

Higher Education

Coordinator - Dan Dilworth
Office of Fiscal Analysis

	Page #	Analyst	Actual FY 24	Actual FY 25	Governor Estimated FY 26	Original Appropriation FY 27	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee Recommended FY 27	Difference -Gov FY 27
General Fund									
Office of Higher Education	162	DD	13,723,774	34,533,913	33,573,891	55,111,046	54,588,830	55,211,046	622,216
University of Connecticut	165	DD	256,315,868	243,848,755	268,185,002	253,493,874	253,269,874	264,093,874	10,824,000
University of Connecticut Health Center	167	DD	146,388,592	133,449,550	143,304,890	139,103,259	138,470,259	139,103,259	633,000
Connecticut State Colleges and Universities	169	DD	476,928,547	474,903,679	478,957,063	502,237,692	498,386,672	506,146,672	7,760,000
Total - General Fund			893,356,781	886,735,897	924,020,846	949,945,871	944,715,635	964,554,851	19,839,216
Banking Fund									
Office of Higher Education	162	DD	-	-	-	-	532,300	-	(532,300)
Cannabis Regulatory Fund									
University of Connecticut Health Center	167	DD	178,385	178,385	178,385	178,385	178,385	178,385	-
Total - Appropriated Funds			893,535,166	886,914,282	924,199,231	950,124,256	945,426,320	964,733,236	19,306,916

Office of Higher Education DHE66500

Permanent Full-Time Positions

Fund	Actual FY 24	Actual FY 25	Governor Estimated FY 26	Original Appropriation FY 27	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference -Gov FY 27
General Fund	27	28	28	28	28	28	-
Banking Fund	-	-	-	-	3	-	(3)

Budget Summary

Account	Actual FY 24	Actual FY 25	Governor Estimated FY 26	Original Appropriation FY 27	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference -Gov FY 27
Personal Services	1,626,550	1,624,580	1,755,031	1,855,031	1,855,031	1,855,031	-
Other Expenses	1,227,589	715,697	2,205,103	3,142,258	731,175	731,175	-
Other Current Expenses							
Minority Advancement Program	1,690,528	1,269,221	1,674,835	1,674,835	1,674,835	1,674,835	-
National Service Act	454,740	278,799	320,151	320,151	320,151	320,151	-
Minority Teacher Incentive Program	446,669	408,737	570,134	570,134	570,134	570,134	-
CT Loan Reimbursement	-	1,583,045	500,000	6,000,000	6,000,000	6,000,000	-
Kirklyn M. Kerr Program	-	-	-	-	-	150,000	150,000
Other Than Payments to Local Governments							
Roberta B. Willis Scholarship Fund	8,017,698	28,393,834	26,288,637	41,288,637	41,288,637	41,288,637	-
Various Grants	-	-	-	-	1,888,867	2,361,083	472,216
Health Care Adjunct Grant Program	260,000	260,000	260,000	260,000	260,000	260,000	-
Agency Total - General Fund	13,723,774	34,533,913	33,573,891	55,111,046	54,588,830	55,211,046	622,216
Personal Services	-	-	-	-	279,800	-	(279,800)
Other Expenses	-	-	-	-	30,000	-	(30,000)
Fringe Benefits	-	-	-	-	222,500	-	(222,500)
Agency Total - Banking Fund	-	-	-	-	532,300	-	(532,300)
Total - Appropriated Funds	13,723,774	34,533,913	33,573,891	55,111,046	55,121,130	55,211,046	89,916

Account	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference from Governor
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Policy Revisions

Maintain Office of the Student Loan Ombudsperson within DOB

Personal Services	279,800	-	(279,800)
Other Expenses	30,000	-	(30,000)
Fringe Benefits	222,500	-	(222,500)
Total - Banking Fund	532,300	-	(532,300)
Positions - Banking Fund	3	-	(3)

Background

PA 15-162 established the Student Loan Ombudsperson within the Department of Banking (DOB) to analyze laws and policies at the federal, state, and local level that impact student loan borrowers and to make recommendations. The Ombudsperson also assists borrowers with complaints and other borrowing-related issues.

