



## President's Cabinet

The President's Cabinet is a non-voting group of senior-level administrators of the University that serves in an executive-level support role to the president.

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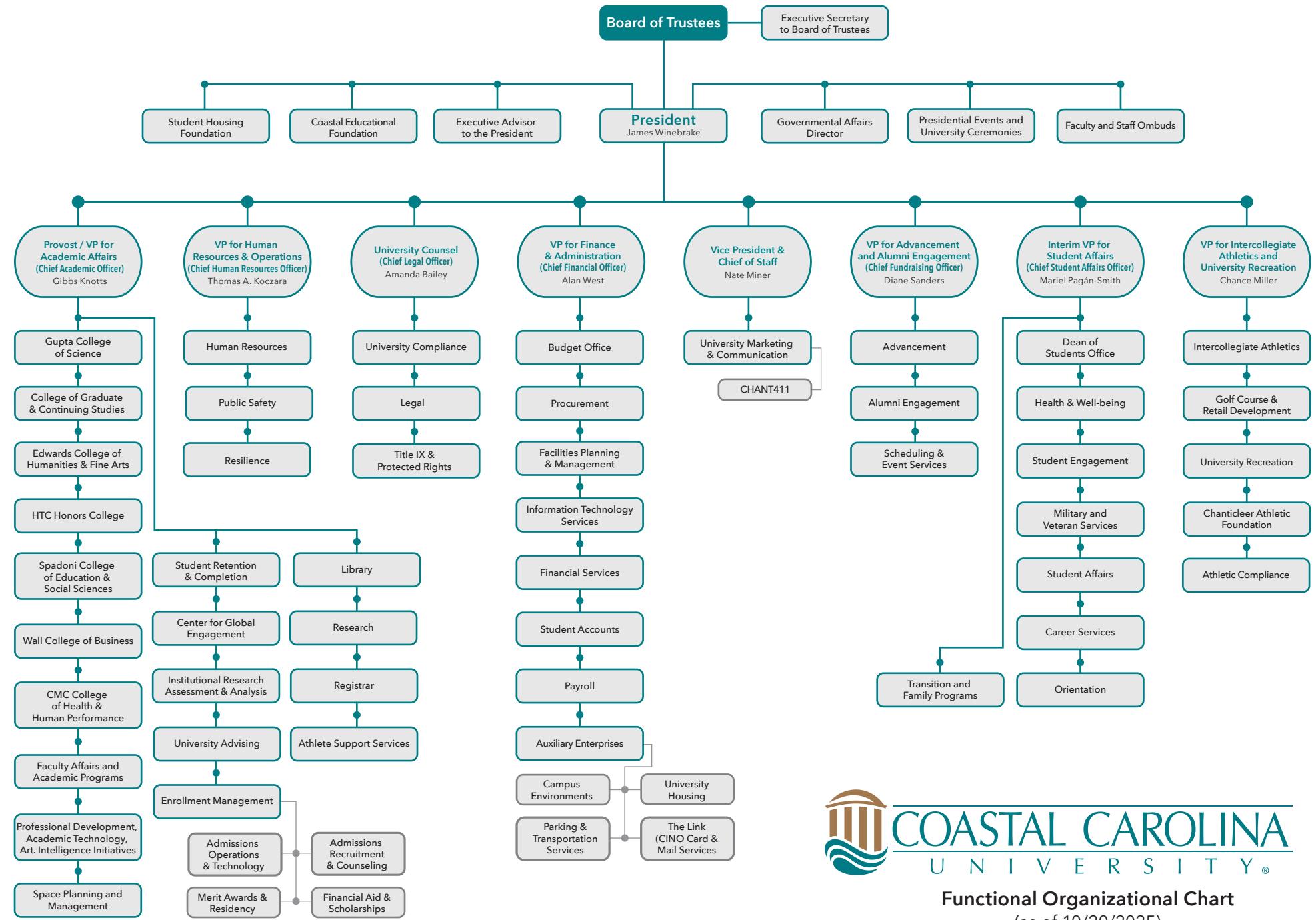
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\*Attending Higher Education Subcommittee Meeting



Functional Organizational Chart  
(as of 10/20/2025)



## FY 2026-2027 Budget Requests Summary

<b>Total Budget Requests (7)</b>	<b>\$86,570,814</b>
Total Recurring Budget Requests (4)	\$46,220,814
Total Non-Recurring Budget Requests (1)	\$ 1,350,000
Total Capital Budget Requests (2)	\$39,000,000

### **General Funds Budget Requests:**

#### ***Priority 1: Tuition Mitigation - \$3,080,814 (Recurring)***

- CCU remains committed to keeping higher education affordable and accessible for South Carolina residents.
- To help avoid in-state tuition increases while maintaining a safe, student-centered environment, the University requests an increase in recurring general fund appropriations.

#### ***Priority 2: Teal Pathways Scholarship Assistance - \$1,750,000 (Recurring)***

- A 2+2 degree-completion program designed to strengthen South Carolina's talent pipeline in high-demand fields such as healthcare, cybersecurity, and engineering.
- Will include Teal Advance, the digital arm of the initiative, offering fully online 2+2 programs tailored for technical college graduates, veterans, and working adults.
- Developed in collaboration with the state's technical colleges to create seamless transfer opportunities from a technical college to CCU for a four-year degree.

#### ***Priority 3: Teal Works Program - \$390,000 and 1.0 FTE (Recurring)***

- An internship initiative designed to connect CCU students with meaningful professional experiences in high-demand workforce areas across Horry County and South Carolina.
- CCU Teal Works will provide stipends, career development training, and employer engagement support to increase access to internships, especially in rural and underserved regions of South Carolina.

#### ***Priority 5: From Sea to Space: Underwater Autonomous Vehicle (UAV) To Support Satellite-Based Assessments of S.C.'s Coastal Resilience - \$1,350,000 (Non-Recurring)***

- Supports CCU's environmental monitoring initiative to:
  - Acquire an underwater autonomous vehicle (UAV).
  - Deploy the ChantSat-1 satellite to enhance coastal and estuarine monitoring.
- Provides real-time, high-resolution data to track water conditions and changes from storms, flooding, drought, and other natural events at spatial and temporal scales relevant for management and conservation.

## **Capital Budget Requests:**

### ***Priority 4: Waties Technology, Education, and Research (WATER) Station - \$5,000,000***

- The WATER Station strengthens CCU's collaboration with state partners on Waties Island, South Carolina, and will serve as a gateway to the island and a hub for community and regional stakeholders.
- The Station will:
  - Provide access to data on coastal resource management, flood mitigation, and emergency management.
  - Feature a state-of-the-art facility to support students, officials, and stakeholders in developing solutions for South Carolina's coastline and coastal areas.

### ***Priority 6: Lib Jackson Student Union Annex II Featuring a Career and Life Readiness Hub - \$34,000,000***

- CCU to construct a 50,000-square-foot annex to the Lib Jackson Student Union featuring a Career and Life Readiness Hub, which will include:
  - Centralized career services
  - Alumni mentorship lounge
  - Veterans Affairs suite
  - Workforce and entrepreneurship development zone
- Supports student success by linking academic preparation with career development.

## **Other Funds Budget Requests:**

### ***Priority 7: Increase in Other Funds Spending Authorization - \$41,000,000 and 49.0 FTEs***

- Enrollment has grown more than 19% since 2020 (from 10,118 to 12,006). During that same timeframe, the number of full-time faculty has increased by only 9%.
- As enrollment and student demand continue to grow, approval of this request is critical to preserve academic quality, operational efficiency, public safety, and student support.

## **Summary of FTE Requests:**

### **1 FTE for the Teal Works Program (General Funds)**

- 1 Program Coordinator

### **49 FTEs for Academic and Non-Academic Support Roles (Other Funds)**

- Nursing
- Health Sciences
- Public Safety
- Enrollment Management

## **Federal Funds Budget Requests:**

Coastal Carolina University has no Federal Funds budget requests in FY2026-2027.

## **Proviso Requests:**

Coastal Carolina University requests no changes, deletions or new provisos in FY 2026-2027.

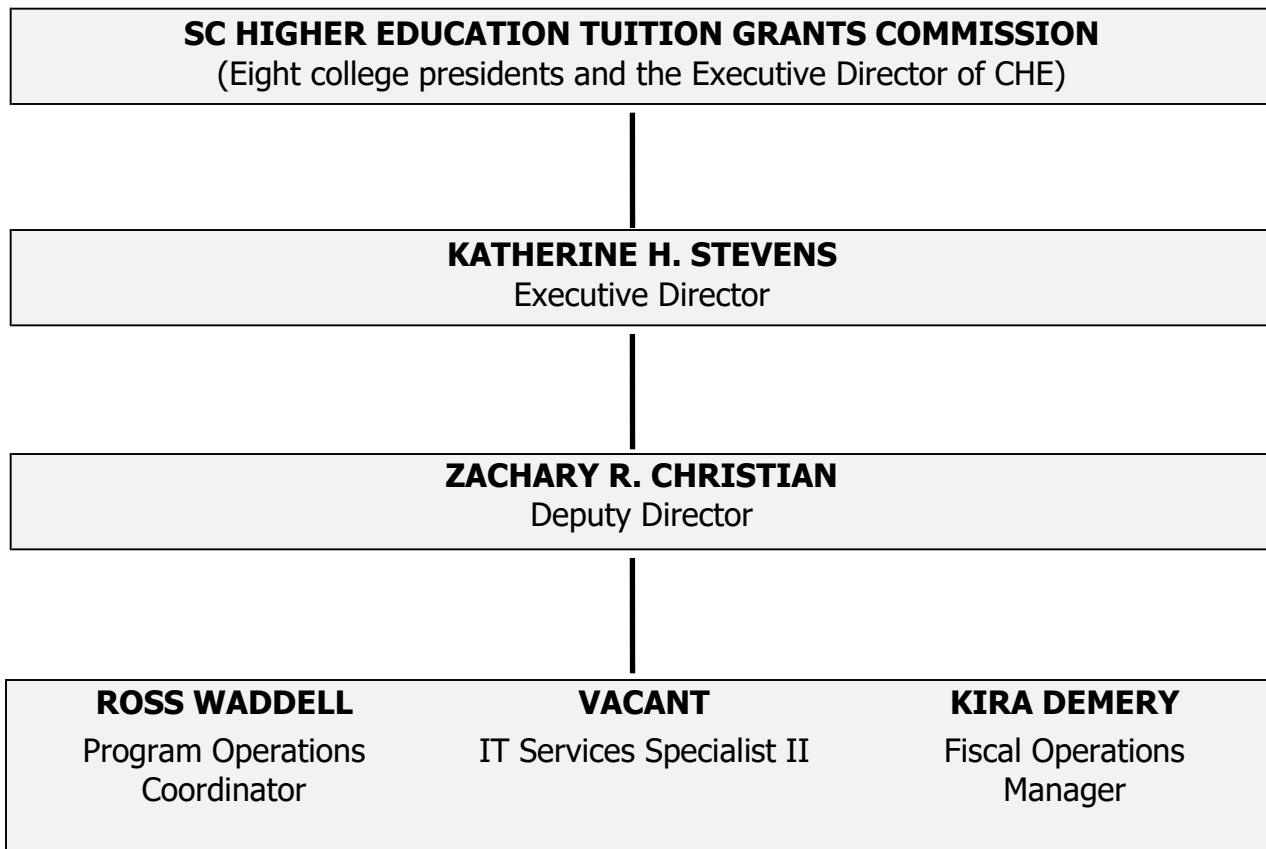


**SC Higher Education  
Tuition Grants Commission**  
*Providing Opportunity. Promoting Choice.*

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Katherine H. Stevens  
Executive Director

## **ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**



## **AGENCY STAFF DIRECTORY**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Email Address</b>	<b>Direct Phone</b>
Katherine H. Stevens	Executive Director	<a href="mailto:katie@sctuitiongrants.org">katie@sctuitiongrants.org</a>	(803) 896-1121
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Kira Demery	Fiscal Operations Manager	<a href="mailto:kira@sctuitiongrants.org">kira@sctuitiongrants.org</a>	(803) 896-1124



# SC Higher Education Tuition Grants Commission

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Katherine H. Stevens  
Executive Director

## **FY 2026-2027 Budget Requests**

### **Recurring Requests:**

#### ***Tuition Grants (Overall Priority 1) - \$10,000,000 (Not requesting additional new funds)***

- This is not a request to increase funds available for the Program over the total appropriated during the FY26 year. Rather, the agency is requesting that the General Assembly considers moving up to \$10 million for the Tuition Grants Program from Lottery appropriations to recurring General Fund appropriations in FY27 and beyond. The Tuition Grant is funded by a combination of General Fund and Lottery revenues each year. General Fund allocations provide a more stable source of funding available at the beginning of each academic year and provide the agency with the opportunity to better plan for future disbursements and eligibility under the Program.
- If appropriations are not available to sufficiently move all or part of the \$10 million from Lottery to General funds, the Commission requests the same total amount of funding as it received in FY26 (\$20 million) through Lottery allocations so students can continue receiving the maximum Tuition Grant available to them.

#### ***Realign Classified Personnel Budget (Overall Priority 2) - \$95,000***

- Agency is requesting \$95,000 in recurring general funds to support well-deserved pay raises for our dedicated staff. For the past several years, the agency has relied on carry-forward funds to cover shortages in the personnel budget, but this is not a sustainable long-term solution. Realigning our classified budget to reflect actual expenditures will establish a more accurate and stable baseline moving forward.

#### ***Classified Personnel – New Position Funding (Overall Priority 3) - \$69,069***

- The agency requests \$69,069 in new recurring operating funds to reclassify and fill a long-vacant classified FTE position that has remained unfunded since 2003. With only four full-time staff currently, the agency administers and disburses more than \$57 million annually in need-based student grants to nearly 13,000 students at 21 private colleges and universities statewide. Filling this position is essential to sustain effective program administration and support workforce development and economic mobility across South Carolina.
- The agency has received support for this personnel increase from the Education and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee of the House Government Efficiency and Legislative Oversight Committee.

#### ***Increase in Information Technology Fees (Overall Priority 4) - \$24,500***

- The SC Department of Administration has recently informed all agencies participating in enterprise-level Information Technology shared services of significant increases related to the services being provided. These include end user services, desktop support, firewall configuration and support, data recovery services, router support, and internet service.
- Admin is providing the agency with monthly credits during FY26 to cover the increased charges; however, beginning with FY27, there will no longer be credits available to offset the new charges.

### **Non-Recurring Requests:** None

### **Capital Requests:** None

### **Proviso Requests:** None

**R. Wes Hayes, Jr.**  
*Chairman*

**L. Jeffrey Perez, Ph.D.**  
*President & Executive Director*



## **Agency Leadership**

Dr. L. Jeffrey Perez  
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Ellan Jenkinson  
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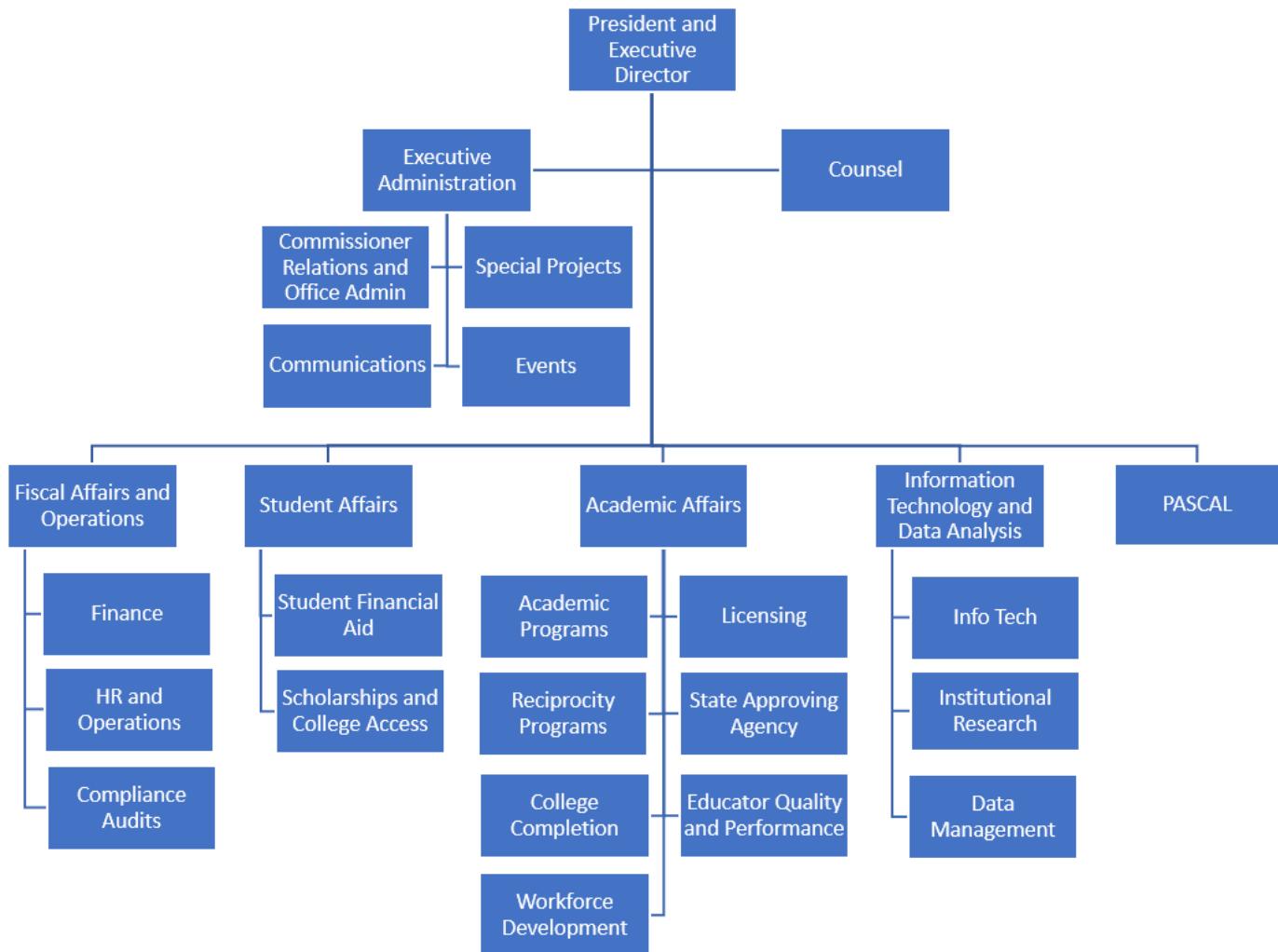
[www.che.sc.gov](http://www.che.sc.gov)



## **Board of Commissioners**

		<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Expiration of</u> <u>Term</u>	<u>Appointment</u>
Hayes, Wes	(C) 803-981-3485	7/1/2020	7/1/2024	At-large as Chair
Snyder, Doug	(C) 843-327-9808	7/1/2020	7/1/2024	At-large
Zais, Mick	(C) 803-351-4453	7/1/2021	7/2/2025	At-large
Cuddy, Brian	(C) 843-670-8200	7/1/2025	7/1/2029	At-large
Dukes, Daniel.	(C) 843-906-8712	5/8/2025	7/1/2028	1st Congressional District
Teppara, Dino	(C) 803-467-2130	7/1/2018	7/1/2022	2nd Congressional District
Masters, Mark	(C) 864-449-0490	7/1/2024	07/1/2028	3rd Congressional District
Bryson, Jenni	(C) 864-313-3163	7/1/2022	07/1/2026	4th Congressional District
Bigham, Amy	(C) 803-412-6014	7/1/2024	7/1/2028	5th Congressional District
Vacant				6th Congressional District
Dyer, Edgar	(C) 843-340-0076	7/1/2022	7/1/2026	7th Congressional District
Schulze, Charles	(C) 864-910-1064	3/19/2029	7/1/2026	Public Research Institutions Ex Officio
Smith, Oran	(C) 803-360-1194	7/1/2022	7/1/2024	Public Four-Year Institutions Ex Officio
Batson, Paul O.	(C) 864-325-4880	7/1/2016	7/1/2018	Public Technical Colleges Ex Officio
Fant, Gene	(C) 864 977-7018	7/1/2022	7/1/2024	Independent Colleges and Universities Ex Officio

## Organizational Chart



## **Budget Requests**

### **Priority 1**

**Sustain Personnel Funding (\$215,000):** Support existing personnel and the anticipated expense of providing salary increases according to state salary increase regulations and position reclassifications

### **Priority 2**

**Increase in Information Technology Fees (\$160,344):** Covers cost of increased DTO service fees

### **Priority 3**

**PASCAL core infrastructure and content funding (\$2,000,000):** Funding increase to account for increased costs and enhance stability

### **Priority 4**

**Education Scholarship Enhancement (\$60,000):** Improve the tracking, servicing, and management of these loans until they are either fully repaid or forgiven

### **Priority 5**

**Increase Federal Spending Authority for the State Approving Agency (SAA):** Spending authority revision supports a recent increase in SAA funding by the U.S Department of Veterans Affairs.

### **Priority 6**

**Increase Total Funds Authorization for the State Electronic Library:** Increase funding authorization to compensate for program growth.

### **Priority 7**

**FTE Funding Source Realignment:** Realigns funding sources following deletion of two FTE positions per FY 2025-26 Proviso 117.197.

## **Proviso Requests**

### **Amend:**

**3.5 (O) LEA: FY 2025-26 Lottery Funding: College Transition Program (CTP):** SC Department of Education has identified approximately 1,000 students each year who exit South Carolina public high schools and may qualify for a CTP. This request will increase access to CTPs by amending language to include independent SC institutions with an approved CTP to promote program growth, sustainability, and expanded access. It will also authorize the use of unexpended and/or carryforward funds for start-up funding for future CTPs (start-up funding capped at \$90,000 per program).

### **Delete:**

**3.5 (N) SCIII funding to Higher Education Excellence Enhancement Program (HEEEP):** Proviso 11.21, which provided for the creation of the SC Institutes of Innovation and Information (SCIII) and directed the CHE to serve as fiscal agent, has been deleted and SCIII is no longer in existence. Proviso 3.5 (N) for FY 2026 directed the CHE to transfer all remaining SCIII funding to the (HEEEP). This funds transfer is complete, therefore CHE requests that this proviso be deleted for the FY2026-27 budget.

**3.5 11.12 Other Funded FTE Revenue:** CHE does not need to receive information from the Executive Budget Office about institutions requesting additional other funded FTE positions. EBO supports the deletion given that CHE no longer needs the data.

Agency Name:	Commission On Higher Education		
Agency Code:	H030	Section:	11



**Fiscal Year FY 2026-2027**

**Agency Budget Plan**

**FORM A - BUDGET PLAN SUMMARY**

**OPERATING  
REQUESTS  
(FORM B1)**

**For FY 2026-2027, my agency is (mark "X"):**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requesting General Fund Appropriations.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Federal/Other Authorization.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.

**NON-RECURRING  
REQUESTS  
(FORM B2)**

**For FY 2026-2027, my agency is (mark "X"):**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Non-Recurring Appropriations.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Non-Recurring Federal/Other Authorization.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.

**CAPITAL  
REQUESTS  
(FORM C)**

**For FY 2026-2027, my agency is (mark "X"):**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting funding for Capital Projects.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.

**PROVISOS  
(FORM D)**

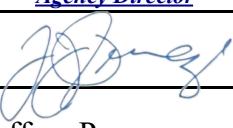
**For FY 2026-2027, my agency is (mark "X"):**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requesting a new proviso and/or substantive changes to existing provisos.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Only requesting technical proviso changes (such as date references).
<input type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any proviso changes.

Please identify your agency's preferred contacts for this year's budget process.

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
<b>PRIMARY CONTACT:</b>	Bryce Wilson	(803) 856-0555	bwilson@che.sc.gov
<b>SECONDARY CONTACT:</b>	jeff Perez	(803) 322-2918	jperez@che.sc.gov

I have reviewed and approved the enclosed FY 2026-2027 Agency Budget Plan, which is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

<i>Sign/Date:</i>	<i>Agency Director</i>	<i>Board or Commission Chair</i>
<i>Type/Print Name:</i>	 L. Jeffrey Perez	 Robert "Wes" Hayes

*This form must be signed by the agency head – not a delegate.*

Agency Name:	Commission On Higher Education										
Agency Code:	H030										
Section:	11										

BUDGET REQUESTS			FUNDING					FTES				
Priority	Request Type	Request Title	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total
1	B1 - Recurring	Sustain Personnel Funding	215,300	0	0	0	215,300	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	B1 - Recurring	Increase in Information Technology Fees	160,344	0	0	0	160,344	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	B1 - Recurring	Statewide Electronic Library Core Infrastructure & Content Funding (PASCAL)	2,000,000	0	0	0	2,000,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	B1 - Recurring	Education Scholarship Enhancement	60,000	0	0	0	60,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	B1 - Recurring	Increase Federal Spending Authority for the State Approving Agency	0	90,647	0	0	90,647	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	B1 - Recurring	Increase Total Funds Authorization for the State Electronic Library	0	0	400,000	0	400,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS			2,435,644	90,647	400,000	0	2,926,291	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Agency Name:	Commission On Higher Education
Agency Code:	H030
Section:	11

## **FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST**

<b>AGENCY PRIORITY</b>	<b>1</b>
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*Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.*

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Sustain Personnel Funding</b>
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*Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.*

<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>General: \$215,300</b> <b>Federal: \$0</b> <b>Other: \$0</b> <b>Total: \$215,300</b>
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*What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.*

<b>NEW POSITIONS</b>	<b>0.00</b>
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*Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.*

<b>FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST</b>	<b>Mark “X” for all that apply:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience <input type="checkbox"/> Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines <input type="checkbox"/> Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program <input type="checkbox"/> Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program <input type="checkbox"/> Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program <input type="checkbox"/> IT Technology/Security related <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HR/Personnel Related <input type="checkbox"/> Consulted DTO during development <input type="checkbox"/> Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #
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<b>STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>Mark “X” for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education, Training, and Human Development <input type="checkbox"/> Healthy and Safe Families <input type="checkbox"/> Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security <input type="checkbox"/> Public Infrastructure and Economic Development <input type="checkbox"/> Government and Citizens
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<b>ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS</b>	<p><b>This funding will further the mission of the SC Commission on Higher Education and the state’s Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective of Education, Training and Human Development: Improve education infrastructure to elevate the levels of educational preparedness of every South Carolinian to lead a healthy and productive life, including success in a job or career and in the community.</b></p>
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*What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency’s accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?*

<b>RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS</b>	CHE current FTEs
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*What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?*

**JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST**

Historically, CHE has not utilized opportunities to request additional funding in its Administration line for personnel through the annual EBO process. The agency has not requested funding for salary increases, or reclassification of positions for current staff.

