

South Carolina Arts Commission

House Ways and Means
Economic Development Subcommittee

FY 2025-26 Budget Hearing

SOUTHCAROLINA ARTS COMMISSION*

Agency Attendees

- David Platts, Executive Director
- Milly Hough, Senior Deputy Director
- Ashley Brown, Deputy Director
- Ce Scott-Fitts, Deputy Director
- Angela Brewbaker, Finance Director

Key Officials – Board of Commissioners

Chairwoman

- Dee Crawford, North Augusta

Immediate Past President

- Henry Horowitz, Greenville

Executive Committee

- Dr. Sarah Lynn Hayes, Rock Hill
- Dacey Bell, Columbia

At Large Members

- Flavia Harton, Greenville
- Barbara Nwokike, Charleston
- Linda C. Stern, Columbia
- Bhavna Vasudeva, Columbia
- Richard Webb, M.D., Columbia

Agency Mission

The mission of the South Carolina Arts Commission is to promote equitable access to the arts and support the cultivation of creativity in South Carolina.

The South Carolina Arts Commission

- is the only state organization charged with supporting and providing leadership for the arts statewide.
- works to ensure that all S.C. citizens and visitors benefit from opportunities for rewarding arts experiences.

Major Program Areas

- **Arts Learning** – to establish the arts as an integral part of South Carolina’s educational systems and the lifelong learning process of our citizens.
- **Arts Industry** – to stimulate the development of South Carolina’s culturally diverse arts resources and organizations and promote creative partnerships to improve the quality of lives, preserve cultural heritage, and enhance economic growth.
- **Artist Development** – to encourage, nurture and support the artistic growth and the personal and economic well-being of South Carolina’s artists.

Economic Impact of the Arts

- The most recent Economic Impact of the Arts Study documents an annual \$14.1 billion impact on the state's economy by the arts-related economic cluster.
- 123,550 creative sector jobs generate \$5.7 billion in wages and salaries and an estimated annual tax revenue of \$360.2 million for the state of South Carolina.
- The creative economy in South Carolina is growing – the \$14.1 billion impact is a 45 percent increase from the 2018 study figure of \$9.7 billion.