Account	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference from Governor
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Governor

Transfer funding of \$532,300 and three positions in FY 27 from DOB to the Office of Higher Education for the Office of the Student Loan Ombudsperson. Funding and positions remain within the Banking Fund.

Committee

Do not transfer funding of \$532,300 and three positions in FY 27 from DOB to the Office of Higher Education. Maintain the Office of the Student Loan Ombudsperson within the Department of Banking.

Transfer Legislative Grants to a Separate Account

Other Expenses	(2,361,083)	(2,361,083)	-
Various Grants	2,361,083	2,361,083	-
Total - General Fund	-	-	-

Governor

Transfer funding of \$2,361,083 from the Other Expenses account to the Various Grants account in FY 27.

Committee

Same as Governor

Maintain Legislative Grants

Various Grants	(472,216)	-	472,216
Total - General Fund	(472,216)	-	472,216

Governor

Reduce the Various Grants account by \$472,216 in FY 27 to reflect a reduction to legislative grants.

Committee

Maintain funding for legislative grants.

Provide Funding for the Kirklyn M. Kerr Program

Kirklyn M. Kerr Program	-	150,000	150,000
Total - General Fund	-	150,000	150,000

Background

The Kirklyn M. Kerr Program provides funding for Connecticut students annually to attend a veterinary medicine program at a public university outside of Connecticut at the in-state tuition rate at that university. The funding covers the difference between out-of-state and in-state tuition at the program. There is no veterinary medicine program in Connecticut.

Committee

Provide funding of \$150,000 in FY 27 for the Kirklyn M. Kerr Program.

Transfer Funding for Open Educational Resources Council

Other Expenses	(50,000)	(50,000)	-
Total - General Fund	(50,000)	(50,000)	-

Background

PA 19-117 established the Open Educational Resources Coordinating Council. The statewide body includes representatives from Connecticut's public and private institutions of higher education. The council's goal is to promote and support the adoption of Open Educational Resources (OER) which are free online and openly licensed instructional materials. The council focuses on "high impact" course areas that see the largest enrollments and also involve the highest textbook costs. PA 25-168, the FY 26 and FY 27 Budget, provided funding of \$50,000 in both FY 26 and FY 27 for this initiative.

Governor

Transfer funding of \$50,000 in FY 27 for the Open Educational Resources Coordinating Council to the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities.

Committee

Same as Governor

Totals

Budget Components	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference from Governor
Original Appropriation - GF	55,111,046	55,111,046	-
Policy Revisions	(522,216)	100,000	622,216
Total Recommended - GF	54,588,830	55,211,046	622,216
Original Appropriation - BF	-	-	-
Policy Revisions	532,300	-	(532,300)
Total Recommended - BF	532,300	-	(532,300)

Positions	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference from Governor
Original Appropriation - GF	28	28	-
Total Recommended - GF	28	28	-
Original Appropriation - BF	-	-	-
Policy Revisions	3	-	(3)
Total Recommended - BF	3	-	(3)

University of Connecticut

UOC67000

Permanent Full-Time Positions

Fund	Actual FY 24	Actual FY 25	Governor Estimated FY 26	Original Appropriation FY 27	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference -Gov FY 27
General Fund	2,413	2,413	2,413	2,413	2,413	2,413	-

Budget Summary

Account	Actual FY 24	Actual FY 25	Governor Estimated FY 26	Original Appropriation FY 27	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference -Gov FY 27
Other Current Expenses							
Operating Expenses	253,505,868	241,188,755	265,235,002	250,543,874	249,423,874	249,423,874	-
Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	-
Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy	700,000	550,000	550,000	550,000	550,000	550,000	-
UConn Veterans Program	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	-
Health Services - Regional Campuses	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	-
Puerto Rican Studies Initiative	210,000	210,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	-
Completion Grants	-	-	-	-	-	6,600,000	6,600,000
Student Success Software	-	-	-	-	-	4,000,000	4,000,000
Other Than Payments to Local Governments							
Various Grants	-	-	-	-	896,000	1,120,000	224,000
Agency Total - General Fund	256,315,868	243,848,755	268,185,002	253,493,874	253,269,874	264,093,874	10,824,000

