Governor’s Budget Briefing

FY 2024 and 2025

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The Governor's budget proposes funding the ECS formula according to the statutory phase-in schedule, providing funding to continue meeting the requirements of the Sheff settlement, and maintaining funding for choice programming such as Open Choice and magnet schools above the enrollment levels of the 2022-23 school year.
Town by Town Budget Numbers

The governor's budget provides funding to increase ECS entitlements by approximately $46 million in FY 2024 and $91 million in FY 2025. TOWN BY TOWN budget numbers.

Fund Formula Grants at the Statutory Level Provides additional funding for the Excess Cost (special education), Adult Education, and Health Services for Private Pupils grants in order to meet projected statutory requirements for these grants in the upcoming biennium.
ARPA Funds

In addition, the Governor's budget uses ARPA funds to respond to crises in K-12 education such as chronic absenteeism and education staffing by providing a $7 million allocation to support the Learner Attendance Engagement Program (LEAP) and a $10 million allocation for "Education Workforce Development" grant program to support districts with staffing issues, including addressing the paraprofessional shortage and to provide professional support necessary to address academic recovery.
Technical and Career Education

- Technical and career education is also enhanced in the Governor's budget. The budget invests $1.0 million in FY 2024 and $1.2 million in FY 2025 to expand trade offerings in Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS).

- Additionally, $1.8 million in FY 2024 and $1.9 million in FY 2025 to provide additional fiscal/administrative positions for the CTECS to ensure that the system continues to function effectively as an independent agency.
Lastly, the Governor's proposed budget includes an additional $3.5 million in ARPA funding for SDE to collaborate with public institutions to increase dual enrollment opportunities for high school students.

The funding will be targeted to districts where the percentage of students who go to college is below the statewide average. These funds augment the $3.5 million previously provided to SDE to facilitate dual enrollment growth.
Workforce Development

- Funding of $6.5 million in FY 2023 to OEC to expand access to the childcare apprenticeship program, which allows childcare development specialist apprentices to combine paid employment with classroom education to work towards a training credential and improve career prospects.

- Funding of $2 million in FY 2023 to DPH to provide incentive grants to private psychiatric practices and/or other private entities to recruit and hire new child and adolescent psychiatrists or retain those currently in their employment.
Workforce Development continued

- Funding of $35 million ($20 million in FY 2023 and $15 million in FY 2024) to the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities to develop scholarships, faculty hires, and innovative programs to increase the number of nursing and mental health professionals in the state of Connecticut. Funding will be distributed to both public and private institutions of higher education.
Workforce Development  continued

- Funding of $1.8 million to SDE to provide funding for paraeducator professional development. This funding will establish one new position as well as (1) $10 million in ARPA funds for SDE to establish an "Education Workforce Development" grant program to support districts with staffing issues, including addressing the paraprofessional shortage and to provide professional support necessary to address academic recovery.
In addition, the Office of Workforce Strategy was provided $300,000 in ARPA funds in FY 2023 to develop an HVAC pre-apprenticeship workforce pipeline training pilot program. The program is designed to recruit individuals from historically marginalized communities.