

2024-25 Annual Report



Prepared by
Amber Preston - Youth Program Manager

Table Of Contents

Senior Director's Message

About ERIE21

Youth Program

College Program

Adult Program

Partnership Highlights

Financial Picture

Looking forward to 2025-2026

Meet our Team

A Message From the Senior Director

3

Dear ERIE21 friends and supporters,

As we reflect on the 2024-2025 academic year, I am filled with pride and gratitude for the transformative impact ERIE21 continues to have across Central New York (CNY). This year marked a pivotal moment in our program's evolution as we expanded our reach, deepened our partnerships, and prepared our students for the unprecedented opportunities emerging in our region.

With Micron's historic investment taking shape, CNY stands at the threshold of generational economic transformation. ERIE21 has positioned itself at the center of this moment, serving 482 students across our three core programs—from middle schoolers discovering robotics and coding, to working adults earning industry certifications.

This year's achievements speak volumes: 100% on-time graduation rates for our high school and college seniors, expansion into rural districts through our OCS/LaFayette partnership, the launch of our inaugural Chip Camp in collaboration with Micron, and the successful completion of our AP Certificate program with 90% retention.

As we enter the final year of our core Empire State Development funding, we are actively building sustainable partnerships and innovative collaborations that will carry this critical work forward. Our involvement with the Future Ready Workforce Innovation Consortium, the Innovare Advancement Center, the I-Corridor Tech Hub positions, and microelectronics partnerships with CenterState CEO ERIE21 is an essential partner in building Central New York's innovation economy.

Thank you for standing with us as we create pathways to prosperity for our neighbors and strengthen the foundation of our community's future.

Amanda M. Delaney, M.A.
**Senior Director of Community &
Social Impact Programs**

ERIE21 at LeMoyne College



About ERIE21

The opportunity to create generational change is here. Right now, we have a chance to end cycles of poverty and ensure our community fully capitalizes on historic investments in our regional economy. ERIE21 is providing the education and support needed to ensure an abundance of qualified people can seize these opportunities.

ERIE21 creates tech-centered educational pathways that meet students where they are—from middle school through adulthood—equipping them with the skills and confidence to thrive in an ever-changing workforce.

Youth Program

(formerly known as Locks 1 & 2)
Introduces middle and high school students to coding, robotics, engineering, and quantitative reasoning. Our year-round programming supports academic achievement for vulnerable students while introducing them to exciting technology career pathways.

College Program

(formerly known as Lock 3)
Provides comprehensive support for Le Moyne College undergraduates pursuing technology and innovation fields. Through an interdisciplinary approach, we equip students with academic support, professional development, and career-building experiences from pre-orientation through post-graduation.

Adult Program

(formerly known as Lock 4)
Provides adult learners with access to education and the opportunity to develop skills needed to enter the tech workforce through industry-recognized certificate programs and comprehensive wraparound support services.

Youth Program

Middle School Highlights

This year we expanded our technology-pathway programming to include hands-on experiences in web design, mobile apps, Raspberry Pi, animation, coding, Lego robotics, creativity and innovation. We successfully maintained both in-person and virtual class options, ensuring accessibility for all students. Our partnership with The MOST continued to flourish through the KeyBank Future Innovators Program, with Tech Saturday sessions held throughout the year at the museum.

Our 8th annual Quantitative Thinking Village summer program served middle school students from the Syracuse City School District with intensive STEM enrichment on Le Moyne's campus.

High School Highlights

The cornerstone of our high school program was our fifth annual residential Innovation Academy summer program. In partnership with the Keenan Center for Entrepreneurship, Innovation & Creativity, students completed real-world projects that developed critical workplace skills. CNY Works provided students compensation for their contributions as young professionals in internships.

