson, I'm a sophomore from City Tech on Tap and Pell.

Online classes have made it harder to focus. People's incomes have been affected and it wouldn't be fair to raise it now that there is great uncertainty if we'll even have in person classes next semester.

My name is Jaspreet, I'm a 2nd year at City Tech on Tap.

I've been having financial difficulties due to this crisis and raising tuition will affect me personally because I haven't been to work and it's really hard.

My name is Ravonie Sidbury, I'm a first year at City Tech making out of pocket payments and receiving Tap.

Class is currently at home making it more hectic because professors now have to cram more work into a shorter turn in time.

My mom is an essential worker and not my father, I live with both and there's obviously a dent in income considering one parent can work and not the other, especially since my dad makes more money than my mom.

My name is Urusa Shafi, I'm a senior at City Tech and I pay out of pocket.

Due to lock down my campus is closed and I have to take online classes. The online class experience is so overwhelming that I feel like crying during lecture. Sometimes there are

technical issues and sometimes the professor isn't willing to cooperate. Also the online class timings are half of on campus class time. I feel like I wasted my tuition.

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My name is Kianna, I'm a freshman from City Tech and I rely on Tap.

I was more focused in a classroom than I was at home. They shouldn't raise the rate of our tuition because some people are already struggling with the tuition now.

My name is Abdulmatin Akindele, I'm a junior at City Tech on Tap.

I've lost my job and I lost my income. Increasing tuition would make it harder for me to pay tuition and that would increase my debt.

My name is Asha Bissoondial, I'm a senior at Queens College and I pay out of pocket.

The pandemic has changed every aspect of my life including school. Classes are now weirdly formatted and it has made it very hard to learn. Since the coronavirus I have been struggling in school.

A tuition hike is not fair, especially during a pandemic. We are already being robbed of time in the classroom, as it's being replaced with a powerpoint slide show. Schools aren't giving us enough that would justify increasing the prices.

My name is Max von Schmeling, I'm a junior at Queens and I'm on excelsior and pay out of pocket.

As I am a transfer student and this is my first year at Queens college, I feel like the corona virus has stopped me from getting the full Queens college experience. Also, being a junior and a transfer student, I have to rush to build relationships with professors in order to ensure that I have letters of recommendation for applying to graduate programs, or access to important internship opportunities. However, due to the coronavirus it is difficult to build bonds with any faculty. Lastly, I had always dreamed of studying abroad and had plans to do so, but because of the Coronavirus, it doesn't seem that I'll be able to take advantage of the study abroad programs CUNY has to offer.

It is unfair to raise the tuition in any amount. Students are struggling to pay what it costs now, and raising tuition is not going to help students now or in the long run. The state has the money in its budget to pay for higher education, and should not rely on students for the money.

My name is Crystal Pichardo, I'm a sophomore at City Tech, I'm on Tap, Pell, and I pay out of pocket.

I'm unable to go to offices if I need help with certain things. I'm unable to hand in documents. Things are dealt with slower and trying to figure out who to reach out to can be difficult at times. Everything has to be online now and it's just a lot harder overall transitioning to this.

This hike makes it difficult not only for me but for students who don't receive a lot of coverage for their tuition if any. Especially during this time our money is being used for other basic necessities.

My name is Kelly Lau, I'm a freshman from Hunter and I pay out of pocket.

I haven't been able to use any on campus facilities, haven't been able to do work as quick as I use to and the online school was hard to transition to. I haven't had any access to the libraries and that severely impacted my studies. I understand that the libraries are open however, as a student that has a severe case of eczema it would not be a good choice to go out.

I feel like the board of trustees should not be raising our tuition by \$320. My family is paying out of pocket for my tuition, and during the lock down my family had to spend way more money they usually do on groceries and utility bills. Some consequences of this pandemic are death and unemployment. After this pandemic, the economy will be bad, many will be unemployed and the prices will increase. I do believe that the tuition will increase one day however the timing to increase it right now is unjust.

My name is Eman Ahmad, I'm a first year and Brooklyn College and I'm on excelsior and pay out of pocket.

The coronavirus pandemic has affected me in that I can't go outside at all. I'm currently not working but still getting paid as of now due to my job. My college has closed down like many others and we have moved to online courses which can be both beneficial and harmful.

The board of trustees should not raise the tuition for college students because most students are struggling enough as it is with paying tuition especially during this time of the virus. Many students have dropped out since they're out of work and can't afford their education, if the tuition increases then many more students will also drop out causing the rate of dropouts to increase. Personally I only have Excelsior to depend on, the rest comes out of my pocket so raising the tuition would add much more stress upon me and my family.

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My name is Jean-Michel Mutore, I'm a second year at Brooklyn College and I pay out of pocket.

I cannot take classes or study on my campus. Considering how this is my first semester at CUNY, the stay-at-home orders have severely limited my opportunities to make friends and join communities here. My productivity and attention span have reduced because of the crisis.

CUNY should not be raising its tuition while most of its students will likely be suffering economic hardship as a result of the covid pandemic. How will students be expected to pay even more for school with less opportunity for income? I pay for my education out of my own pocket and I have enough financial worries without having to worry about school again.

My name is Samantha Major, I graduated from City Tech in december of 2019.

As an alum I believe a tuition raise of \$320 is unjust and should be stopped. The reason being is that many people are suffering from financial difficulties at the moment. Raising the tuition will only add to more hardship for many people. Tuition hike shouldn't be raised during such times, especially when many people are experiencing loss of loved ones.

My name is Karin, I'm a junior at brooklyn college on TAP.

Neither of my parents are working and I'm not working either. I am a full time student and there is no source of income for me and my family right now. With rising tuition, I fear that it will become unaffordable and that I will have to drop out without a diploma and choose a different career that I am unprepared for.

It wouldn't be fair because many people who aren't front line workers or educators are either temporarily laid off or unemployed. The rise in tuition would make it harder for me to keep attending college given the fact that the only source of revenue for my family is unemployment

benefits. If tuition keeps rising, many students would be unable to attend college or take desperate and unhealthy measures to do so.

My name is Ilona Struzik, I'll graduate from 2023 from Brooklyn and I pay out of pocket.

I went back to college to get my bachelors degree. I enjoyed being on campus, lectures, and taking advantage of all the school's resources especially the library and gym. I never wanted to attend school online, which is cheaper. It is very difficult to focus on assignments and lectures during these stressful times. Everyone I know is suffering financially and increasing tuition in such a subpar college learning environment is unacceptable.

I am no longer able to work my part time job and ineligible for unemployment. My husband is the only one able to work and he works an incredibly stressful job as an emergency room doctor. It's difficult to focus at home and the education I'm receiving online does not compare at all to an on-campus education, especially since there's a lot of self-teaching being done (for science labs) and some doing lectures via non interactive platforms and are slow to answering emails. I don't blame them, they must be overwhelmed as well and having to learn to teach online for the first time. It's unfair to ask students that already are suffering financially due to covid to pay more for tuition, especially since we are not on campus and can't enjoy all the available facilities. There's other schools that are only online that are cheaper than CUNY.

My name is Raisa Karim, I'm a junior at Hunter on TAP, Pell, and FAFSA.

Coronavirus pandemic has affected my learning experience because we are shifting to a completely remote system. The learning experience is a bit more difficult and I need to put in more effort to understand and work on things rather than have classes on campus. As Senate Chair of USG, I have been spending many hours assuaging the academic concerns of many students and making sure they get the support they need to finish the semester safely and strongly.

We shouldn't raise tuition by \$320 because I pay for my own education. I also contribute to the family and since I will not be working for one month (until my summer program commences) it would create a lapse in my budget. I will not be able to pay for books and supplies. Furthermore

as Senate Chair in USG, I represent the voices and concerns of others struggling to make ends meet.

My name is Mayar Safwat, I'm a 3rd year junior at Hunter, taking out loans.

This pandemic has been depriving me of my hand on lab experience and classes that are truly not meant to be taught online. Every dollar counts especially in this time of need. My family has lost their jobs and we are struggling to go on and live day by day. We lost loved ones and it is truly just a difficult time.

My name is Maisa Ahmad, I'll graduate from Hunter next year, I'm on excelsior and make out of pocket payments.

I'm stressed out all the time and I feel so overwhelmed by every class. Because we don't have to show up in person anymore, we're getting more work. And as a junior in computer science, the electives I'm taking require I learn new languages. It's so hard to program in new languages and absolutely no one to go to for help or a second pair of eyes. Even in the work field they need multiple people to check your program so I don't know why I'm expected to do this while isolated. I'm not even getting refunds for the services I pay for like technology fees and spiking up tuition is just selfish at this point knowing many of us are out of work.

Many of us could barely pay tuition to begin with. I've lost summer opportunities and I can't imagine what it's like for people who are doing worse off and had to work part time. No matter what you're background is, we are all struggling right now. I've always been against the tuition spike considering we don't even get spaces to study and Hunter's elevators are always out of service, but now it's just plain evil.

My name is Patrick, I'm a senior at Hunter on Tap, Pell, and making out of pocket payments.

Online class is not the way to learn! Classes are meant to be in person, people and studies show that in person class are better and necessary.

My name is Klaire, I'm a junior at Hunter taking out loans.

I have to take online classes which I didn't sign up for a reason! This is the hardest time that any student will have to go through so to raise tuition during it would be cruel.

My name is Amanda Stalcup, I'm a senior at hunter college taking out loans and on Pell.

It's been more difficult to do work. 3 weeks basically off threw off the teachers and work. I don't feel like I've learned as much as I have when I was in class on campus.

With corona, this affects jobs and the loans I have to pay off. I was hoping to do an internship this summer, but with corona, it seems unlikely. My job is done from home now and i only work 1-3 hours a week now. It is already hard to make everything work with low funds, but to tack on another \$320 is hard on students like me who are pure loan and grant based in our payment. I came to hunter because of the reputation and the affordability. Please keep it that way.

My name is Alsatia Ragusa, I'm a sophomore at Brooklyn College on financial aid and paying out of pocket.

Had to drop a class that was impossible to complete online. Lack of resources due to campus being closed. Laid off from my job, trouble paying tuition and rent.

It's absurd to expect students to afford a tuition increase next year after the vast majority have currently faced job loss due to the pandemic. It's immoral to proceed with tuition increases and if anything tuition should be waived for this semester and the rest of the academic year.

My name is Carmilia Fontaine, I'm a junior at City Tech on Tap, Pell, and making out of pocket payments.

Due to losing my job , it has affected me a lot. Since I'm a part time student, I can't get financial aid and the residency department has charged me. Even though I sent my residency paper to lift off the balance.

It shouldn't because not everyone can get financial aid, Pell grant or have a job to pay out of pocket.

My name is Rikayla Davson, I'm a first year at City Tech paying out of pocket.

I've experienced multiple deaths in my family and family friends because of COVID and I'm struggling to teach myself also the workload has increased tremendously. This is my first semester and there is no session for some classes, just to submit assignments and discussion questions. I am sometimes kicked out of class because of my internet or I cannot join. I am stressed and losing motivation as my learning experience is limited.

Many people have been deemed nonessential workers and have no means of paying tuition. My father was one of them and I currently have an unpaid balance. I don't know if I will be able to attend next semester but instead to get a job.

My name is Robert Holmes, senior at city tech paying out of pocket.

It's been hard to schedule with online availability. I'm worried and distracted because of the deaths and experiencing Family and financial strains.

Raising tuition can take away from needed rent and food money.

My name is Shennelle St Clair, I graduate from Queensborough next year and I'm on TAP and Pell.

Online learning has been a challenge for me because it is not conducive with my learning style. I require extra assistance from teachers and utilize some of the learning centers on campus but with Covid-19 making this no longer an option it is tougher for me to stay on top of my work and

assignments. Having to do work from home is also another challenge because of the distractions that present itself when all the members of the house are present. It is easier for me to become distracted or fall behind on assignments without the structure and distraction free environments that are available on campus.

Tuition hikes during this time will create a barrier to people becoming college educated because many people are losing their jobs or experiencing other forms of financial instability due to not being able to work.

My name is Kelly Chan Ng, I'm a junior at City Tech. I'm in TAP, SEEK, and paying out of pocket.

This has affected my classes and I paid a lot of tuition that was only to meet in zoom. My parents, including me, are now unemployed due to the coronavirus. If The Board raises our tuition by \$320, we cannot afford it anymore.

My name is Arsela Mallick, I'm a student at Baruch who pays out of pocket.

This has changed the dynamic and emphasis on my classes. The motivation to focus, study, and be productive during and after class has shifted. It is hard to take classes seriously during such a crazy time in the world, where our health, which should be our first priority, is at such risk. I have family members/relatives that have been afflicted with this disease, and live in an area where the virus is heavily concentrated. These worries make it difficult to give the same attention to school as before.

This tuition hike is completely unnecessary. The rise in health and wellness fees, which is supposed to be more heavily focused on mental health, will only make things tougher for those that need these services. These fees will do more harm than good to many CUNY students, so it should not be implemented.

My name is Gazi Ohi, I graduate from Hunter next year and I'm on Tap and Pell.

I've had poor focus on online studying.

They should not increase our tuition this year because first, a lot of services are being withheld due to coronavirus. Second, this will negatively affect me as these costs are an additional burden on our family's loans (receiving less aid as more cost is taken). This is unjust and because of our situation, it should at least be held back another year or so.

My name is Katie Qiu, I'm a freshman at Baruch on TAP.

This has made it harder to get my assignments done and I miss going to my club. I'm currently unemployed right now and have no source of income.

My name is Tianna, I'm an upper junior at Brooklyn on tap.

Going from in person classes to fully online classes. It kind of disrupts things as I learn better in person.

