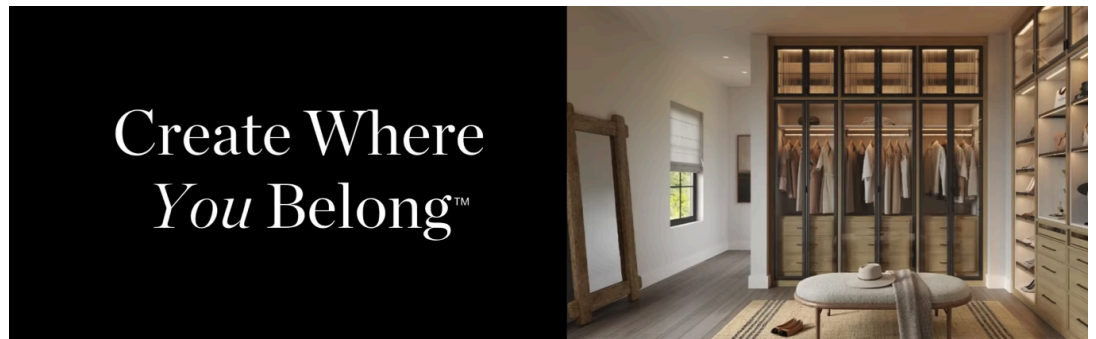


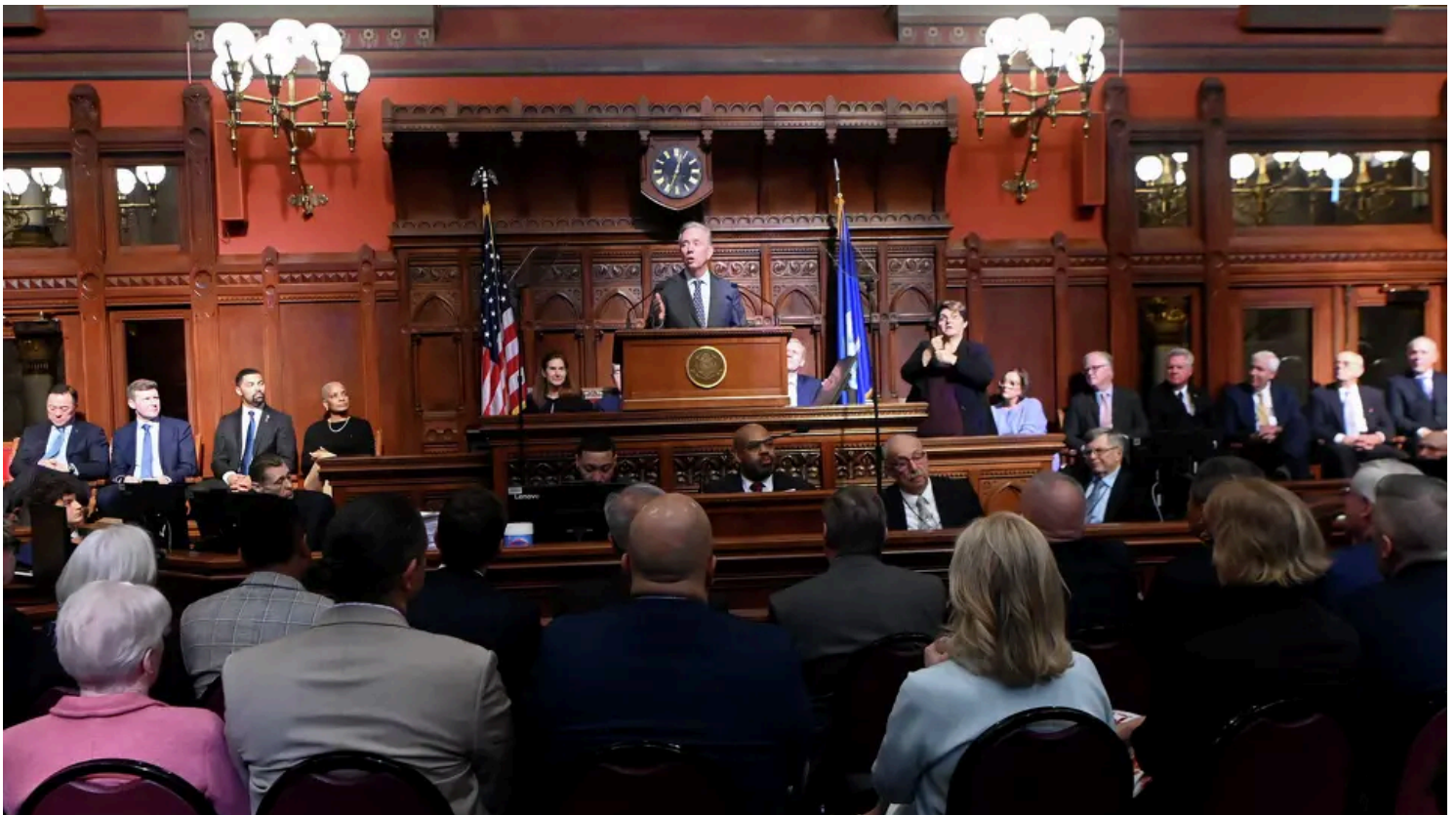
Trending: Rainy Thursday | UConn Big East honors | Lesley Groff | CT's best boys basketball players | Horoscopes