Instead, the agency has used existing personnel funds from position vacancies to cover these routine increased costs.

CHE deeply appreciates the support from the Governor and General Assembly in the current FY26 budget to “refund” seven FTEs, the funding for which had been used elsewhere.

CHE now seeks \$215,300 in recurring personnel funding to support existing personnel and the anticipated expense of providing salary increases according to state salary increase regulations and position reclassifications as warranted by changes in the job description. In FY25, the most recent fiscal year for which we have complete data, CHE provided 16 pay increases for additional duties and responsibilities, pay for performance, and promotions. Further, the CHE anticipates this trend continuing in FY27. The request for \$215,300.00 was determined by projecting increases similar to those in FY25.

*Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.*

Agency Name:	Commission On Higher Education
Agency Code:	H030

Section: 11

## **FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST**

<b>AGENCY PRIORITY</b>	<b>2</b>																						
<i>Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.</i>																							
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Increase in Information Technology Fees</b>																						
<i>Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.</i>																							
<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>General: \$160,344</b> <b>Federal: \$0</b> <b>Other: \$0</b> <b>Total: \$160,344</b>																						
<i>What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.</i>																							
<b>NEW POSITIONS</b>	<b>0.00</b>																						
<i>Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.</i>																							
<b>FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST</b>	<p><b>Mark “X” for all that apply:</b></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15px; text-align: center; padding: 2px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 85px; padding: 2px;">Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 15px; text-align: center; padding: 2px;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 85px; padding: 2px;">Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 15px; text-align: center; padding: 2px;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 85px; padding: 2px;">Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 15px; text-align: center; padding: 2px;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 85px; padding: 2px;">Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 15px; text-align: center; padding: 2px;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 85px; padding: 2px;">Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 15px; text-align: center; padding: 2px;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 85px; padding: 2px;">Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 15px; text-align: center; padding: 2px;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 85px; padding: 2px;">Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 15px; text-align: center; padding: 2px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 85px; padding: 2px;">IT Technology/Security related</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 15px; text-align: center; padding: 2px;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 85px; padding: 2px;">HR/Personnel Related</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 15px; text-align: center; padding: 2px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 85px; padding: 2px;">Consulted DTO during development</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 15px; text-align: center; padding: 2px;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 85px; padding: 2px;">Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #</td> </tr> </table>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related	<input type="checkbox"/>	HR/Personnel Related	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development	<input type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #
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<b>STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES</b>	<p><b>Mark “X” for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:</b></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15px; text-align: center; padding: 2px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 85px; padding: 2px;">Education, Training, and Human Development</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 15px; text-align: center; padding: 2px;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 85px; padding: 2px;">Healthy and Safe Families</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 15px; text-align: center; padding: 2px;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 85px; padding: 2px;">Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 15px; text-align: center; padding: 2px;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 85px; padding: 2px;">Public Infrastructure and Economic Development</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 15px; text-align: center; padding: 2px;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 85px; padding: 2px;">Government and Citizens</td> </tr> </table>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development	<input type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens												
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<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development																						
<input type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens																						
<b>ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS</b>	<p><b>This funding will further the mission of the SC Commission on Higher Education and the state’s Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective of Education, Training and Human Development: Improve education infrastructure to elevate the levels of educational preparedness of every South Carolinian to lead a healthy and productive life, including success in a job or career and in the community.</b></p>																						
<i>What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency’s accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?</i>																							

## RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

*What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?*

The CHE is requesting an additional \$160,344 in State funding to cover the cost of increased fees to utilize services of the Department of Administration's Division of Technology Operation.

The agency's mission to "provide strategic and collaborative leadership to improve South Carolina's higher education system, expand opportunities for all citizens and advance the State's civic cultural and economic development" is achieved by the partnership with the SC Department of Administration, Division of Technology Operation (DTO). The shared services agreement with DTO, enables the Commission on Higher Education (CHE) to obtain the necessary technology resources to fulfill this mission. Technology is a critical component of all current CHE initiatives, including enhanced monitoring and assessment of academic programs and student services at public colleges and universities, as well as conducting audits of state scholarships and student aid funds administered by CHE.

Through this partnership, data security is strengthened, risks are mitigated, and technology is used in alignment with state standards. This includes support for both software and hardware provided by DTO. Without the migration of hardware and services to DTO, CHE's ability to secure its network, reduce risk, and deliver optimal service to its stakeholders is significantly limited. Network security, risk mitigation, and high-quality service delivery are core components of this technology strategy.

*Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.*

## JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

Agency Name:	Commission On Higher Education
Agency Code:	H030

Section: 11

## **FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST**

<b>AGENCY PRIORITY</b>	<b>3</b>
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*Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.*

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Statewide Electronic Library Core Infrastructure &amp; Content Funding (PASCAL)</b>
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*Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.*

<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>General: \$2,000,000</b> <b>Federal: \$0</b> <b>Other: \$0</b> <b>Total: \$2,000,000</b>
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*What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.*

<b>NEW POSITIONS</b>	<b>0.00</b>
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*Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.*

<b>FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST</b>	<b>Mark “X” for all that apply:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience <input type="checkbox"/> Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines <input type="checkbox"/> Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program <input type="checkbox"/> Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program <input type="checkbox"/> IT Technology/Security related <input type="checkbox"/> HR/Personnel Related <input type="checkbox"/> Consulted DTO during development <input type="checkbox"/> Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #
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<b>STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>Mark “X” for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education, Training, and Human Development <input type="checkbox"/> Healthy and Safe Families <input type="checkbox"/> Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security <input type="checkbox"/> Public Infrastructure and Economic Development <input type="checkbox"/> Government and Citizens
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<b>ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS</b>	<p>The Statewide Electronic Library (Also known as PASCAL) operates as a program through CHE pursuant to the Commission's statutory responsibility to "encourage development of joint programs" (SECTION 59-104-260).</p> <p>CHE serves as the fiscal agent for PASCAL through a Memorandum of Understanding that is reviewed each fiscal year.</p> <p><b>This request supports objective 2.1.1.</b></p> <p><i>What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?</i></p>
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	<p>Funds are used to support mission-critical shared library technology (shared library services -- catalog -- and remote authentication platforms) used by the state's</p>
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academic libraries to provide access to information resources, and also for databases, journals, and ebooks.

## RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

Allocations to vendors are based on existing contracts and licenses. The primary system contract is with ExLibris, (#4400036316). This is the second contract with the vendor, awarded on the basis of Solicitation #5400013582, and it is scheduled to provide essential research support to the state's students and faculty through FY2031-32.

The consortium's multiple license agreements for databases, journals, and ebooks operate on both annual and multi-year terms.

*What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?*

Since 2004, the Statewide Electronic Library has provided resources, systems, and services while generating nearly \$220 million in cost-avoidance for its 55 member libraries, serving the state's 237,973 college students.

Over the past several years, the Governor and General Assembly have generously provided \$1.5 million through lottery funding for PASCAL. CHE requests \$2 million recurring funding for FY27 to account for increased costs and provide more reliable source of funding.

## JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

Since 2018, the Exlibris Shared Library Service Platform (catalog) has been the bedrock of the service. The shared catalog provides a common interface for students' research needs ensuring consistency and support for the college and workforce journey, including transfer and dual enrollment. Through PASCAL, the service is provided with a 20% savings for the state over what individual institutions previously paid for individual unlinked systems. Core content provided via subscription through multiple publishers includes over 25,000 journals, 470,000 ebooks and an aggregated statewide collection of 10 million print items.

State funds are used to support the maintenance of these systems and services, thus guaranteeing universal student access to the basic information resources foundational to general and technical higher education.

*Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.*

Agency Name:	Commission On Higher Education
Agency Code:	H030

Section: 11

## **FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST**

<b>AGENCY PRIORITY</b>	<b>4</b>
<i>Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.</i>	
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Education Scholarship Enhancement</b>
<i>Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.</i>	
<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>General: \$60,000</b> <b>Federal: \$0</b> <b>Other: \$0</b> <b>Total: \$60,000</b>
<i>What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.</i>	
<b>NEW POSITIONS</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<i>Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.</i>	
<b>FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST</b>	<b>Mark “X” for all that apply:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience <input type="checkbox"/> Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines <input type="checkbox"/> Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program <input type="checkbox"/> Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program <input type="checkbox"/> Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program <input type="checkbox"/> IT Technology/Security related <input type="checkbox"/> HR/Personnel Related <input type="checkbox"/> Consulted DTO during development <input type="checkbox"/> Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #
<b>STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>Mark “X” for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education, Training, and Human Development <input type="checkbox"/> Healthy and Safe Families <input type="checkbox"/> Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security <input type="checkbox"/> Public Infrastructure and Economic Development <input type="checkbox"/> Government and Citizens
<b>ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS</b>	<p style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"><b>This request correlates with strategy 3.1, which is to improve affordability and accessibility of South Carolina Higher Education programs and services for students and families.</b></p>
<i>What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency’s accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?</i>	
<b>RECIPIENTS OF</b>	<b>Commission on Higher Education</b>

*What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?*

Starting Fall 2024, the General Assembly approved the Education Scholarship Enhancement, providing up to \$2,500 in additional funding to eligible Palmetto Fellows and LIFE Scholarship recipients enrolled in approved education majors.

In accordance with the statute, this enhancement is offered as a forgivable loan. To qualify for loan forgiveness, recipients must work in a South Carolina public school following graduation.

In order to effectively and efficiently administer this program, the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education will designate an established entity -such as SC Student Loan Corporation- to oversee the tracking, servicing, and management of these loans until they are either fully repaid or forgiven. Doing so would be less expensive than hiring staff to provide the services.

**JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST**

*Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.*

Agency Name:	Commission On Higher Education
Agency Code:	H030

11

## **FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST**

<b>AGENCY PRIORITY</b>	<b>5</b>
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*Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.*

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Increase Federal Spending Authority for the State Approving Agency</b>
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*Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.*

<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>General: \$0</b> <b>Federal: \$90,647</b> <b>Other: \$0</b> <b>Total: \$90,647</b>
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*What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.*

<b>NEW POSITIONS</b>	<b>0.00</b>
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*Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.*

<b>FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST</b>	<b>Mark “X” for all that apply:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines <input type="checkbox"/> Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program <input type="checkbox"/> Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program <input type="checkbox"/> Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program <input type="checkbox"/> IT Technology/Security related <input type="checkbox"/> HR/Personnel Related <input type="checkbox"/> Consulted DTO during development <input type="checkbox"/> Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #
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<b>STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>Mark “X” for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education, Training, and Human Development <input type="checkbox"/> Healthy and Safe Families <input type="checkbox"/> Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security <input type="checkbox"/> Public Infrastructure and Economic Development <input type="checkbox"/> Government and Citizens
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<b>ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Approval of this request will further the mission of the Commission on Higher Education's strategy, 3.2, to promote higher education's value to the state's economic growth and human capital development.</b></p>
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*What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?*

<b>RECIPIENTS OF</b>	<b>The Commission on Higher Education's State Approving Agency</b>
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*What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?*

Each year the State Approving Agency receives funding from the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs. The funding was increased due to an influx in workload that has consecutively increased each year.

The CHE's State Approving Agency is comprised of a staff of three people. This staff travels to institutions to ensure the use of federal funds given to these institutions for veterans is being used appropriately, as mandated by the GI® Bill.

An increase in spending authority will allow the State Approving Agency to continue carrying out the work it does to assist veterans in adding to the value of economic growth through receiving higher education credentials.

**JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST**

*Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.*

Agency Name:	Commission On Higher Education
Agency Code:	H030
Section:	11

## **FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST**

<b>AGENCY PRIORITY</b>	<b>6</b>
<i>Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.</i>	
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Increase Total Funds Authorization for the State Electronic Library</b>
<i>Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.</i>	
<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>General: \$0</b> <b>Federal: \$0</b> <b>Other: \$400,000</b> <b>Total: \$400,000</b>
<i>What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.</i>	
<b>NEW POSITIONS</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<i>Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.</i>	
<b>FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST</b>	<b>Mark “X” for all that apply:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience <input type="checkbox"/> Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines <input type="checkbox"/> Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program <input type="checkbox"/> Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative <input type="checkbox"/> Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program <input type="checkbox"/> Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program <input type="checkbox"/> IT Technology/Security related <input type="checkbox"/> HR/Personnel Related <input type="checkbox"/> Consulted DTO during development <input type="checkbox"/> Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #
<b>STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>Mark “X” for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education, Training, and Human Development <input type="checkbox"/> Healthy and Safe Families <input type="checkbox"/> Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security <input type="checkbox"/> Public Infrastructure and Economic Development <input type="checkbox"/> Government and Citizens
<b>ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS</b>	<p>The Statewide Electronic Library (Also known as PASCAL) operates through CHE pursuant to the Commission’s statutory responsibility to “encourage development of joint programs” (SECTION 59-104-260).</p> <p>CHE serves as the fiscal agent for PASCAL through a Memorandum of Understanding that is executed each fiscal year.</p> <p><b>This request supports objective 2.1.1.</b></p> <p><i>What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency’s accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?</i></p>
<p>Funds are used to support shared library technology (shared library services -- catalog -- and remote authentication platforms) used by the state’s academic libraries</p>	

## RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

to provide access to information resources; for license agreements supplying information through databases, journals, and ebooks; and for PASCAL staff support.

Current authorization for State Electronic Library program activities is \$4,786,577.

Anticipated program growth, particularly in the licensing of databases, journals, and ebooks, requires an additional \$400,000 in authorization.

*What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?*

The state's 237,973 higher education students, as well as faculty and staff, at 55 public and independent institutions of higher education benefit from the use of these funds for procurement and support of shared library technology and subscriptions to core educational resources provided via libraries in electronic formats.

In addition to these technologies and core resources which are universally available to all students at every institution, PASCAL negotiates "opt-in" agreements for member libraries with content providers in the academic marketplace. These agreements expand content available to students in various specialized disciplines. Costs are passed through from the institutions, but central payment to vendors is a major component of the savings generated.

Since 2004, the Statewide Electronic Library has provided resources, systems, and services while generating nearly \$220 million in cost-avoidance for its member libraries.

Program growth primarily in the opt-in licensing program is projected to require an additional \$400,000 in spending authorization through FY25-6.

*Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.*

## JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

Agency Name:	Commission On Higher Education
Agency Code:	H030

11

## **FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST**

<b>NUMBER</b>	11.12
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*Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list (or mark “NEW”).*

<b>TITLE</b>	Other Funded FTE Revenue
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*Provide the title from the renumbered list or suggest a short title for any new request.*

<b>BUDGET PROGRAM</b>	Administration
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*Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.*

<b>RELATED BUDGET REQUEST</b>	N/A
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*Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2026-2027? If so, cite it here.*

<b>REQUESTED ACTION</b>	Delete
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*Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.*

<b>OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED</b>	Executive Budget Office; Higher Education Institutions
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*Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?*

<b>SUMMARY &amp; EXPLANATION</b>	The CHE requests that Proviso 11.12 be deleted. The agency does not need to receive information from the Executive Budget Office about institutions requesting additional other funded FTE positions. The Executive Budget Office provided support for the deletion as long as the CHE no longer needs the data.
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*Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.*

## FISCAL IMPACT

None

*Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.*

**~~11.12. (CHE: Other Funded FTE Revenue) When institutions of higher learning request additional other funded full-time equivalent positions, the Executive Budget Office shall inform the Commission on Higher Education of its decision regarding the request and whether or not sufficient revenues exist to fund the salary and fringe benefits for the positions.~~**

## PROPOSED PROVISO TEXT

*Paste existing text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.*



Agency Name:	Commission On Higher Education
Agency Code:	H030

11

## **FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST**

<b>NUMBER</b>	3.5 (N) <i>Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list (or mark “NEW”).</i>
<b>TITLE</b>	SCIII Funding to HEEEP <i>Provide the title from the renumbered list or suggest a short title for any new request.</i>
<b>BUDGET PROGRAM</b>	Lottery Administration <i>Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.</i>
<b>RELATED BUDGET REQUEST</b>	N/A <i>Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2026-2027? If so, cite it here.</i>
<b>REQUESTED ACTION</b>	Delete <i>Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.</i>
<b>OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED</b>	N/A <i>Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?</i>
<b>SUMMARY &amp; EXPLANATION</b>	<p>In the 2025 legislative session, the General Assembly deleted Proviso 11.21, which provided for the creation of the SC Institutes of Innovation and Information (SCIII) and directed the CHE to serve as the organization's fiscal agent. With the deletion of Proviso 11.21, the SCIII is no longer in existence.</p> <p>The General Assembly also approved Proviso 3.5 (N) for FY 2026 which directed the CHE to transfer all remaining SCIII funding to the Higher Education Excellence Enhancement Program (HEEEP). The SCIII remaining funds will be redirected to HEEEP in Fall 2025, no later than December 1, 2025. Since the action required by Proviso 3.5 (N) will have been completed, the CHE requests that this proviso section be deleted for the FY2026-27 budget.</p> <p>Also, a final report on the expenditures of the SCIII program will be submitted by March 15, 2026 to the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee.</p>

*Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.*

## FISCAL IMPACT

None

*Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.*

## PROPOSED PROVISO TEXT

**(N) Any funds carried forward for the South Carolina Institutes of Innovation and Information (SCIII) shall be redirected to support the Higher Education Excellence Enhancement Program and be distributed based on the requirements of Section 2-77-20 and those contained in this act. By March fifteenth, the Commission on Higher Education shall provide a final report on the expenditures of the SCIII program to the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee.**

*Paste existing text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.*



Agency Name:	Commission On Higher Education		
Agency Code:	H030	Section:	11

## **FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST**

<b>NUMBER</b>	3.5 (O) <i>Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list (or mark “NEW”).</i>
<b>TITLE</b>	LEA: FY 2025-26 Lottery Funding - College Transition Program <i>Provide the title from the renumbered list or suggest a short title for any new request.</i>
<b>BUDGET PROGRAM</b>	Lottery Administration <i>Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.</i>
<b>RELATED BUDGET REQUEST</b>	N/A <i>Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2026-2027? If so, cite it here.</i>
<b>REQUESTED ACTION</b>	Amend <i>Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.</i>
<b>OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED</b>	See explanation below. <i>Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?</i>
<b>SUMMARY &amp; EXPLANATION</b>	<p>We request to amend language to include independent South Carolina institutions with an approved College Transition Program (CTP) and to authorize the use of unexpended and/or carryforward funds for start-up funding for future CTPs. This adjustment would promote program growth, sustainability, and expanded access for students across the state. Start-up funding would be capped at \$90,000 per program.</p> <p>Estimated Start-Up Costs (per program):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff resources (time/effort) – \$25,000</li> <li>• Campus programming (curriculum, software, fees, etc.) – \$35,000</li> <li>• Facility and accessibility modifications (e.g. classroom adaptations, residence hall adjustments, furnishings, equipment, etc.) – \$25,000</li> <li>• Communications, community outreach, etc. – \$5,000</li> </ul> <p>Reasonable Cap: \$90,000</p> <p>Accessibility: The SC Department of Education’s Office of Special Services has identified approximately 1,000 students each year who exit South Carolina public high schools and may qualify for a CTP experience. Existing CTP programs are at capacity and developing new programs in additional geographic regions will ensure more equitable access for these students.</p> <p>Affordability: The lowest residential CTP program in South Carolina currently costs</p>

\$28,000 per academic year, which exceeds the existing level of CTP funding. Start-up support would help institutions offset initial implementation costs, reducing the financial burden passed on to students and families. While these programs typically require ongoing institutional and state support, start-up funding provides a foundation to keep costs more manageable and expand access.

*Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.*

None

## FISCAL IMPACT

*Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.*

### 3.7. (LEA: FY 2025-26 Lottery Funding)

(O) Of the funds appropriated to the Commission on Higher Education for College Transition Scholarships, the commission shall provide scholarships to South Carolina resident students enrolled at a public **or independent** institution of higher education in an established College Transition Program (CTP) that serves students with intellectual disabilities. The commission, in consultation with the CTPs, shall develop guidelines establishing scholarship eligibility, retention, and/or renewal requirements in accordance with this paragraph. Scholarships shall be awarded to each South Carolina resident student enrolled in an established public **or independent** CTP in an amount of at least \$2,500 per semester, not to exceed \$15,000 per academic year (including summer semester), and no student may receive a scholarship for more than eight semesters in total. In addition, the limitations of Proviso 11.10 notwithstanding, individual CTPs shall have the discretion to allocate a portion of their aggregate funding provided pursuant to this provision for need-based grants to eligible students. This discretion is allowable only to the extent that the funding for need-based grants for eligible CTP students provided pursuant to Proviso 11.10 has first been fully exhausted. The commission, in cooperation with the CTPs, shall collect and report the number of scholarship recipients and other information determined necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of these scholarships in assisting students with intellectual disabilities in college transition programs. The commission shall provide this report to the Governor, the Chairman of the House Education and Public Works Committee, the Chairman of the Senate Education Committee, the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, and the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee no later than September 30. Unexpended funds may be carried forward and used for the same purpose, except that: **1)** up to \$250,000 may be used by the CTP consortium (known as The South Carolina Inclusive Post-Secondary Education Consortium) to be used collaboratively by the consortium to promote better awareness of CTP programs statewide as an option for youth with intellectual disabilities after high school through dedicated support for activities such as, but not necessarily limited to, student recruitment, development and maintenance of a consortium website and associated materials, and the provision of strategic informational events for prospective students and families across the State; and **2) the commission may use unexpended and/or carryforward funding to expand College Transition Programs in South Carolina by providing start-up funding, not to exceed \$90,000 per program, for the development of new CTPs on additional campuses. Such funding shall support program growth and opportunities for South Carolina residents.**

## PROPOSED PROVISO TEXT

*Paste existing text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.*



Agency Name:	Commission On Higher Education
Agency Code:	H030

## **FORM E – AGENCY COST SAVINGS AND GENERAL FUND REDUCTION CONTINGENCY PLAN**

<b>TITLE</b>	Agency Cost Savings and General Fund Reduction Contingency Plan
<b>AMOUNT</b>	\$1,264,739
	<p><i>What is the General Fund 3% reduction amount? This amount should correspond to the reduction spreadsheet prepared by EBO.</i></p>
<b>ASSOCIATED FTE REDUCTIONS</b>	Approximately 3 – 4 FTEs
	<p><i>How many FTEs would be reduced in association with this General Fund reduction?</i></p>
<b>PROGRAM / ACTIVITY IMPACT</b>	<p>The short term plan would be to offset the 3% reduction with funds carried over from FY 202425 under Proviso 117.23 which authorizes agencies to carry forward up to 10% of general fund appropriations. However, a 3% general fund reduction that extends beyond the current fiscal year would need to be offset by a reduction in recurring expenditures. All programs of the agency, with the exception of federal programs and our licensing work, would be affected by a threepercent reduction of General Funds. This would include offices of the President and Executive Director, Academic Affairs and Licensing, Student Affairs, Fiscal Affairs and Operations, and Information Technology and Data Analysis.</p> <p>The CHE would apply the three percent reduction across the board, which would affect pass-through funds (\$35,152,487) to other entities and stakeholders, including the \$24 million in the agency's budget that provides need based grants and Palmetto Fellows scholarships to South Carolina students, and funds for the agency operations (\$6,095,658). The only passthrough funds not affected would be the Southern Regional Educational Board's \$6,585,183 which are exempt from budget cuts via Proviso 11.5.</p> <p>Therefore, the effect of a 3% budget reduction on the agency's operating costs would be approximately \$380,425.</p> <p><i>What programs or activities are supported by the General Funds identified?</i></p>
<b>SUMMARY</b>	<p>The General Funds reduction applied to agency operations would primarily affect personnel costs and directly reduce the number of staff available to carry out the mission of the CHE as outlined in the agency's Accountability Report. The offices of the President and Executive Director, Academic Affairs and Licensing, Student Affairs, Fiscal Affairs and Operations, and Information Technology and Data Analysis would all be impacted by the FTE reductions. To accommodate this reduction, the agency may not fill vacant positions due to retirement or other employee turnover.</p>

## AGENCY COST SAVINGS PLANS

*Please provide a detailed summary of service delivery impact caused by a reduction in General Fund Appropriations and provide the method of calculation for anticipated reductions. Agencies should prioritize reduction in expenditures that have the least significant impact on service delivery.*

The agency has and continues to look at cost saving measures. The agency is currently migrating its database from an antiquated system to a new, more widely adopted system. This will result in annual cost savings greater than \$50,000 as the agency will no longer need to contract with specialized consultants familiar with the current database's architecture. The agency is also procuring new IT systems to make employee work more efficient and effective. This will allow staff to focus on other important work to fulfill the agency's statutory mission and reduce the need to hire additional staff in addition to providing efficiencies for students, families, and the agency's institutional partners. In addition, the agency will be conducting a space utilization study and technology efficiency study in the next year which might lead to increased efficiency and cost savings.