Account	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference from Governor
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Policy Revisions

Provide Funding for Financial Aid for Completion Grants

Completion Grants	-	6,600,000	6,600,000
Total - General Fund	-	6,600,000	6,600,000

Background

UConn provides Completion Grants to students who have outstanding fee bills. These are need-based grants typically provided to students who have exhausted other forms of financial aid.

Committee

Provide funding of \$6.6 million in FY 27 for Completion Grants.

Provide Funding for Student Success Software

Student Success Software	-	4,000,000	4,000,000
Total - General Fund	-	4,000,000	4,000,000

Background

Student success software is intended to identify students who are struggling and to connect them with services, and to assist in curriculum planning.

Committee

Provide funding of \$4 million in FY 27 for student success software.

Account	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference from Governor
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Transfer Legislative Grants to a Separate Account

Operating Expenses	(1,120,000)	(1,120,000)	-
Various Grants	1,120,000	1,120,000	-
Total - General Fund	-	-	-

Governor

Transfer funding of \$1,120,000 from the Operating Expenses account to the Various Grants account in FY 27.

Committee

Same as Governor

Maintain Legislative Grants

Various Grants	(224,000)	-	224,000
Total - General Fund	(224,000)	-	224,000

Governor

Reduce the Various Grants account by \$224,000 in FY 27 to reflect a reduction to legislative grants.

Committee

Maintain funding for legislative grants.

Totals

Budget Components	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference from Governor
Original Appropriation - GF	253,493,874	253,493,874	-
Policy Revisions	(224,000)	10,600,000	10,824,000
Total Recommended - GF	253,269,874	264,093,874	10,824,000

Positions	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference from Governor
Original Appropriation - GF	2,413	2,413	-
Total Recommended - GF	2,413	2,413	-

University of Connecticut Health Center

UHC72000

Permanent Full-Time Positions

Fund	Actual FY 24	Actual FY 25	Governor Estimated FY 26	Original Appropriation FY 27	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference -Gov FY 27
General Fund	1,698	1,698	1,698	1,698	1,698	1,698	-
Cannabis Regulatory Fund	2	2	2	2	2	2	-

Budget Summary

Account	Actual FY 24	Actual FY 25	Governor Estimated FY 26	Original Appropriation FY 27	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference -Gov FY 27
Other Current Expenses							
Operating Expenses	145,965,137	133,019,815	142,875,155	136,673,524	135,508,524	135,508,524	-
AHEC	423,455	429,735	429,735	429,735	429,735	429,735	-
Neuromodulation Treatment	-	-	-	2,000,000	1,600,000	2,000,000	400,000
Other Than Payments to Local Governments							
Various Grants	-	-	-	-	932,000	1,165,000	233,000
Agency Total - General Fund	146,388,592	133,449,550	143,304,890	139,103,259	138,470,259	139,103,259	633,000
Operating Expenses	178,385	178,385	178,385	178,385	178,385	178,385	-
Agency Total - Cannabis Regulatory Fund	178,385	178,385	178,385	178,385	178,385	178,385	-
Total - Appropriated Funds	146,566,977	133,627,935	143,483,275	139,281,644	138,648,644	139,281,644	633,000

Account	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference from Governor
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Policy Revisions

Transfer Legislative Grants to a Separate Account

Operating Expenses	(1,165,000)	(1,165,000)	-
Various Grants	1,165,000	1,165,000	-
Total - General Fund	-	-	-

Governor

Transfer funding of \$1,165,000 from the Operating Expenses account to the Various Grants account in FY 27.