A tuition hike during this time is unjust because there are so many CUNY students who pay out of pocket for classes and they struggle to do so. Raising tuition in a time where people are out of jobs and struggling to take care of family plus now having to worry about paying for school is outrageous.

My name is Alex, I'm a freshman from brooklyn college, I'm on TAP, Pell, Presidential Scholarship, and make out of pocket payments.

Though distance learning is the safest route, it can be overwhelming with inconsistency in some schedules that conflict with needs at home.

A tuition hike is pointless unless adjunct faculty get more money. They deserve higher pay. And it's ridiculous to raise the price of tuition when many are unemployed or furloughed during the crisis.

My name is Darya Stepanova, I'm a freshman from Brooklyn on fafsa and tap.

My education quality became worse. Is not the same to have online classes and learn as much as in person classes. Half of my professors don't really care and don't even respond. I don't like it.

I think it is unfair to raise tuition because a lot of people are suffering right now and it would take a long time to recover from it. It is not okay to raise tuition unless it would improve our education quality.

My name is Irene Suarez, I graduate from Hunter next year, I'm on TAP, excelsior, receiving scholarships and making out of pocket payments.

It has hindered my ability to obtain all the experience I need to become a teacher. I have been able to work on my classes and complete my work on time (because staff has been accommodating). It has been partially hard since I have close family members who are sick and I am no longer working.

I am currently obtaining three forms of awards and I'm paying the fees out of pocket. If the tuition were to be raised I would also have to pay the difference out of pocket. I have so far been able to not need any loans and am grateful for that opportunity and know this tuition hike will create an even worse situation for other families. It would change my financial situation slightly, but the tuition has been rising every year and the overall outcome has made a great difference from when I first attended this college.

My name is Mohammad Islam, I graduate from CCNY in 2023 I'm on fafsa and making out of pocket payments.

The coronavirus pandemic has affected my CUNY experience by not allowing me to attend in-class lectures that I have paid for. I do not have access to the resources covered (library, easy laptop borrowing, printing, etc). Although it has been inevitable, the last thing CUNY should be doing is raising tuition at a time where a lot of us or our parents have lost their jobs.

Our tuition should not be raised by \$320 because in the past, students have not reaped any benefit by raising tuition. If anything, the quality of our schools have been deteriorating. Our classes are overfilled and understaffed. We do not have the proper counseling to guide us post-graduation. This proposed hike is NOT addressing these critical issues.

My name is Pooja Suganthan, I graduate from Hunter in 2023, on TAP and making out of pocket payments.

I think the pandemic may put a financial strain on my parents so I don't want my tuition to be a burden to them.

Students have to worry about adjusting to online school and their own personal matters (hoping that their family is safe and healthy). A lot of us have family members who are essential workers. We can't increase the burden on students during a crisis.

My name is Liam Elkins, I'm a first year at Hunter in the macaulay program.

The way we interact with professors and the larger hunter community have been meaningfully altered. The relationships I wanted to re enforce at CUNY have become more difficult to maintain due to the effects of the ongoing pandemic.

I'm currently on scholarship that will cover tuition so it will not affect me directly. It's still a slap in the face for many students who will be forced to pay for these tuition hikes especially in such a time of heightened financial insecurity.

My name is Lorena Gonzalez, I'm a senior at queens on the pell grant.

The most impactful effect that the pandemic has had on my CUNY experience is kicking me out of where I live. Although it was not forcibly enforced, the Summit Apartments at Queens College told all residents that have homes that they have to go home. I was given less than 24 hours to pack all of my things and completely move out. I had to stay with my roommate's aunt for 4 days until I could go back home. I saved up a lot of money to afford on-campus housing

because I have no family in New York and thought it would be safer to live on-campus. My CUNY experience would have been much better if it were not for the coronavirus pandemic, and although I know that the virus is out of people's control, raising tuition is controllable.

I urge the CUNY Board of Trustees to not raise tuition, especially when the majority of students cannot even afford it as it is now. A \$320 tuition increase is crazy to think about when tuition was once free. I believe it should not be raised because most CUNY students, including me, are low income and cannot afford it. Most students work minimum wage jobs since we obviously do not have our degrees yet, with many other responsibilities to attend to besides being full-time students. We are not getting our money's worth because the already limited resources are getting cut back. The increase affects me personally because it creates an obstacle for me to receive my Bachelors degree.

My name is Jack Peterson, I'm a sophomore at Brooklyn paying out of pocket.

This pandemic hasn't really affected my education, but I am out of a job.

It is entirely ridiculous to punish students for the advent of a loss of money by the wealthy organization that is CUNY.

My name is Eleni Katounis, I'm a junior at Hunter College I'm on financial aid and taking out scholarships.

The Covid 19 Pandemic has really negatively affected my experience, making it impossible to complete work in a proper school environment. Additionally, due to the lack of proper preparation time, some of my professors have not been the best at making contact whether that is responding to my emails or sending out assignments and announcements as a whole. Overall, its very difficult and stressful to try to do school work at home especially when I sometimes don't even know what to do.

A lot of students attend CUNY colleges due to the affordability of the school. For me personally, the only colleges I considered when applying was CUNY, as I knew I could not afford any other colleges and would be in severe debt otherwise. If the tuition is raised I am not sure if I will be able to attend, and especially when I'm so close to concluding my school year, it feels like an

additional hit to me, as not only now do I need to worry about perhaps losing my scholarship due to the hardships the Virus has caused on my learning, but now I also need to worry about where I will be able to get the money needed to pay for a tuition hike that seems completely tone deaf for the time. Especially with so many people getting laid off, even people within my family of people who already work for low wages, it feels incredibly poorly timed.

My name is Faisal Tariq, I'm a junior at city tech and I pay out of pocket.

I can't work so I can't pay for my college tuition because I'm not a citizen.

Because I'm an Uber driver and I can't work because of this pandemic it will be really hard for me.

My name is Maria Ramirez, I'm a senior at baruch and I pay out of pocket.

It has made it difficult to learn, and resources are limited to just being online. We have no way of using books, computers, or anything that the campus offers to facilitate our studies. It is difficult to not stress about school when we have no immediate way to communicate with the professors.

It is very unjust. Not only do we not have a proper classroom to be taught at and we can't even use resources professors provide, books are expensive. Calculators and other tools are expensive. Things add up, and most of us are unemployed. Everything is either shut down or slowed down to even get loans. We would have no way to pay if we pay out of pocket like I do.

My name is Sanaa, this is my first year at Brooklyn College and I'm on the Excelsior scholarship.

I am unmotivated to do work without going to campus. Some professors are overloading us with work without communication with us.

Increasing the tuition is not worth it because they rarely ever make improvements to the campus & we are in very harsh times. It's absurd to think that they are asking for MORE MONEY in a time like this. So irrational.

My name is Nesa, I'm a sophomore at Brooklyn on FAFSA.

It's hard to focus without face to face learning. The workload seems much more online than it was in person. It's hard to feel motivated to do work when there's other things to worry about while being an essential worker.

Many people are unable to afford tuition as it is now and raising it again is unacceptable. If the tuition goes up I won't be able to help my mom pay rent since most of my minimum wage money will go towards paying for my transit, commute, food, and books.

My name is Richard Lee Chong, I'm a sophomore at brooklyn on tap, pell and financial aid.

Classes have been converted online. Raising tuition will make entering college harder in general and especially with the lack of payment from work and economic decline.

My name is Abigail Thomas, this is my 2nd year at City Tech. For my tuition I use Tap, Pell, ACCESS-VR, with the remainder out of pocket.

The Pandemic has affected my studies by way of accessibility. CUNY has yet to deploy a uniform accessible platform or set of platforms for all Campuses and Classes. This is very problematic. Also it affects my learning disabilities. Since I am learning disabled I really thrive on highly organized projects and set goals. Ordered structured environments. But without uniformity I have not seen a place where this is successfully applied. This makes it difficult for me to organize projects and set goals. Which is a huge amount for taking and passing classes. The fact I am not the only one experiencing these problems. CUNY has the means and the technology to accomplish this at little or no additional costs means the system is failing for a lack of effort.

Right now the tuition is too high as it is. But that's a discussion for future reference. As it stands there is a reasonable amount of money in the state budget too. Students like myself are already stretched to the maximum with budgetary concerns.

CUNY is a public institution which is supposed to make its services financially and equitably available to all. Yet with hikes like this CUNY largely putting itself out of step and outreach or most students. Putting it on or below par with private systems such as Columbia or NYU. It would not make sense at any point, but especially now for CUNY to raise their tuition. CUNY has substantially lowered its use of physical resources while greatly leveraging this against the amount of personal resources (pens, paper, electricity, ETC) each student must spend on in order for the students to learn at home. So by definition the fact CUNY has leveraged a great amount of savings through student expenses is a hike in financial hardship alone. It makes no sense that the system put an additional burden on them.

My name is Suriya Hoque, I graduate from brooklyn college in 2023 and I'm on TAP and FAFSA.

It's a lot harder to work from home, especially when you have technical issues. Professors have no control over it. I'm not sure how I will do this semester due to the many complications.

Many students are already struggling to pay their tuition. Raising the tuition will only make it harder for them. \$320 is a lot more for a student and will negatively affect them financially and academically.

My name is Ashley Suarez, I'm a current junior at Brooklyn College on the Excelsior scholarship.

My grandpa is in the hospital so my mind has not been on school work at all.

The higher tuition is the more I have to pay out of pocket and this pandemic took a toll on my pockets.

My name is Jenny, I'm a sophomore at Brooklyn on TAP and FAFSA.

All of my classes are online. I no longer use any campus resources especially since there's been a few cases at Brooklyn College.

My family no longer has an income and our expenses have increased dramatically due to this outbreak. In a time where we're all trying to make ends meet, it would be unreasonable to raise our tuition. Increasing the tuition would only impact my family negatively.

My name is Fathima Begum, I'm a third year at Hunter on TAP and Pell.

My fieldwork in the classroom is canceled and is substituted with watching videos which is nothing like the real experience I should be getting. All my classes are now online and rely on my highly unreliable Wi-Fi access, with teachers who are not all realistically readjusting the workload in their syllabi. If I wanted online classes would have signed up for those from the beginning, while I understand the need for distance learning it has been difficult and not my preferred or easiest learning method. Also, I think CUNY should have handled the shift better, handing out laptops to the students during the first week we had off. Cutting down our spring break was demoralizing too even if it was moved around. It was something students were looking forward to even if it would have to be spent indoors.

I'm a student dependent on my parents who both can not work anymore during the pandemic. I have a sister who is also attending a CUNY school and is also reliant on our parents for our tuition. Neither of us is willing to get a job right now or anytime soon in case we possibly get sick with COVID-19 and infect our parents who are susceptible to it.

My name is Teresa Rodriguez, I'm a senior at Brooklyn College on Tap and Pell.

Online classes have been hectic and chaotic. Students are not getting stimulus checks, students are still asked to pay in full [tuition, housing etc.] without employment, or possibility of it.

My name is Stephen DeMeo, I'm a faculty member at Hunter College.

Courses are online; extremely unsatisfying experience. Education is about building relationships and it is much more difficult to do so with technologies like Zoom.

It should be obvious; many families and students don't have money available to them due to the virus outbreak. Education is already an economic burden, why would you increase that burden.

My name is Liz vanunu, I'm an upper junior at Brooklyn College relying on my own money.

All learning has moved to online which makes it really difficult to focus. I lost all motivation and excitement towards school, which is not CUNY's fault but effected how I view school. It's overwhelming and sad what is going on right now and by cuny tasting prices they are not making it any easier.

I am unemployed at the moment while I pay for my own school tuition on a below minimum wage salary which limits me from affording essential resources that I need for my health. All the money I make I save up for school which is not much and leaves me no money on the side to use to take care of my family. By raising the prices I will be stuck Without money. We are all going through Really hard times now and lots of Students are facing unemployment. I'm sure I'm not the only student who won't be able to afford tuition. Please don't raise tuition anymore, we are all struggling.

My name is Jie Zou, I'm a lower senior at Brooklyn paying out of pocket.

Classes are moved online and reduce interaction between students and lecturers. School life is cut down. Some activities like gym and ball games with classmates and friends are limited.

It is not fair to increase tuition in such specific circumstances because students like me currently lose the job, and I still need to pay the house rent and food. I understand people are all suffering now and it is reasonable for school to move classes online, however, it is so different when everything needs to be done home including in person communication, class participation and

more. Additionally, I understand that schools put a lot of effort to push class online, they may spend tons of money in building better web flows and enhance better user experience, but as a student, the most important thing is to keep the way of studying, if students like me or my other friends who already stress out in financial issue are in a high chance to drop from school. As a result, I think raising tuition now or next semester is unfair to students who try to go through this. School should give us more time to overcome all such mess.

My name is Caitlin Kwong, I'm a junior at Brooklyn College paying out of pocket.

We have all classes online now, which makes the lack of face-to-face interaction all the more apparent. In addition, many of my classes' assignments have been shifted to not include presentation or even ignored now. Finally, I worry that even when we go back to campus, the dynamics of just being in contact with other people will change because I want to protect myself as well as others.

I understand that tuition will inevitably rise, but more than usual students may be unable to afford it. Many have been laid off or even lost their jobs, so more immediate concerns like rent or food take priority than affording college—especially at a time like this. I may have been able to pay tuition, but others are likely less fortunate. This is evident by the fact that some were unable to afford their own laptops even before this pandemic.

My name is Anna, I'm a sophomore at Baruch on Tap and FAFSA.

I can no longer go to campus. It is difficult to access resources that would've been easily found on campus. It is also difficult to find a professor/staff for help in a faster way.