*What measures does the agency plan to implement to reduce its costs and operating expenses by more than \$50,000? Provide a summary of the measures taken and the estimated amount of savings. How does the agency plan to repurpose the savings?*

Agency Name:	Commission On Higher Education		
Agency Code:	H030	Section:	11

## **FORM F – REDUCING COST AND BURDEN TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS**

<b>TITLE</b>	Up0date data system, electronic payments, online portals
--------------	--

*Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.*

<b>EXPECTED SAVINGS TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS</b>	>\$100,000 on a recurring basis
--	---------------------------------

*What is the expected savings to South Carolina's businesses and citizens that is generated by this proposal? The savings could be related to time or money.*

<b>FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST</b>	<b>Mark "X" for all that apply:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Repeal or revision of regulations. <input type="checkbox"/> Reduction of agency fees or fines to businesses or citizens. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greater efficiency in agency services or reduction in compliance burden. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other
--	--

<b>METHOD OF CALCULATION</b>	Annual salary and benefits for one FTE and time savings for businesses, the public and other public officials.
------------------------------	--

*Describe the method of calculation for determining the expected cost or time savings to businesses or citizens.*

<b>REDUCTION OF FEES OR FINES</b>	N/A
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*Which fees or fines does the agency intend to reduce? What was the fine or fee revenue for the previous fiscal year? What was the associated program expenditure for the previous fiscal year? What is the enabling authority for the issuance of the fee or fine?*

<b>REDUCTION OF REGULATION</b>	N/A
--------------------------------	-----

*Which regulations does the agency intend to amend or delete? What is the enabling authority for the regulation?*

The agency is undertaking multiple initiatives to reduce the burden on the public, businesses, and other governmental officials. The CHE has recently instituted the option to accept ACH and credit card payments as a convenience and service to the public and institutions. Currently, the option to pay via credit card or ACH is only for institutions paying licensing fees or participation fees for SARA (State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements), but the use may be expanded in the future. Another initiative is upgrading the agency's data management system, which will provide dashboards of higher education data for public and governmental consumption without the need to perform intensive queries, thereby saving internal staff time and delivering results more seamlessly. The agency is implementing online portals for constituents, which allows for submitting online applications and requesting services, such as transcripts and scholarship applications, electronically. In addition, the agency will be conducting a space utilization study and technology efficiency study in the next year which might lead to increased efficiency and cost savings.

### **SUMMARY**

*Provide an explanation of the proposal and its positive results on businesses or citizens. How will the request affect agency operations?*

AGENCY NAME:	Commission on Higher Education		
AGENCY CODE:	H030	SECTION:	11

## FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	<b>Priority 7</b>
<i>Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.</i>	

TITLE	<b>FTE Funding Source Realignment</b>
<i>Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.</i>	

AMOUNT	<b>General:</b> <b>Federal:</b> <b>Other:</b> <b>Total: N/A</b>
<i>What is the net change in requested appropriations for this Fiscal Year? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.</i>	

NEW POSITIONS	<b>N/A</b>
<i>Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.</i>	

<b>FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST</b>	<b>Mark “X” for all that apply:</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/> Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input type="checkbox"/> Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input type="checkbox"/> Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/> Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/> Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input type="checkbox"/> IT Technology/Security related
	<input type="checkbox"/> Consulted DTO during development

**X** HR/Personnel Related

**X** Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

<b>STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>Mark “X” for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:</b>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/> Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/> Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Infrastructure and Economic Development

Government and Citizens

AGENCY NAME:	Commission on Higher Education		
AGENCY CODE:	H030	SECTION:	11

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	Realign funding sources of authorized FTE positions.
-------------------------	--

*What specific strategy, as outlined in the most current Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?*

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	CHE
---------------------	-----

*What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?*

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST	<p>Pursuant to Proviso 117.193 of the FY 2025-2026 Appropriations Act, the CHE gave two FTE positions back to the State.</p> <p>Currently, the remaining 47 authorized FTE positions are broken down by State Funding at 44.78 and Other Funding at 2.22.</p> <p>The CHE is requesting a realignment of the funding sources for the remaining authorized 47 FTE positions as follows: State Funding at 40.08 and Other Funding at 6.92.</p>
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*Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.*

# Impact Report

## FY2024-25



SERVING



**55**  
Institutions



**242K+**  
Students

**99%**

of college students in South Carolina attend a PASCAL member institution

PROVIDING

## Mission-Critical Technology

PASCAL provides core technologies enabling discovery, access, and information management for 53 institutions. PASCAL staff assist all participating institutions with shared systems.



**8.3M+**

Research queries initiated in the shared discovery platform in FY24-25

## E-Resources

PASCAL provides core electronic resources to all member libraries and opt-in deals with discounted pricing from vendors in the academic marketplace.



**64%**

Average savings for opt-in resources negotiated by PASCAL in FY24-25

**Core  
Resources**



**470K+**  
E-Books



**25K+**  
Journals



[pascalsc.org](http://pascalsc.org)

# Impact Report

## FY2024-25



PROVIDING

### PASCAL Delivers

PASCAL's free delivery service provides students, faculty, and staff with books and digitized articles or chapters from other PASCAL libraries. Expanded agreements with 100+ partner libraries nationwide extend access at no additional cost.

**BORROW**  
10M+ items



**RECEIVE**  
In 3 days



**RETURN**  
In 12 weeks



Increase in digital  
borrowing  
requests since  
FY23-24

### Professional Development

PASCAL provides year-round training & professional development at no cost to members. In FY24-25, PASCAL provided over 69 hours of training & professional development.

FY24-25



**69**  
Hours



**1,563**  
Attendees

COST EFFICIENCIES

**OVER  
\$221M**

Cost avoidance for  
core resources since  
2004

**\$11.7  
Million**

FY24-25 cost  
avoidance for core  
resources

**\$10  
Million**

FY24-25 cost  
avoidance for opt-in  
resources

**\$5.6  
Million**

FY24-25 cost avoidance  
for shared systems



[pascalsc.org](http://pascalsc.org)

# Impact Report

## FY2024-25



### WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT PASCAL

I use PASCAL at least once a week, often daily to aid in my research. It is a crucial resource for me.

*- Student, College of Charleston*

As a faculty member at a small teaching institution, I could not do my work effectively without the resources provided by PASCAL. PASCAL is the sort of creative collaboration that benefits faculty and students across our state, regardless of the size of their school or their relative proximity to additional physical libraries.

*- Faculty, North Greenville University*

One of the best benefits of being a faculty member at my college is the wide array of books and other resources available through PASCAL Delivers. Materials arrive quickly and conveniently, with generous check-out times.

*- Faculty, Piedmont Technical College*

Being part of the PASCAL consortium is a game-changer for our library. The access to over 25,000 journals, 470,000 ebooks, and millions of print materials through PASCAL Delivers allows us to offer a vast collection of resources without the hefty price tag of individual subscriptions.

*- Library Director, Midlands Technical College*



[pascalsc.org](http://pascalsc.org)

# PASCAL Library Technology Platform

Powering SC's Academic Libraries



Shared by  
52 Institutions



Serving  
235K+ Students

## The Engine Behind Academic Success

PASCAL's shared library platform drives efficient, high-quality library services across South Carolina's colleges and universities, ensuring students and faculty have the resources and tools they need to excel.



### Seamless Discovery

The common, user-friendly research interface provides consistent access to resources, building research skills and helping students succeed in their academic and workforce journey.



### Resource Sharing

The statewide collaborative network allows libraries to share materials efficiently between institutions, broadening access to resources both within and beyond the state.



### Library Management

The foundation of all library operations, the shared platform enables libraries to manage cataloging, circulation, acquisition of materials, and analytics - empowering libraries to make informed decisions.

### Cost-Effective, Centralized Support

PASCAL's centrally managed platform provides a sustainable, affordable solution for libraries statewide. By sharing infrastructure and expertise, institutions can focus on direct support for students and faculty.



### Significant Return on Investment

PASCAL's shared system delivers critical services at a fraction of the cost of individual systems, providing **\$5.6 Million** in cost avoidance for FY24-25 alone.



# COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY.®

## Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget Presentation

President James J. Winebrake, Ph.D.



**H. Gibbs Knotts, Ph.D.**  
PROVOST & VICE PRESIDENT  
FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS



**Nate Miner**  
VICE PRESIDENT & CHIEF OF STAFF



**Alan M. West, DBA, CPA**  
VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE &  
ADMINISTRATION AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER



**Brant Branham**  
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS DIRECTOR



**Julianne Cooke**  
DIRECTOR OF BUDGET & CAPITAL PROJECTS



BOLDLY WE **REACH**

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# BOLDLY WE REACH

Founded in  
**1954**

*More than*  
**115** undergraduate and  
**30** graduate programs

---

Record-breaking enrollment  
of **12,006 students**

**25%** increase in graduation  
rate in **5 years**

---

**19** NCAA Division I athletic teams



# BOLDLY WE REACH



## **U.S. News and World Report**

**#4 Most Innovative**  
**#15 in Top Public Schools**  
**#16 in Best Colleges for Veterans**  
**#33 in Regional Universities (up 15 spots in 5 years)**



## **HCS Scholars Academy ranked #1 school in South Carolina**

*SC School Report Card*



## **PGA University Champions**

*Second year in a row*



## **Carnegie Community Engagement Classification**

*American Council on Education and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching*



## **Best for Vets Colleges**

*Military Times*



## **Guide to Green Schools**

*The Princeton Review*



## **Mental Health Services Honor Roll**

*The Princeton Review*



## **Silver Bicycle Friendly University**

*League of American Bicyclists*

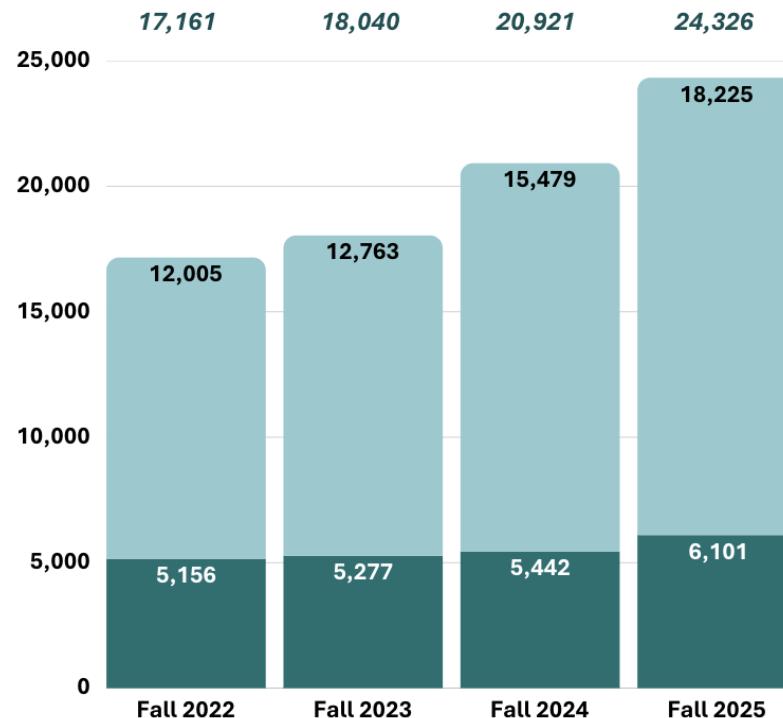


2025-26 New Student Convocation

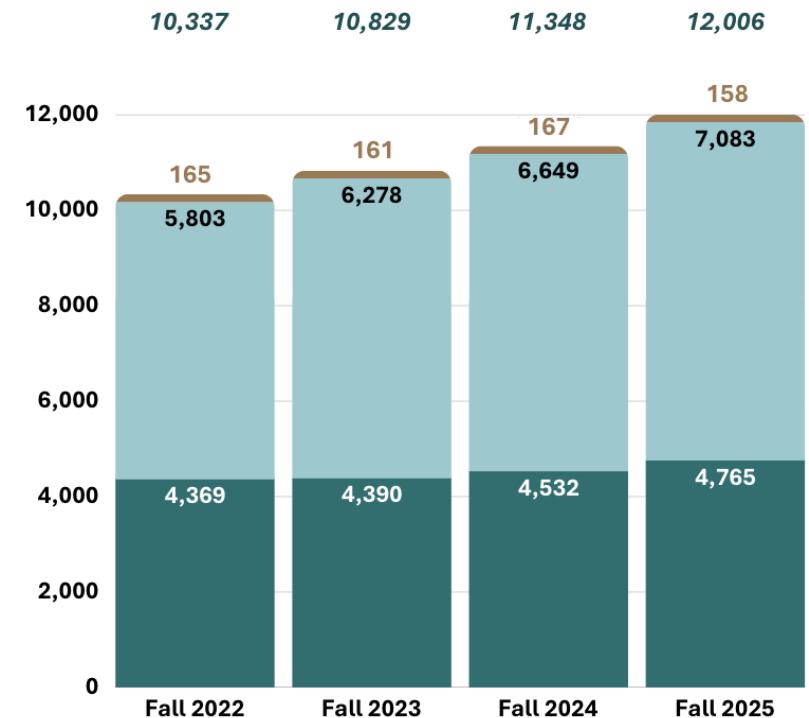


# ENROLLMENT & DEMAND

## First-Year Application Trends



## Enrollment Trends



- In-State
- Out-of-State
- International
- Total

### Application Insights:

**76%**

of out-of-state completed applications are accepted

**93%**

of in-state completed applications are accepted to CCU directly or through our Bridge Program partnership with HGTC



# SOUTH CAROLINA PATHWAYS

*CCU provides pathways for  
every eligible South Carolina resident  
to reach their education goals.*



## CHAUNCEY'S **SC PROMISE**

- **Tuition Promise** – free tuition to eligible S.C. residents who graduate in the top 10% of their high school class.
- **Top 10 Promise** – guaranteed admission to residents graduating in the top 10% of their high school class.
- **S.C. Student Promise** – guaranteed admission to Palmetto LIFE Scholarship recipients.
- **Transfer Promise** – guaranteed admission to eligible students from S.C. technical colleges.

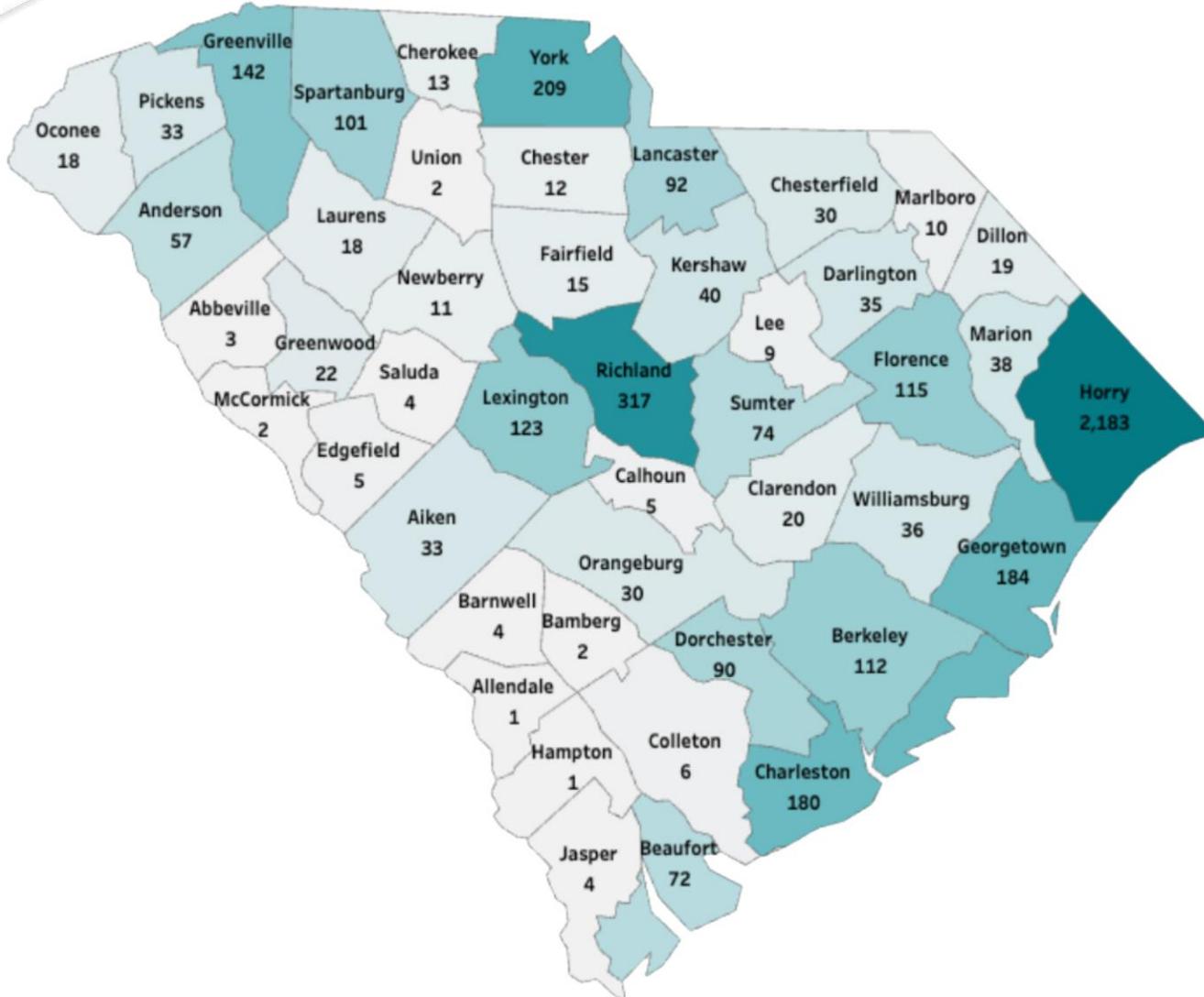
## CCU COMPLETE

Tuition incentive program for those returning to college to complete their degrees.

TAKE UP TO ONLINE COURSES **\$100 EACH**



# SOUTH CAROLINA STUDENTS



## Top Five Counties

- 1 Horry
- 2 Richland
- 3 York
- 4 Georgetown
- 5 Charleston



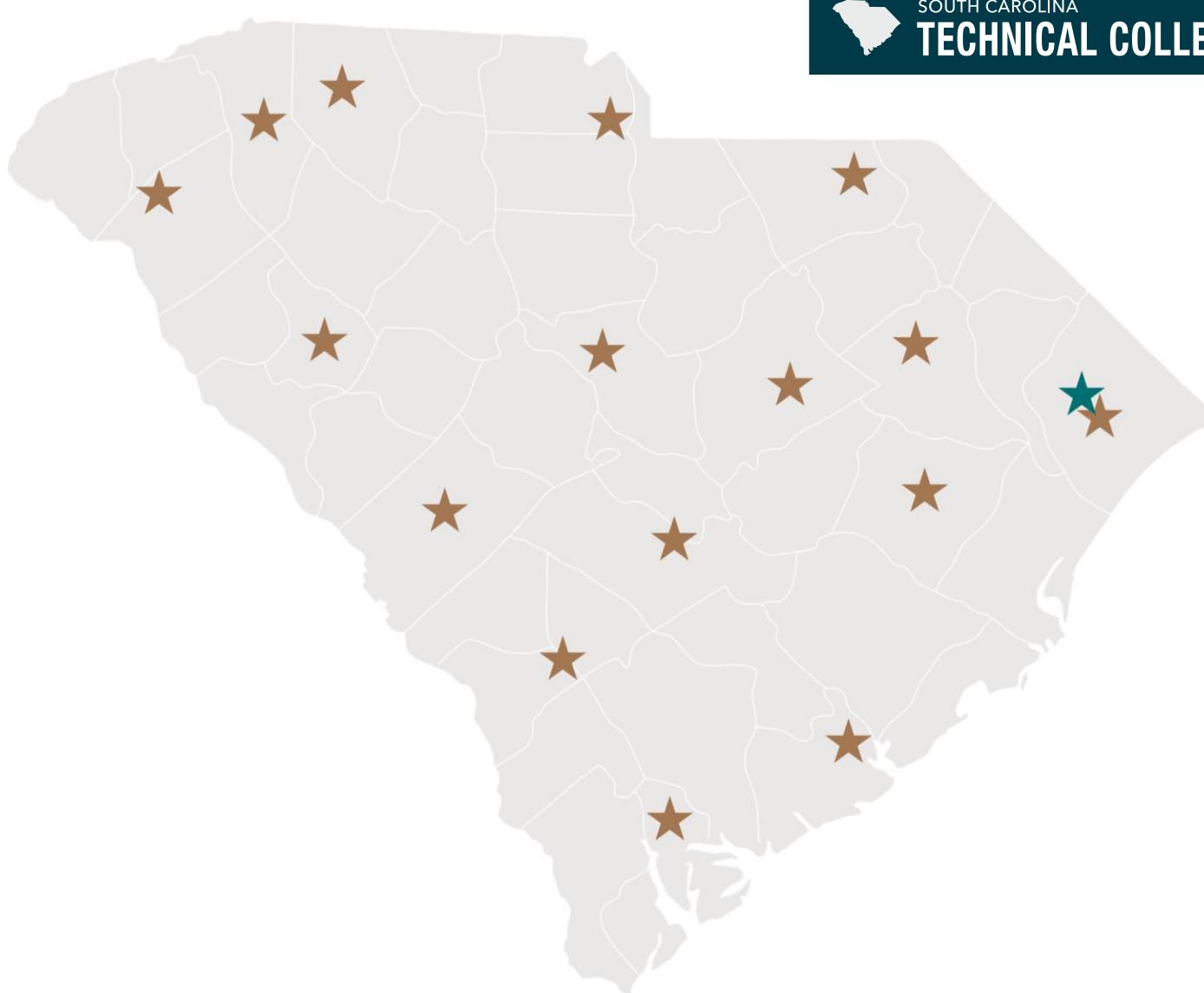
# EXPANDING ACCESS THROUGH PARTNERSHIP



Dr. Marilyn Fore  
*Horry-Georgetown Technical College*



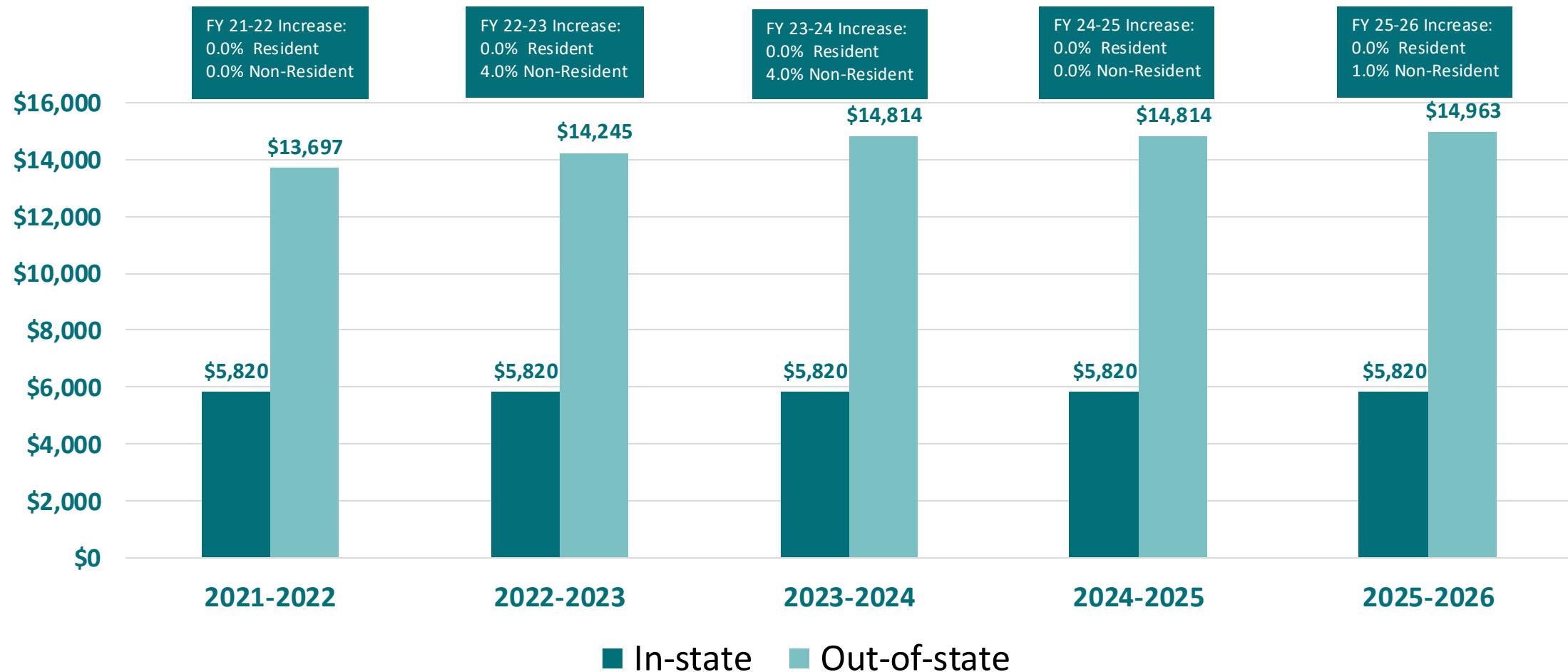
Dr. Tim Hardee  
*South Carolina Technical College System*





# AFFORDABILITY FOR RESIDENT STUDENTS

## TUITION & REQUIRED FEES PER SEMESTER





# ECONOMIC IMPACT



Horry County is among South Carolina's **fastest-growing counties**, with a **population increase of over 20%** from 2020 to 2025.