Committee

Same as Governor

Maintain Legislative Grants

Neuromodulation Treatment	(400,000)	-	400,000
Various Grants	(233,000)	-	233,000
Total - General Fund	(633,000)	-	633,000

Governor

Reduce the Neuromodulation Treatment account by \$400,000 and the Various Grants account by \$233,000 (for a total of \$633,000) in FY 27 to reflect a reduction to legislative grants.

Committee

Maintain funding for legislative grants.

Totals

Budget Components	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference from Governor
Original Appropriation - GF	139,103,259	139,103,259	-
Policy Revisions	(633,000)	-	633,000
Total Recommended - GF	138,470,259	139,103,259	633,000
Original Appropriation - CRF	178,385	178,385	-
Total Recommended - CRF	178,385	178,385	-

Positions	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference from Governor
Original Appropriation - GF	1,698	1,698	-
Total Recommended - GF	1,698	1,698	-
Original Appropriation - CRF	2	2	-
Total Recommended - CRF	2	2	-

Connecticut State Colleges and Universities

BOR77700

Permanent Full-Time Positions

Fund	Actual FY 24	Actual FY 25	Governor Estimated FY 26	Original Appropriation FY 27	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference -Gov FY 27
General Fund	4,633	4,633	4,633	4,633	4,633	4,633	-

Budget Summary

Account	Actual FY 24	Actual FY 25	Governor Estimated FY 26	Original Appropriation FY 27	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference -Gov FY 27
Other Current Expenses							
Charter Oak State College	4,811,223	3,808,912	3,934,487	4,041,029	3,541,029	3,541,029	-
Community Tech College System	228,544,234	231,148,728	234,717,627	241,998,796	241,998,796	241,998,796	-
Connecticut State University	209,322,044	197,450,460	193,717,659	201,697,946	200,156,926	200,156,926	-
Board of Regents	560,084	594,722	503,881	519,512	519,512	1,619,512	1,100,000
Developmental Services	10,042,069	10,190,984	10,190,984	10,190,984	10,190,984	10,190,984	-
Outcomes-Based Funding Incentive	1,354,341	1,374,425	1,374,425	1,374,425	1,374,425	1,374,425	-
O'Neill Chair	315,000	315,000	315,000	315,000	315,000	315,000	-
Debt Free Community College	21,979,552	30,020,448	34,150,000	34,150,000	34,150,000	36,450,000	2,300,000
Expanded PACT	-	-	-	7,700,000	3,850,000	7,700,000	3,850,000
Disabilities Study	-	-	-	250,000	250,000	250,000	-
Various Initiatives	-	-	53,000	-	-	-	-
Other Than Payments to Local Governments							
Various Grants	-	-	-	-	2,040,000	2,550,000	510,000
Agency Total - General Fund	476,928,547	474,903,679	478,957,063	502,237,692	498,386,672	506,146,672	7,760,000

Account	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference from Governor
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Policy Revisions

Provide Funding for Mary Ann Handley Award

Debt Free Community College	-	2,300,000	2,300,000
Total - General Fund	-	2,300,000	2,300,000

Background

The Mary Ann Handley Award (i.e., Debt Free Community College) provides grants to eligible community college students equal to the greater of: (1) the difference between tuition and fees at CT State and any federal, state, private, and institutional scholarships received by such students; and (2) a minimum grant (\$500 for a full-time student or \$300 for a part-time student).

Committee

Provide funding of \$2.3 million in FY 27 for the Mary Ann Handley Award to meet increased demand for the program.

Provide Funding for U-Pass

Board of Regents	-	1,100,000	1,100,000
Total - General Fund	-	1,100,000	1,100,000

Background

U-Pass provides students at participating colleges and universities unlimited bus rides within the state. The cost to students is included in their annual student fees.