It's hard for my family to earn income during this time period. A tuition hike during this time is clearly unjust when we're already having trouble coping. Personally, the increase will affect me and my family negatively.

My name is Danilo, I'm a senior and brooklyn and I pay out of pocket.

I already lost one of my two jobs. Raising tuition will limit the amount of classes I will take, I'm full time with 4 classes, \$320 more will limit or affect my food supplies ,my transportation, and it could affect us the students by not being able to buy books, especially those in science majors due to having to pay \$320 more in tuition instead of using it for buying the books for their classes.

My name is Nana Dei Sakyi, I'm a student at City Tech.

The coronavirus pandemic has affected me. I will like to go back to school but I can't even go back to the campus to readmit myself and that has left in in a place that I don't know what I will do or when I can do anything.

The board shouldn't increase the tuition because we all are struggling to get through this difficult time. Personally I'm disappointed in the board if what they are thinking of doing is increasing tuition when people are losing lives and when they do not know when this pandemic will be over.

My name is Meggie Cheng, I'm a freshman in my second semester at Brooklyn and I am on TAP and the Pell Grant.

Campuses are closed so many of the services offered and included in tuition aren't available. With classes switched to online classes the experience is just not the same. Rather than learning things it just feels like a battle against time to complete assignments every day.

What difference would it make for students to pay \$320 more in tuition? If there are more useful services provided it could be justified. Also with the increase in tuition, it might not effect me as much because of financial aid but for people with less aid, it would mean they would have to pay more out of pocket expenses. These expenses are just a small part of their everyday lives where there are other circumstances they need to account for such as money for transportation, food, and rent.

My name is Lloyd Pierre, this is my 2nd year at Queensborough and I'm on pell.

In terms of learning the subjects; it has been a bit harder without meeting tutors face to face.

Prices at some local supermarkets are up. Price gouging is everywhere and it is a strain on those who were already financially challenged. Money right now should be spent on: medical masks, essential grocery items and the needy.

My name is Kevin Douglas, this is my 2nd year at brooklyn college, and I'm on TAP, Pell, excelsior, and make out of pocket payments.

Being a student that lives in a house where someone is positive for Covid-19, I have to deal with a lot more stress. I am actively taking care of them, while dealing with being out of work myself. Times are tough right now; it's not the same. I am hoping that things get better soon.

My parents are out of work themselves right now so there is pressure on financial strain. Luckily we're managing to get by but unforeseen price hikes will inevitably take a toll on our budget and wellbeing. I can imagine many other families are dealing with the same situation.

My name is Yasmin, this is my 2nd year at Brooklyn College and I'm on Tap and Pell.

I am not retaining any information in class. My professors have not adapted to an online structure yet. How the fuck are you going to raise my tuition when the quality of my education has decreased significantly?

My name is Julie, I'm a first year at brooklyn on Tap and Pell.

It's very hard to communicate with Professors and fellow students. It became difficult to focus on completing assignments when my community is heavily affected by COVID. I want to do my best in class and for credit and it's becoming harder and harder.

A tuition hike is not what students need right now. People are out of jobs. As it is, so many students depend on financial aid programs and scholarships to get them through college and it's not easy. A raise in tuition prices will make it even harder for students to attend college, especially those from lower income households.

My name is Brianna Gonzalez, I'm a freshman at brooklyn and I pay out of pocket.

This pandemic has made it harder for me to keep up with payments and gain a proper understanding of the curriculum.

Raising tuition will make it difficult to pay off tuition, it's high enough as it is and even now I have trouble. I am out of work and am trying to figure out how to pay off next semester and pay all of my other fees outside of college without having to owe money. Raising it 320\$ would be extremely inconsiderate and shows the students that they are not cared for and that only their money is sought after especially during a pandemic that has left so many in uncomfortable situations.

My name is Orianna Mora, I'm a first year at brooklyn, I have FAFSA and i pay out of pocket.

This is my very first experience with college and I loved my everyday college life, with the pandemic, all that good experience I was having is changed. Also a couple of my professors do not give much explanation, which makes it harder for me to learn or understand new things.

I started college with the savings I had, I had to work hard to make that amount since back in my country the currency is so devalued and our savings there are nothing if you live here... Now with the pandemic going on, I haven't been able to save money again. The pay I get from work is just enough so I can pay for college, rent and food.

My name is Aruna Parkash, I'm a third year at brooklyn on a payment plan and tap.

I've been experiencing financial issues, no income from both parents at the moment. We don't have enough money to save to pay for school and pay for other things, it's hard to make ends meet with this virus and school. Especially if a loved one has it.

My name is Erturk Turan, I'm a junior at brooklyn and I pay out of pocket.

I have been fired from my job and get unemployment now which is enough to cover my rent and expenses but not enough to finance my education. I have been doing a lot of hw and practically educating myself while still struggling to pay my tuition. I have also been emotionally distressed due to isolation and loneliness.

School is only one of my bills. I still have to pay for rent/ electricity/ food/ phone/ WiFi/ and my pets and personal expenditures. That money makes a huge difference when you are living paycheck to paycheck. Not to mention I currently have no health insurance. 325\$ goes a very long way for someone in my situation.

My name is Aman Chand, I'm a freshman at City Tech, I'm on Tap and I pay out of pocket.

This pandemic has made things difficult and boring.

Everyone is going through this hard time with very few resources in their house, this is a life and death matter if you don't take it seriously and by raising the tuition just by \$320 will negatively impact many CUNY students. We are making hard choices on how to spend the money that we have on us at the moment which in my cases is not much. Many are unemployed because of COVID- 19 and if they plan on rising the tuition many will not be able to pay that even though it seems like a small amount and one of those individuals would be myself.

My name is Angel Franco, I'm a 1st year at BMCC in ASAP.

Largely, I'm a hands-on type of person and the way this crisis has affected me it has created a large distance from actually learning. The board can't increase tuition, we didn't ask for this transfer to happen at all!

My name is Veronica Alvarez, I'm a freshman at Brooklyn and I pay out of pocket.

It is making my financial aid process more difficult and I work full time in order to pay for school. Since COVID-19 hours have been cut and it has been a struggle saving up enough to pay for rent and tuition.

It is already a struggle as an 18 year old full time student working to pay rent and tuition all by myself. The raise will only make it harder to be financially stable and pay bills. Not only will this make my living and academic situation harder, my mental health will also be very much affected. Kids my age or anyone for that matter should not have to struggle to make ends meet and to obtain their education.

My name is Cristina Figueroa, I graduate this year from Brooklyn College and I rely on out of pocket payments and taking out loans.

It's harder for me to do my assignments and have class discussions online because I don't like taking online classes because they are unorganized. I didn't pay for any online class. I like my classes in person and this just makes it worse for me to learn and get my work done.

We already struggle to afford tuition, why raise it?

My name is David Grande, this is my first year at Hunter and I rely on FAFSA.

I have no job. I lack the motivation to continue with my studies. It is impossible to take school work seriously when there is so much happening in the world right now.

CUNY was meant to be an affordable college for students who want to better themselves. I have great pride being a first gen college student but if the tuition rises I will be ineligible to get a

degree. NYC is impossible to inhabit as well as make money and save money. Do not let us down.

My name is Sofia Khavin, I'm a junior at Brooklyn. I rely on TAP, Pell, and loans.

Poor quality of education. No access to resources. No access to libraries and student clinics. No adequate internet access. Inferior quality applications that connect students with professors - they keep freezing, sound is distorted, etc.

With so many students losing their jobs, tuition hikes would be unimaginable. Students already forfeited all the resources they paid for in the Spring 2020 semester. Why do we have to pay more for less? Pandemic affected everybody. Financial aid is cut drastically for 2020-2021. This means more loans and more work for students with already heavy financial situations and busy schedules. Do not raise tuition!!

My name is Abeni Osborne, I'll graduate from York in 2023 and rely on Tap.

I was hoping to get a great first year so I would be prepared for the coming years so I know what to do and what not to do in classes.

No they shouldn't raise tuitions because kids that are borrow loans would have a lot of debt likewise the kids that are receiving a free ride through college maybe seek, FAFSA and other programs that help them may cut down on the amount of money or help they receive and eventually they would have to come out of pocket or borrow loans.

My name is Clementina Jose, I'm a junior at Queens and I rely on excelsior.

Online classes have been terrible. It's great to have the luxury of being home but I've been left in the dark A LOT. The assignments have been 1000 times harder and more strenuous! It has been mentally exhausting.

I already go through enough with trying to hassle the financial aid office to pay my tuition as is, this would be too much of a hassle for them. After a certain amount, TAP has to come in and sometimes I still end up paying money out of pocket. This would be too much of a financial and mental strain on me.

My name is Fakhrya Ahmed, I'm a freshman at CCNY in the excelsior program.

Online classes are just hectic. I cannot learn as well as I do on campus. Also, assignments are all due on the same day and it just collides with everything. Not everyone has access to online schooling and that has affected our grades. Especially during this crisis everyone is going through something and professors need to understand.

Parents are not working. Students may not be working as well. Not enough money to be giving money.

My name is Aeshah Mughal, I'm a freshman at CSI and I rely on TAP and FAFSA.

It's made it very hard to study and focus. Everything is all over the place. We're not in the same "education zone" we were when we were on campus.

Students should not be worrying about tuition raise. It's time to be around family. Many people have lost their jobs and will not be able to pay for their tuition for the next year. Raising tuition will only make it more difficult for all of us. Raising the tuition will make no difference. We're still gonna have small rooms, packed classrooms etc.

My name is Sarah Farr, I'm a student at Hunter paying out of pocket.

I am an essential worker and I am a full time graduate student dealing with the covid crisis.

I believe that the Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition by \$320 because of the pandemic. Many students have lost their jobs. They still have a balance in their accounts. The increase will affect me personally by having to take extra shifts at work to pay it in full.

My name is Sophia Chan, I'm a freshman at Brooklyn College and I rely on Tap, Pell and FAFSA in general.

Online classes have been hard to adapt to and frustrating to do online. There is an element of learning that is unique to physical classroom-type classes that can't be found in online learning. While some of my professors eased up and tried their best to make classes less difficult, others started piling on the assignments as if to compensate for the lack of in-class work. Whereas previously I believed I could contact my professors after class if I had any kind of difficulty, I now only have one way to ask questions - send emails and cross my fingers that they will see it and respond.

As a college student in a three-child family, where my older brother is also in college - in the CUNY system as well - and my younger sister will be attending soon, our family is already financially strained when it comes to supporting us. Fortunately, due to our situation, FAFSA covers tuition and gives a little bit back to me. The money I get from FAFSA is money that I rely on to focus on my schoolwork and activities that would contribute to my academic career, like internships, instead of wasting away long shifts at a minimum-wage part-time job. I voluntarily gave up the opportunities to go to private universities or dorms on campus in exchange for the significantly more stable financial situation that FAFSA aid for CUNYs would leave my family in. As a public institution, how can CUNY raise tuition significantly every year, knowing the strain that it will put on its students, many of whom choose to learn there BECAUSE of its affordability? It is understandable that public institutions also need to make money to support themselves. If I saw improvements on my home campus and that money was going toward the general wellbeing of staff and students, I could reluctantly part with that extra money. But what I don't understand is how adjuncts can still be underpaid, how our campus buildings can still frequently report leaky sinks and broken water fountains, WiFi shortages, insufficient chairs in classrooms... the list goes on. I don't even see the food at the cafeteria getting better. So where is our money going?

My name is Luis Gutierrez, I'm a first year grad student from the CUNY School of Professional Studies. I have a position at CUNY that covers tuition.

The transition process was fairly easy for me because my program is online. The cost of living in New York City is very high and many students can't afford an increase in tuition. There is a lack of food and financial security among students along with daily living costs that make it challenging to afford an increase in tuition.

My name is Hugo Rodriguez, this is my third year at City Tech and I pay out of pocket.

I'm not able to pay for classes to apply next semester and I still have to pay full price even though the semester is completely shifted course.

Increasing tuition will make life more stressful affecting the amount of time I'm going to have to work. More working means I'll be less focused on school.

My name is Kristie, I'll graduate from the CUNY School of Professional Studies in 2021 or 2022 and I'm on financial aid and pay out of pocket.

It's been a challenge having to work, have children, sick family, and coursework in my space, and mind 24/7.

It's a slap in the face to raise tuition in general let alone during a pandemic. Given that we are in NYC and should set a standard for affordable or free college. The agenda to take more money from us is oppressive at best. We are out of jobs or if we are working from home, we are feeding the family around the clock, standing in lines for basic supplies, people are dying but tuition hikes are what's on the minds of those in charge.

My name is Christelle, this is my third year at brooklyn and I pay out of pocket.

I will not be able to graduate at the intended date due to Covid. I am a student that pays the full tuition out of pocket. The last three years have been stressful and if the tuition were to be raised I

would be able to afford classes. All of the time, effort and money that I put in would be for nothing.

My name is Taina, I'm a 1st year grad student who pays out of pocket.

School online is not the same. I am not paying for the same quality as in person.

I am not able to work the way I usually do. It would not be fair to increase the cost of tuition when many cannot pay for school in a regular year. The tuition should be CUT not increased.

My name is Sidra, this is my 1st year at kingborough in the ASAP program.

I still need help with work, there's just no point to raising tuition.

My name is Shereeza Ali, this is my 3rd year at Queens college and i pay for school via TAP and Pell.

The coronavirus pandemic has affected my CUNY experience in multiple ways. First of all, when you need help with something, there is no way you can see the actual person which sucks. Second of all, knowing that everything is online now, you must keep track of everything you need to take care of. Finally, there is no way a person could see their friends except via video chat.