CCU is one of the **top employers in Horry County**, with over 1,800 employees, contributing significantly to the local economy.



Approximately 60% of CCU alumni reside in South Carolina and more than 30% live within a 50-mile radius of the University, indicating **strong in-state retention and community ties**.



The University generates an estimated **\$775 million** in economic activity annually.\*



# SOUTH CAROLINA WORKFORCE TRENDS\*



## Healthcare and Allied Health Professions

**Jobs in demand:**  
Registered nurses, nurse practitioners, and physical therapists



## Information Technology and Cybersecurity

**Jobs in demand:**  
Robotics technicians and industrial engineers



## Logistics and Supply Chain Management

**Jobs in demand:**  
Warehouse supervisors and logistics analysts



## Education and Workforce Training

**Jobs in demand:**  
STEM educators, technical instructors, and early childhood educators



## Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

**Jobs in demand:**  
Industrial engineers, electrical engineers, and life, physical, and social science technicians



# ACADEMIC PROGRAM PORTFOLIO



New programs in high workforce demand areas



Administrative and Academic Program Review



Elimination of 25 programs since 2022



Lowest number of non-compliant programs of S.C. publics\*

\*South Carolina Commission on Higher Education



# LOCALLY RELEVANT AND IMPACTFUL RESEARCH

## FY24 Research Expenditures\*

# \$5.1M

First time over \$5M

Exceeds the \$5M threshold required for R2 designation

\*Provided by the National Science Foundation Higher Education and Research Development (NSF HERD) survey



**High Performance Computing:**  
**Power Demand, Storage,  
AI/Machine Learning**

Active awards totaling  
~\$2.5M

**Living  
Shoreline/Artificial  
Smart Reef Project**

Active awards totaling  
~\$1.25M

**NOAA and Sea Grant  
Awards for Ocean and  
Wetland Research**

Active awards totaling  
~\$1.4M

**Building Interdisciplinary  
Capacity in Early Childhood  
Special Education**

Active awards totaling  
~\$1.25M

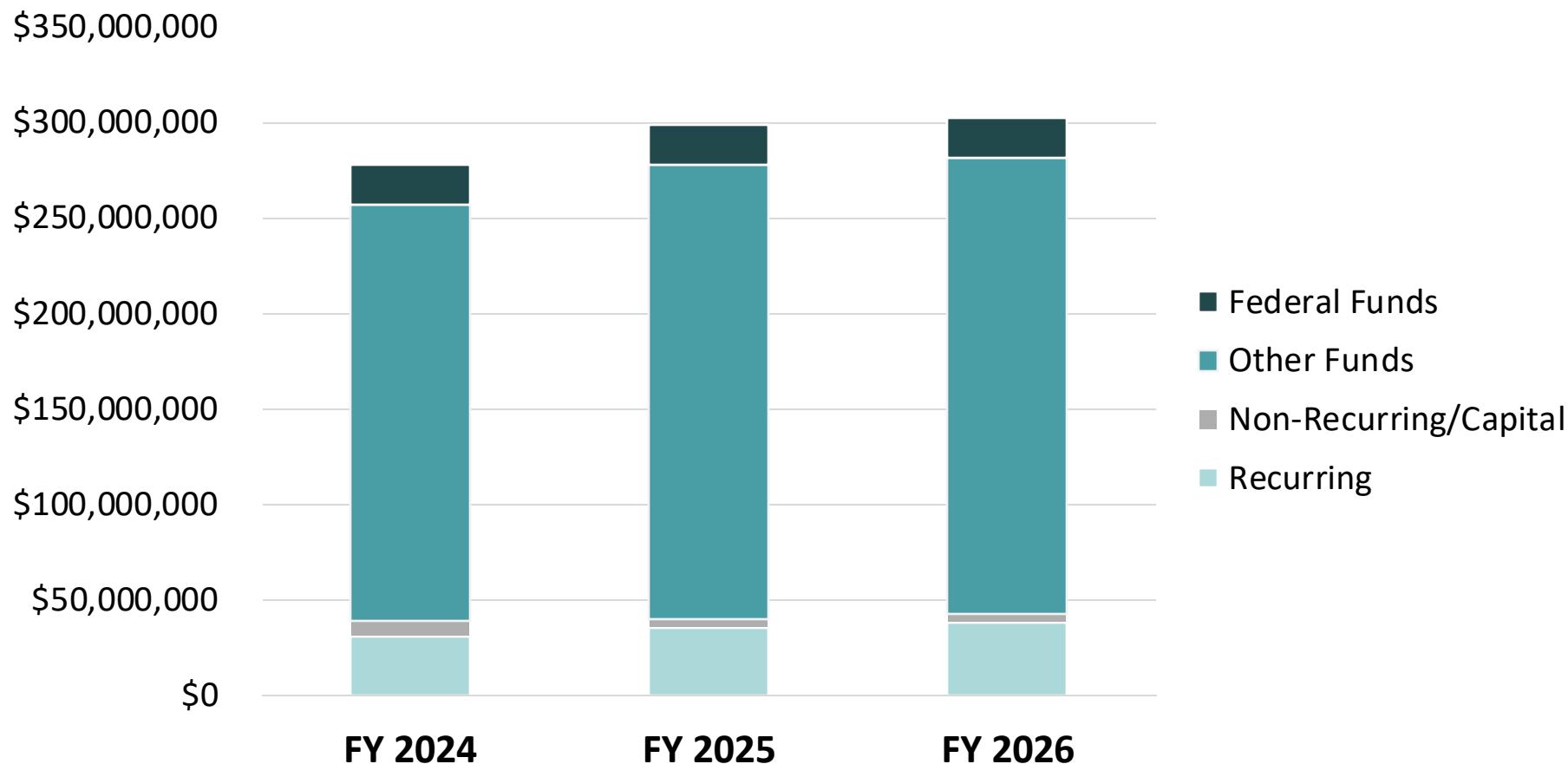


# CCU FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

BOLDLY WE REACH



# AUTHORIZED APPROPRIATIONS



Year	Appropriations Recurring	Appropriations Non-Recurring/Capital	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Authorized Spending
FY 2024	\$30,934,399	\$7,500,000	\$218,410,131	\$21,000,000	\$277,844,530
FY 2025	\$34,765,085	\$5,000,000	\$238,410,131	\$21,000,000	\$299,175,216
FY 2026	\$37,987,077	\$4,488,000	\$239,314,644	\$21,000,000	\$302,789,721

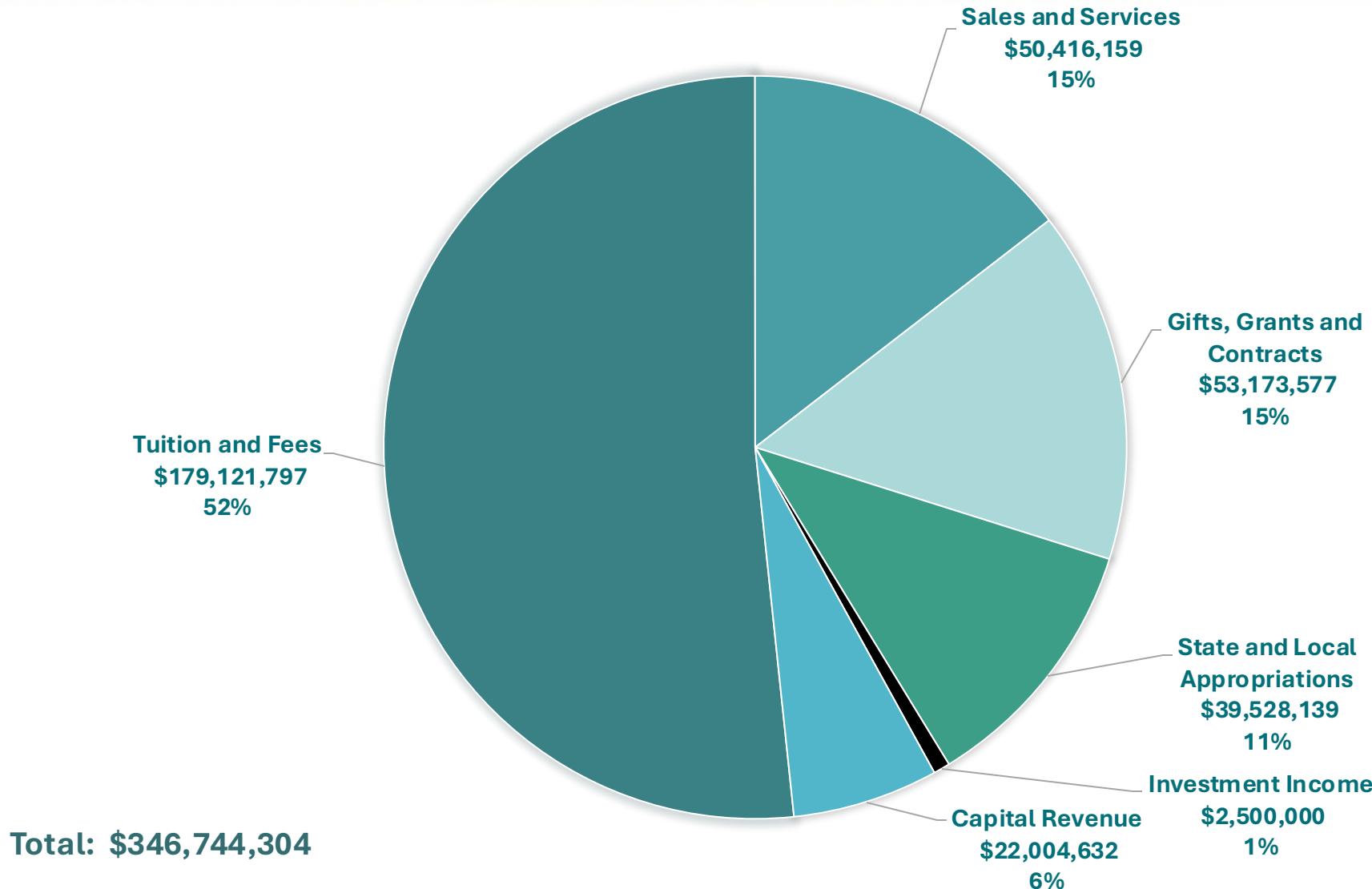


# STATE APPROPRIATIONS

Appropriation Restriction	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	Category
Tuition Mitigation	\$5,502,820	\$3,057,122	\$2,456,003	Recurring
Edwards Humanities Building Renovation	\$3,500,000			Non-Recurring/Capital
Maintenance, Renovation, and Replacement	\$4,000,000			Non-Recurring/Capital
Pedestrian Walkway		\$5,000,000		Non-Recurring/Capital
Wheelwright Auditorium Renovation			\$4,488,000	Non-Recurring/Capital

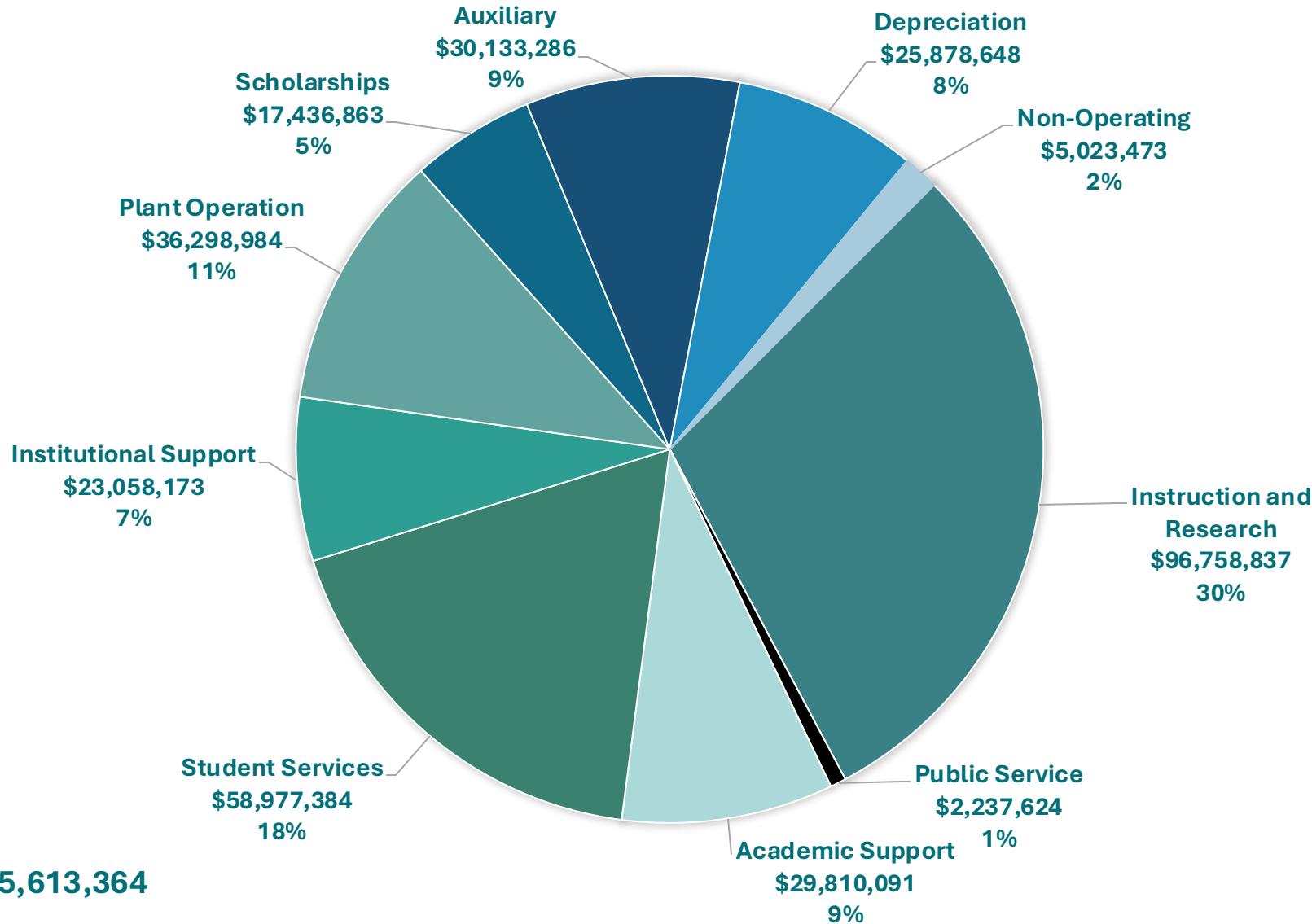


# FY2026 PROJECTED REVENUE





# FY2026 PROJECTED EXPENSES





# OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

*Boldly transforming lives through shared investment.*

BOLDLY WE **REACH**



# KEY FOCUS AREAS

*We will be known as a University that boldly...*

## ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

...offers transformational educational experiences.

## ARTS & ATHLETICS

...engages the community, with arts and athletics as a “front porch” to our campus.

## RESEARCH

...searches for answers to complex problems.

## STUDENT SUCCESS

...inspires our students to reach their full human potential.



# FY 2027 BUDGET REQUESTS

## PRIORITIES

ACADEMIC  
PROGRAMS

ARTS &  
ATHLETICS

RESEARCH

STUDENT  
SUCCESS

- 1 TUITION MITIGATION FUNDING
- 2 TEAL PATHWAYS SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE
- 3 TEAL WORKS PROGRAM
- 4 WATIES TECHNOLOGY, EDUCATION, & RESEARCH (WATER) STATION
- 5 FROM SEA TO SPACE: UNDERWATER AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE
- 6 LIB JACKSON STUDENT UNION ANNEX II
- 7 OTHER FUNDS AUTHORIZATION INCREASE



# FY 2027 BUDGET REQUESTS

1

## TUITION MITIGATION FUNDING

\$3,080,814

General Funds: Recurring

- CCU remains committed to keeping higher education affordable and accessible for South Carolina residents.
- To help avoid in-state tuition increases while maintaining a safe, student-centered environment, the University requests an increase in recurring general fund appropriations.

Academic Programs

Arts & Athletics

Research

Student Success



# FY 2027 BUDGET REQUESTS

2

## TEAL PATHWAYS SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE

\$1,750,000

General Funds: Recurring

- A 2+2 degree-completion program designed to strengthen South Carolina's talent pipeline in high-demand fields such as healthcare, cybersecurity, and engineering.
- Will include Teal Advance, the digital arm of the initiative, offering fully online 2+2 programs tailored for technical college graduates, veterans, and working adults.
- Developed in collaboration with the state's technical colleges to create seamless transfer opportunities from a technical college to CCU for a four-year degree.

Academic Programs

Arts & Athletics

Research

Student Success



# FY 2027 BUDGET REQUESTS

## 3 TEAL WORKS PROGRAM

\$390,000 and 1.0 FTE

General Funds: Recurring

- An internship initiative designed to connect CCU students with meaningful professional experiences in high-demand workforce areas across Horry County and South Carolina.
- CCU Teal Works will provide stipends, career development training, and employer engagement support to increase access to internships, especially in rural and underserved regions of South Carolina.

Academic Programs

Arts & Athletics

Research

Student Success



# FY 2027 BUDGET REQUESTS

4

## WATIES TECHNOLOGY, EDUCATION, AND RESEARCH (WATER) STATION

\$5,000,000

Capital

- The WATER Station strengthens CCU's collaboration with state partners on Waties Island, South Carolina, and will serve as a gateway to the island and a hub for community and regional stakeholders.
- The Station will:
  - Provide access to data on coastal resource management, flood mitigation, and emergency management.
  - Feature a state-of-the-art facility to support students, officials, and stakeholders in developing solutions for South Carolina's coastline and coastal areas.

Academic Programs

Arts & Athletics

Research

Student Success



# FY 2027 BUDGET REQUESTS

5

## FROM SEA TO SPACE: UNDERWATER AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE (UAV) TO SUPPORT SATELLITE-BASED ASSESSMENTS OF S.C.'S COASTAL RESILIENCE

\$1,350,000

General Funds: Non-Recurring

- Supports CCU's environmental monitoring initiative to:
  - Acquire an underwater autonomous vehicle (UAV).
  - Deploy the ChantSat-1 satellite to enhance coastal and estuarine monitoring.
- Provides real-time, high-resolution data to track water conditions and changes from storms, flooding, drought, and other natural events at spatial and temporal scales relevant for management and conservation.

Academic Programs

Arts & Athletics

Research

Student Success



# FY 2027 BUDGET REQUESTS

## 6 LIB JACKSON STUDENT UNION ANNEX II FEATURING A CAREER AND LIFE READINESS HUB

\$34,000,000

Capital

- CCU to construct a 50,000-square-foot annex to the Lib Jackson Student Union featuring a Career and Life Readiness Hub, which will include:
  - Centralized career services
  - Alumni mentorship lounge
  - Veterans Affairs suite
  - Workforce and entrepreneurship development zone
- Supports student success by linking academic preparation with career development.

Academic Programs

Arts & Athletics

Research

Student Success



# FY 2027 BUDGET REQUESTS

7

## OTHER FUNDS AUTHORIZATION INCREASE (ONGOING REQUEST)

\$41,000,000 and 49.0 FTEs

Other Funds

Funding Source: Tuition Revenue

- Enrollment has grown more than 19% since 2020 (from 10,118 to 12,006). During that same timeframe, the number of full-time faculty has increased by only 9%.
- As enrollment and student demand continue to grow, approval of this request is critical to preserve academic quality, operational efficiency, public safety, and student support.

Academic Programs

Arts & Athletics

Research

Student Success



# THANK YOU

*for investing in the future of South Carolina.*

*Your support of Coastal Carolina University helps create new opportunities, drive economic growth, and transform lives across our state.*



BOLDLY WE  
**REACH**

COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY.®



# APPENDIX

BOLDLY WE **REACH**



# APPENDIX

## STUDENT ENROLLMENT

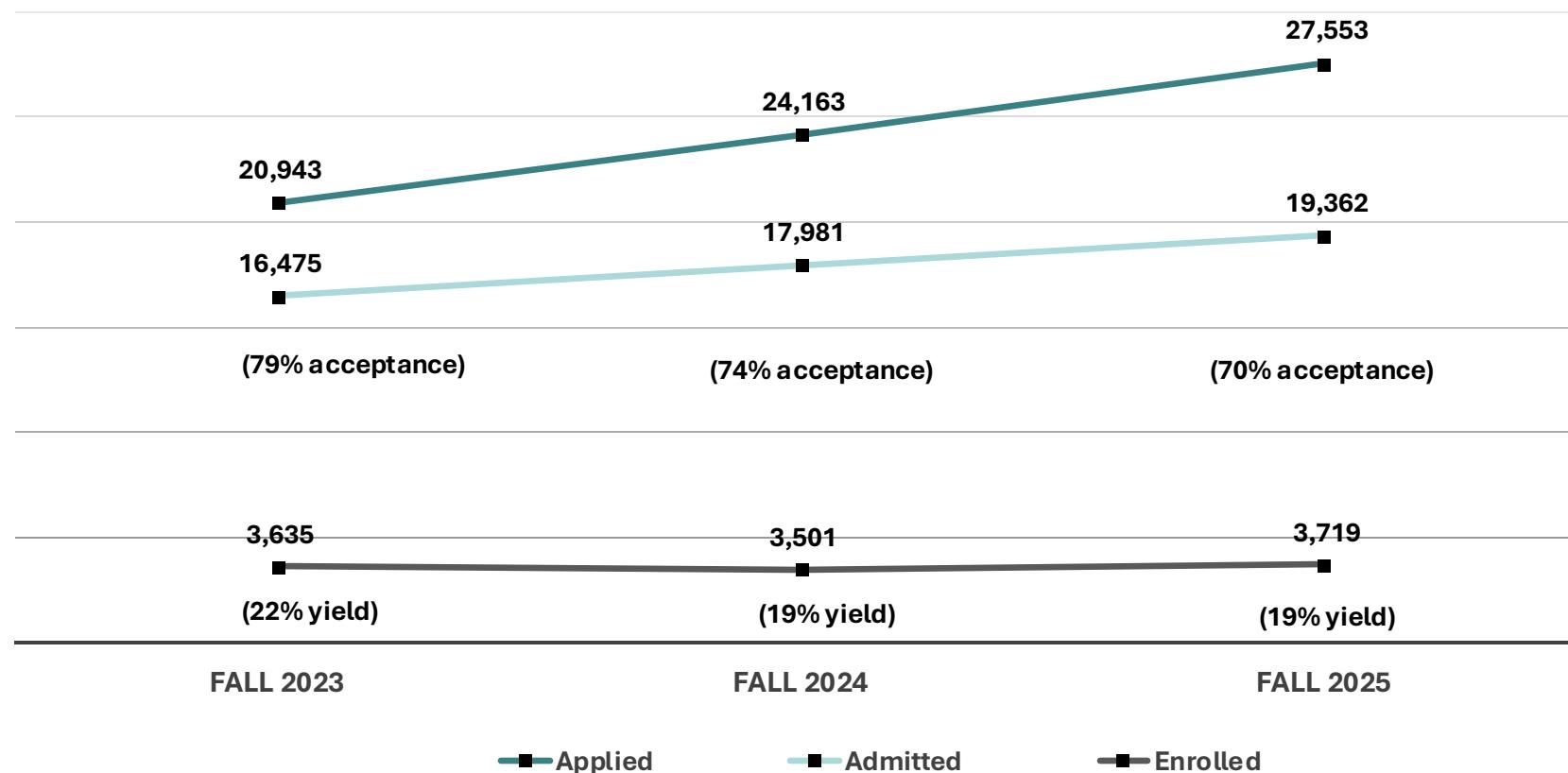
<b>Undergraduate Enrollment</b>	<b>Fall 2024</b>	<b>Fall 2025</b>	<b>1-year change</b>
Total Headcount	10,811	11,471	6.1%
Total FTE	10,683	11,416	6.9%
Student Credit Hours	160,239	171,241	6.9%
<b>Graduate Enrollment</b>	<b>Fall 2024</b>	<b>Fall 2025</b>	<b>1-year change</b>
Total Headcount	537	535	-0.4%
Total FTE	314	317	1.0%
Student Credit Hours	3,645	3,668	0.6%