NEWS // EDUCATION

See how much education funding your CT town is set to receive under Gov. Lamont's proposed budget

By **Natasha Sokoloff**, Staff Writer
Feb 16, 2026



Gov. Ned Lamont speaks during opening day of the 2026 legislative session on Feb. 4 at the state Capitol in Hartford.
Jim Michaud/Hearst Connecticut Media



Listen Now: [See how much education funding your CT town is set to receive under Gov. Lamont's proposed budg](#)

0:00

4:58

1x

Everlit

Most Connecticut cities and towns will see no increase in state education funding under [Gov. Ned Lamont's](#) proposed budget for fiscal year 2027.

Olympic skeleton racer Austin Florian welcomed home at Mount Southington

[Watch More](#)

The budget proposal's [failure to include any change](#) to the state's largest grant to school districts has [come under fire](#) from local leaders and education advocates because school districts in more than 150 municipalities across Connecticut would be flat-funded.

ADVERTISEMENT

Article continues below this ad

The [Education Cost Sharing](#) grant — Connecticut's primary form of state funding for K-12 education — distributes dollars to cities and towns based on a formula designed to provide equal educational opportunity. The grant formula has a basic foundation amount and weights that give more aid to poorer districts and schools serving students with higher needs.

But that grant foundation has not increased since 2013, lagging far behind inflation. [Advocates are calling](#) on the state to adjust that foundation amount to account for inflation to help districts keep up with rising costs.

More For You

These CT students take a daily ferry to attend and play for Fishers Island in NY



CT students, leaders urge lawmakers to increase school funding



Is CT ready for stricter homeschooling laws? Some families push back on proposal



The 4 a.m. calls that decide snow days for Connecticut schools



Yale, UConn students demand stronger university stances against ICE



Lamont's proposal [maintains ECS funding](#) at current levels required by law, and thus does not include any actual change to the grant's foundation sought by advocates. Municipal officials and education leaders [warn that](#) without legislative action, municipalities will be forced to keep raising taxes, and school districts will have to cut programs and staff.

Loading...

Because the ECS formula automatically adjusts funding each year based on districts' updated projected enrollment and student demographic information, some municipalities may see a slight increase in funds, such as Rocky Hill, Vernon and Litchfield. That adjustment is equal to an estimated \$1,743,875 total increase in the ECS appropriation for fiscal year 2027, according to the [proposed budget](#).



Take control of your search results

Make CT Insider a preferred source on Google to see more of our journalism when you search.

[Add Preferred Source](#)

However, that increase does not represent an actual change to existing policy or extra allocated funding beyond what municipalities are now entitled to under the law.

ADVERTISEMENT
Article continues below this ad

In Lamont's proposed budget, based on preliminary fiscal year 2026 enrollment and demographic data, 16 municipalities would see an increase in their ECS funding (about \$100 up to more than \$700,000), while 153 municipalities would see no increase in their ECS funding in fiscal year 2027.

Loading...