Account	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference from Governor
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Committee

Provide funding of \$1.1 million in FY 27 to offset an anticipated U-Pass fee increase of \$10 per semester that may be implemented by the state Department of Transportation as a result of adjustments to funding levels for its Bus Operations account. This funding will maintain the current cost of U-Pass for CSCU students.

Transfer Legislative Grants to a Separate Account

Charter Oak State College	(500,000)	(500,000)	-
Connecticut State University	(2,000,000)	(2,000,000)	-
Various Grants	2,500,000	2,500,000	-
Total - General Fund	-	-	-

Governor

Transfer funding of \$2.5 million from the Connecticut State University and Charter Oak State College accounts to the Various Grants account in FY 27.

Committee

Same as Governor

Maintain Legislative Grants

Various Grants	(510,000)	-	510,000
Total - General Fund	(510,000)	-	510,000

Governor

Reduce the Various Grants account by \$510,000 in FY 27 to reflect a reduction to legislative grants.

Committee

Maintain funding for legislative grants.

Provide Funding for Food Service Contracts at the State Universities

Connecticut State University	458,980	458,980	-
Total - General Fund	458,980	458,980	-

Background

New contracts for food service employees were recently negotiated at Central, Southern, and Western Connecticut State Universities.

Governor

Provide funding of \$458,980 in FY 27 for food service contracts at three of the state universities. This funding precludes increases in student fees to cover contract costs.

Committee

Same as Governor

Transfer Funding for Open Educational Resources Council

Various Grants	50,000	50,000	-
Total - General Fund	50,000	50,000	-

Background

PA 19-117 established the Open Educational Resources Coordinating Council. The statewide body includes representatives from Connecticut's public and private institutions of higher education. The council's goal is to promote and support the adoption of Open Educational Resources (OER) which are free online and openly licensed instructional materials. The council focuses on "high impact" course areas that see the largest enrollments and also involve the highest textbook costs. PA 25-168, the FY 26 and FY 27 Budget, provided funding of \$50,000 in both FY 26 and FY 27 for this initiative within the Office of Higher Education.

Governor

Transfer funding of \$50,000 in FY 27 from the Office of Higher Education to the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities for the Open Educational Resources Coordinating Council.

Committee

Same as Governor.

Account	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference from Governor
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Current Services

Maintain Funding for Finish Line Scholars Program

Expanded PACT	(3,850,000)	-	3,850,000
Total - General Fund	(3,850,000)	-	3,850,000

Background

Section 69 of PA 25-168, the FY 26 and FY 27 Budget, creates the Finish Line Scholars program beginning in FY 27. This extends the debt free community college program (previously known as PACT and recently renamed the Mary Ann Handley Award) through a bachelor's degree at the Connecticut State Universities (CSUs) and Charter Oak State College (COSC). Students who received debt free community college at CT State for at least 60 credits and then enroll at a CSU or COSC in fall 2026 or later are eligible.

Governor

Reduce funding by \$3,850,000 in FY 27 for the Finish Line Scholars program to reflect first-year costs of the program.

Committee

Do not reduce funding of \$3,850,000 in FY 27 for the Finish Line Scholars program. Additionally: (1) limit program eligibility to those who earned an Associates' degree at CT State; (2) eliminate a statutory requirement for the Finish Line Scholars grant to be provided within available appropriations; (3) require the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities to report on program usage on January 1, 2027, July 1, 2027 and quarterly thereafter; (4) prohibit CSCU from using Finish Line Scholars funding to supplant institutional aid and require institutional aid information as part of the program reporting; and (5) rename the account to "Finish Line Scholars."

Totals

Budget Components	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference from Governor
Original Appropriation - GF	502,237,692	502,237,692	-
Policy Revisions	(1,020)	3,908,980	3,910,000
Current Services	(3,850,000)	-	3,850,000
Total Recommended - GF	498,386,672	506,146,672	7,760,000

Positions	Governor Revised FY 27	Committee FY 27	Difference from Governor
Original Appropriation - GF	4,633	4,633	-
Total Recommended - GF	4,633	4,633	-