# APPENDIX

## STUDENT ENROLLMENT

### Applied, Admitted and Enrolled Freshmen and Transfers

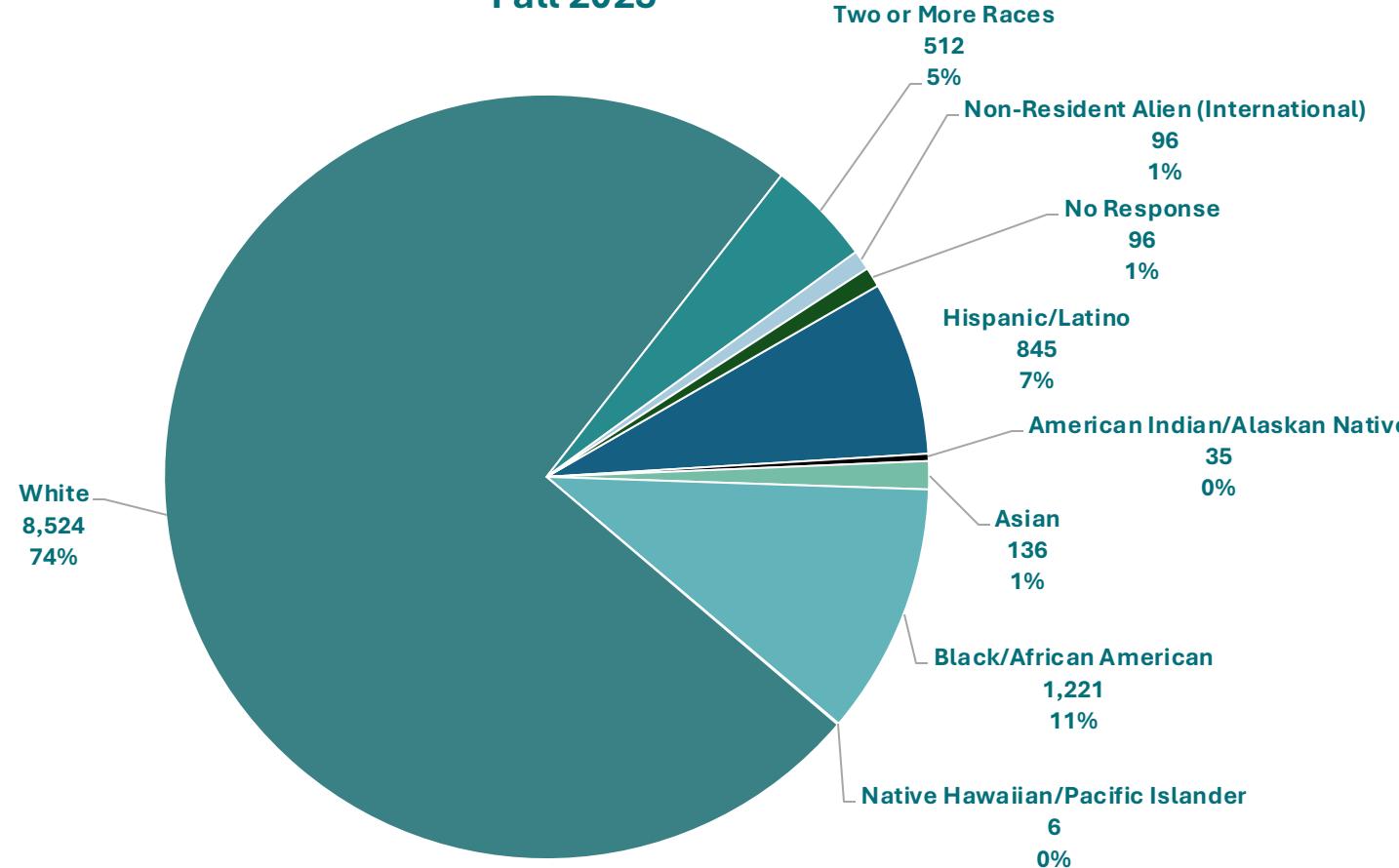




# APPENDIX

## STUDENT ENROLLMENT

**Student Enrollment by Ethnicity**  
**Fall 2025**



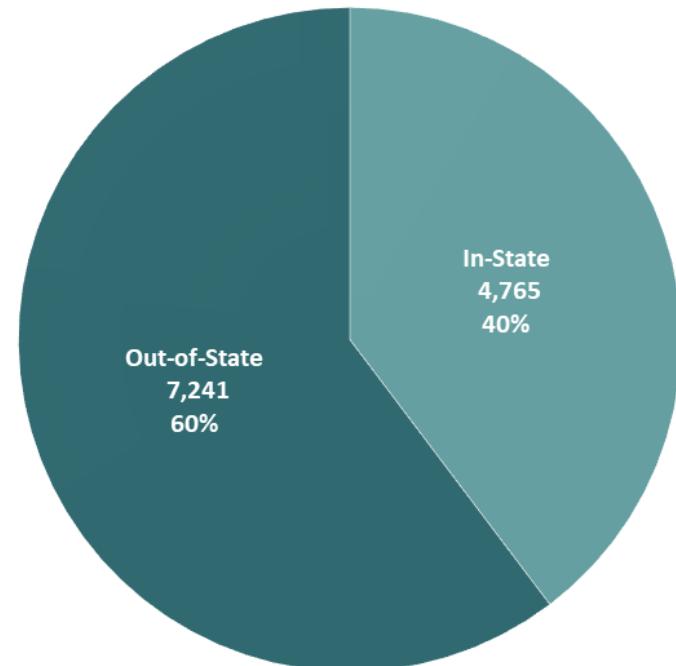
Total minority population: 24%



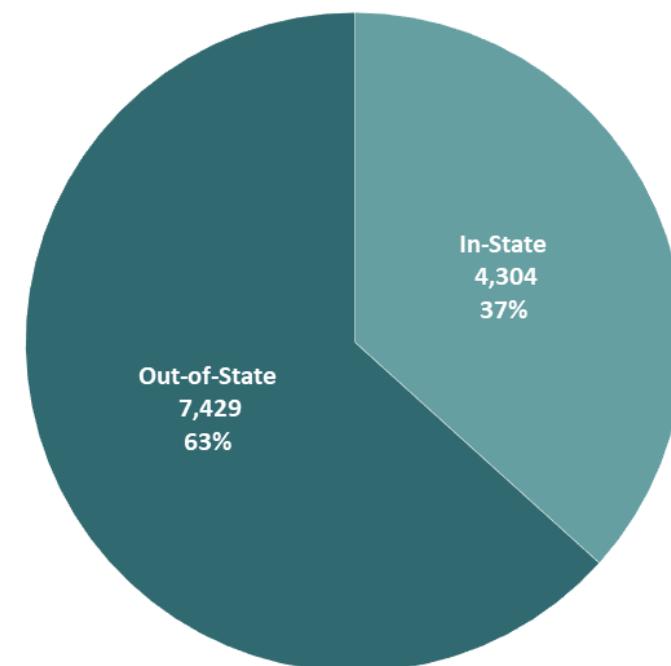
# APPENDIX

## STUDENT ENROLLMENT

**Headcount by Geographic Origin**  
**Fall 2025**



**FTE by Geographic Origin**  
**Fall 2025**



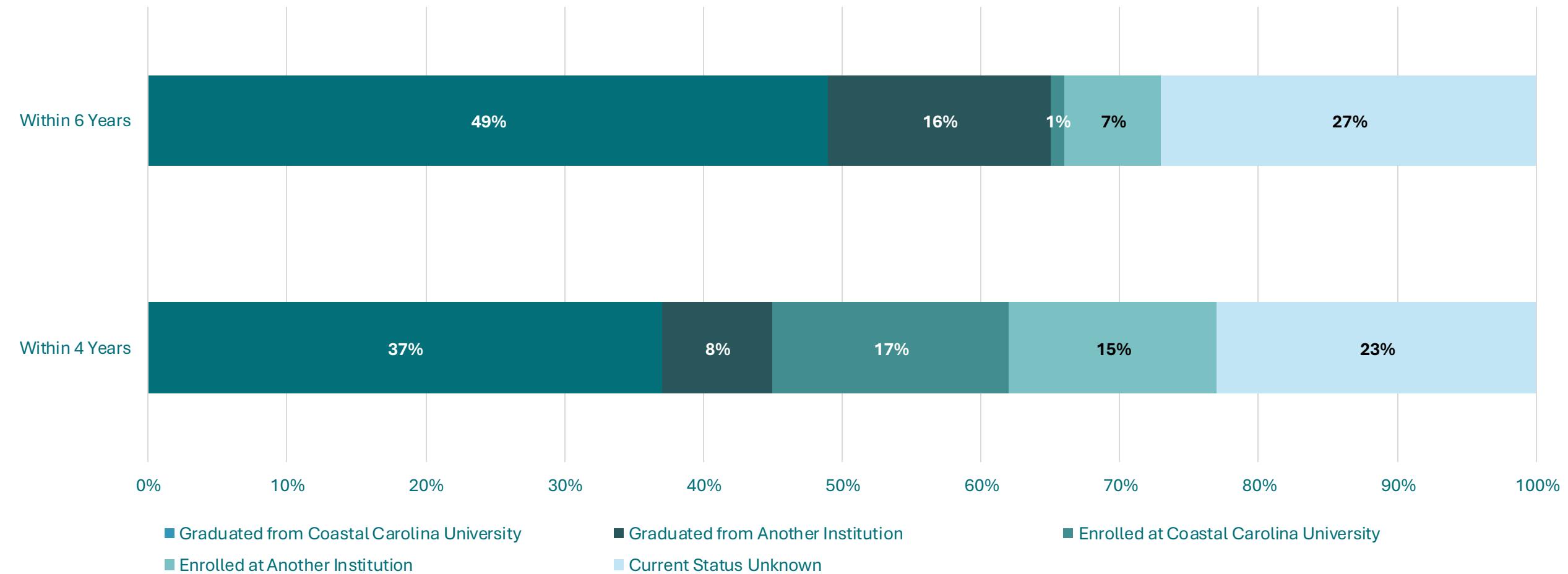
Coastal Carolina University accepts all qualified, in-state students who apply. As a means of holding in-state tuition down, out-of-state tuition differential subsidizes costs.



# APPENDIX

## GRADUATION DATA

### First-Time Full-Time Students Starting Fall 2018





# APPENDIX

## 2025-26 TUITION & REQUIRED FEES SCHEDULE

<b>Undergraduate Fees per Semester (12-18 credit hours)</b>	<b>Resident</b>	<b>Non-Resident</b>
Base Academic Fee	\$5,130	\$14,008
Athletics	\$370	\$370
Student Activity	\$20	\$20
Debt Service	\$140	\$290
Renovation Reserve & Plant Expansion	\$70	\$185
Technology	\$90	\$90
<b>Total Tuition &amp; Required Undergraduate Fees</b>	<b>\$5,820</b>	<b>\$14,963</b>
<b>Graduate Fees per Credit Hour</b>	<b>Resident</b>	<b>Non-Resident</b>
Base Academic Fee	\$581	\$1,174
Debt Service	\$6	\$12
Renovation Reserve & Plant Expansion	\$6	\$12
Technology	\$5	\$5
<b>Total Tuition &amp; Required Graduate Fees</b>	<b>\$598</b>	<b>\$1,203</b>



# APPENDIX

## 2024-25 SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS

Source	Student Count (Duplicated)	Dollars	Source	Student Count (Duplicated)	Dollars
<strong>Federal Grants</strong>					
Pell Grant	3,168	\$19,538,956	SC Need Based Grant	1,503	\$4,300,601
SEOG	494	\$414,384	LIFE Scholarship	1,659	\$8,658,151
College Work Study	325	\$519,046	SC College Transition Program	27	\$373,781
TEACH Grant	12	\$28,290	HOPE Scholarship	399	\$1,040,725
<strong>Total Federal</strong>	<strong>3,999</strong>	<strong>\$20,500,676</strong>	Palmetto Fellows Scholarship	157	\$1,165,238
<strong>State Scholarships &amp; Grants</strong>					
SC Air & National Guard Grant			SC Air & National Guard Grant	84	\$282,563
SC Teaching Fellows			SC Teaching Fellows	55	\$285,000
			<strong>Total State</strong>	<strong>3,884</strong>	<strong>\$16,106,059</strong>
<strong>Institutional Scholarships</strong>					
External Scholarships			External Scholarships	893	\$3,646,553
			<strong>TOTALS</strong>	<strong>16,564</strong>	<strong>\$56,678,717</strong>



# APPENDIX

## OUTSTANDING DEBT

Bond Issue/Type/Date	Amount of Initial Principal Debt	Amount of Remaining Debt as of 11/1/25	Issued Date	Final Maturity	Purpose of Bond Issue
<b>Revenue Bonds</b>					
Series 2012 – Refunding Rev Bonds	\$6,147,000	\$503,000	6/1/2012	6/1/2026	Refinanced 1999 Ref Revenue Bonds - Housing
Series 2017 - Higher Education Rev Bonds	\$6,766,591	\$823,128	5/1/2017	6/1/2026	Refinanced Series 2006 Ref Revenue Bonds - Housing
Series 2022 – Higher Education Rev Ref Bonds	\$38,810,000	\$34,275,000	3/9/2022	6/1/2040	Refinanced 2013 Ref Revenue Bonds - Housing
Series 2016 - Higher Education Rev Bonds	\$22,415,000	\$16,320,000	11/23/2016	6/1/2041	Brooks Football Stadium Expansion
Series 2015 - Higher Education Rev Bonds	\$87,020,000	\$65,405,000	2/1/2015	6/1/2042	Acquisition of University Place (2,079 beds)
Series 2014 - Higher Education Rev Bonds	\$35,480,000	\$27,740,000	6/1/2014	6/1/2044	Phase II of Student Housing (624 beds)
<b>Total Revenue Bonds</b>	<b>\$196,638,591</b>	<b>\$145,066,128</b>			
<b>General Obligation State Institutional Bonds</b>					
Series 2016E – State Institution Bonds	\$10,025,000	\$2,365,000	10/1/2016	4/1/2027	Refinanced 2002D and 2006C Institutional Bonds – various small building and renovation projects
<b>Total General Obligation Bonds</b>	<b>\$10,025,000</b>	<b>\$2,365,000</b>			



# APPENDIX

## EMPLOYEES

The University has 2,008 employees, including graduate assistants, with an annual salary and fringe benefits expense of approximately \$199 million.

- 566 full-time faculty
- 200 part-time faculty
- 1,025 full-time staff
- 92 part-time staff
- 125 graduate assistants

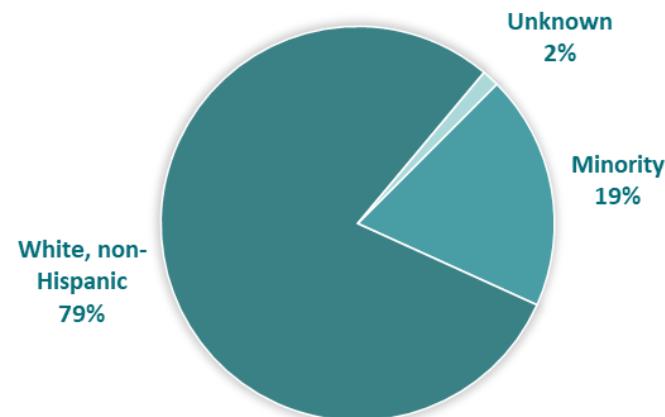
FTE	Authorized	Vacant
State FTEs	193.48	6.76
Federal FTEs	9.50	1.00
Other FTEs	1,238.03	46.64
Total FTEs	1,441.01	54.40



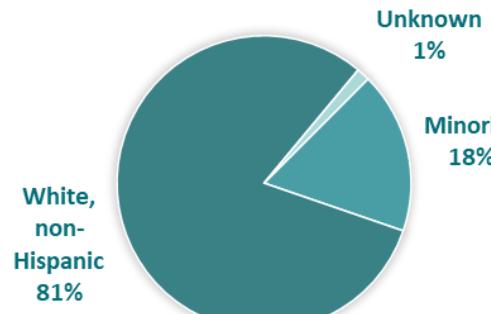
# APPENDIX

## EMPLOYEE DEMOGRAPHICS

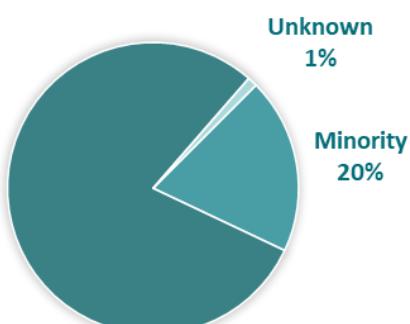
**Total Employees = 2,008**



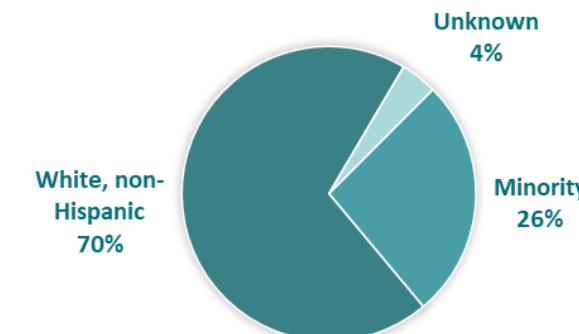
**Faculty = 766**



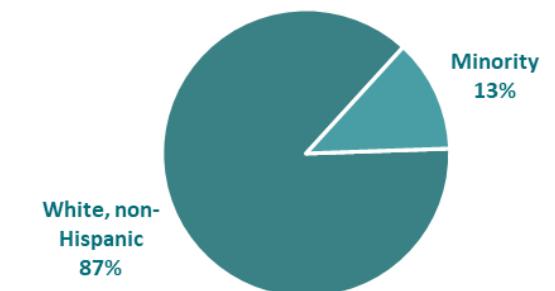
**Staff = 1,117**



**Graduate Assistants = 125**



**Administration = 79**





# APPENDIX

## CAPITAL PROJECTS

Project Number	Project Name	Source of Funding	Approved Budget	Balance	Status
9609	Soccer Complex Construction	Gifts	\$5,000,000	\$59,569	Active
9615	Library Learning Complex	Capital Reserve Fund, Penny Sales Tax	\$29,800,000	\$1,963,616	Active
9616	Kimbel Library Renovation	ICPF, Gifts, Penny Sales Tax	\$15,500,000	\$5,088,839	Active
9619	Shift Western End of University Blvd	Penny Sales Tax	\$7,400,000	\$5,342,350	Active
9623	PGA Golf Management Program Learning Lab	Capital Projects Reserves, Penny Sales Tax, Gift	\$10,800,000	\$8,958,180	Active
9624	Indoor Practice Facility	Auxiliary Reserves, Gifts	\$20,000,000	\$409,580	Active
9628	Underground Chilled Water Pipe Expansion	State Appropriation	\$4,500,000	\$1,998,198	Active
9629	Central Energy Plant Renovations	State Appropriation	\$8,600,000	\$8,188,750	Active
9631	Health and Human Performance Building	Penny Sales Tax	\$1,327,500	\$676,679	Active
9632	Kearns Hall Renovation	State Appropriation	\$3,900,000	\$3,611,577	Active
Open Projects per SPIRS Report				\$106,827,500	\$36,297,338



# APPENDIX

## CAPITAL RENEWAL

Project Name	Source of Funding	Budget
General Facilities, Infrastructure and Grounds Maintenance and Improvements	E&G Renovation Reserve	\$3,025,026
University Housing Facilities Maintenance and Improvements	University Housing Renovation Reserve	\$242,743
Hampton Hall Renovation	E&G Renovation Reserve	\$300,000
Prince Building Renovation	State Capital Appropriations	\$1,500,000
Elevator Enhancements	State Capital Appropriations	\$1,600,000
Prince Window and Cornice Replacements	Capital Projects Reserves	\$650,000
Wall Classroom Renovations	Penny Sales Tax, Capital Projects Reserves	\$688,515
Springs Brooks Field Renovation	Penny Sales Tax	\$1,500,000
<b>Active Maintenance Projects</b>		<b>\$9,506,284</b>



# APPENDIX

## CAPITAL RENEWAL

It would cost approximately **\$29,000,000** to bring all facilities to an 80% condition, excluding residence halls as the revenue produced by University Housing funds the maintenance of residence halls.

To arrive at an estimated restoration cost:

- Based condition on the Building Condition Survey, last compiled by CHE in Fall 2020. There are 28 buildings on campus with a condition rating less than 80%.
- Reduced condition rating by 5%, 1% per year, to allow for five additional years of deterioration.
- Increased restoration cost by annual HEPI inflation rate for years 2021-25.
- Reduced restoration costs on buildings that have received improvements during the last five years.

The Department of Facilities Planning and Management maintains a maintenance schedule that compiles renovation and maintenance needs for all campus buildings and infrastructure over a 20-year period. The projects are scheduled and budgeted within the scope of available funds.

Coastal Carolina University is appreciative of the State's investment in capital renewal. The University is committed to prioritizing the upkeep of its capital assets.

# South Carolina Higher Education Tuition Grants Commission

Budget Request 2026-27

House Ways & Means  
Higher Education Subcommittee

# South Carolina Higher Education Tuition Grants Commission

Agency Attendees:

Katie Stevens, Executive Director

[katie@sctuitiongrants.org](mailto:katie@sctuitiongrants.org); (803) 896-1121

Zachary Christian, Deputy Director

[zachary@sctuitiongrants.org](mailto:zachary@sctuitiongrants.org); (803) 896-1122

Kira Demery, Fiscal Operations Manager

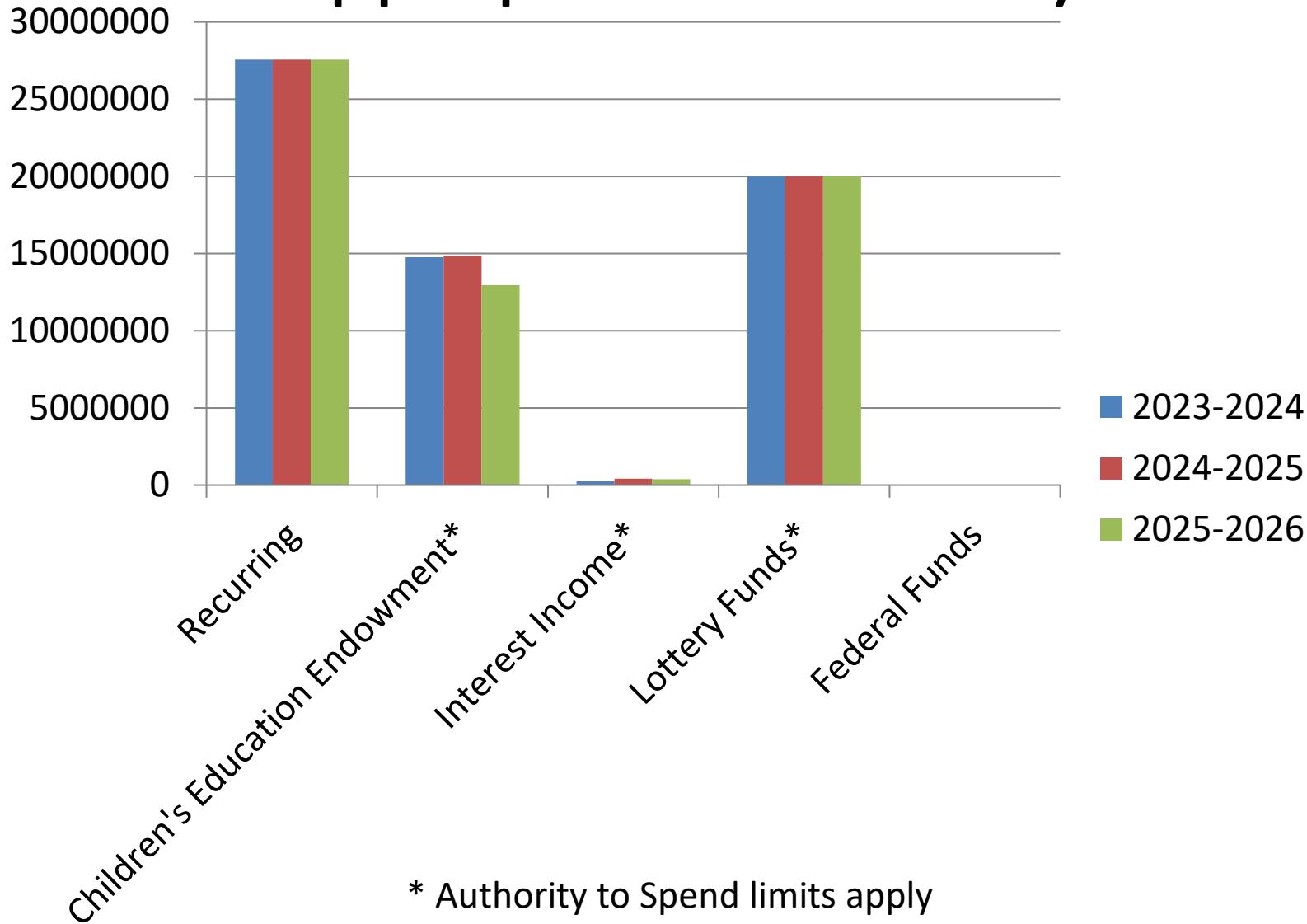
[kira@sctuitiongrants.org](mailto:kira@sctuitiongrants.org); (803) 896-1124

# South Carolina Tuition Grants

- The South Carolina Tuition Grants Program was created to help educate our South Carolina citizens by making the cost of attending in-state independent colleges more affordable, thereby gaining maximum usage from all available educational facilities located in South Carolina. The Tuition Grants Program also helps preserve the dual system of education in South Carolina and saves the state tax dollars (estimated at over \$994 million in cost avoidance since Program creation) by attracting South Carolina residents into the independent college sector, thereby saving the automatic state tax subsidy that goes to all students attending South Carolina's public colleges regardless of the financial need of the family.