I believe that the Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition by \$320 because this seems unfair and plus the students are not able to go to school so instead of them raising it they should lower it. This will affect me personally because even though one of my parents is working and the other is not the money is still not enough.

My name is Jenny Chu, I'm a sophomore at Baruch and I'm on FAFSA plus making out of pocket payments.

The pandemic affected my CUNY experience in numerous ways. One being that it is more difficult to communicate with professors and classmates. Second would be the reduction in networking and club activities. Third would be that the resources that we were given prior to the pandemic have been reduced, such as computer labs, printing and the textbooks from the library.

The Board of Trustees should not be raising our tuition since the quality of education isn't the same as it was before. In this pandemic every family is suffering in terms of financial support and by increasing tuition it'll make it harder for students to go to school. This affects me personally since the majority of my tuition are paid out of pocket and without a job I won't be able to pay it.

My name is Niloy Mridul, this is my second year and final semester at BMCC and I rely on FAFSA and out of pocket payments.

I have to study and work at home. Any paperwork must be submitted through email. I have to use zoom as well and it is uncomfortable.

Honestly, students already have a hard time gathering money to save for themselves. I also feel as though if this increases now there is going to be more in the future. The faculty also wants what is best for students as well.

My name is Sylvia Welch, I'm a sophomore at Hunter and I pay out of pocket now but next semester the Bluhm scholarship will pay for it.

I've lost almost all interest in my academics. Some of my professors have increased homework load to compensate for loss of class time, which has added stress to my other classes, as well as home life. Most of my professors have enacted asynchronous learning, which has led me to have to teach myself all the material. During normal times this would be difficult, but adding this stress during the time of a pandemic is inhumane. I specifically did not take online classes

because I enjoy being in a classroom setting. The home environment is distracting and nearly impossible to learn in.

While I personally would not be affected by the \$320 tuition increase because my scholarship will cover it, I believe it is inhumane. We should not have to pay more for sub-par online classes. We are a public state school made for accessible education, and raising tuition limits accessibility. Students are particularly hurting during this time, as college-aged adults do not qualify for any government check.

My name is Ginikachukwu Egonu, I'm a freshman at Queens on FAFSA.

The Coronavirus has affected my CUNY experience by forcing all students to transition to online schooling which is much harder. Financially, it's also tougher because I lost my part-time job and my parents are working much less in comparison to before the Coronavirus. It has become harder to focus especially since my grandmother has recently tested positive for Coronavirus.

The hike will make it incredibly harder to pay the tuition. With the current tuition I have to pay, it's already hard to afford. In addition to that, not only myself, but many students have parents that are now out of work or work significantly less.

My name is Ashley Marie Villacis, I'm a junior at Hunter and I pay out of pocket, barely receive any aid.

I am directly affected by covid. I cannot focus, I cannot think. I paid for in person classes, not online. I should not be paying the price of in person classes.

I can barely pay my regular tuition. Just because the state believes my parents make enough money, does not mean it's true. If they plan to hike the price by 320, can my aid go up as well? 320 is the difference between paying the bills and having warm meals for my family. The Board of Trustees has enough money to pay out of pocket. It is unjust, and lowly of them to ask for an extra 320 as if students can actually pay during a crisis. It's not just a singular issue. Students have different situations.

My name is Emily Ibarra, I'm a senior at Hunter relying on out of pocket payments and Pell.

I have no current source of income and I'm not sure when I will resume working nor how much I will be making. I was already having trouble making payments from last years tuition. Now I'm not sure how I will pay that off before fall registration, I'm afraid I will be forced to take a year off in order to pay my debt before the hold on my account gets taken off. I sincerely hope everyone in charge of CUNY listens to the financial hardships the majority, if not all, their students are facing. This pandemic has long term/very real consequences and tuition cannot be raised, it would simply be cruel and unjust.

I cannot afford to pay this shitty school \$320 more dollars. My whole life is in the air, please take this into consideration.

My name is Christian Chavez, I'm a sophomore at Hunter relying on Pell, TAP, and CD.

We have to be subjected to less than adequate lectures and forced to adapt to however the professor decides to teach the course. Classes are meant to teach students in order to pursue their career, not diminish it to a letter grade. We need to have classes of the same caliber and quality to match the amount that we are paying for.

Minority students like myself already have to work twice as hard to get half as far. Being a first generation student, I am the first and only person in my immediate family to go to college. We barely were making ends meet before the pandemic. My mother and I were removed from our previous home and we now live in a single room. Any amount impacts us.

My name is Jaime Weida, I'm a faculty at BMCC.

I have had to switch to distance learning, which I have never done before and with which I am still struggling. My teaching experience and, consequently, my students' learning experience is being negatively affected. I have had multiple students contact me because they are very nervous and overwhelmed during this precarious time. I have students who have sick relatives, may be sick themselves, are money- and home-insecure, and who are in the front lines of the

medical profession. They are struggling even more than I am right now and doing their best to complete their classes on top of everything else.

I am a tenured faculty member at BMCC. The tuition raise will affect me personally because it will affect my students personally. No one knows what is going to happen, and many of my students who have been furloughed or let go from their jobs may not be able to return to work by fall 2020. BMCC has a large population of lower-income and working-class students, as well as black and brown students. These are all demographics that have been disproportionately negatively affected by the coronavirus and its effects. The very last thing my students need right now is a tuition hike on top of everything else with which they are struggling.

My name is Karizma Velez, I'm a 2nd year at BMCC, and I'm on TAP and FAFSA.

Schooling online has been a weird transition. I'm managing but it's a little difficult at times.

I don't have a job and neither does my mother. Everything is paid for my fafsa and tap right now but if it were to go up I don't know if it will cover it any more. So if it doesn't cover it I can't pay for college and I won't be able to go anymore.

My name is Willianny Valerio, I'm a 1st year at BMCC on TAP.

It's been very hard trying to keep track of the work that is being due and not being able to Learn physically in a classroom.

Students are being taken away from their jobs and let alone trying to take care of themselves and other family members. Raising it would just make it worse for everyone who pays for school and is already stressing. It's like adding another bill that would be hard to pay for.

My name is Bhuvani Sukwah, this is my 1st year at BMCC and I pay out of pocket.

This pandemic has turned my life over. I can't afford to pay my tuition this semester and I'm more of a visual learner and it is so hard to not be face to face with my professor!

I can't afford now when they raised it how will I? Makes no sense we are struggling as we speak.

My name is Shadman Kazi, I'm a junior at CCNY and I pay out of pocket.

Online instruction is not the same as in person.

My name is Gia Love, this is my 2nd year in BMCC on Tap and Pell.

I am an in class learner. I have a lot of hardship at home, and school has been a safe heaven for me.

This is unethical. We are in the midst of an economic collapse. People have lost their jobs. College school is free. Try decreasing the price. Do the right thing!

My name is Christy Nightingale- Gutierrez, I graduated from John Jay in 2010; which I paid through scholarships and financial aid.

I am currently working from home. Raising tuition would add a lot of undue stress to the current student body. Many students are already struggling financially.

My name is Jamila Duff, I'm a junior at York on Pell.

I've not been able to learn in a way I can understand. Not having more resources like the library to do research. No interaction with the professors.

With the Coronavirus, raising tuition will affect many people. Many people will have to catch up on their bills and to include a tuition hike, no one will recover well. Life will never be the same once this is all over. All tuitions should be waived or free. What about the ones that pay tuition out of pocket.

My name is Dominic Manzolillo, I'm a freshman at BMCC in ASAP.

Covid-19 has affected my CUNY experience by being unable to go into school physically and resort to online classes.

Tuition is fine where it is at the moment

My name is Oscar Bazan, I'm a sophomore at BMCC on TAP.

The epidemic made classes a bit more difficult to understand. I'm a student who likes to attend my classes in person.

Many students shouldn't pay the raise of tuition that is being asked for. We are currently facing an epidemic where employers and businesses are no longer running. Many have been laid off and it is unfair to raise tuition at a time like this.

My name is Lillian Carrera, I'm a 2nd year at Queens in excelsior.

I used to be a CA who went in everyday but now we've had to navigate online. My family is looking to me to buy food for us. It's hard to focus on school work while adding more home responsibilities.

The Board shouldn't raise tuition because my family can't afford that. Coronavirus has already put a strain on finances. We can't keep up

My name is Gabriela Zelaya, I'm a freshman at BMCC and I pay out of pocket.

I was furloughed and I had to pay the rest of my tuition from my savings - I am not sure how I will be able to afford the fall semester if my job doesn't open back up.

New York is already extremely expensive - the schools have plenty of money and frankly this is just about being greedy. Our tuition payments do not get used properly because if it did, we would have nicer classrooms, better teachers and more technology enhanced courses. On top of that, why should we pay more if our classes will allegedly be online now? We are basically teaching ourselves because some of these teachers are extremely incompetent. We should be paying half of the tuition now that COVID-19 has impacted us this way.

My name is Mohima Bahar, I'm a senior at Brooklyn relying on Tap and Pell.

It has affected my learning and it is overwhelming.

It is already hard to pay for living expenses such as transportation and other costs. Increasing the tuition puts additional burden on students.

My name is Enavictoria Azor, I'm a junior at Brooklyn on FAFSA and Pell.

I am more of a hands-on learner so its been really difficult for me to kind of teach myself. It is just unfair to raise tuition.

My name is Keith Redzinak, I'm a senior at Brooklyn and I take out loans.

Many of my classes with labs have had to be rearranged because we don't have the ability to do them. Some of my classes have been turned into reading PowerPoints my professors have uploaded on blackboard. Many of the classes I am paying full price for I am barely getting an experience out of.

Raising tuition will put the burden of CUNY's issues on its students and not the state. The state of New York should be the ones keeping CUNY a proper place for education, however they have failed to properly do that. New York state should be finding a way to pay off CUNY's problems not its students.

My name is Jesse, I'm a senior at Brooklyn. In the past I relied on TAP, Pell, currently I pay out of pocket.

I signed up to attend university in person and was a huge driving force behind my motivation. The transition to online and being isolated has negatively impacted my mental and physical well being and makes shifting 6 classes online very hard to deal with. Deadlines do not feel like they have much weight to them and working in this climate is pretty much impossible. I am unsure if I will even be able to intern in the summer or fall due to this and was planning on working part time to fund my last semester of college.

I believe any tuition rate at this point is unjustified regardless of the pandemic or not. I know many people who work two jobs just to get by with their payments. Since class is being held online exclusively, the amount we are deemed to pay is not equal to class in a physical setting, especially since the classes were not structured to be taken online to begin with. Since my income and many others is \$0 right now, how can this hike be justified?

My name is Stephen A Blake, I graduate from Queens next year and I rely on tap and fafsa.

Distance learning has been a struggle as a student and a faculty member. It's hard being home all the time while trying to balance my priorities around.

Going to college is expensive enough already adding another 320 to it is a slippery slope to bigger price hikes on the college and people can barely make ends meet.

My name is Yoki Lui, this is my first year at Queens and I'm in TAP, Pell and SEEK.

It's very confusing working online. I think the Board shouldn't charge us more because we are already missing actual classes and have to online and also we still paid for these classes. They would we have to pay more next semester

My name is Sonam Lhaki, this is my 2nd year at Queens and I rely on Tap, Pell and SEEK.

For two of my classes I don't even have classes online just doing assignments. Two of my classes don't even have an actual class online so I paid the school money to do assignments?

My name is Mohamed osman, I'm a sophomore at Queensborough, and I'm in Pell.

I miss the classroom dynamic. Unemployment is about to reach historical highs unseen since the Great Depression. Canceling the tuition hike is a no brainer.

My name is Esther Jean, I'm a junior at queens and I rely on Pell and cash.

Distance learning makes studying and school work harder because I have to do it at night while everyone sleeps due to noise and housework influx.

We've just had a recent increase. It will completely shift my budget and since I have a child to take care of it's not conducive at all. I may not even be able to attend with all these increases.

My name is Ellen Stoyanov, I'm a junior at Queens. I have a Macaulay scholarship HOWEVER FAFSA and TAP pay for my education and if there is anything not covered or not enough from those places, then the scholarship pays

It's really difficult for me because I am an "in-person learner." I've never wanted to take online classes. I learn best in a classroom setting and this virtual education is killing me. My grades will certainly suffer, in addition to my motivation and focus which have both already suffered.

The tuition shouldn't be raised because I am European and I cannot believe that there are developed and successful countries in Europe that offer FREE undergraduate education for EVERYONE. Meanwhile New York offers a more "affordable" option but it is still a significant amount of money and there is always the worry of tuition hikes as it is now. \$320 is a solid amount of money - it can be used to buy textbooks for a semester.

My name is Michelle, I'm a senior at Queens relying on TAP.

I'm unable to get the hands-on experience with my professors.

Education should be free and available to all! Prosperous economy, more opportunities of educational backgrounds no matter your gender, race or economical situation.

My name is Bruna Ragona, I'm a sophomore at Queens making out of pocket payments.

Online classes and changing curriculum are harder than on campus. Having to contact professors via email makes it less personable. And it's much harder to stay motivated. I know we are all doing our best but it sucks nonetheless. Also not being able to work means no savings can be put aside for next semester's tuition. It's all a mess.

Tuition is expensive as it is! And not everyone has the privilege to qualify for student loans. And even those who do shouldn't have to worry about paying thousands of dollars back on top of what they already will.

My name is Sharon Jackson, I'm a member of Queen's Faculty.

I am an alumnus and TA at Queens College. I understand that costs go up sometimes, and funding must come from somewhere. But last I heard, the CUNY Chancellor's salary is \$670,000, not including the \$7,500 monthly housing stipend. That's more than a US president's salary. No one needs that much. Before you ask students to bear the burden, ask the people at the top to make some sacrifices.