124

Middle School
Students Served

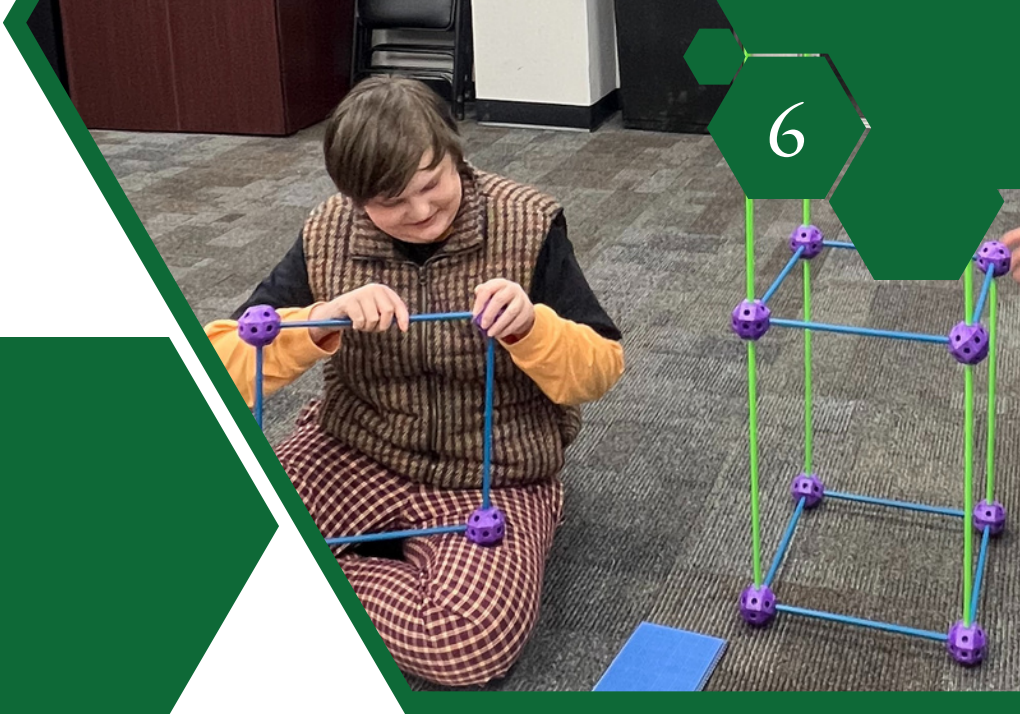
236

High School Students
Served

360

Total Youth Served





Youth Program

Class of 2025 Outcomes

14

Seniors Graduated

100%

On-Time Graduation

93%

College Bound

50%

Pursing STEM

100% of college-bound students are attending institutions in New York State

OCS/LaFayette Partnership

Thanks to Onondaga County's \$250,000 investment, ERIE21 expanded into rural communities through partnerships with Onondaga Central and LaFayette Central School Districts. During the 2024-25 school year, we delivered Techsploration programming combining hands-on coding, robotics, creativity, and innovation activities.

We worked with over 200 middle school students during the school year through Lego push-in sessions. For the first time, we successfully hosted students from these districts in our on-campus summer programming, including participation in Le Moyne's inaugural Chip Camp sponsored by the Micron Foundation.

College Program

102

Students Served

61%

BIPOC Students

73%

High Financial Need

ERIE21's College Program served 102 Le Moyne College students during the 2024-2025 academic year. The program's curriculum provided intensive academic, professional, and social support designed specifically for students from underserved backgrounds pursuing technology and innovation fields.

Program Highlights

In August 2024, we hosted our second annual Pre-Orientation for 12 incoming first-year students, sponsored by KeyBank. This four-day program helped students acclimate to ERIE21, Le Moyne College, and the Greater Syracuse area. Strong bonds formed during this experience led us to establish inaugural monthly first-year dinners throughout the fall semester.

During the academic year, the College Program team hosted 42 programs covering topics from AI and student success to vocational discernment and company research. We emphasized gratitude and service, reviving our Thank the Campus initiative and partnering with The MOST and Maker Faire for volunteer opportunities.