*The mission of the South Carolina Higher Education Tuition Grants Commission is to provide access and opportunity for more South Carolinians to pursue a postsecondary education by providing need-based tuition grants to students who choose to attend an independent college or university.*

# Tuition Grants Program 3-Year Appropriations History

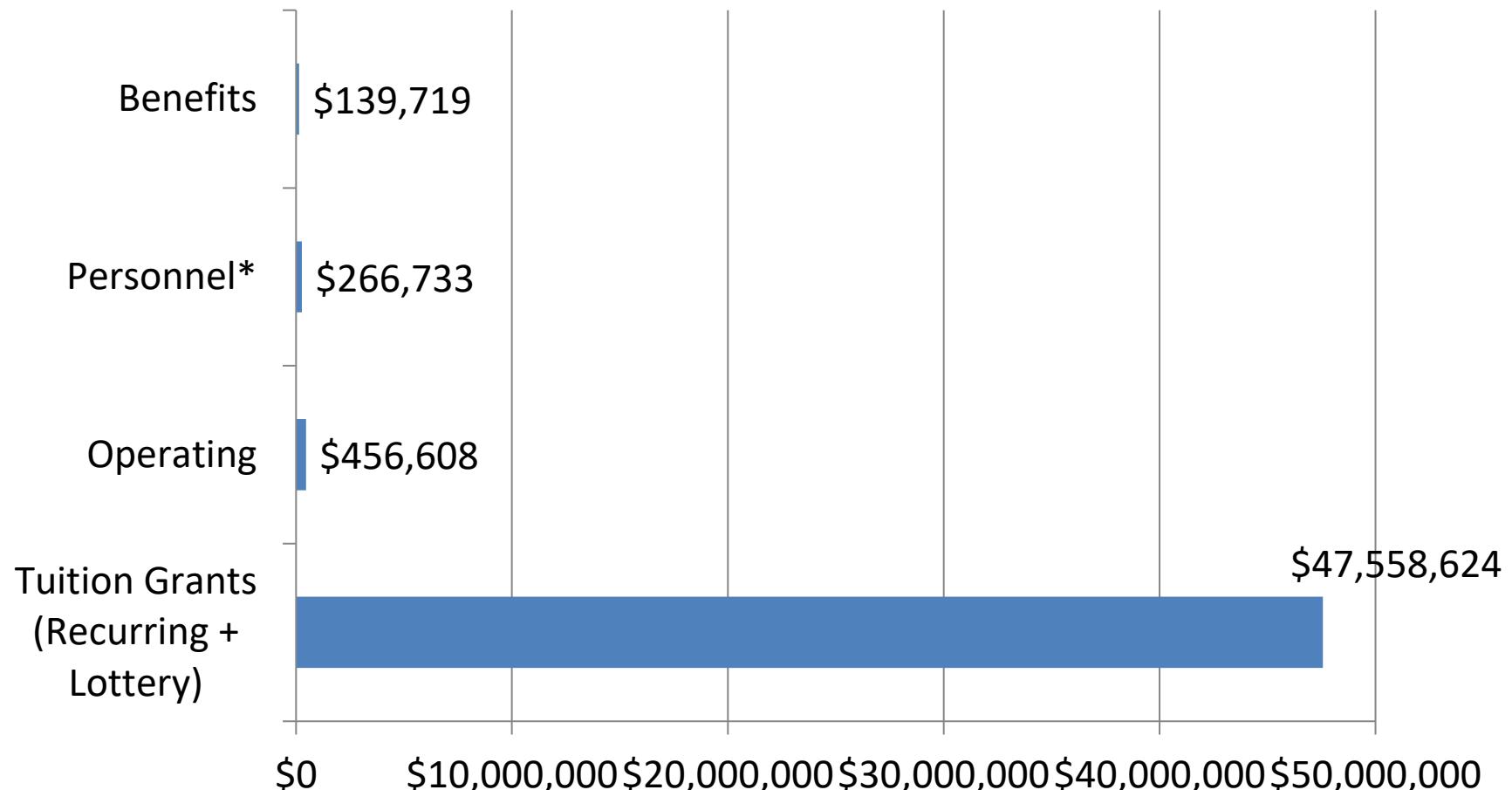


# Tuition Grants Program and Operations Appropriations History

SC Tuition Grants Commission				
	FY 2023-2024	FY 2024-2025	FY 2025-2026	
<i>Tuition Grants – General Recurring</i>	\$27,558,624	\$27,558,624	\$27,558,624	<i>Recurring</i>
<i>Tuition Grants – Lottery</i>	\$20,000,000	\$20,000,000	\$20,000,000	<i>Non-Recurring</i>
<i>Tuition Grants – Children’s Education Endowment (CHE Pass-Through)</i>	\$14,765,740	\$14,847,360	\$12,947,845	<i>Non-Recurring</i>
<i>Tuition Grants – Interest Earnings</i>	\$242,055	\$406,672	\$376,513	<i>Non-Recurring</i>
<i>Administration - Operations</i>	\$296,608	\$296,608	\$456,608	<i>Recurring</i>
<i>Administration – Classified Personnel and Director Salaries</i>	\$249,345	\$261,238	\$266,733	<i>Recurring</i>
<i>Administration – Employee Benefits</i>	\$125,870	\$135,870	\$139,719	<i>Recurring</i>

# Current Program Funding

## FY 25-26



\* Agency transferred \$85,000 of allowable carryforward funds in September 2025 to bolster personnel budget line item for FY26, bringing total budget for personnel to \$351,733

# FY 25-26 Program Updates

- The continuation of recent investments in need-based student aid by the Governor and the General Assembly has allowed the value of the Maximum Tuition Grant to increase to \$5,000 for the current academic year, the largest maximum grant in Program history.
- The unexpected closure of Limestone University led to over 200 students transferring their Tuition Grant award to other participating independent colleges.
- A thorough review of the residency determination policy for the Tuition Grants Program of each participating college and university was conducted prior to the start of the Award Year. As a result of that review, Tuition Grants Commission staff created a standard residency determination policy each college will be required to implement for Tuition Grants purposes beginning with 2026-2027, to ensure consistency. This policy is compliant with the current regulatory verbiage and will be updated as regulations change.

# FAFSA Completion Portal

- In January 2025, the Commission partnered with the SC Department of Education and the SC Commission on Higher Education to launch the state's first FAFSA Completion Status Information Portal. This secure system gives high school counselors real-time access to FAFSA filing status for their seniors, helping them target outreach to students who need support.
- During its initial rollout to 40 high schools, participating schools achieved FAFSA completion rates 2% higher than the statewide average.
- For the current school year, we have expanded the availability of the portal to any K-12 school (public traditional, public charter, or private) who wishes to participate. Currently, 59 schools have active users. The agency and its partners continue to promote the portal statewide.
- There is no charge for schools or districts choosing to use the portal.

FAFSA Completion Data AAA High School				
Academic Year 2025 - 2026				
		Export to Excel		Close
Last Name	First Name	Date of Birth	Zip Code	FAFSA Status
Abel	Mary	01/07/2006	01234	Complete
Clark	Susan	07/14/2006	22345	Complete
Jones	Laura	10/28/2005	12256	Missing Signature
Martin	Doug	03/30/2006	01234	Complete
Washington	James	09/04/2005	12256	Not Found
Young	Sarah	03/13/2006	01234	Complete

# NEW Online Data Center

- Agency launched an online data center in December 2025
- Available at <https://sctuitiongrants.org/data/>

## Welcome to the SC Higher Education Tuition Grants Commission's Data Center!

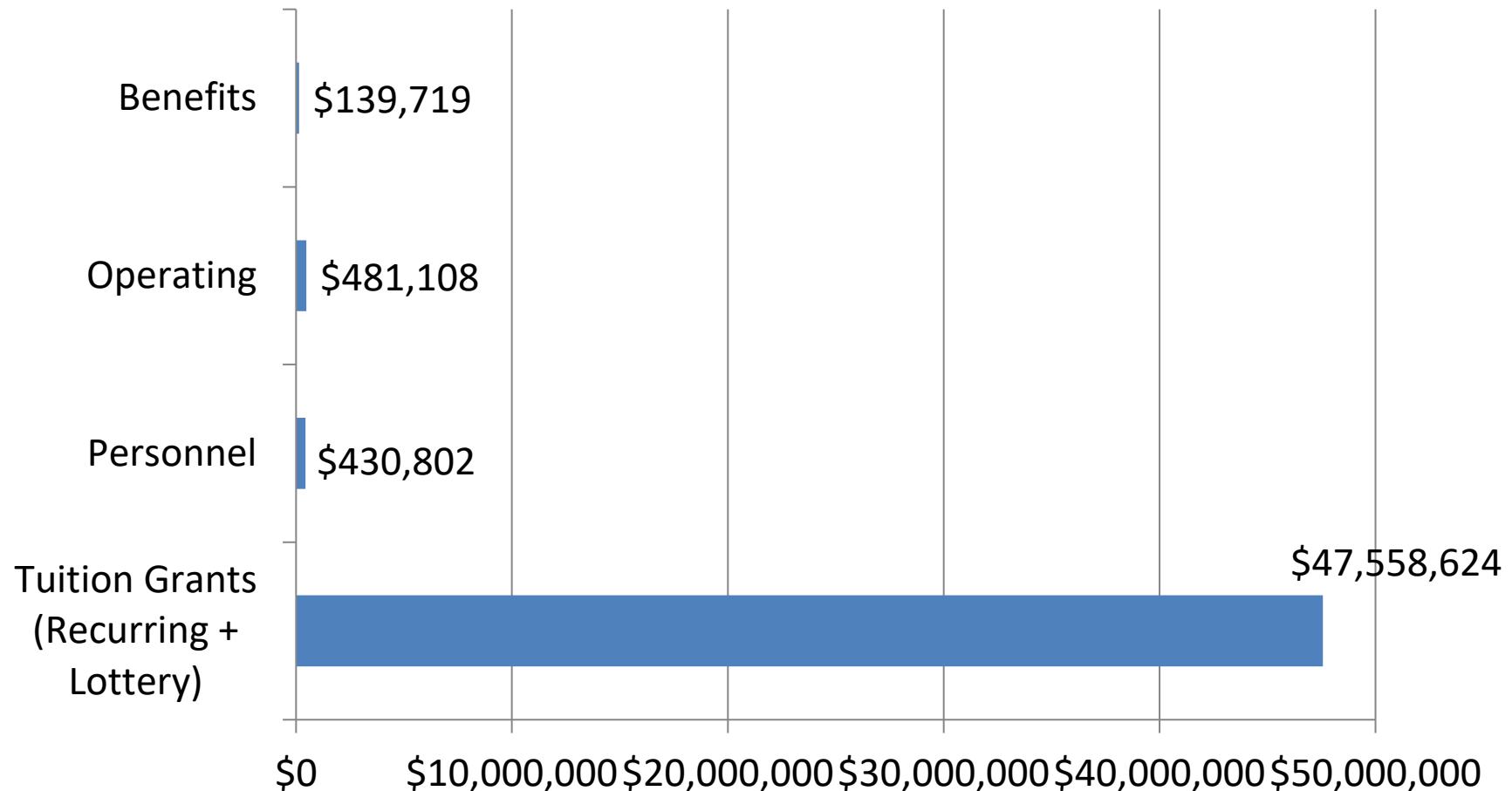
### Data Dashboards, Reports and Summaries:

The SC Higher Education Tuition Grants Commission produces several reports, a historical summary, and other information pertaining to the South Carolina Tuition Grants Program and the Agency, as well as FAFSA Completion Information Dashboards.



# Budget Request

## FY 26-27



# Recurring Appropriations Request

## FY 26-27

- \$10,000,000: Student Grants (Move from Lottery to recurring)
  - No new or additional funds being requested
  - Agency is requesting consideration of moving up to \$10 million from Lottery to General Fund, if possible, to provide a more stable source of funding and to provide the opportunity to better plan for future disbursements and eligibility changes allowing more students to benefit under the Program
  - If funds are unable to be moved from Lottery to General Fund, please continue level funding of \$20 million through Lottery allocations to maintain the recent increase in need-based aid programs

# Recurring Appropriations Request

## FY 26-27

- \$95,000: Realign Classified Personnel Budget
  - New recurring (operating) funds request
  - Agency is requesting \$95,000 in recurring general funds to support well-deserved pay raises for our dedicated staff. For the past several years, the agency has relied on carry forward funds to cover shortages in the personnel budget, but this is not a sustainable long-term solution. Realigning our classified budget to reflect actual expenditures will establish a more accurate and stable baseline moving forward.
  - Investing in our employees is essential to retaining experienced, high-quality staff and reducing costly turnover, which ultimately saves the state money. These funds will allow the agency to recognize the hard work and commitment of our team, while ensuring we remain competitive in attracting and keeping the talent needed to serve South Carolina students and families effectively.

# Recurring Appropriations Request

## FY 26-27

- \$69,069: Classified Personnel – New Position
  - New recurring (operating) funds request
  - The agency has maintained an unfunded, vacant FTE position since 2003 and would like to reclassify and fill that position.
  - Agency is responsible for administering and disbursing over \$57 million in student grants based on financial need annually, supporting nearly 13,000 students across 21 private colleges and universities. Our mission drives workforce development and economic mobility across the state.
  - Despite the magnitude of this work, our agency currently operates with only four full-time staff members, creating significant operational strain at times.

# Recurring Appropriations Request

## FY 26-27

- \$24,500: Increase in Information Technology Fees
  - New recurring (operating) funds request
  - The SC Department of Administration has recently informed all agencies participating in enterprise-level Information Technology shared services of significant increases related to the services being provided. These include end user services, desktop support, firewall configuration and support, data recovery services, router support, and internet service.
  - The Department of Administration is providing the agency with monthly credits during FY26 to cover the increased charges; however, beginning with FY27, there will no longer be credits available to offset the new charges.

# Non-Recurring/Capital Request

## FY 26-27

- No Non-Recurring Requests
- No Capital Requests

# Proviso Request

## FY 26-27

- No Proviso Changes Requested

# Other/Federal Fund Request

## FY 26-27

- No Other/Federal Fund Requests

# FTEs

- The Commission currently has:
- 5 authorized State FTEs, 1 vacant FTE
- 0 authorized Federal FTEs
- 0 authorized Other Funded FTEs
- 5 Total FTEs
  
- There are no requests for additional FTEs, although the agency is requesting new funding for the vacant FTE position.

# Additional Information

# South Carolina Tuition Grants

- SC Tuition Grants Program was established in 1970 with over 524,000 student grants awarded since then.
- In the current academic year, nearly 13,000 students, attending 21 eligible South Carolina independent colleges, are receiving a South Carolina Tuition Grant.
- By Statute, all recipients are South Carolina Residents.
- SC Tuition Grants are grants, not scholarships, and require financial need to qualify; By statute, a measure of academic merit is also required to qualify.
- Tuition Grants are awarded to eligible South Carolina students by the agency, based on results of the FAFSA, and can only be used to assist in paying their tuition. No funds are provided directly to colleges for operating or other administrative expenses.

# Eligible Colleges

All Based in South Carolina by Statute (59-113-50)

- ◆ Allen University
- ◆ Anderson University
- ◆ Benedict College
- ◆ Bob Jones University
- ◆ Charleston Southern University
- ◆ Claflin University
- ◆ Clinton College
- ◆ Coker University
- ◆ Columbia College
- ◆ Columbia International University
- ◆ Converse University
- ◆ Erskine College
- ◆ Furman University
- ◆ Morris College
- ◆ Newberry College
- ◆ North Greenville University
- ◆ Presbyterian College
- ◆ Southern Wesleyan University
- ◆ Spartanburg Methodist College
- ◆ Voorhees University
- ◆ Wofford College

# Five Year Grant History

- 2025-2026 – ~13,000 Recipients  
Max. Grant - \$5,000; Average Grant ~\$4,800
- 2024-2025 – 12,975 Recipients  
Max. Grant - \$4,800; Average Grant \$4,406
- 2023-2024 – 12,473 Recipients  
Max. Grant - \$4,800; Average Grant - \$4,391
- 2022-2023 – 12,036 Recipients  
Max. Grant - \$4,500; Average Grant - \$4,142
- 2021-2022 – 11,262 Recipients  
Max. Grant - \$4,390; Average Grant - \$3,952

# 15- Year Maximum Grant History

2025-2026 -- \$5,000

2024-2025 -- \$4,800

2023-2024 -- \$4,800

2022-2023 -- \$4,500

2021-2022 -- \$4,390

2020-2021 -- \$3,600

2019-2020 -- \$3,500

2018-2019 -- \$3,300

2017-2018 -- \$3,200

2016-2017 -- \$3,200

2015-2016 -- \$3,100

2014-2015 -- \$3,000

2013-2014 -- \$2,900

2012-2013 -- \$2,800

2011-2012 -- \$2,600

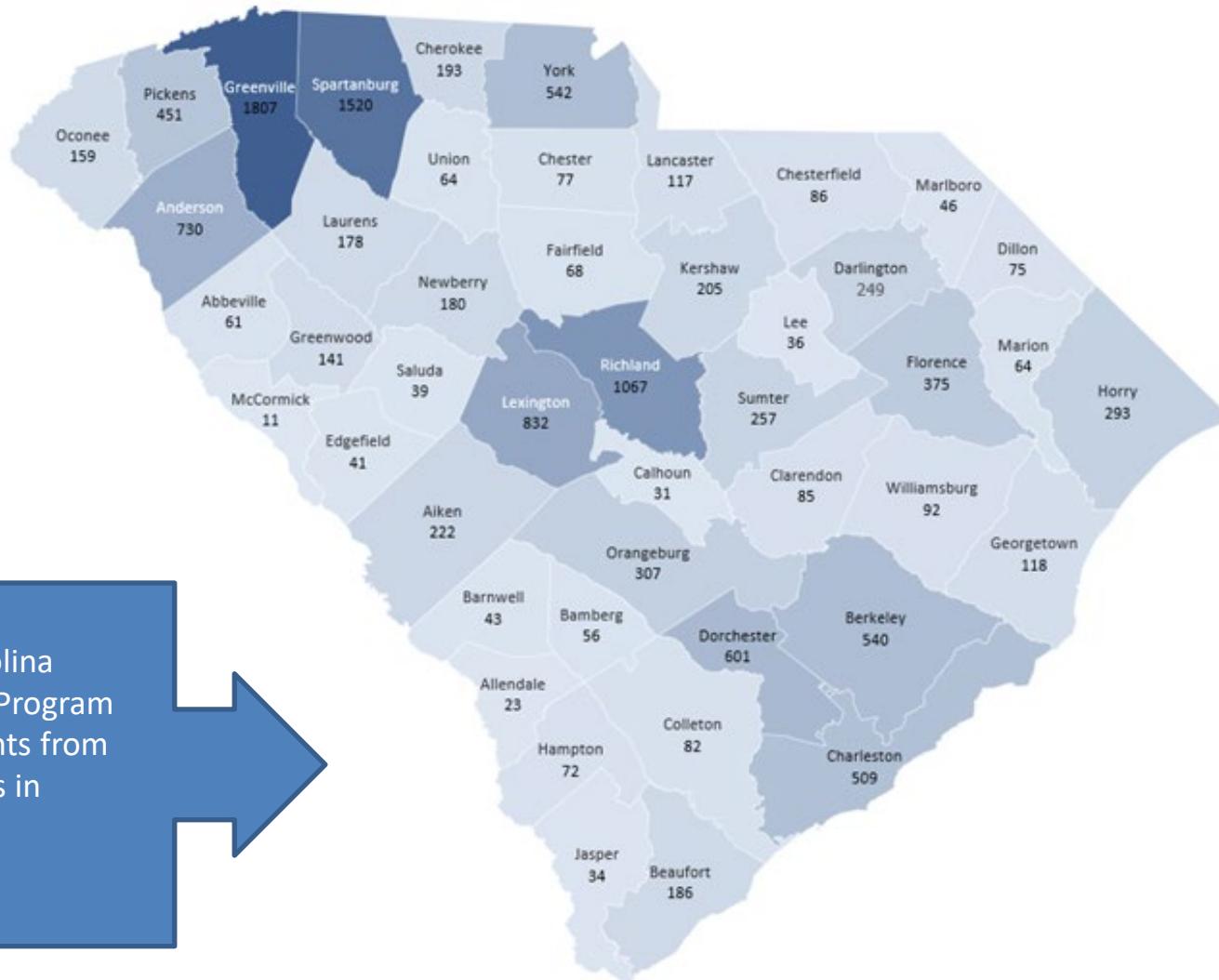
The Statutory Maximum Grant for the Tuition Grant may not exceed the average state appropriation for each FTE in the state-supported institutions of higher learning with four-year undergraduate degree programs in the previous year.

For the most recent academic year, the average state appropriation for these FTE students was \$7,529.

# 2024-2025 Recipients By College

<u>College Attended</u>	<u>Recipients</u>	<u>Tuition Grants</u>
Allen University	222	\$959,510
Anderson University	1,530	\$6,872,465
Benedict College	632	\$2,795,588
Bob Jones University	500	\$2,155,891
Charleston Southern University	1,389	\$6,093,612
Claflin University	1,079	\$4,771,711
Clinton College	112	\$463,200
Coker University	423	\$1,871,509
Columbia College	617	\$2,562,236
Columbia International University	303	\$1,339,684
Converse University	450	\$2,036,590
Erskine College	399	\$1,777,803
Furman University	470	\$2,197,220
Limestone University	632	\$2,722,306
Morris College	214	\$934,282
Newberry College	857	\$3,796,135
North Greenville University	956	\$4,171,146
Presbyterian College	376	\$1,734,875
Southern Wesleyan University	282	\$1,233,775
Spartanburg Methodist College	817	\$3,535,186
Voorhees College	110	\$472,800
Wofford College	605	\$2,845,576
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>12,975</b>	<b>\$57,343,100</b>

# 2024-2025 Student Demographics: Recipients by County



# Additional Information

- Independent colleges in South Carolina have a combined enrollment of over 36,000 students annually and graduate over 22% of the state's Bachelor's degree recipients
- About 16% of South Carolina's full-time undergraduate students are enrolled at our state's independent colleges
- At private institutions throughout the country, there is no difference in tuition for in-state or out-of-state students; On average, tuition and fees at South Carolina's independent colleges has risen just 2.5% over the last three years; Tuition and fees at South Carolina's independent colleges are approximately 30% less than the national average for private, non-profit colleges and universities.