My name is Keanu, this is my 2nd year at LaGuardia and I pay out of pocket.

It's hard to get equipment/materials for class. Most materials are back ordered due to the pandemic. Online learning is not helping at all.

Not only are we in a pandemic. Learning from home for my major is not ideal. As a photography major that is paying out of pocket, I feel that I am not getting what I'm paying for.

My name is Katelyn Sharma, this is my 2nd year at BMCC and I'm on Pell.

My teachers aren't reaching out to me on my course dates, which inconveniences me with my daily life. Most professors also do not post up deadlines and are constantly changing the syllabus.

I believe that the Board of Trustees shouldn't raise the tuition because it makes it harder for people to be able to afford it. Also, I feel like this semester was not worth even paying the tuition because I am not learning anything.

My name is Tamanna Yar, I graduate from Queens this year and I take out a federal student loan.

I have not been able to work. It's hard to be instituted when we are not currently working and able to afford loans.

My name is Devani, I'm a senior at Queens and I rely on TAP, Pell, SEEK and out of pocket payments.

I am used to having in-person classes because it is my learning style of choice and that was taken away from me. One of my classes canceled lectures so I only learned half a semester's worth from that class. I also have to work even harder to stay on task.

We have already suffered enough loss this semester due to Covid-19 therefore it would be unfair to ask students to pay more. Most people like myself have also lost their job and therefore having to pay more for school is ridiculous. CUNY did not provide relief for all students therefore they shouldn't punish us more by increasing tuition.

My name is Yunmee Han, this is my 1st year as a grad student at queens and I pay out of pocket.

Distant learning is a great method to stop the spread of Covid19 but we lack many services we usually get when class is in person. We had a lot of classes got canceled and ended up pushing everyone to the edge.

I lost my job recently and am struggling to pay for next year's tuition. This is absurd given how CUNY is increasing \$320 more on tuition knowing that we will learn remotely!

My name is Natalie Papazian, I'm a second semester sophomore at Queens paying out of pocket.

I've had no help from academic advisors. It is very difficult for me to pay for school in full due to the lack of financial aid my family is given. Each year professional judgement for financial aid is pushed aside and forgotten and we receive nothing but loans. Both of my parents have little to no income ever since my mother had lost her job. An increase in tuition would just cause more stress and cause more damage to our diminishing savings as we hope we would get financial aid for the next semester.

My name is Giovanni Diaz, I'm a senior at Queens relying on tap, pell, and out of pocket payments.

We are all affected by this tremendously and you want to charge us more money? It's common sense why it is unjust. Most students in CUNY are in the middle class or lower. As usual we are the ones who constantly get the short end of the stick. I refuse to accept that. Make the state fund city colleges again and stop trying to take from your own people it's despicable.

My name is Emilee, I'm a senior at Queens. I have a university scholar full-tuition scholarship from Macaulay Honors College, private loans for room and board at the Summit.

Only one of my classes still meets live over Blackboard Collaborate. Two of my classes are email only at this point. Another class has discussion boards on Blackboard and recorded materials, but no live classes. I've almost completely lost the classroom experience I went to college for in the first place.

Let's put it this way: raising prices on just about anything in a time where people are dealing with the constant threat of a deadly virus, supply shortages, and mass unemployment should be a criminal offense. Many of us are barely getting by right now, and to add a tuition hike- even if it's "only" a few hundred dollars- can make or break someone's ability to continue going to school right now. Not everyone's family can afford to send them, not everyone can get private loans, whatever financial aid doesn't cover has to come out of their own pockets. Shouldn't students be able to focus on getting food on the table and medicine in their mouths and keeping a roof over their heads and finishing out what's left of this semester without worrying about how they're going to deal with a tuition hike too? I'm not going to be attending a CUNY school for my graduate career, I personally no longer have a stake in what happens with CUNY. But I care about my fellow students, I care about the people like me, who rely on financial aids and loans to scrape by while they struggle to provide for themselves, I care about low income students and students who are essential workers. Why don't the board of trustees care about these students, too?

My name is Nahida Ahad, I'm a senior at Queens and rely on loans, out of pocket payments and TAP.

I am an art student at Queens College. It is finally my senior year and this pandemic hits. I don't know how CUNY will allow art students to take studio courses during this time. I can't use the school studio to create my prints either. Raising tuition should mean raising the quality of classes for students.

This pandemic has caused millions to be out of a job. Raising tuition will affect students like me already struggling to pay for school while attending.

My name is Viviana Y Arias Canchari, this is my 4th year at queens college and I rely on TAP, Pell and and out of pocket payments.

I've lost my job during this pandemic; raising tuition would make it unaffordable to study at college.

My name is Catherine M. Tassini and I'm a taxpayer.

In the middle of a pandemic when unemployment is at the highest rate since the Great Depression? Really?! Any missing funds should be coming out of the pockets of the board and president, not those of students and/or taxpayers.

My name is Gabrielle Williams, I'm a junior at Queens and I pay out of pocket.

I don't learn as much with online learning and I feel like some of my professors are not putting in as much effort when it comes to teaching because of what is going on. I pay out of pocket for my education and really want to learn as much as possible, despite what is going on. I have one class that assigns weekly 100 word responses for work and provides no lecture (that's all the work).

This year, I believe tuition was raised by \$200. Given the circumstances related to Covid-19, you're going to have a lot of students that won't be able to afford this drastic hike in tuition. I might not be able to return to school because I don't get any financial aid and this increase might not be possible for me. I have friends that I know will not be able to afford school after this. It's unacceptable to raise it this much knowing how many people have lost their jobs and are now unemployed.

My name is Jelani Berkeley, I'm an upper freshman at Queens I pay out of pocket, TAP, Pell and FAFSA.

Obviously, it's a big adjustment taking classes online now for the first time in my school tenure, but the experience has been going smoothly. A positive from this experience is the abundance of time I have to complete assignments and not concerning myself with the time consumption of commuting myself to and from school since everyone is quarantining at home.

A tuition hike is unjust during this global pandemic because many people have lost their jobs or have had their work hours cut, so making the money for living expenses and tuition would be tougher than before for most. While a raise would be beneficial to cope with these trying times, not everyone has the security blanket or savings to manage such a tuition increase if their living from check to check. Raising the tuition would most likely lead to even less students enrolling due to from the steeper price and CUNY's goal should be to make education more accessible for the majority, so it's best to find other solutions for this crisis.

My name is Joey Lau, I'm a sophomore at Queens college and I pay out of pocket.

We moved to online learning. Due to this change in platform, I have less opportunities to ask questions and interact with my professors. Also, I no longer have access to the library and the resources that Queens college has to offer to students.

I strongly fight against increasing the tuition. I am an international student and I am already paying so much for my tuition. The Board of Trustees should NOT increase the tuition especially during this time where all our classes are transitioned to distance learning. There is absolutely NO reason to increase tuition, especially if we students are not utilising any resources on campus. At this point, it is basically home-schooling. Why should we pay more to be homeschooled? If anything, I think it is more reasonable to reduce the tuition instead of increasing it.

My name is Xiao Min Jiang, I'm a sophomore at Queens on TAP and Pell.

Classes are not taught in person and so the quality of the classes dropped. It was harder to contact professors. Many people are missing college experience.

I'm from a low income family so I cannot afford to pay for school. I'm unsure if TAP and Pell will be enough to cover my tuition if it raises. It's a great struggle economically.

My name is Niuzhet Andrade, I'm a junior at LaGuardia and I pay out of pocket.

I stopped working since the virus arose. I don't receive financial aid. Since my major is commercial photography and we're not allowed to use the studio or photo lab I had to use my savings to buy supplies and equipment for my classes.

I don't get financial aid. This would affect me because I would have to be working a full time job and be a part time student but since COVID-19 I don't know if the company I work with will open again.

My name is Justin Toro, I'm a junior at Queens in excelsior.

My mother has the Coronavirus, so my daily life has been full of worry and stress for her safety. These online classes have negated my full potential in participating in the lecture, and I find the lack of social contact to be damaging to my psyche.

Raising the tuition fee would have dire consequences on people trying to attend college. People all around this country are struggling to make financial ends meet, and raising the tuition is only going to hurt us even more. My family is just trying to make it, but increasing the tuition will only take away the chance for people to obtain a higher education.

My name is Dalian, this is my 2nd year working at my masters degrees at Queens and I take out loans.

I feel no motivation to complete my work. I'm also frustrated that I'm being charged full semester tuition even though I didn't pay for online class.

I'm already struggling to pay tuition, I can't afford to pay more.

My name is Abigail Gobin, I'm a senior at Queens receiving financial aid.

School is a bit more challenging now that it's online.

Raising tuition isn't fair because financial aid doesn't cover majority of the tuition and the rest has to come out of pocket while now we are out of a job.

My name is Neha Syeda, I'm a sophomore at brooklyn receiving tap and pell.

Our classes have moved online. The resources available at school are difficult to access

Tuition is already unbearably high and it takes a toll on a lot of students. It will be difficult for me personally to be able to pay tuition.

My name is Pawanpreet Kaur. I am a senior at Hunter College. I pay for college out of pocket.

I am fearful I will not graduate with correct requirements. Has made getting work done more difficult. Board of trustees should not raise the tuition because CUNY schools are known to be affordable and for those people who come from almost nothing being able to become something. If CUNY raises their prices they are going to make it so much more difficult for students and families to afford an education—especially in a crisis like this one.

My name is Ateea Kazi. I am a senior at Hunter College. I pay for college with FASFA and Tap.

Classes are all online and I'm not able to learn the same way I did while being in school.

it's not fair to increase tuition when students were basically cheated out of their tuition payment for Spring 2020. Online classes are cheaper than physical classes which put students out of a lot of money when COVID came to town.

My name is Aby Gonzales. I am a student at Hunter College. I pay for college with the Excelsior scholarship.

Learning can be quite difficult remotely with concepts that need to be explained in lectures such as complicated concepts in Math and Science courses.

A lot of people are out of jobs right now so it is incredibly unjust to raise the tuition by \$320.

My name is Michael Khuu. I am a sophomore at The City University of New York. I pay for college with scholarships and out of pocket.

The coronavirus pandemic has made learning more stressful. There are always technical glitches and problems like blackboard causing my professor's computer to freeze and makes learning difficult. Also I have to pay extra fees for things like lab material when I'm not even using lab materials which is frustrating now I feel like I am just paying thousands to read a textbook at home.

In this time of crisis, the safety and well being of students should always come first over money. The purpose and mission of a public non-profit college should be to encourage learning. This is especially true for CUNYs who pride ourselves with affordable education for everyone. However, people are losing jobs and struggling financially during this time of global pandemic. I have friends who are worried about paying rent, let alone tuition for school. It's only common sense it is not an appropriate time to increase tuition costs.

My name is Lekovic Teoh. I am a sophomore at Hunter College. I pay for college with scholarships.

Lower quality of classes that require in person activities such as labs. Inability to meet with advisors and counselors. More stress and miscommunication from a number of departments that cannot handle this change as well as others. Some professors have bad internet and so have poor experiences with online lectures.

We are not using most of the services provided by our colleges, especially now during the pandemic. The money would just be used on things that are overfunded and underused. The unemployment number is now currently at 26 million people. This virus will fundamentally change our economy for the worse and needing to pay more for college will put the average student into financial strain. The average american can't afford an unexpected \$500 bill. Hiking

the tuition up will only make the overall economic situation of the students in CUNY be worse off.

My name is Segundo. I am a sophomore at The City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket. I have not worked for the last month and half. Thus, I do not have money to pay for my expenses.

We need you to stop raise college tuition. It will make stop me from continuing my college education since there is not a source of income that will support myself to pay my basic needs.

My name is Sydney Heidenberg. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college with loans.

I had to move out of my dorm and I was only given a 72 hours to do so. Most of my classes meet in zoom, or another video service, but there still the occasional videos I have to watch or just post on discussion board where I feel I don't learn. Also, a lot of professors have added extremely to already dense workloads because they believe students to just be at home with plenty of free time.

People are losing so much money right now. By raising tuition, some people might not be able to afford to return to school. I am going to have to take out a bigger loan to afford it, which puts me in more debt.

My name is Alyssa Gomez. I am a freshman at The Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with Tap, Pell, and out of pocket.

My mental health has become worse. My classes are more difficult and there is not enough support

The thought of a tuition hike during record-high levels of unemployment is DISGUSTING. We are not currently received the education or services we paid for and I am ashamed by the response of CUNY.

My name is Emma stephens. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college out of pocket.

I have been receiving an EXTREMELY POOR education during this pandemic. I have been essentially instructed to TEACH MYSELF as my professors barely can manage remote learning because CUNY DOES NOT HAVE REMOTE INFRASTRUCTURE. I paid for IN CLASS

COURSES AND I AM BEING FORCED TO TAKE ONLINE CLASSES AND STILL PAY. THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE! My grades have suffered. I was a 4.0 student and relied on the library so I could study and I don't have any resources at home to study.

There are mass layoffs and many people in NYC and the country are unable to work and pay their rent. How CUNY can justify raising tuition during a time of such extreme GLOBAL financial hardship is beyond me. The selfishness of CUNY is pathetic and so far from what the original founders of CUNY believed in. CUNY was supposed to offer FREE tuition to New Yorkers so we could have more access to education which leads to higher pay. CUNY will be essentially robbing hundreds and thousands of students to access to learn. \$400 is what stands between me and my education, I can barely make ends meet as it is.

My name Nantia. I am a senior at Hunter College. I pay for college out of pocket.

The experience has been horrible i don't like this online schooling especially when I didn't sign up for this.