Class of 2025 Success

21

Graduates

100%

Graduated On-Time

3.4

Graduated GPA

67% of graduates were with ERIE21 for their entire Le Moyne career

100% placement in New York State

Financial Support Provided

- **Direct financial assistance:** \$144,575
- **Student Fellowships/ Professional Development:** \$32,714
- **Student Employment:** 16 students employed across campus departments. \$36,770 in work-study support
- **Engagement/Achievement Awards:** \$50,435
- **Textbook Support:** Full coverage for Pre-Orientation students - \$18,225

ERIE21 at LeMoyne College





8

20

Learners Enrolled

90%

Retention Rate

75%

Graduation Rate

The AP industry certificate program launched in October 2024 with 20 working learners. This intensive program provided not only technical training but comprehensive wraparound support services to ensure student success. Learners received \$200 stipends for maintaining 80% attendance and completing monthly coursework, with \$13,000 distributed throughout the program.

Adult Program

Program Outcomes

- Three learners secured tech-related positions during or within one week of program completion
- Two learners are utilizing program knowledge to enhance their online businesses
- Twelve learners expressed interest in pursuing CompTIA A+ Certification

Innovative Partnerships

Indeed Job Search Academy

ERIE21 and Le Moyne College Career Advising & Development entered an MOU with Indeed to provide learners with comprehensive job search skills training, including resume and cover letter development.

ERIE Pro

Established during our second LMC Certificate cohort in 2023, we have expanded ERIE Pro from 4 sessions on professional representation (resume, LinkedIn, and Digital Portfolio) to 26 sessions focused on the power skills our learners and employer partners have noted are needed in the workplace. The content includes financial awareness; self-awareness (with a focus on Gallup StrengthsFinder, self-care and burnout, and confidence); working in a global workplace; and improving communication. These sessions are taught by ERIE21 and Le Moyne College staff as well as employer partners.

Employer Engagement Initiative

In collaboration with CenterState CEO, the team met with 16 employers to create an IT Support Specialist Candidate Profile. This Work Train Model tool informs admissions, curriculum, and helps learners develop targeted resumes and portfolios aligned with employer needs.

Partnership Highlights



Partnerships fuel ERIE21's ability to serve our community.

This year saw the deepening of long-standing relationships and the emergence of transformative new collaborations.

Onondaga County's \$250,000 investment enabled expansion into rural communities, successfully engaging over 200 middle school students from Onondaga Central and LaFayette Central School Districts in both school-year and summer programming.

Micron Foundation funding supported Le Moyne College's inaugural Chip Camp, where middle school students explored semiconductor manufacturing through hands-on STEM activities. Micron has contributed \$45,000 total to ERIE21.

The Equitable Foundation continued its hands-on support, awarding four seniors Equitable Excellence scholarships totaling \$80,000 (\$20,000 per student over four years) and committing to a new three-year partnership totaling \$90,000.

KeyBank's first-time partnership enabled expansion of Tech Saturday programming and launched our College Program Pre-Orientation for incoming first-year students from underrepresented backgrounds.

M&T Bank provided \$60,000 for 2025-2026 (a \$10,000 increase in their fifth consecutive year of support), enabling expanded Campus-to-Community internships. During 2024-25, 21 students received M&T Bank Fellowship awards totaling \$26,500.

The MOST partnership expanded beyond the KeyBank Future Innovators Program to include a "Tech Careers at Museums" panel and ERIE21's engagement in the April 2024 Solar Eclipse Festival.

CenterstateCEO has supported Adult Programs since its 2021 inception, helping secure over \$44,000 in grants from ESD, the Reisman Foundation, JP Morgan Chase Advancing Cities, and ARPA while providing ongoing strategic partnership.

Onondaga County Public Libraries (OCPL) and ERIE21 Adult Programs have built a flourishing partnership centered on community uplift and accessible education. ERIE21 hosts certificate programs at the Central Library and piloted the ERIE Pro series at Soule Branch Library. OCPL staff actively support learners through presentations, mock interview participation, and end-of-program celebrations. The partnership has come full circle: one ERIE21 alumnus now works at OCPL Central Library.

Financial Picture

10

Since 2018, ERIE21 has grown from a pilot program into a robust community institution thanks to core support from Empire State Development (ESD) and the New York State Department of Labor. The \$7.2 million investment from ESD enabled us to serve hundreds of students since summer 2022. As we approach the final year of this funding cycle in 2025-26, we have strategically diversified our funding base through public and private partnerships.