**South Carolina**  
Commission on Higher Education  
Accessibility | Excellence | Accountability

# **CHE FY 2026-27 Budget Request**

**Briefing for the House Ways and Means Committee  
Higher Education and Technical Colleges Subcommittee**

The Honorable Nathan Ballentine, Chairman

The Honorable Gilda Cobb-Hunter

The Honorable Bill Taylor

L. Jeffrey Perez, Ph.D.

CHE President and Executive Director

January 2026

# CHE: There's A Lot Beneath The Surface

## Program Approval

Program Productivity Analysis  
Institutional Licensure  
Workforce Alignment  
State Reciprocity Programs  
Statewide Transfer and Articulation  
Dual enrollment  
Convenings

Scholarship audits

Reports created annually (>60)

## Scholarship Administration

Data Validation  
Analytics and Dashboards  
College and Career Decision Day  
FAFSA Completion Campaign  
College Application Campaign  
GI Bill Administration  
Veterans Initiatives  
Scholarship administration training  
Cross-sector collaboration

References in SC Code (>20)

References in budget provisos (>40)

Learn more at [che.sc.gov](http://che.sc.gov)



# CHE Mission and Values

*Provide strategic and collaborative leadership to improve South Carolina's higher education system, expand opportunities for all citizens, and advance the State's civic, cultural and economic development.*

## Values

### Accessibility

- FAFSA Completion
- College Application Month
- College and Career Decision Day
- High School Counselor workshops

### Excellence

- CCWD Collaboration
- New Program Review
- Program Productivity Review
- Scholarship administration training workshops

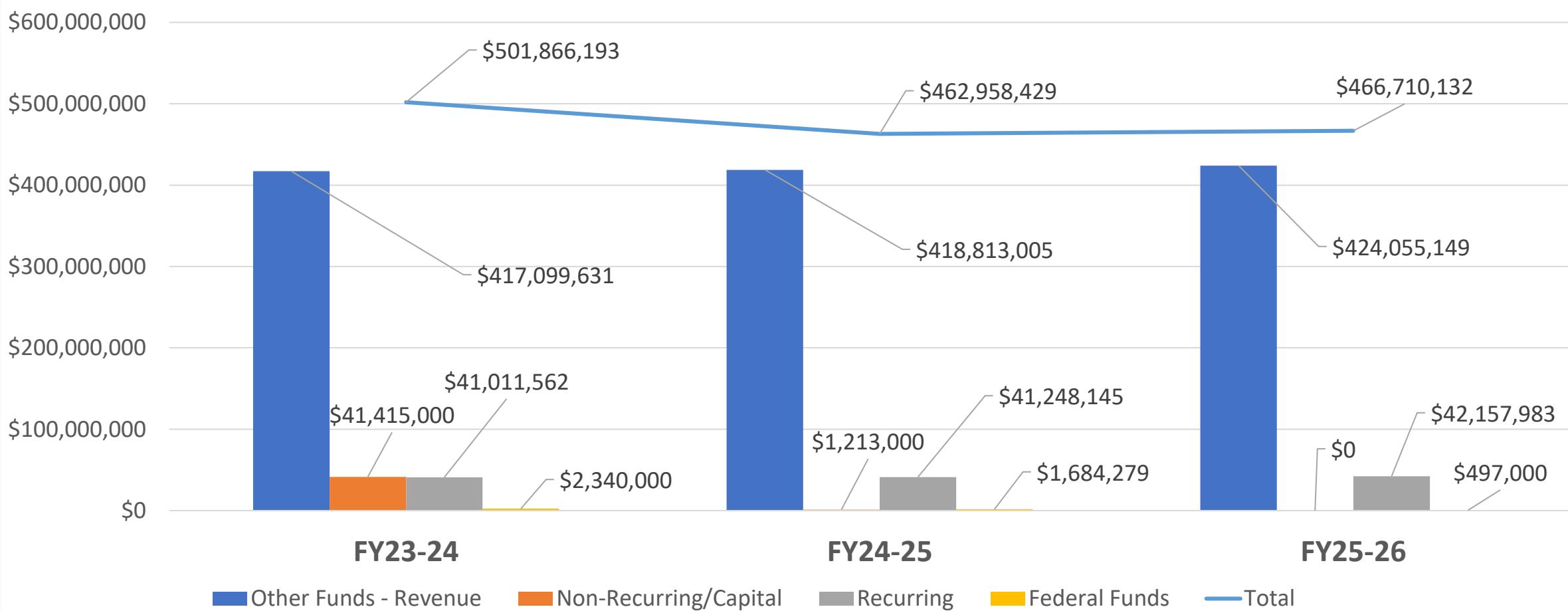
### Accountability

- CHEMIS 2.0
- IG / GELOC Action Plans
- Scholarship Projections
- Scholarship Audits

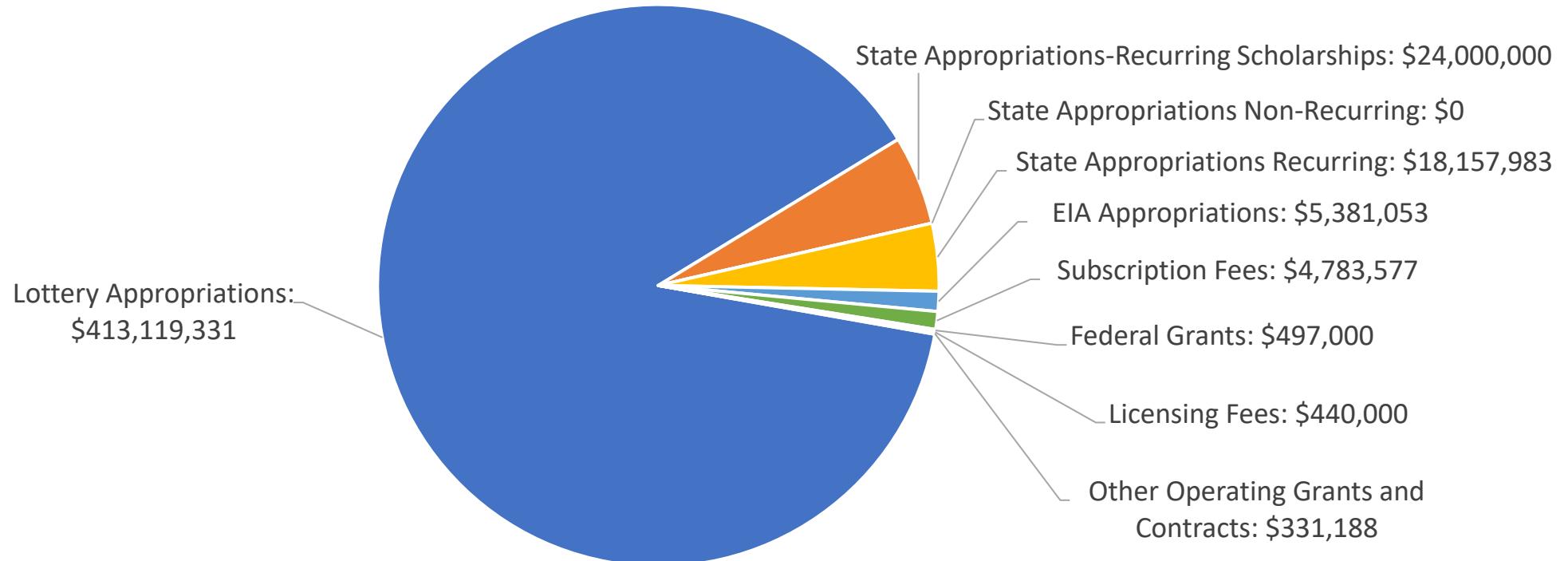
# CHE: Next 12 Months

- Refine residency regulations
- Develop comprehensive program approval and review process
- Expand reporting and analysis
- Complete IG and GELOC recommendations
- Continue collaboration with CCWD

# Appropriations History



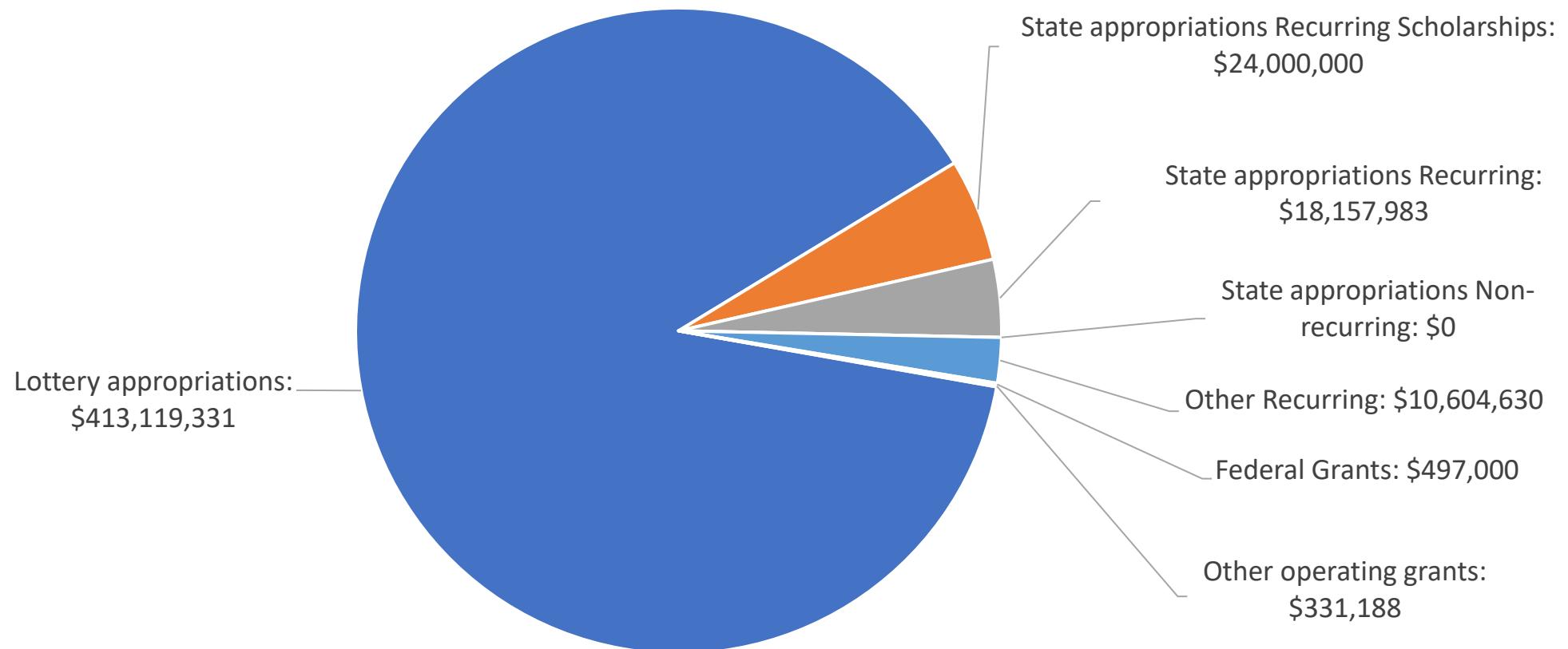
# FY 26 Projected Revenue



- Lottery Appropriations
- State Appropriations Non-Recurring
- EIA Appropriations
- Federal Grants
- Other Operating Grants and Contracts

- State Appropriations-Recurring Scholarships
- State Appropriations Recurring
- Subscription Fees
- Licensing Fees

# FY 26 Projected Expenses



- Lottery appropriations
- State appropriations Non-recurring
- Other operating grants
- State appropriations Recurring Scholarships
- Other Recurring
- Federal Grants

# FY 26 Projected Expenses

	<b>Pass-Through</b>	<b>Administration</b>	<b>Total</b>
Lottery appropriations	\$413,119,331		\$413,119,331
State appropriations Recurring Scholarships	\$24,000,000		\$24,000,000
State appropriations Non-recurring	\$0	\$0	\$0
State appropriations Recurring	\$11,152,487	\$7,005,496	\$18,157,983
Other Recurring	\$10,078,970	\$525,660	\$10,604,630
Federal Grants	\$0	\$497,000	\$497,000
Other operating grants	\$125,930	\$205,258	\$331,188
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$459,362,002</b>	<b>\$8,083,726</b>	<b>\$466,710,132</b>

# Budget Requests

- Reflect a strategic commitment to ensure state funds are expended for intended purposes and results.
- Funding requests are intended to enhance personnel budget stability, effectively manage expanded programs, and compensate for the impact of inflation on several programs.
- 2026-27 proviso requests expand access for in-demand programs and eliminate unnecessary provisos.

# Budget Requests

Request / Priority	Amount Requested	Description of Request
Sustain Personnel Funding (1)	\$215,300	Support existing personnel and the anticipated expense of providing salary increases according to state salary increase regulations and position reclassifications.
Increase in Information Technology Fees (2)	\$160,344	Covers cost of increased DTO service fees.
Education Scholarship Enhancement (4)	\$60,000	Improve the tracking, servicing, and management of these loans until they are either fully repaid or forgiven.

***Total Funding Request for CHE Operations: \$435,644***



# Budget Requests (Cont.)

Request / Priority	Amount Requested	Description of Request
PASCAL Core Infrastructure and Content Funding (3)	\$2,000,000	Funding increase to account for increased costs and enhance stability.
Increase Federal Spending Authority for the State Approving Agency (5)	\$90,647 (Spending authority)	Spending authority revision supports a recent increase in SAA funding by the U.S Dept. of Veterans Affairs.
Increase Total Funds Authorization for PASCAL (6)	\$400,000 (Spending authority)	Increase funding authorization to compensate for program growth.
FTE Funding Source Realignment (7)	N/A	Realigns funding sources following deletion of two FTE positions per FY 2025-26 Proviso 117.197.

# Proviso Requests

## Amend:

- 3.5 (0) LEA: FY 2025-26 Lottery Funding: College Transition Program to include independent colleges and provide startup funding (At the end of FY 2024-25, \$8.1M in carryforward was available for potential use.)

## Delete:

- 3.5 (N) SCIII funding to HEEEP
- 11.12 Other Funded FTE Revenue

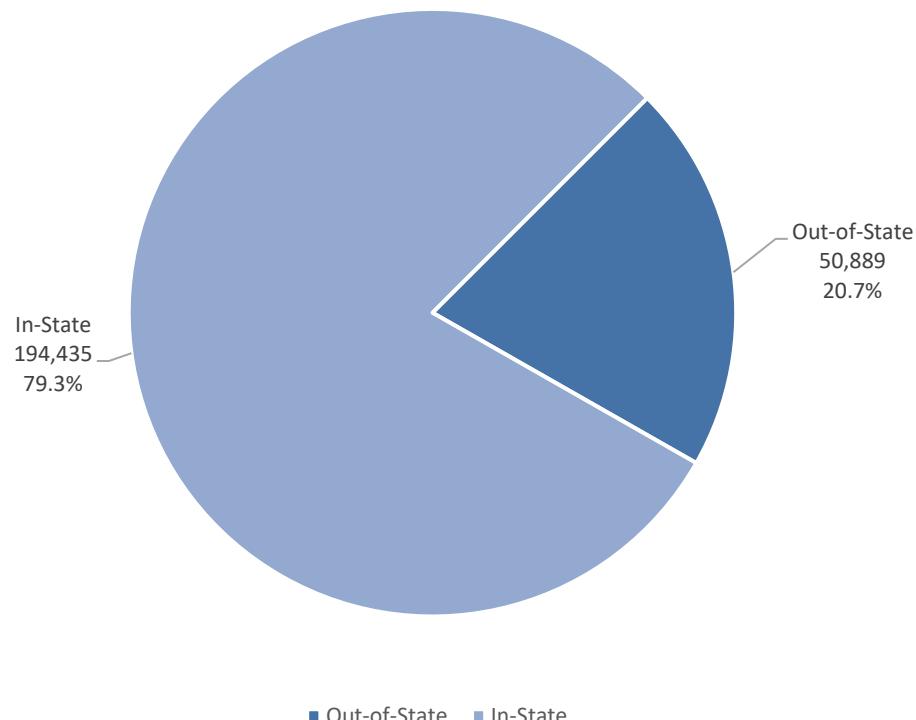


# Appendix

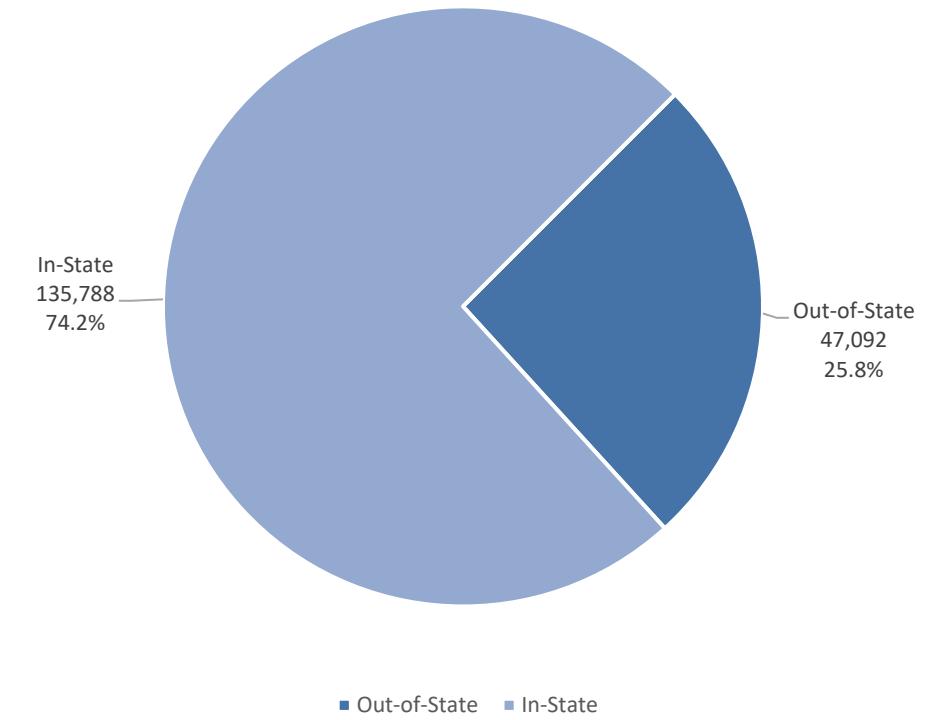
# Headcount Enrollment vs. FTE Enrollment

(Public Colleges and Universities)

Headcount Enrollment, 2024 - 2025



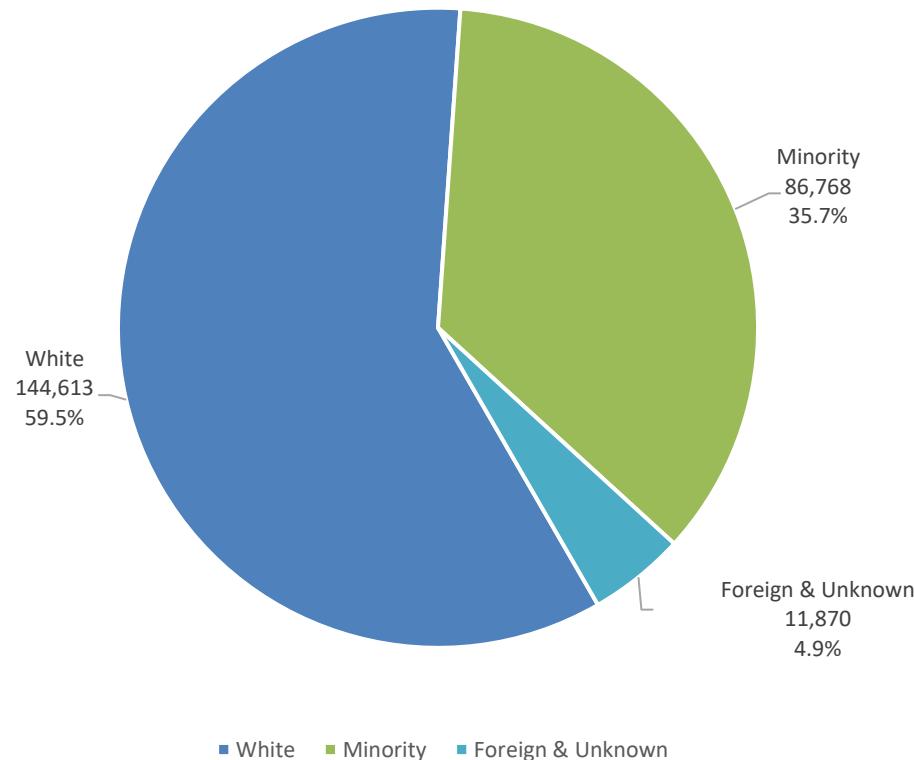
FTE Enrollment, 2024 - 2025



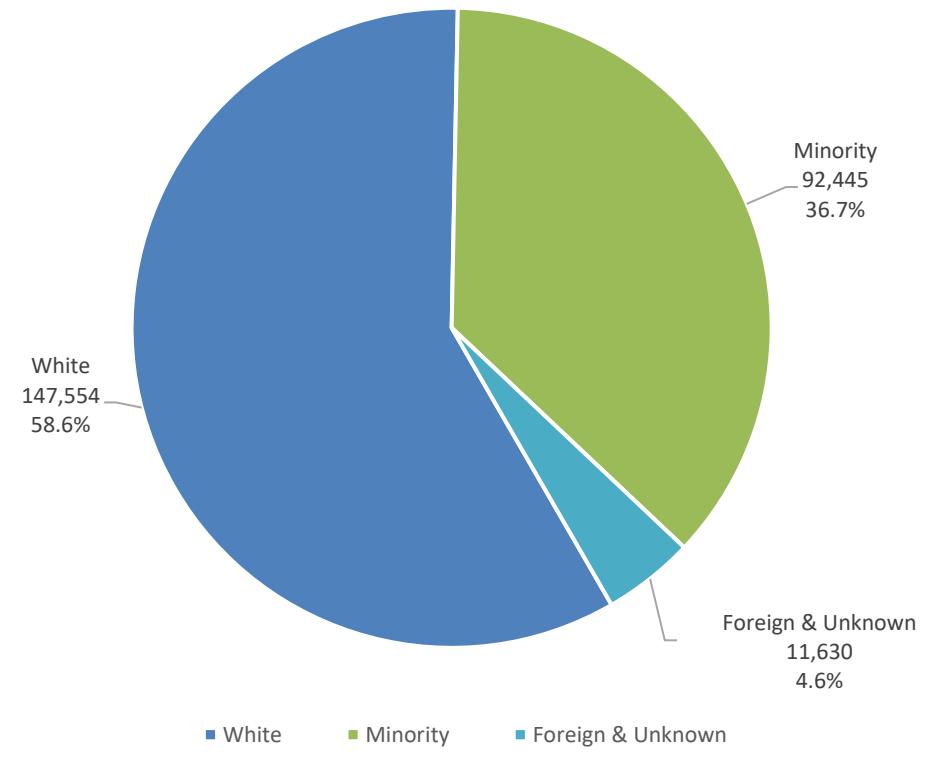
# Student Enrollment by Race-Ethnicity

*(Public Colleges & Universities)*

Headcount Enrollment, 2023 - 2024

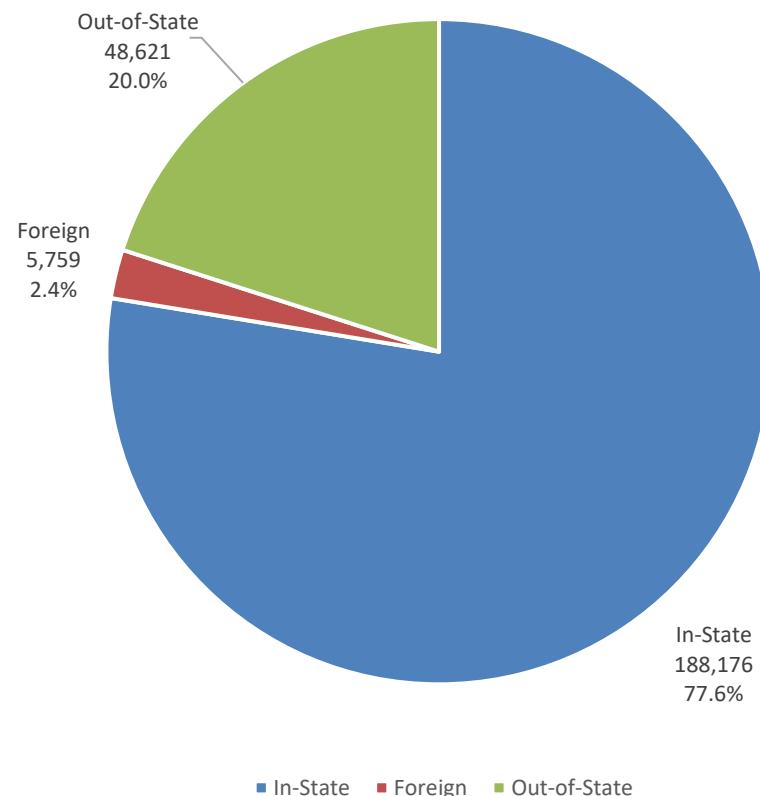


Headcount Enrollment, 2024 - 2025

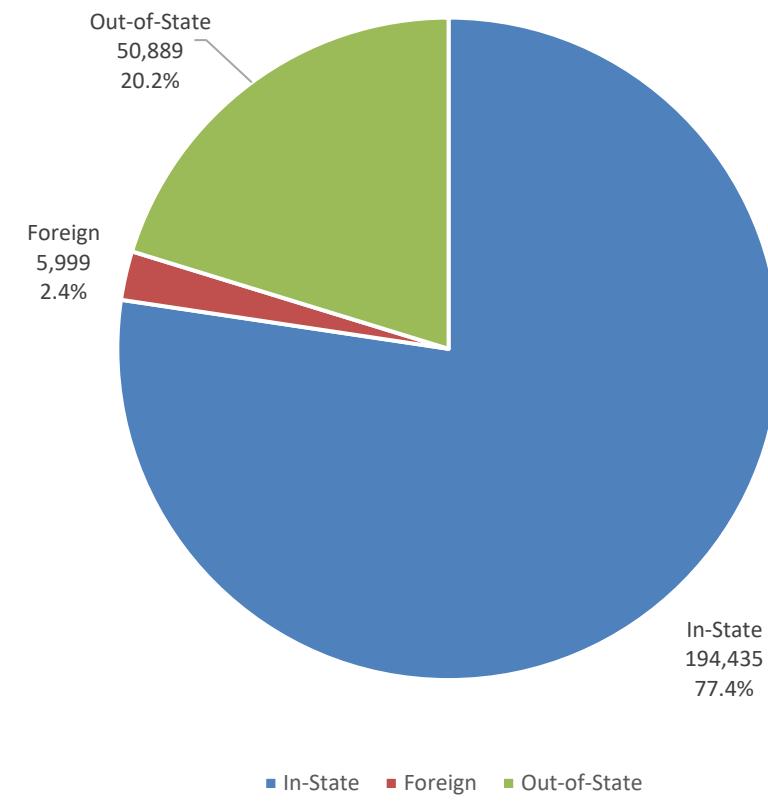


# In-State vs. Out-of-State Students

Headcount Enrollment, 2023 - 2024



Headcount Enrollment, 2024 - 2025



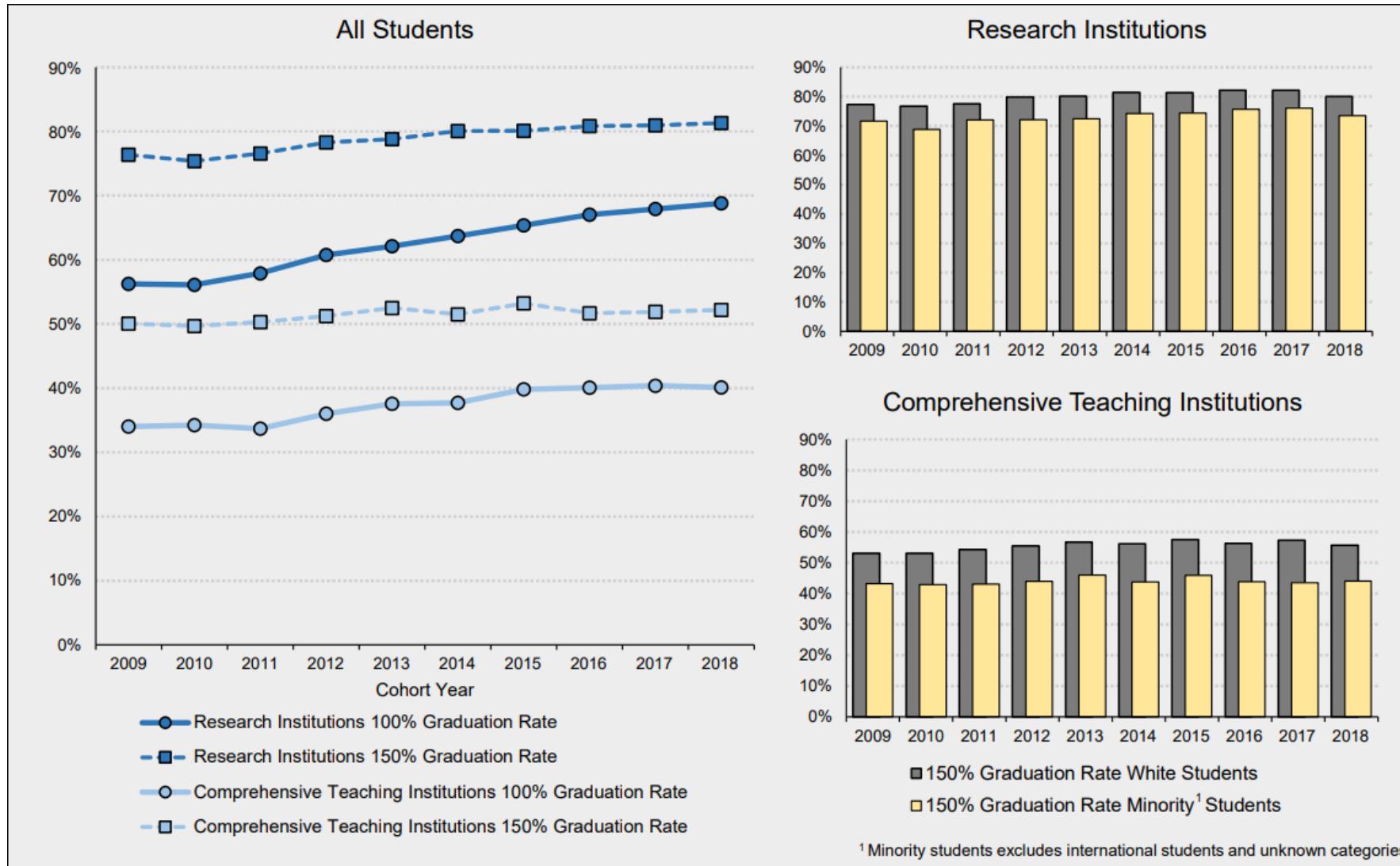
# In-State vs. Out-of-State Undergraduate by Institution

