



Governor's Budget Proposal FY24 & FY25

The bottom line: If enacted as proposed, the governor's budget would leave the university (both UConn and UConn Health) with a shortfall of \$159.6 million next year and \$197.1 million the following year compared to their budget request.

- A cut of \$160 million from UConn's request is simply untenable and will have a lasting and detrimental impact on the University.
- Cuts of this size will dramatically increase time to graduation since there will be fewer faculty, fewer staff to support UConn faculty and UConn students, bigger and fewer classes. All of this will directly impact the cost to attend UConn, educational quality, and student experience. UConn's average time to graduation is 4.1 years – it should stay that way.
- Tuition and fee levels could increase significantly, making UConn less affordable to many Connecticut students. If the University tried to cover the Storrs portion of these cuts by raising tuition, it would mean an increase of 19% or \$3,000 more next year per student, above and beyond the already approved increase of \$660. This is not viable as UConn strives to be an affordable option, especially for Connecticut families.
- UConn is currently ranked #26th among public universities by U.S. News and World Report. This ranking could plummet as funding shortfalls directly impact factors that determine excellence, particularly university funding per student and the faculty-to-student ratio. Since parents and prospective students use these rankings to make decisions on which colleges to attend, you could see more high-achieving Connecticut students choosing out-of-state universities. These Connecticut residents are more likely to choose not to return to the state to work once they graduate.
- If the University needs to increase out-of-state enrollment to fill funding gaps, the result could be a further brain drain that sees high-achieving students enrolling in out-of-state institutions.
- Combining the UConn and UConn Health budgets into one budget is a big problem. It essentially means that student tuition and fee dollars at the Storrs and regional campuses will be used to cover losses at UCH. Or alternatively, UCH patient revenue would be used to fund deficits at the Storrs and regional campuses. Currently, UConn and UCH each have their own state budget. Moving to one budget means that either Storrs and Regional Campus students or UCH patients will be disadvantaged.