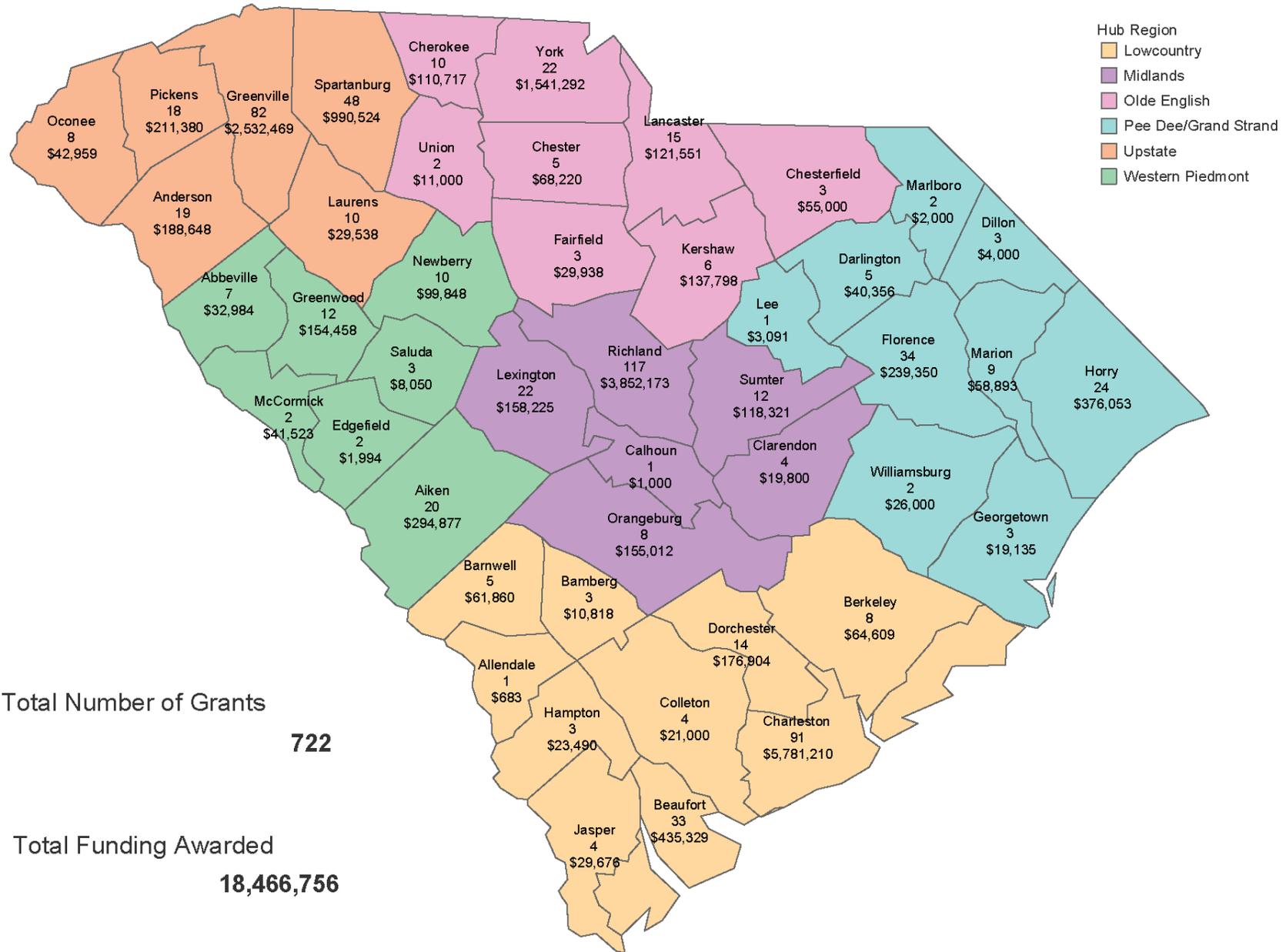
FY2024 Major Accomplishments

- SCAC placed grants in all 46 counties, awarding \$18 million through 722 grants to support community arts activities, help artists grow sustainable careers, and increase arts learning opportunities for students through school-based arts programs.
- An additional \$1 million in recurring state appropriations enabled the agency to increase FY2024 grant awards in the categories of Arts Project Support, Operating Support for Small Organizations and General Operating Support, and add categories to support festivals, libraries engagement, and artist business initiatives.

FY2024 Major Accomplishments, cont.

- Year Two of the inaugural Arts For All grant enabled 24 organizations to increase accessibility to the arts for individuals with disabilities.
- The Creative Arts Therapy partnership with MUSC expanded from 29 schools in six counties to 52 schools statewide, benefiting 689 students.
- The agency completed the final year of the Arts Grow SC \$20 million partnership with the SC Dept. of Education addressing pandemic learning loss with arts-based initiatives. Arts Grow SC will continue with existing and new partners managed through Arts Hub Regions
- Three new Cultural Districts were designated: Georgetown, Hartsville, and Aiken.

FY24 Grants Map



Recurring Budget Request

- **Arts Commission goals:**

- Increase the investment in local arts organizations and support municipalities through operating support grants, a newly established festivals grant, and cultural districts grants.
- Expand the agency's program delivery model to provide in-person services beyond Columbia through a network of regional and local partners and arts providers.

- **How we accomplish these goals:**

- Increase grant awards and allow more applicants for operating support, festival, and cultural district grants.
- Further develop six Arts Hub Regions strategically located to ensure access to Arts Commission programming and services across all of South Carolina.