If I don't get financial aid this semester then I'll have to pay out of pocket again and I can't afford it.

My name is Hawa Kante. I am a student at Hunter College. I pay for college with FASFA.

Yes. Because everything is online, we can't use our resources, but at the end of the day it also just like online classes but all of our classes online is too much for me.

Because I'm from a poor background and I can't afford for ya to do this during my school year . It highly unfair.

My name is Diana Barreto. I am a junior at The City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket.

My parents have not been able to work therefore they have not been making money. We don't qualify for government assistance so we don't get stimulus checks. Therefore we don't know how we're gonna afford tuition, especially if it's going to be raised more.

I pay out of pocket, but right now no one in my family is working because of the virus. We can barely afford the normal tuition let alone another \$320.

My name is Chelsy. I am a senior at The City College of New York. I pay for college with TAP, Pell, and out of pocket.

All zoom meetings and not sufficient information in some lectures.

My job is not very stable due to the virus and if it comes to the case where I have to pay out of pocket for tuition I will not be able to afford it. I am so close to graduating. I don't want my dreams of becoming a doctor to shatter.

My name is Andre Fraser. I am a graduate student at York College. I pay for college with loans and out of pocket.

Learning on the fly via video conferences has been a difficult adjustment. I find learning is more on the students rather than what the school is able to provide. This is a stressful time for everyone both emotionally and financially. Many people are going to have a hard time rebounding financially from this crisis. How can one afford an increase in tuition in addition to this.

My name is Jocelyn Wills. I am a faculty member at Brooklyn College.

It has increased my concern for our students.

Because our students cannot afford it (and they could not afford it prior to COVID-19); and many of them are on the front lines of the pandemic helping the rest of us to stay safe while risking their own health and lives because they're members of the working poor. Rather than raising tuition, Board members should pressure the governor to introduce a wealth tax on the upper 5% of New Yorkers. It is unconscionable to pillage the most vulnerable.

My name is Brenda Valbuena. I am a senior at The City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket.

Classes are not the same, most of my professor have trouble using the online resources.

I lost my job and I still need to pay for rent, supplies, food and tuition. As a student I don't have enough money to pay all of that and I am pretty worried that I won't have enough money to pay my tuition next semester specially when that is my last semester. Tuition hike will only affect me in a negative way.

My name is Patricia Antonello. I am a faculty member at Brooklyn College. It has changed the very fabric of our society with immeasurable negative affects for our students, staff and faculty.

This is a draconian measure is of the worst order. This callous attempt to further damage our students who live in the epicenter of the pandemic and are suffering the effects of health and economic hardship is unconscionable.

My name is Afsana Rahman. I am a freshman at Hunter College. I pay for college with Excelsior and out of pocket.

I'm a first year and am taking 3 science classes this semester alongside a writing intensive course. It has been very difficult already in-person to do well in those classes, but with the online classes and the new grading policies with everything piled up on each other, the workload can seem very overwhelming. Unfortunately, many professors have not been accommodating to the situation and even when reported, not much gets accomplished from department heads. I understand the transition to distance learning is hard for faculty, but to make it harder for students, especially for Hunter students where many are minorities or from disadvantaged communities is disheartening and disappointing.

I'm already taking out a loan with Excelsior because there's no guarantee I'm going to stay in NY. Increasing tuition is just putting more money stress on me and my family and as a student I'm not seeing the positive outcomes of the trustees raising tuition. Hunter is supposed to be an affordable school, but increasing tuition does not showcase that. I do not receive any refunds or pell grants or any type of financial support besides merit scholarships so its unfair I have to pay so much when it's not even clear how the increase in tuition is benefiting Hunter faculty/resources.

My name is Patricia Rudden. I am a faculty member at New York City Tech.

My students at City Tech were in online courses already but some of them have suffered great disruptions in their lives and routines as a result of the pandemic.

My students/future fellow alumni cannot afford any additional expenses now. CUNY should be free again!

My name is Emily Chu. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college with Pell and Tap.

Remote learning puts a different pressure on a student's ability to learn.

I do not see any gains from increasing our tuition. We are limited to our remote learning and we are not using the campuses. Remote learning should not constitute raising our tuition, we are not gaining a better education with the tuition increase.

My name is Mark. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Professors have been giving us way more work, one pretty much is ignoring students and not doing live classes and we are not absorbing anything. I feel like I'm not really learning anything this semester.

I struggle to pay college as it is, I'm an international student and I already have to pay more. If tuition keeps raising I may not be able to finish school.

My name is Bipasha. I am a freshman at The City College of New York. I pay for college with FASFA and Tap.

Trouble paying bills because of the low income coming in as my parents are not able to work. I was a part time worker at a tutoring center now I have to income. My loved ones died and are in the hospital because of the virus.

This would be so unfair and would cause a lot of trouble for those that don't have high income. Rather they should do something to help us out. Low income students need more support and

even other students need money to survive.

My name is Nathaly Ardiles. I am a senior at The City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket.

It's dramatically changed my life my professors are giving me more material than they would if I were in school. No professor is showing empathy during this stressful time. I also work in school and it's very difficult to do all these task online and remotely. No one is managing the professors of tracking how the learning is working remotely. Many students and I are very behind on the material and are very stressed for finals.

I pay out of pocket and the cost keeps going up for studies here. Especially after this pandemic CCNY should be giving us back money for the student fees we didn't get to use with the campus shutdown. I am an engineering student and my labs and classes are very hard to do remotely.

My name is Shirley Whitney. I am an alumni of Hunter College.

It would be economically counterproductive for this city. I attended Hunter tuition-free. We even borrowed from and returned textbooks to the college. I subsequently obtained a federal fellowship for graduate study and have earned enough to pay significant taxes as well as contribute to the support of others who otherwise would have been dependent on the government for support. Over the years, there have been many such people. I am currently partially supporting two other households to the tune of \$1300/4-week period. I also contribute a significant percentage of my income to charities and work hard as a volunteer in a not-for-profit organization providing financial support to students.

In appreciation of the value of government services, I transition from the private sector worked for a lower salary so that I could contribute in human services areas that mattered to me.

Without that free education, it is unlikely that I could have achieved so much. It is not clear to me that I would have been able to go to college at all. New York makes a huge mistake by undercutting its colleges. We need skilled and well educated personnel to support the technical, financial, and real estate, and health care sectors.

My name is Brittany Muscat. I am a junior at The City College of New York. I pay for college with Tap, Pell and out of pocket.

Zoom classes have been a bit difficult to get used to but I'm still learning as I would have if I was on campus. I participate more via zoom then in person but at the same time I feel like it is hindering my ability to participate in person. Overall, I'm doing okay in my courses.

I'm currently unemployed and my father just lost his second job. My mother isn't working any longer due to the pandemic. This whole situation is going to make financial matters worse for everyone. Raising tuition is ridiculous at this time and shouldn't even be an idea. Everyone is suffering, millions and millions of Americans have lost their jobs and are filing for unemployment. If the country goes into a recession, this will have a huge impact on our lives.

My name is Pawanpreet Kaur. I am a senior at Hunter College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Has made me fearful I will not graduate with correct requirements. Has made getting work done more difficult.

Board of trustees should not raise the tuition because CUNY schools are known to be affordable and for those people who come from almost nothing being able to become something. If CUNY raises their prices they are going to make it so much more difficult for students and families to afford an education—especially in a crisis like this one.

My name is Keniell Scott. I am a freshman at the College of Staten Island. I pay for college with Pell, ASAP and out of pocket.

The spread of the covid-19 virus has negatively affected my CUNY experience. It is already very difficult for me to concentrate, and distanced learning makes my situation much worse. I am the first in my family to attend college and this outbreak completely ruined my college experience.

I believe that raising the tuition is unjust because this outbreak has reached a point where it has affected many jobs, This mainly threatens minorities and people with no citizenship. Personally

speaking my mother used the 3 jobs, even then she couldn't afford to offer much help with my tuition. Now that she only works 2 jobs it has become nearly impossible.

My name is Angela Pan. I am a sophomore at Hunter College. I pay for college with Pell and Tap.

I've stuck at home and unable to leave the house for 1 1/2 months. Job site is closed indefinitely. There is no income and there is worry about how to pay for necessities.

I will have to pay more for tuition which i do not believe my family can afford to pay per semester.

My name is Alexandra Perez. I am a sophomore at Hunter College. I pay for college with Tap and Pell.

Distance Learning has been an adjustment to say the least. I know that the situation is dire, but I feel we are not getting the attention we deserve for these classes. Having to balance both school and home life is an adjustment.

It is not our fault this has happened and they should understand that a lot of students have lost their jobs and cannot afford to pay more money for school.

My name is Abdurrahman sultan. I am a freshman at Hunter College. I pay for college with Pell and Tap.

I am losing motivation in all of my classes. The transition to online classes has impacted my focus and the whole situation of uncertainty is just making matters worse. Engagement in my classes is not the same as a lot of students including myself have to help family members who have been affected. Our studies must be put on hold because we need to address more pressing matters like getting groceries for family.

They should not raise the tuition at all because students are already struggling to make ends meet as well as their families. For my case I would most likely have to spend more money out of my own pocket. Having only a single parent working in my household especially during these times

when work is scarce puts a huge strain on our finances and we must make sacrifices.

My name is Eleni Mattas. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college with loans.

Virtual learning is absolutely dreadful and I'm struggling to actually absorb information I'm paying to learn.

This pandemic is affecting so many people in different ways; from being unemployed to falling ill/dealing with deaths and developing mental illness. A tuition increase is the last thing anyone needs right now. We should just focus on furthering our education and growth!

My name is Denise Herrera. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college with Pell.

I am unemployed, my mom is undocumented, the little money we have saved up is for bills and food. I feel anxious and a raise will only affect us all.

Remote learning is not the same as in person learning. We don't have access to facilities, It's not fair!

My name is Samantha Schuler. I am a sophomore at Hunter College. I pay for college out of pocket.

Moved to online learning with classes that are not live. More stress from the assignments and lack of communication from teachers. I've been kicked out of my dorm.

I will have to work more as it is coming out of pocket and right now I do not have the job I had for the past year.

My name is Jiaxin Santos. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college with Pell.

Very confusing learning curriculum due to the changes needed to adjust to online learning. Having no income and worrying about classes next fall. Being socially isolated and having mental illness issues.

It is unfair to the entire student body to raise tuition while not only can the students not work but also their parents, of whom many depend on to support them through college, cannot work. Many college students are being left out from the federal stimulus package, leaving them already financially vulnerable, but they also are concerned about how they will continue their academic careers given the current uncertainty. Many of these students also deal with other issues like food insecurity and homelessness, and during this pandemic it is unfair to make a student prioritize paying this tuition hike in exchange for their well being and safety.

My name is Skylinn Rodriguez. I am a freshman at Hunter College. I pay for college with TAP, PELL, Excelsior, and out of pocket.

I haven't been learning the same. I don't have motivation to do any of my work.

I personally don't have a job at the moment and I already owe money, so if tuition went up again I wouldn't be able to pay it. I wouldn't be able to afford school and likely won't go.

My name is May Chen. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college with PELL.

I am not motivated to do anything these days and I feel like professors are creating extra work on purpose. I feel like I cannot even confront them about how my grades are or how they graded my report. My own family is not working and it is just a very confusing time right now.

I do not know why they would hike up tuition right now. No one has money to pay for school regardless of the increase of tuition. Also, why do we need to pay more for college when it is just online right now and we are using our own internet and resources to "go to" class. Also, there are other fees that cover services in school including the printing fee which we are no longer able to use anymore.

My name is Zaira Soto. I am a freshman at Hunter College. I pay for college with PELL.

I lost my job, I'm couch surfing and struggling to keep up with school work. I really miss the library.

It leaves me with less financial aid refund which I use to get through tough times.

My name is Zhuohan Yang. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college with TAP and PELL.

One of my instructors got ill. I feel like there is lesser communication in online education. I am unable to work on projects with friends.

The situation would most likely be like unchanged next semester. Financial hardships will continue to target most families. It is unfair to reach to the students for additional funds when situations are bad.

My name is Wen Zhen Li. I am a freshman at Hunter College. I pay for college with TAP and PELL.

It has been difficult to keep motivated for school and to continue my studies. Participating academically has been limited. Internships and involvement in school affairs has been halted.

As a first generation student who comes from a low income background, it would put additional financial burden. I chose to go to a CUNY due to a limited budget for school and this would make it so much more difficult to continue working towards saving for grad school. The tuition has already raised significantly over the past few decades and it does not make sense to continue raising it.

My name is Karina Zheng. I am a freshman at Hunter College. I pay for college with TAP and PELL.

I have to stay at home for online classes and in some of my classes there are technical difficulties with zoom. I attend classes regularly but sometimes because of the on and off scheduling with the breaks I forget to attend classes. My teachers are really accommodating when it comes to online classes, they are always there to help and offer other options in order for us to succeed in the classes.

It would affect me greatly because the cost of tuition is high already and being in a CUNY school it's supposed to be affordable for all. Raising the tuition means I need to pay extra money and I might have to end up taking less classes since I cannot afford \$320 per credit. I know a lot of other students who have multiple jobs just to pay off college debt and they aren't able to graduate on time because of this.

My name is Daisy Ogbeta. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college out of pocket.

I definitely and I don't know what to expect for next semester. My teachers are trying their best.

Since my mom pays out of pocket for my two siblings and I it's ethically unfair to spike up the tuition cost during a time when money to live is needed and the ability to pay that spike is unaffordable.

My name is Daniel. I am a sophomore at Hunter College. I pay for college with loans.