Under the governor's proposed budget and ECS statutory funding levels, the state would distribute about \$2.46 billion in state education funding to local and regional public school districts in fiscal year 2027. ECS funds support day-to-day school operational costs, staff, programming and other resources — putting many things in danger when the funding [isn't enough](#).

"The governor's proposed budget largely maintains the school funding policy environment currently in place. However, the cumulative effects of inflation have eroded the impact of previous funding increases to districts," according to the [School + State Finance Project's analysis](#) of Lamont's budget revisions. "This has left districts in a difficult position to deliver a strong education to all students. The proposed budget would likely result in cuts to staff, and essential programs and services."

ADVERTISEMENT
Article continues below this ad

The idea of boosting the state's contribution to public education through the Education Cost Sharing grant, or at least incrementally increasing the foundation over time to help account for inflation, has garnered bipartisan support among [Connecticut legislators](#).

And [this legislative session](#), lawmakers already have introduced multiple legislative proposals to do so. [One bill](#), introduced by nearly two dozen state senators, would increase the foundation amount from \$11,525 to \$13,500. [Another proposal](#), introduced by seven state representatives, would phase in a foundation increase to \$18,681 over a five-year period, and allow the amount to be adjusted per inflation so municipalities could lower property tax rates.

Loading...

If the state legislature were to pass any of those bills or similar proposals, all Connecticut cities and towns could see a bump in their education funding for fiscal year 2027. School leaders say that would prevent districts from making difficult cuts, while some mayors say that would give residents relief from high property taxes.

ADVERTISEMENT
Article continues below this ad

Lamont's pledge to create a [Blue Ribbon Panel on K-12 Education](#) indicates his support for a larger conversation about how public education is funded in the state, which eventually could result in changes to funding formulas. In the meantime, Lamont [has said](#) he is open to adjusting the ECS grant foundation, but the budget would have to stay in balance.



Sign up for the Connecticut Briefing!

Get a daily news briefing and subscriber-exclusive reporting.

Email

Sign Up

Feb 16, 2026



Natasha Sokoloff

REPORTER



Natasha Sokoloff is a reporter with Hearst Connecticut Media Group covering education across the state. She reports on both K-12 schools and higher education, from federal and state policy impacts to inequities and other issues in Connecticut schools. She is originally from Southern California and graduated from the University of Richmond with a double major in journalism and leadership studies. Natasha previously covered the Farmington Valley area and has experience covering local news, public affairs and politics, art, education and social justice issues.

Around The Web

Powered by **REVCONTENT**



250th Anniversary Flag Wreath: Why Everyone's Obsessed

By [Peoasis](#)

87% of Shoulder Pain is Not From Tears. Meet The Real Enemy

By [Health Insights Magazine](#)



Mix Some Salt and Vaseline, Here's Why

By [WG Life Hacks 102](#)

Neurologists: 1/2 Cup Each Morning Relieves Neuropathy Quickly! (Try It)

By [Health Headlines](#)

The "Pocket Tornado" That Makes Brooms Obsolete

By [Seese Pro](#)

Seniors On SS Collect 7 Benefits This Month

By [National Penny](#)



Neurologist Bids People With Neuropathy and Nerve Pain: Stop Doing This Now

By [Health Headlines](#)

This Realistic Rabbit Robot Toy is Being Snapped Up in Connecticut

By [Peoasis](#)



The Most Talked About Bottle of 2026 is Being Snapped Up in Connecticut

By [Yifare](#)

More For You



NEWS

New Canaan finance board shocked by staffing error in schools budget

The New Canaan Board of Finance chairman was "shocked" by an error in the head count in the Board of Education's budget and called for a \$2 million reduction.

EDUCATION

CT school leaders apologize for opening during snowy commute

NEWS

Kurdish dissident groups say they are preparing to join the fight against Iran with US support

NEWS

Who is Punch the monkey? What to know about the viral baby monkey

WEATHER

Tracking another potential big CT snowstorm next week

Let's Play



Typeshift



Really Bad Chess



Flipart



Cross|word



SpellTower



Pile-Up Poker

About	▼
Contact	▼
Services	▼
Account	▼

 Your Privacy Choices (Opt Out of Sale/Targeted Ads)