Recurring Budget Request

Priority One – \$7 million request:

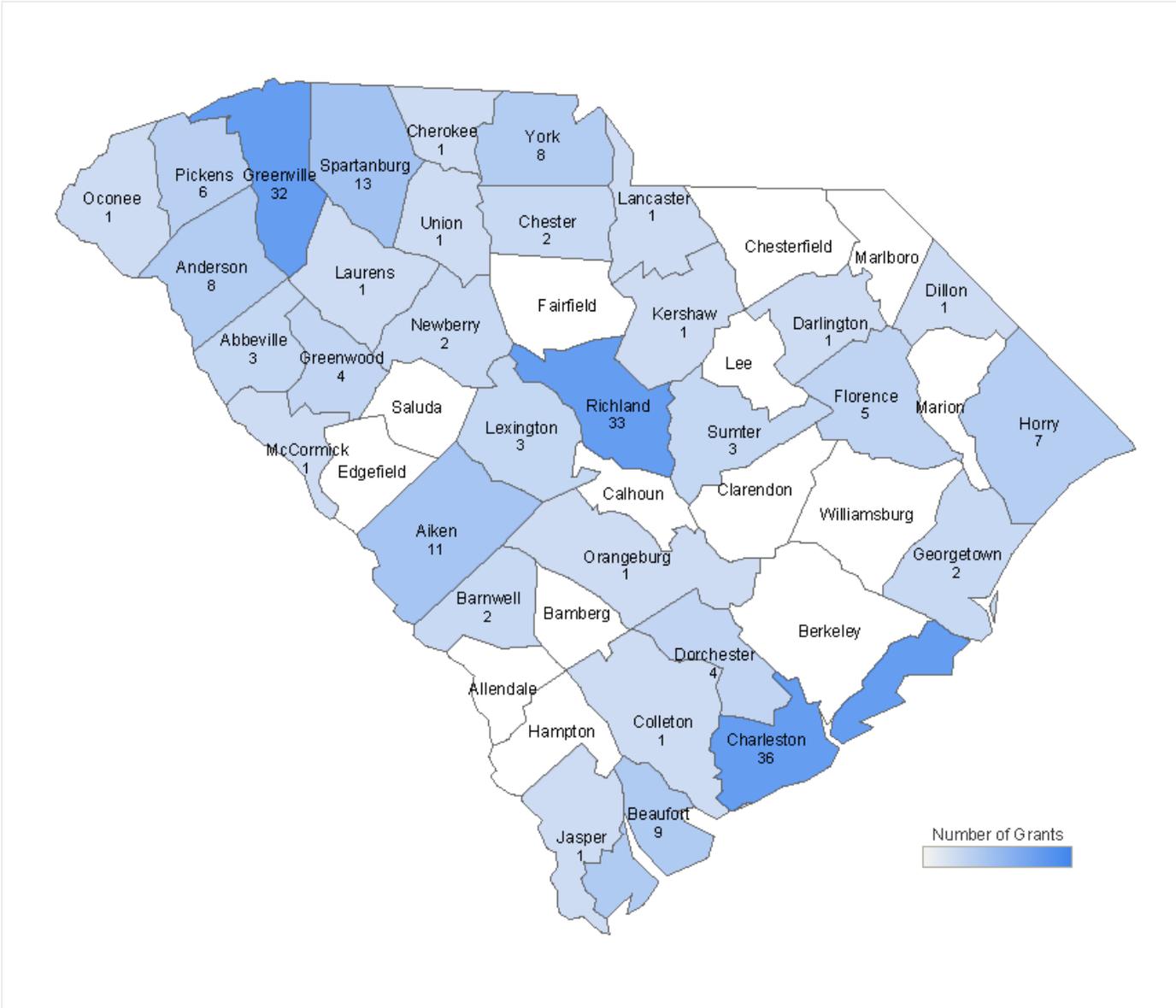
- \$3,500,000 to support operating support grants for community arts providers.
- \$3,000,000 to support newly established festivals grant and cultural district grant.
- \$500,000 to support Arts Hub Regions to ensure access to the arts for all in South Carolina.

Priority Two – Change funding source for two federally funded FTEs

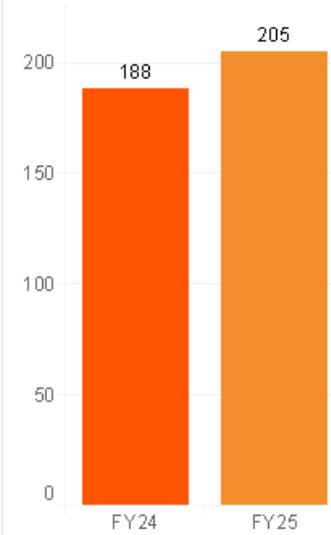
- Transfer one FTE to EIA funds and one FTE to general appropriations.