No more physical classes, but Zoom sessions are better than expected. But, it's also the 1st semester in a long time.

Because there's a lot of people not working right now, and it doesn't help that people don't have enough funds either and then go back next semester with a price increase is just unfair.

My name is Monano Pierre-Paul. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college with EXCELSIOR.

Out of work. A Lot of homework with incomprehensible professors. Need money to pay for summer classes.

Nobody is able to afford a tuition hike right now. Look outside!

My name is Ariel Cebelinski. I am a student at Hunter College. I pay for college out of pocket.

I am struggling in class because I am not used to an online platform. Some of my professors are having a hard time adjusting as well, with connectivity issues, and then other professors are not responding to any emails or concerns that I have. This is creating a lot of anxiety and uncertainty about my grades and the semester.

During these times, a raise in tuition would make it harder for those who have been hurt the most by the pandemic to pay for their education. The increase would make it harder for me to afford school, and I will have to sacrifice my school time and possibly grades in order to work and earn

enough money to pay off my tuition.

My name is Fizza Aijaz. I am a sophomore at Hunter College. I pay for college with FASFA and TAP.

Effective learning is not possible because I don't have the proper education environment. Many students such as I don't live in big house, we share room with other family members and don't have much personal space. I relied on hunter library to study and prepare for exam and now I am unable to get my proper education. In addition, lots of family members are sick and we aren't mentally and emotionally at our best so classes are usually last thing on my mind.

Even though I am lucky that I get financial aid, the majority of us have been laid off and don't have the means to pay for education. It's unfair that financial and economic situations are out of her hand yet we are still being punished.

My name is Mubarak Rahman. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college with TAP, Pell, and out of pocket.

All classes have gone to distance learning which was a difficult but doable adjustment. However one class was not adept into the transition and it seems to be because of the department's inability to transition smoothly too. Whether it's funding or not, that particular department and the professor are not able to facilitate the course before the lockdown.

It would help to see where the money would be spent one. Plus CUNY has more accessible tuition rates so by increasing it will price out some students.

My name is Richard Anthony Brown Jr. I am a senior at Hunter College. I pay for college with TAP and out of pocket.

The Corona virus has kept me from going to work and I would prefer to keep expenses to a minimum. Due to pre-existing conditions I cannot risk exposure to the outside world at this time. I also find it inconvenient to now pay for cuny on-campus resources I can no longer make use of. Interaction is now essentially through web cameras.

The system is going through an unexpected change because of the Coronavirus. People are not working as a result and lives very much hang on both sides of this situation. Education is important but I see no reason for tuition to go up when there are now facets on the tuition and facilities that are no longer being utilized by me in the same manner as before.

My name is Yun-Ting Tsai. I am a freshman at Hunter College. I pay for college with TAP and out of pocket.

I am taking two art classes in the spring semester. It is so difficult for Studio Art students to learn art via distance-learning. I think that it may be unfair for many students who have already paid their tuition for hoping to work in real art studios and buying art supplies.

Students have already lost their rights to use school facilities, and schools won't refund any part of student's tuitions. In contrast, they decided to raise our tuition next academic year. It's so crazy. I disagree with this policy.

My name is Jessy Huerta. I am a freshman at The Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with TAP, ASAP, and Pell.

As a freshman, I enjoyed my time in college during the fall. I had hoped to finish the year on campus. In my opinion, I learn better in a classroom setting opposed to online. However, I managed to cope with the online classes.

The Board of Trustees shouldn't raise the tuition by \$320 because students already pay so much for college. As a student, I know that textbooks are expensive to cover. As well as, supplies needed for a class. The combined cost of textbooks, supplies and cost of classes is very expensive if one student doesn't have government help and is paying out of pocket. Adding more money will create more student debt which no one wants. Having to spend a lot of money is stressful and becomes a little distracting to the student. Not being able to cover tuition discourages students from attending college because of the expense needed. Everyone deserves education and no one should feel like it is impossible to obtain education.

My name is Ivy. I am a sophomore at Hunter College. I pay for college out of pocket.

My job closed because of the pandemic. I am not eligible for financial aid and scholarship. I paid all my classes out of pocket.

This can cause the majority of students stress for their family and academics. Especially now, we are in a tough condition for this society where the amount of people are facing. Most people do not have work because the workplace is closed. Other people have difficulty paying their rent, bill, and food including academics. Also, some students who are just transferring from associate to bachelor. It can be difficult. Some people might layoff in their previous job and continue in their education setting. They have difficulty paying for transportation, tuition, books etc.

My name is Zachary Seow. I am a freshman at Hunter College. I pay for college with Tap, Pell, and FAFSA.

It hurt the learning experience to fully grasp how college works. One full year would've made a large difference for almost all freshmen. The mentality I may face entering sophomore year is that I'm still a freshman since I have yet to truly experience college.

The money that is left over from pell and tap help me pay for family needs. Especially now, I am paying for more than what was before. Having no job impacts how I can get any money. If they raise the tuition, I will have less to help pay for home necessities. However, I know it is worse for those who may not even have the benefits that I do regarding the leftover money from pell and tap. Having tuition raised will severely impact the amount I can contribute to my family.

My name is Sanjina Megha. I am a sophomore at Hunter College. I pay for college with TAP. I've had a lot of difficulty learning course material because of limited contact between students and professors. I am also struggling with taking exams online because of the new formatting system. I am struggling to effectively take the exams and actually getting the material due to using internet based platforms such as blackboard where the signals sometimes lag making it difficult to catch information.

I believe that increasing tuition is not fair at this time because the quality of our education has significantly decreased. I don't think it's fair to pay higher tuition especially when I am struggling with learning the material on my own. There were many times in the semester since we transitioned to online where I experienced technical difficulties. The professors had signal

connection issues and we were wasting time waiting for the professor to reestablish signal or we couldn't hear the professor due to choppy signals. Increasing tuition while my parents as well as thousands of others are experiencing unemployment is unfair.

My name is Anthony Nuccio. I am a Junior at New York City College of Technology. I pay for college with TAP and PELL.

Corona Virus has negatively effected my cuny experiences as I was not able to participate in labs (such as woodworking). While the material has become substantially easier, I feel I am not getting what I paid for in terms of material learned. Many CUNYS have issues both structural and internal and a tuition hike despite being known for being the pool's gateway to higher education is quite hypocritical.

I know for certain the former president of CCNY grossly misused the funds of the school for her own personal gain and during that time tuition hikes still prevailed. During this time many alumni who were interested in donating to the school that gave them their start, were being ignored. President Bourdeau has done a good job trying to rectify the horrors that the previous president has cast down on the school. At City Tech where I attend there aren't problems like this to this magnitude but problems persist nonetheless.

I am lucky to be covered under financial aid but I have many friends who either go to school part time or maxed out their financial aid allowance. For these people any additional pay increase in the tuition is detrimental to their education and would put more external stress on them as they would have to sacrifice the time it takes them to graduate since they have to prioritize eating over that.

From an economic perspective it makes sense why there is an increase in tuition every year but from a humanitarian perspective a tuition increase during these times where the common man fears for his life, increasing the tuition is highly inappropriate and quite exploiting.

My name is Michael Davis. I am a junior at Brooklyn College. I pay for college with SEEK.

It has affected me financially, emotionally, and mentally. I suffer from diagnosed chronic depression and a sense of panic over this crisis coupled with working and doing classes online.

It doesn't affect me personally due to my being a SEEK student. However, the budgetary cuts to programs like SEEK are horrendous, and as a student with so many friends that will be affected by this raise I am disgusted. CUNY students have been consistently punished for seeking a higher education, and another unethical hike during a pandemic is a sign of callous disregard for student welfare.

My name is Sahra Tahirah. I am a student at Hunter College. I pay for college with PELL.

This has disorganized my year a bit, I don't feel like I'm receiving the same quality of learning as I would in a classroom.

At the moment, Most if us are out of jobs, and we can't afford such an increase. We typically pay for onsite learning which is of a different quality of online learning, and online learning is very different and not what We signed up for, but what is necessary for our Health. I shouldn't have to pay more for it even the same amount that I typically pay for a learning experience that is not as immersive as I would prefer, or as most students would prefer. These are difficult times and increasing tuition would perhaps make them more difficult.

My name is Nafisa Nujhat. I am a freshman at Hunter College. I pay for college with PELL, TAP and out of pocket.

lack of resources, such as tutoring. lack of places to go to for advising. many offices, such as financial aid do not respond to emails. I might have to take fewer credits.

My name is Lorena Mejia. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college out of pocket.

I am unmotivated to do my work. Although I do my best to complete it, I do not feel like my learning experience is the same. I used to enjoy my classes and now the online experience has changed my mind. I have never taken an online class before.

My mother works to pay my tuition. I do qualify for FAFSA or TAP. She is out of work now because of COVID-19. Therefore she cannot pay my next semester tuition. I do not know how I will be able to pay next year. My job has also closed. This increase will only make matters harder. I will still have to buy materials to be able to do work from home on top of tuition.

My name is Lilianny Diaz. I am a junior at The City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket.

I have a very hard time concentrating at home, I usually would do all my work on campus and distant learning isn't really helping me learn anything. Also the resources that being on campus have (US) was somewhat essential to my school life and how good I was doing in my classes.

I currently pay for school out of pocket with no help from my parents, raising the tuition would just make things harder for me, along with other students as well. I had to take a semester off because I couldn't pay and I wouldn't want to have to do that again, forcing me to graduate even later than what I was originally intending. Also with the pandemic going on, having to pay for all of the fees without using them is a little ridiculous to me. Pretty much raising tuition would make things harder or a lot of students.

My name is Victoria Andersen. I am a freshman at Hunter College. I pay for college with EXCELSIOR.

My college experience has been terrible since the pandemic hit.

I pay my own tuition and it's very difficult. Especially, since I lost my job because of the pandemic. Now I won't be able to work over the summer, which means it's going to be difficult to pay for my books and my fall semester.

My name is Arlene Nguyen. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college with TAP, FAFSA, and SEEK.

Being a transfer and low-income student, the pandemic has affected my CUNY experience tremendously. I think our campuses are decent environments for students like me to do work as well as making friends. Due to the virus, I feel as though I'm only getting 25% of experience because Campus life is as important as academic life. It is already hard enough that our school's financial aid and bursar office has a bad reputation... trying to contact them during the virus is even worse than trying to get their attention in person. The services could be better.

My family is struggling to make ends meet and the tuition hike is not helping. CUNY being a public school system makes it different from private colleges and we deserve fixed tuition rates

because it gives everyone equal opportunity. Please hear our voices. CUNY. We can do better.

My name is Kaniz Hossain. I am a junior at Brooklyn College. I pay for college with PELL, TAP and out of pocket.

My classes have shifted to a remote learning style. As someone who is more of an interactive and visual learning, this changes the quality of education that I'm investing in. I now have to commit to school even more in the midst of a pandemic so that my grades won't drop horribly.

This increase affects me personally as I no longer receive TAP for most semesters. The amount that I would have to pay out of pocket will rise significantly and with limited income at the moment, it seems unfair for CUNY to profit off of students right now.

My name is Noorjhan Bakth. I am a junior at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I pay for college with TAP, PELL and SEEK.

My federal aid wasn't paid fully and I owe money now to my college and if I do not pay I can not take summer or fall classes.

\$320 is a lot all though it's being paid by the Pell and Tap many people depend on the refund they receive. And why raise when they are not going to enhance the education quality?

My name is Jennifer Lowing. I am a junior at The School of Professional Studies. I pay for college with loans.

I am a nurse and single mother. Cannot complete courses- have to withdraw or get an extension.

We are facing huge economic uncertainty, many are already under huge financial strain and may already need to leave school. Tuition increases seem like an undue strain given the current economic situation.

My name is Anjali Mercado. I am a freshman at The City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket.

The coronavirus pandemic has greatly affected my CUNT experience, especially when it comes to my learning experience. Having to learn through online classes when I am more of a lecture type learner has been a little difficult especially with the confusion and rapid changes from professors due to CUNY decisions.

I believe that it is unfair that the Board of Trustees shouldn't raise our tuition by \$320 because the tuition is already high and despite \$320 sounding like a small amount is a lot and does add up. That is a total of \$640 for the entire year, I chose to attend a CUNY because it was the most affordable option and with the tuition hike it made the affordability more and more difficult especially since I do not qualify for any financial aid. Nonetheless, increasing the tuition during the pandemic is outrageous. Like others, my parents are currently not working or receiving any of the stimulus packets or aids being given out by the government.

My name is Radhika Kalani. I am a student at Baruch College. I pay for college with scholarships and out of pocket.

I have no access to computers or printers. And I don't see my friends anymore.

The BOT increases tuition every year. CUNY is supposed to be an affordable college for everyone, and the amount that is charged right now is STILL too high.

My name is Nicole. I am a freshman at Hunter College. I pay for college out of pocket.

I am at home 24/7. Teachers have increased workload. I'm not learning as much as I could be if I were to be physically in class.

I pay tuition out of pocket, the reason I chose this school is because it was cheaper than the others. My household has two kids in college. I also work to try to cover a bit of the tuition to help out, I don't want to be such a burden on my parents financially.

My name is Martha Tepehua. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college out of pocket.

I worked so hard to pay off out of pocket for my classes but am currently unemployed due to COVID-19. If tuition keeps rising I'm not sure if I'll be able to pay off next semester. It will be even harder to Pay out of pocket.

I'm a DACA student at Hunter transferred from Community College. My tuition fee has doubled and now I'm finding it more difficult to pay out of pocket for school.

My name is Alejandra Vidaic. I am a sophomore at Hunter College. I pay for college with EXCELSIOR.