Direct Financial Assistance to Students FY25

\$80,000+

Youth Program
Scholarships & Support

\$75,914

College Program
Fellowships/Development &
Employment

\$13,000

Adult Program
Stipends & Support

Additional Grants & Contracts FY25

Beyond our core ESD funding, ERIE21 secured **\$646,947 in additional grants and contracts to expand and improve programming.**

Major Funders

- Onondaga County - \$250,000
- M&T Bank - \$60,000
- Micron Foundation - \$35,000
- The Equitable Foundation - \$30,000
- NYSTEC - \$25,000
- Syracuse City School District - \$3,500
- Syracuse Crunch - \$2,000
- Giving Day Private Donors - \$1,650
- KeyBank, CenterState CEO, Reisman Foundation

Strategic Investments

- Rural district expansion
- Chip Camp programming
- Pre-Orientation programming
- Work-based learning initiatives
- Student employment opportunities
- Emergency support services
- Career development resources
- Scholarship support

Looking forward to 2025-2026

11

As we celebrate the successes of 2024-2025, we look ahead with optimism and strategic focus to continue and expand ERIE21's transformative impact.

Funding Extension Secured

New York State has approved a no-cost extension of our Empire State Development contract through August 31, 2026. This extension, made possible through strategic partnerships and careful fiscal stewardship, provides a crucial runway as we build sustainable long-term funding models.

Strengthened Partnerships

The Equitable Foundation has committed to a new three-year partnership totaling \$90,000, demonstrating continued confidence in ERIE21's mission and impact. This multi-year commitment enables sustained support for our high school students.

Strong Fall 2025 Enrollment

Our College Program launched Fall 2025 with 98 students enrolled, maintaining strong participation levels. With 54% BIPOC representation and 21% Computer Science majors, we continue to serve diverse students pursuing technology careers.

Expanding Adult Education

Round 2 of our Google IT Support Professional Certificate program launched in September 2025 with 13 new learners. Additionally, 9 alumni are pursuing CompTIA A+ Certification, demonstrating sustained engagement beyond program completion.

Program Evolution

ERIE21 has evolved from a Lock-based pathway system to streamlined Youth Programs, College Program, and Adult Program designations. This simplified structure better communicates our comprehensive youth-to-career approach while maintaining the program rigor and support that have made ERIE21 successful.

Sustainability Focus

With strong outcomes, deep community partnerships, and alignment with regional economic transformation, ERIE21 is actively pursuing sustainable funding pathways including:

Workforce Consortium Partnerships

Corporate Sponsorships

State & Federal Grants

The Moment is NOW

With Micron's \$100 billion investment transforming our region and technology sectors expanding across Central New York, ERIE21 stands ready to ensure equitable access to the opportunities ahead.

Our track record of 100% graduation rates, strong job placement, and deep community trust positions us as essential infrastructure for regional prosperity.

Meet Our Team

12



AMANDA DELANEY, M.A.
SENIOR DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY &
SOCIAL IMPACT PROGRAMS.



AMBER PRESTON
YOUTH PROGRAM MANAGER

SALLY SAYLES-HANNON, PH.D.
COLLEGE PROGRAM MANAGER



NAJWA WEBSTER
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
MANAGER, ADULT PROGRAM

JEANNINE BAKER
GRANTS & OPERATIONS
MANAGER



NAUJ BRADY
YOUTH PROGRAM ADMIN

GANGA KHARKA
YOUTH PROGRAM SPECIALIST



MAT AVERY
STUDENT SUCCESS ADMIN

KATE ALTANY
STUDENT SUCCESS SPECIALIST



MARY ELLEN MANGINO
WORKFORCE SUCCESS ADMIN

LISA MELARA
CAREER & WORKFORCE
STRATEGIC ADVISOR





Contact Us



315-445-4500



ERIE21@lemoyne.edu



www.lemoyne.edu/ERIE21

Thank you to our students, partners, and supporters for making 2024-2025 a year of tremendous growth and impact.

Together, we are building pathways to prosperity and transforming our community.