Operating Support Grants

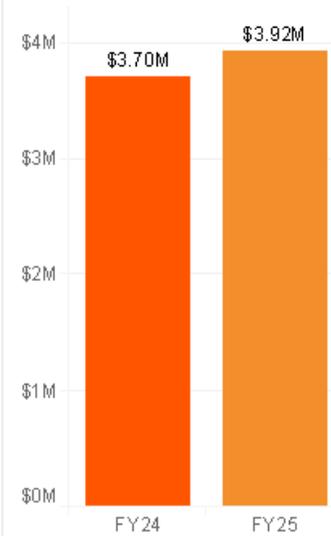
FY25 Map



FY24 and FY25 Number of Grants Comparison

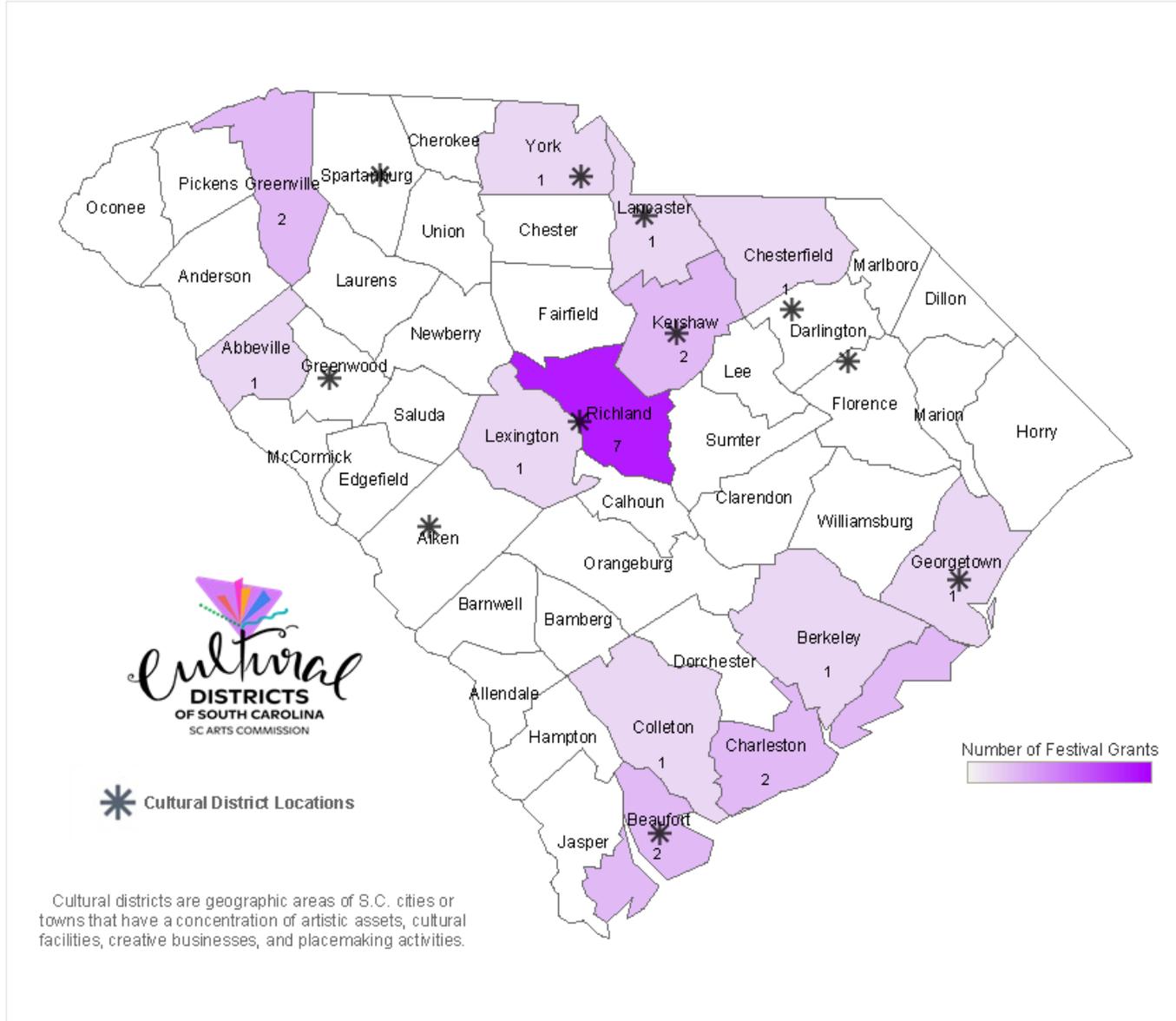


FY24 and FY25 Amount Awarded Comparison

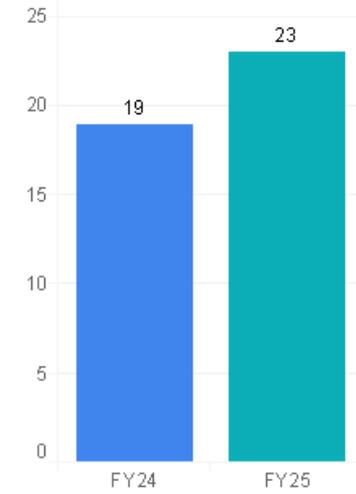


Festival Grants and Cultural District Locations

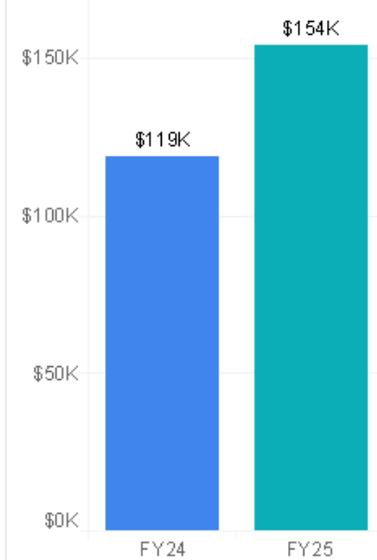
FY25 Map



FY24 and FY25 Number of Grants Comparison



FY24 and FY25 Amount Awarded Comparison



Financial Update

2023-2024		
	Appropriations	Expenses
General Funds (Recurring)	\$ 9,008,696	\$ 8,187,611
General Funds (Non-Recurring)	\$ 2,200,000	\$ 39,305
Carried forward from FY2023 (recurring)	\$ 332,147	\$ 332,147
Carried forward from FY2023 (non-recurring)	\$ 3,435,320	\$ 442,711
General Funds:	\$ 14,976,163	\$ 9,001,774
EIA Funds from Department of Education	\$ 1,170,000	\$ 228,234
EIA Carryforward from FY2023	\$ 386,644	\$ 386,644
Total EIA:	\$ 1,556,644	\$ 614,878
Federal Funds	\$ 12,124,841	\$ 9,950,066
Other Funds	\$ 148,707	\$ 60,095
Total:	\$ 28,806,355	\$ 19,626,813

2024-2025		
	Appropriations	Expenses (as of 12.05.2024)
General Funds (Recurring)	\$ 10,050,618	\$ 4,043,694
General Funds (Non-Recurring)	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 1,062,929
Carried forward from FY2024 (Recurring)	\$ 821,085	\$ -
Carried forward from FY2024 (Non-Recurring)	\$ 5,153,304	\$ 596,427
General Funds:	\$ 18,025,007	\$ 5,703,050
EIA Funds from Department of Education	\$ 1,170,000	\$ 60,549
EIA Carryforward from FY2024	\$ 941,599	\$ 447,275
Total EIA:	\$ 2,111,598.64	\$ 507,824
Federal Funds	\$ 1,335,641	\$ 519,805
Other Funds	\$ 148,707	\$ 18,114
Total:	\$ 21,620,954	\$ 6,748,792

FTE Information

As of January 15, 2025

- Authorized – 39.5
- Filled – 29
- Vacant – 10.5