Research Institutions	Academic Year						Percent Change					
	2022-2023		2023-2024		2024-2025		10 Year		5 year		1 year	
	In-State	Out-of-State*	In-State	Out-of-State*	In-State	Out-of-State*	In-State	Out-of-State*	In-State	Out-of-State*	In-State	Out-of-State*
Clemson University	14,475	9,853	14,469	10,192	14,958	10,359	14.2%	64.7%	3.3%	27.2%	3.4%	1.6%
U. S. C. - Columbia	16,678	10,889	17,268	11,514	18,180	12,513	11.9%	21.1%	8.4%	15.6%	5.3%	8.7%
Medical University of South Carolina	263	123	242	108	260	136	-21.5%	83.8%	-19.5%	38.8%	7.4%	25.9%
<b>Research Institutions Total</b>	<b>31,416</b>	<b>20,865</b>	<b>31,979</b>	<b>21,814</b>	<b>33,398</b>	<b>23,008</b>	<b>12.5%</b>	<b>37.8%</b>	<b>5.8%</b>	<b>20.7%</b>	<b>4.4%</b>	<b>5.5%</b>
<b>Comprehensive Teaching Institutions</b>												
The Citadel	1,750	1,307	1,724	1,328	1,749	1,322	-4.2%	2.5%	-7.9%	-1.3%	1.5%	-0.5%
Coastal Carolina University	4,350	5,916	4,437	6,393	4,598	6,775	-13.8%	33.6%	-10.5%	38.8%	3.6%	6.0%
College of Charleston	5,806	4,844	5,743	5,537	5,770	5,659	-18.7%	38.3%	-5.3%	42.5%	0.5%	2.2%
Francis Marion University	3,864	125	3,800	148	3,745	253	-0.5%	112.6%	-1.1%	78.2%	-1.4%	70.9%
Lander University	3,471	281	3,561	312	3,670	305	38.4%	111.8%	11.7%	28.2%	3.1%	-2.2%
South Carolina State University	2,242	424	2,427	611	2,463	763	2.6%	68.1%	25.7%	198.0%	1.5%	24.9%
U. S. C. - Aiken	3,063	372	3,083	356	3,258	363	2.8%	-31.3%	3.7%	-17.3%	5.7%	2.0%
U. S. C. - Beaufort	2,034	279	2,028	346	2,063	378	10.0%	0.3%	5.4%	16.0%	1.7%	9.2%
U. S. C. - Upstate	4,761	220	4,692	260	4,784	289	-20.2%	-32.8%	-18.2%	-2.7%	2.0%	11.2%
Wintrop University	3,820	370	3,778	416	3,900	475	-23.3%	14.7%	-10.7%	16.1%	3.2%	14.2%
<b>Comprehensive Teaching Institutions Total</b>	<b>35,161</b>	<b>14,138</b>	<b>35,273</b>	<b>15,707</b>	<b>36,000</b>	<b>16,582</b>	<b>-8.2%</b>	<b>28.3%</b>	<b>-3.9%</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>2.1%</b>	<b>5.6%</b>
<b>Two-year Regional Campuses of USC</b>												
U. S. C. - Lancaster	2,577	26	3,016	32	3,380	61	41.2%	-18.7%	36.4%	96.8%	12.1%	90.6%
U. S. C. - Salkehatchie	843	44	908	36	958	42	-25.9%	-8.7%	-3.8%	-43.2%	5.5%	16.7%
U. S. C. - Sumter	1,670	61	1,864	65	2,038	58	86.1%	-7.9%	31.5%	1.8%	9.3%	-10.8%
U. S. C. - Union	1,281	75	1,641	68	1,638	77	61.5%	541.7%	14.6%	-4.9%	-0.2%	13.2%
<b>Two-year Regional Campuses of USC Total</b>	<b>6,371</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>7,429</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>8,014</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>38.3%</b>	<b>21.4%</b>	<b>24.2%</b>	<b>-2.1%</b>	<b>7.9%</b>	<b>18.4%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>72,948</b>	<b>35,209</b>	<b>74,681</b>	<b>37,722</b>	<b>77,412</b>	<b>39,828</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>33.6%</b>	<b>2.5%</b>	<b>26.0%</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>5.6%</b>

\*Out-of-State headcounts exclude foreign students

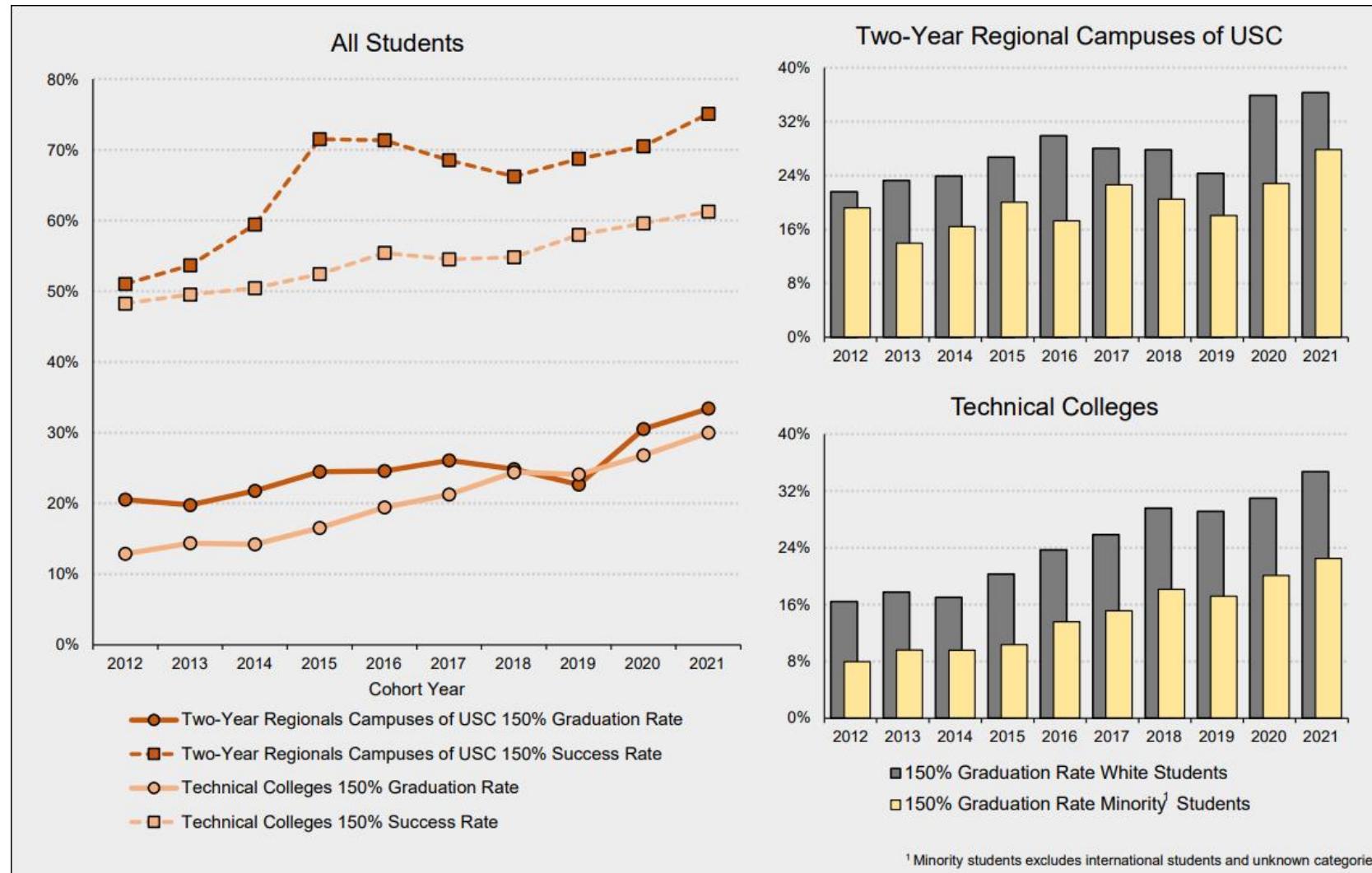
# Ten-year trend in graduation rates

*(Research and Comprehensive Institutions)*



# Ten-year trend in graduation rates

(Two-Year Regional USC Campuses and Technical Colleges)



# Tuition and Fees

## 2024-25, In State, Undergraduate

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	10 Year 2024-25 over 2015-16	% Change		1 Year 2024-25 over 2023-24
					5 Year 2024-25 over 2020-21	1 Year 2024-25 over 2023-24	
<b>Research Institutions</b>							
Clemson	\$15,120	\$15,120	\$15,120	8.9%	0.0%	0.0%	
USC Columbia	\$12,688	\$12,688	\$12,688	10.5%	0.0%	0.0%	
MUSC	\$12,427	\$12,427	\$12,427	-9.7%	-13.2%	0.0%	
<b>Comprehensive Teaching Institutions</b>							
The Citadel	\$13,140	\$13,140	\$13,140	15.6%	0.2%	0.0%	
Coastal Carolina	\$11,640	\$11,640	\$11,640	10.5%	0.0%	0.0%	
College of Charleston	\$12,518	\$12,518	\$12,518	14.8%	0.0%	0.0%	
Francis Marion	\$11,160	\$11,160	\$11,160	10.5%	0.4%	0.0%	
Lander	\$11,700	\$11,700	\$11,700	8.8%	0.0%	0.0%	
SC State	\$11,060	\$11,060	\$11,060	9.6%	0.0%	0.0%	
USC Aiken	\$10,710	\$10,710	\$10,710	8.4%	0.0%	0.0%	
USC Beaufort	\$10,680	\$10,680	\$10,680	8.4%	0.0%	0.0%	
USC Upstate	\$11,488	\$11,488	\$11,488	7.2%	0.0%	0.0%	
Wintrop	\$15,306	\$15,306	\$13,998	-1.1%	-8.5%	-8.5%	
<b>Two-Year Regional Campuses of USC</b>							
USC Lancaster	\$7,558	\$7,558	\$7,558	7.8%	0.0%	0.0%	
USC Salkehatchie	\$7,558	\$7,558	\$7,558	9.3%	0.0%	0.0%	
USC Sumter	\$7,558	\$7,558	\$7,558	9.1%	0.0%	0.0%	
USC Union	\$7,558	\$7,558	\$7,558	9.4%	0.0%	0.0%	

# Tuition and Fees

## 2024-25, In State, Undergraduate

Technical Colleges	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	% Change		
				10 Year 2024-25 over 2015-16	5 Year 2024-25 over 2020-21	1 Year 2024-25 over 2023-24
Aiken	\$4,946	\$4,976	\$5,174	21.4%	8.6%	4.0%
Central Carolina	\$4,896	\$4,896	\$4,896	16.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Denmark	\$5,102	\$5,162	\$5,862	63.7%	11.8%	13.6%
Florence - Darlington	\$4,636	\$4,636	\$4,636	13.7%	0.7%	0.0%
Greenville	\$4,970	\$4,990	\$5,058	19.7%	9.5%	1.4%
Horry - Georgetown	\$4,372	\$4,468	\$4,468	12.8%	3.4%	0.0%
Midlands	\$4,788	\$4,788	\$5,100	27.9%	6.5%	6.5%
Northeastern	\$5,664	\$5,664	\$5,664	47.3%	16.3%	0.0%
Orangeburg - Calhoun	\$4,970	\$4,970	\$5,210	29.9%	11.3%	4.8%
Piedmont	\$4,582	\$4,810	\$4,810	17.8%	6.1%	0.0%
Spartanburg CC	\$5,046	\$5,146	\$5,246	25.1%	10.4%	1.9%
TC of the Lowcountry	\$5,476	\$5,696	\$5,628	34.6%	11.7%	-1.2%
Tri - County	\$4,448	\$4,448	\$4,448	12.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Trident	\$4,563	\$4,563	\$4,563	12.1%	0.8%	0.0%
Williamsburg	\$4,488	\$4,488	\$4,488	12.0%	0.0%	0.0%
York	\$4,556	\$4,592	\$4,646	17.3%	1.8%	1.2%

# Scholarships & Grants Data

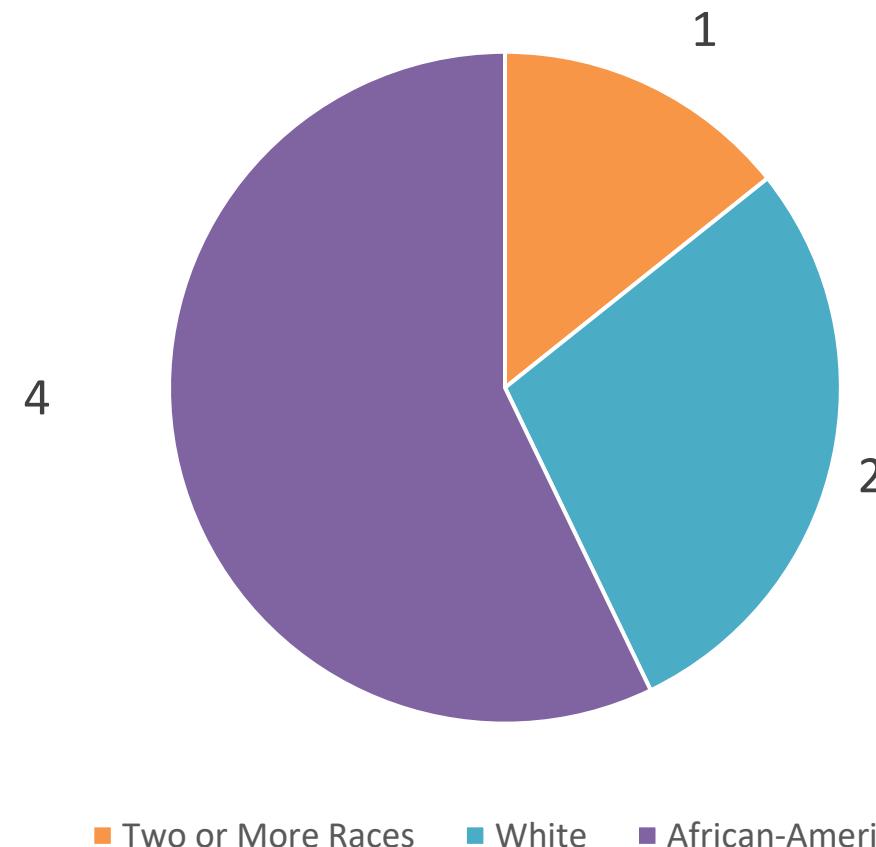
<b>Students</b>		<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>Lottery Appropriations</b>	<b>State Appropriations</b>
LIFE	41,149	\$206,476,417	\$210,341,233	
Palmetto Fellows	8,858	\$70,869,176	\$63,259,863	\$12,000,000
HOPE	4,624	\$12,324,678	\$12,113,310	
SC Need Based Grants	38,062	\$88,089,385	\$80,000,000	\$12,000,000
Lottery Tuition Assistance (Two-year public)	4,069	\$2,260,557	\$3,345,000	
Lottery Tuition Assistance (Two-year independent)	269	\$264,225		
Lottery Tuition Assistance (Public Technical Colleges)	27,863	\$18,185,534		
<b>Totals</b>	124,874	\$398,469,972	\$369,059,406	\$24,000,000

# Employee Information

	Total Authorized	Filled	Vacant
FTE* (classified and unclassified)	47	39	8
Temporary, Temporary Grant, Time-limited	28	19	9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>17</b>

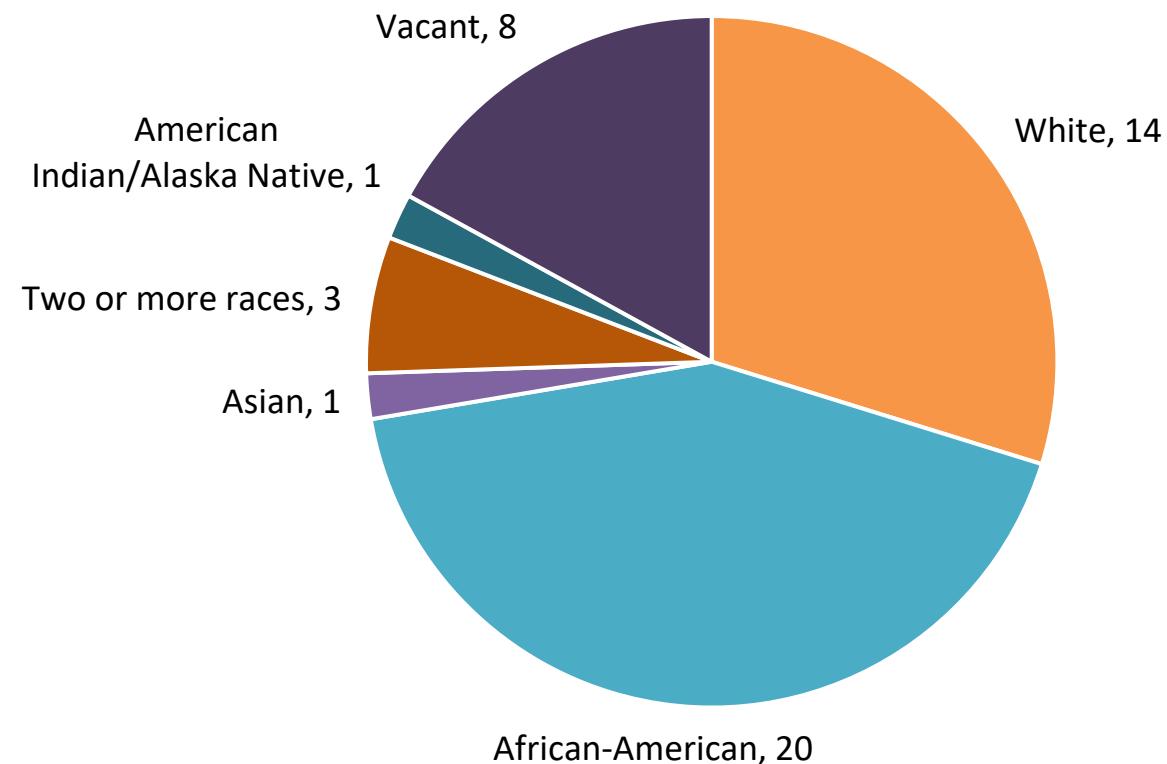
\*Includes Agency Head

# Employees: Agency Leadership by Ethnic Origin



# Employees: FTE Agency Positions by Ethnic Origin

White African-American Asian Two or more races American Indian/Alaska Native Vacant



# **Additional Supplemental Information**

# FY 26 Projected Revenue

	<b>Amount</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
Lottery Appropriations	\$413,119,331	88.52%
State Appropriations Recurring Scholarships	\$24,000,000	5.14%
State Appropriations Recurring	\$18,157,983	3.89%
State Appropriations Non-Recurring	\$0	0.00%
EIA Appropriations	\$5,381,053	1.15%
Subscription Fees	\$4,783,577	1.02%
Federal Grants	\$497,000	0.11%
Licensing Fees	\$440,000	0.09%
Other Operating Grants	\$331,188	0.07%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$466,710,132</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

# 3.5 (N) SCIII funding to HEEEP (Delete)

## Justification for Deletion:

- Proviso 11.21, which provided for the creation of the SC Institutes of Innovation and Information (SCIII) and directed the CHE to serve as fiscal agent, has been deleted and SCIII is no longer in existence.
- Proviso 3.5 (N) for FY 2026 directed the CHE to transfer all remaining SCIII funding to the Higher Education Excellence Enhancement Program (HEEEP).
- As the funds will be transferred by Dec. 1, 2025, CHE requests that this proviso be deleted for the FY2026-27 budget.

# 3.5 (N) SCIII funding to HEEEP

## Deleted Proviso Text:

(N) Any funds carried forward for the South Carolina Institutes of Innovation and Information (SCIII) shall be redirected to support the Higher Education Excellence Enhancement Program and be distributed based on the requirements of Section 2-77-20 and those contained in this act. By March fifteenth, the Commission on Higher Education shall provide a final report on the expenditures of the SCIII program to the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee.

# 3.5 (0) LEA: FY 2025-26 Lottery Funding: College Transition Program (Amend)

## Justification :

- SC Department of Education has identified approximately 1,000 students each year who exit South Carolina public high schools and may qualify for a College Transition Program (CTP).
- Increase access to CTPs by amending language to **include independent SC institutions** with an approved CTP to promote program growth, sustainability, and expanded access.
- Authorize the use of unexpended and/or carryforward funds (\$8.1M) for start-up funding for future CTPs (start-up funding capped at \$90,000 per program).



# 3.5 (0) LEA: FY 2025-26 Lottery Funding: College Transition Program Amended Text

## 3.7. (LEA: FY 2025-26 Lottery Funding)

(O) Of the funds appropriated to the Commission on Higher Education for College Transition Scholarships, the commission shall provide scholarships to South Carolina resident students enrolled at a public **or independent** institution of higher education in an established College Transition Program (CTP) that serves students with intellectual disabilities. The commission, in consultation with the CTPs, shall develop guidelines establishing scholarship eligibility, retention, and/or renewal requirements in accordance with this paragraph. Scholarships shall be awarded to each South Carolina resident student enrolled in an established public **or independent** CTP in an amount of at least \$2,500 per semester, not to exceed \$15,000 per academic year (including summer semester), and no student may receive a scholarship for more than eight semesters in total. In addition, the limitations of Proviso 11.10 notwithstanding, individual CTPs shall have the discretion to allocate a portion of their aggregate funding provided pursuant to this provision for need-based grants to eligible students. This discretion is allowable only to the extent that the funding for need-based grants for eligible CTP students provided pursuant to Proviso 11.10 has first been fully exhausted. The commission, in cooperation with the CTPs, shall collect and report the number of scholarship recipients and other information determined necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of these scholarships in assisting students with intellectual disabilities in college transition programs. The commission shall provide this report to the Governor, the Chairman of the House Education and Public Works Committee, the Chairman of the Senate Education Committee, the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, and the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee no later than September 30. Unexpended funds may be carried forward and used for the same purpose, except that: **1)** up to \$250,000 may be used by the CTP consortium (known as The South Carolina Inclusive Post-Secondary Education Consortium) to be used collaboratively by the consortium to promote better awareness of CTP programs statewide as an option for youth with intellectual disabilities after high school through dedicated support for activities such as, but not necessarily limited to, student recruitment, development and maintenance of a consortium website and associated materials, and the provision of strategic informational events for prospective students and families across the State; **and** **2)** **the commission may use unexpended and/or carryforward funding to expand College Transition Programs in South Carolina by providing start-up funding, not to exceed \$90,000 per program, for the development of new CTPs on additional campuses. Such funding shall support program growth and opportunities for South Carolina residents.**

# 11.12 Other Funded FTE Revenue (Delete)

## Justification for Deletion:

- CHE does not need to receive information from the Executive Budget Office about institutions requesting additional other funded FTE positions.
- EBO supports the deletion as long as the CHE no longer needs the data.

## 11.12 Other Funded FTE Revenue

### Deleted Proviso Text:

#### ~~11.12. (CHE: Other Funded FTE Revenue)~~

~~When institutions of higher learning request additional other funded full time equivalent positions, the Executive Budget Office shall inform the Commission on Higher Education of its decision regarding the request and whether or not sufficient revenues exist to fund the salary and fringe benefits for the positions.~~