

CSEA has 3-year pact with state

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ALBANY — Members of the Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA) have overwhelmingly ratified a new three-year contract with New York State, union officials announced yesterday.

The union represents 108,000 employees at state facilities, including South Beach Psychiatric Center, Ocean Breeze, Staten Island Developmental Center and the Institute for Basic Research, both in Willowbrook.

The new contract provides for a 9 percent salary increase for employees, effective yesterday. The state won the right, however, to withhold one paycheck for each employee during the first contract year.

The pay withheld would be payable, at the higher rate of salary, when the employee leaves state service.

The workers will get 10 percent increases in both the second and third years of the contract.

CSEA President William L. McGowan said more than 90 percent of those voting approved the contract. He said that it represents "some real gains for these state employees who had to struggle through too many lean years of no raises or token raises while inflation took its toll."