I've lost a lot of pay and I have to stay home and help my parents maintain the house while I work on school. My mental health has also been affected.

It's unfair, our economic situation does not allow us to pay for these increases especially not at this time. This is a difficult time, and doing this would make the lives of students worse off.

My name is Fareena Samad. I am a student at Hunter College. I pay for college with TAP, PELL, and out of pocket.

While all of my professors have been able to effectively teach their content through zoom meetings (not all CUNY students can say the same), I have been having trouble focusing on my classwork/homework. With everyone home, it is quite difficult finding a quiet place to attend class online, as well as complete readings and writing assignments. I have also been worried and stressed these past few weeks. I have had family members contract the coronavirus. Some have died, some have recovered. My parents have been forced to work because they have not received a stimulus check and, due to the online system crashing, has been unable to collect unemployment. Life, in general, seems depressing, and I have a hard time concentrating on my school work.

Although I am on track to graduate this semester and would not be affected by a tuition hike, I am completely against the idea of raising our tuition. All CUNY students enrolled for the next academic year will suffer from a tuition increase. I believe CUNY should work to implement a tuition decrease because it would benefit everyone. Many students and parents have been laid off due to the pandemic and are relying on government and/or non-government assistance to pay their bills. A tuition increase would add more fatigue to students and parents already worried over how they will pay their rent, or how they will afford food. In addition, there should not be a tuition increase because there is no need for it. No one besides essential workers would enter the CUNY buildings. Everyone else is either teaching or learning at home. I believe CUNY should budget themselves to pay all workers and maintain essential programs and services, and return the remaining tuition money back to students so as to ease students' financial woes.

My name is John Peter Affissio. I am a freshman at The College of Staten Island. I pay for college out of pocket.

Not all professors show up for scheduled classes that I pay for.

Tuition should not be raised based upon the remote learning environment. Either professors do not show up for classes or if there is a class that takes up 2 periods, professors only use 1 period. Students should not have to pay a tuition hike if professors are taking shortcuts to teach.

My name is Jennifer Jimenez Orellana. I am a freshman at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. I pay for college with TAP and FASFA.

Coronavirus pandemic affected me by having to worry more about how rent will be payed than studying for my classes. Lately, every real world situation has been greater than my studied. Trying to study is no longer the same as you wonder what's next? Everyone would like to pass with excellent grades and plan to have their name out there but at the moment, it becomes difficult when the unknown becomes greater.

Tuition hike would make things difficult because I mainly rely on FAFSA and TAP to cover my financial aid. If it were to increase by \$320, I would have to stress my landlord to give my mother extra time to pay rent. I'm currently unemployed this freshman year and I live with my undocumented family. We wish money grew on trees but that's not how things work. I used to see my family members coming late from work as they also see me in the kitchen completing my homework and studying. We give it our all even if it means to sacrifice restless nights. At the moment, working is practically impossible as their workplace is closed. We are finding every way to work but this doesn't happen miraculously. \$320 has a great impact on us as it does for others. I hope they understand that we give it our best everyday.

My name is Malaika Small. I am a sophomore at Kingsborough Community College. I pay for college with PELL and TAP.

It has disrupted my semester making it difficult for me to keep up with all my classes having to be online . It also has caused some many closures that now I'm out of work.

I believe that tuition should be frozen because we as the students are already struggling and suffer from the lose of Income/Jobs and some of us may have also even lost love ones due to this crisis so where would we ever find the money to cover a tuition hike when some of us can't even afford to eat or pay rent at this time.

My name is Luciana Kain. I am a sophomore at the Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college out of pocket.

It's been awful. My teachers are frustrated. Online lectures have been a hassle because my professor has an awful connection that always lags.

I already feel like a financial burden on my dad already because we NEVER pay my tuition on time. It's hard for me to pick the classes I need for the next semester because you can't enroll if you have an unpaid balance. Before the pandemic my dad didn't make much but now he's completely out of a job. How cruel can you be to expect us, COLLEGE students and our UNEMPLOYED parents, to pay over 3,000+ in tuition (and that's only in state). College students don't qualify for the monthly \$1200. The resources we are using are from OUR laptops. We use OUR wifi. I understand the school has an online website to maintain, however, we aren't using the physical builds, we can't use the amenities, we aren't even using textbooks. What can you possibly overcharge us for? It should be CRIMINAL to force young adults to pick between their education and not being a financial strain on our families. Have some fucking compassion in the middle of a pandemic. College students are just as important as all these corporations being given bailouts.

My name is Yarialis Guzman. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college with TAP.

It has made classes more difficult to understand. It has increased workload. it's unjust to raise tuition when education quality isn't rising along with it.

My name is Talha Faisal. I am a student at Hunter College. I pay for college with Pell and Tap.

All of my exams for my classes are now all within 1 week of each other. This is really stressing me out because i feel that I do not have enough time to study for all of them equally. Furthermore, I feel that professors not curving this semester is a bit messed up and should not be allowed.

Increasing tuition negatively impacts all students because they are going to be forced to pay more out of pocket that they might have to use for other things. In my case I have to pay some bills for myself and parents and this will negatively impact my ability to do so.

My name is Bryan Gonzalez. I am a student at The City College of New York. I pay for college with Tap and Out of Pocket.

All my classes are online. We had to do virtual labs. Communication was a little difficult but manageable.

It is absolutely ridiculous that our capitalist system is putting our student's futures in jeopardy only for the school business to make profits and not make much improvement or see that money well spent. CUNY is attended by many low-income families who cannot afford a private school or a SUNY school for off-campus and other special programs. It is unfair that student classes of 2020 and onwards, and also those who graduated within the last 10 years have to experience an increase in tuition. Please make college free or affordable!

My name is Monique Fisher. I am a student at Hunter College. I pay for college with TAP, PELL, and scholarships.

Less interaction with professors so asking for help and questions are harder to come by. As well as getting help from my fellow classmates and tutoring relies on slow internet connections.

The BOT should not raise tuition because we are losing our jobs so paying for classes is already hard enough. It should be less money now since without students on-campus resources should not be scarce.

My name is Joseph Gagliardi. I am a junior at Hunter College. I pay for college out of pocket.

We have been reduced to online classes, an increase in workload due to the loss of hours in classroom, and many professors do not understand the technology. It can be very isolating, members of my family are sick, and they cause such great stress on me that I am not able to appropriately focus on work as best as I can.

The economy is not generating enough money for a PUBLIC institution to hike their tuition. Education for all is what the public education department stands for and with these hikes, they are becoming less and less affiliated with what they stand for. To continue my education and move up the patriarchy, it is a necessity to continue my education and if I can't afford it. How will I get a good job?

My name is Maria Laboy. I am a sophomore at Hunter College. I pay for college with Tap and Pell.

- 1) Spring sports were canceled.
- 2) I now have work-study at Hunter and because of COVID-19 I am out of work.
- 3) lots of professors aren't adjusting to online learning.

I believe the Board shouldn't raise tuition because all though I have my full tuition covered, I depend on refund checks each year for rent and books I need for each semester. Without the money I get back, I will be unable to pay for that I would possibly lose where I live because I am an independent. Also without the money, I would have to pick up extra shifts at work and might not be able to continue to play the sport I love.

My name is Aaron Christo. I am a sophomore at Hunter College. I pay for college out of pocket.

As a music performance major, it has been very difficult to transition to online learning as more classes are being conducted via prerecorded video and audio tracks with limited equipment and a lack of studio space. The inability to gather has also rendered certain group oriented classes almost entirely unproductive in achieving their intended outcomes. I understand that this social distance learning is necessary and beyond the school's control yet I think the unique challenges that are present disqualify an accelerated rise in future tuition costs and fees.

Given the unanticipated cost of the pandemic, as well as the uncertainty surrounding future employment, and ultimately the structural inability to match online learning to the level of in-class learning, I do not think a tuition increase is a just and viable choice for the many students such as myself.

My name is Lesly Geronimo. I am a student at Hunter College. I pay for college with Tap, Pell, Excelsior, and out of pocket.

Not learning much, the professors are being unreasonable and assigning more work. On April 14 a random charge of 329\$ was placed on my account also due on April 14, when reaching out to

Fin aid they informed me that I was no longer qualified for Excelsior so I have this fee to pay. Considering this pandemic I am not sure how I will pay this amount prior to Fall registration.

If tuition is increased I will have to sacrifice other things like simply eating to be able to pay tuition. Every dollar is essential to me and if the tuition is raised I might have to get a second job to pay for my bills, including tuition. With a second job, my work quality will lower making my college experience harder and maybe even longer.

My name is Gianmarco Hurtado. I am a freshman at Hunter College. I pay for college with Tap, Pell and out of pocket.

My classes have fewer meetings and there is a tremendous amount of self-educating. The technical issues and under-preparedness of these professors have really stunted my classes. I am my own unpaid professor at this point.

The quality of the school has only diminished in my time there, and Hunter College has an insane amount of students with little space. It is insane that sitting on the floor to study is commonplace at Hunter College. There are also many low income people at CUNY that cannot afford a tuition hike especially after the COVID-19 pandemic that has left so many unemployed.

My name is Patricia. I am a freshman at Hunter College. I pay for college with Tap.

Since the pandemic, my Cuny experience has resulted in complete isolation and stress.

My family is struggling with the pandemic and to charge extra when students are getting laid off is unfair.

My name is Kimberly Chiu. I am a senior at Hunter College. I pay for college out of pocket. Good and bad, good because I get to save on metro fees, but bad because I'm not necessarily getting my money's worth as everything is purely online. I'm paying to go online and do assignments on my own time.

I believe that because especially due to this pandemic, many of us are out of work. On top of that, the majority of us probably don't make that much. It's a paycheck to paycheck lifestyle and

it's affecting us negatively. We worry day in and day out to survive. Also, the cost to travel to school is a big part of my money too!

My name is Keiona Morse. I am a student at The City College of New York. I pay for college with loans.

They say I owe money for this spring semester when the loan should have covered it. I'm still waiting for my unemployment since I can't work. It's hard to study at home when you are worried about surviving.

We are coming out of a pandemic so why do the colleges need more money if nobody is using the school property for how many months? The \$320 you are deciding to raise could be used for food, transportation, and books for school. Now as a system, you're doing this out of spite to people who did nothing to you. I'm pretty sure you're living well while we struggle to get to your position which I will gladly fix when I get there.

My name is Sharon Quiroz. I am a student at Hunter College. I pay for college with Financial Aid and out of pocket.

Very difficult to do school work from home. Those \$320 I use to pay my Con Edison and telephone bill.

My name is Radia. I am a freshman at The Borough of Manhattan Community College. I pay for college with TAP and out of pocket.

Online classes are harder than going to school. I will have to pay more for school. It would be harder to focus on work with the school.

My name is Susan Evans. I am a senior at The City College of New York. I pay for college with Macaulay, and out of pocket.

Online classes, loss of studio time for studio art, no longer presenting at conferences

Public higher education should be working to make tuition-free for students. A tuition hike at any time, especially during a pandemic, is completely unjust and impractical, given CUNY's students are some of the most affected in the country and the world by coronavirus right now. I'll be an alumnus in the fall as I'm graduating this semester.

My name is Alexandra. I am a senior at Brooklyn College. I pay for college with Financial Aid and out of pocket.

Current circumstances have made it very difficult to learn and be motivated to want to learn. It is unfair to raise tuition when our education has been nothing but diminished.

My name is Irvin Marin. I am a senior at The City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket.

I have to pay off tuition because Tap failed to pay off my classes when I had initially applied I work 8 and twelve hour shifts it's hard for me to keep up as a student and essential worker

Yes, this will affect me personally Since I don't already make enough to pay living expenses and I am trying my best to hold down a good job to that pays enough for me to go and pay for school.

My name is Simon Bouhadnana. I am a senior at Brooklyn College. I pay for college with Tap.

This pandemic has absolutely really affected me much. I dislike continually raised tuition. It should be free since a college diploma is required to land a decent job. It has become modern day high school.

My name is Moonjung Jang. I am a student at The City College of New York. I pay for college out of pocket.

There is no income from either of my parents or any family member. I have a hard time paying for current tuition fees and with the increase I will end up taking a semester off to make money.

My name is Shyla. I am a student at Hunter College. I pay for college with Pell and other loans.

Not only have I lost my job and enrolled in unemployment, but I feel like I am close to losing my education. Virtual classrooms only do so much--it is so easy to forget assignments and fall behind on readings nowadays. I need and crave the campus experience, because being surrounded by other hard workers (in the library and classrooms and halls) helps me stay focused on my own goals. Being at home is a horrible environment for focusing, when the only room I have to myself is a bedroom full of distractions. For those of us struggling with academic habits and tendencies, the pandemic has hurt our ability to absorb the studious energy present on campus.

They shouldn't raise the tuition because CUNY is supposed to be a citywide university that prides itself on its accessibility to all echelons of society. Impoverished, working class students who pay their own tuitions and don't meet the grant/scholarship requirements--either because of their parent's income level or other extenuating circumstances--can't afford to take out more loans, especially when we are all losing pay during quarantine. Community college is supposed to be the cheaper option.

My name is Michelle Takvorian. I am a freshman at The College of Staten Island. I pay for college with FAFSA, TAP, AND PELL.

The Coronavirus has made going to college very difficult for me. It is not easy to use online to complete homework and take tests. The professors are not very helpful in this situation also.

It is unjust to raise tuition by \$320. The tuition should not be raised at all. It puts a burden on students. I am not from a well to off family.

My name is Pinar N Kanay, I'm a senior at CSI on TAP and Pell.

I am not able to attend classes on campus where I need to be taught in class (eg. Science courses).

This increase will affect me tremendously! I can use that money to purchase textbooks!