

END LEGACY ADMISSIONS

PASS THE FAIR COLLEGE ADMISSIONS ACT

THE PROBLEM

In June 2023, the Supreme Court severely limited the consideration of race as one of many factors in college admissions. The Supreme Court's decision eliminated an important tool for enrolling more diverse classes, which makes it even more important to end the practice of legacy admissions.

Legacy admissions—the practice of giving preferential treatment to college applicants who are related to an alumnus of the school—undermine the goal of equal access to higher education, by giving a boost primarily to the applications of white students and those from the highest income brackets. Despite its explicitly racist and antisemitic origins, many private colleges and universities continue to consider legacy preference as a factor in admissions decisions today.

Between 10 to 25% of available spots in many of the nation's top universities are given to legacy students.



**NEW YORK COALITION
FOR FAIR COLLEGE
ADMISSIONS**

nycoalitionforfairadmissions.org

THE SOLUTION

The Fair College Admissions Act, A.1423-A (Walker) / S.4170-A (Gounardes), would prohibit legacy admissions practices at all colleges and universities in New York.

It also includes a financial penalty for schools that continue these harmful practices that will go to the New York State Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) to assist students with college affordability. Under the law, higher education institutions would still be able to ask applicants about their relation to an alumnus as a means of data collection and reporting but would only be able to do so after an offer of admission and financial aid has been accepted.

The Fair College Admissions Act will create a fairer higher education environment, more diverse college classes, and more opportunities for students from historically underrepresented groups. New York has the opportunity to lead the nation by being the first state to ban legacy preferences at private and public institutions.

WHO WE ARE

The New York Coalition for Fair College Admissions is a group of community organizations, advocates, educators, and students who are passionate about ending inequitable barriers that deter marginalized students from attending higher education institutions.