

July 16, 2026

On May 2, 2026, the Connecticut General Assembly passed a new state budget for fiscal year (FY) 2027.<sup>1</sup> Contained in the new budget are policy changes that impact K-12 public education for students and districts throughout the state. This document provides a high-level overview of the school funding provisions for FY 2027 that impact Connecticut's interdistrict magnet schools operated by boards of education (often referred to as BOE magnet schools).<sup>2</sup>

### Overview

- The new state budget provides a **one-time** supplemental grant of \$2.75 million for magnet schools operated by boards of education.
  - While this increase in funding is not the result of an actual adjustment to the foundation level of the magnet school grant, the increase does appear to be calculated **as if** the foundation amount were increased in line with the growth permitted under the State's spending cap. This would theoretically bring the foundation to \$12,210 for magnet schools in FY 2027.
- In addition to the supplemental funding, a total of \$339,255,603 is appropriated to fund all magnet schools in FY 2027.<sup>3</sup>
  - This is an increase of \$16,329,663 over FY 2026 funding levels and reflects updated enrollment and demographic projections, though most of this increase is directed at magnet schools operated by Regional Educational Service Centers (RESCs). The increase over FY 2026 funding levels reflects updated enrollment and demographic projections, as well as an additional \$500,000 for Goodwin University Magnet School System (GUMSS), and a one-time increase of \$6,410,000 for RESCs.
- There are no policy changes to the calculation of general education tuition for out-of-district students, nor are there changes to the phase-in of state grants.
  - General education tuition remains capped at 58% of the per-student amount charged in FY 2024 by BOE magnet school operators.
  - For FY 2027, magnet school operators will continue to receive their FY 2024 per-student state grant, plus 42% of the difference between the sending town's full weighted per-student funding amount and the operator's FY 2024 per-student state grant.
  - BOE magnet school operators will continue to receive no less than their FY 2024 state aid, plus tuition, per student.

<sup>1</sup> Conn. Acts 26-68 as amended by Conn. Acts 26-76 and amended further by Conn. Acts 26-130.

<sup>2</sup> For more information, please see: School and State Finance Project. (2026). *Budget Snapshot: K-12 Education Funding in Revised State Budget for FY 2027*. Southington, CT: Author. Retrieved from <https://schoolstatefinance.org/reports/k-12-education-funding-in-revised-state-budget-for-fy-2027>.

<sup>3</sup> The figures represent the sums of the appropriated amounts to fund BOE-operated and RESC-operated magnet schools, as well as magnet schools operated by GUMSS.

## How were BOE magnet schools funded in FY 2026?<sup>4</sup>

The total appropriation for all magnet schools in FY 2026 was \$322,925,940. BOE magnet schools were provided partial weighted funding for each student attending the school. As in years past, an additional hold-harmless provision was also in place to ensure no operator of a BOE magnet school received less for each out-of-district student than the operator received in FY 2024.

### ***In-District Funding Formula***

- BOE magnet school operators outside of the *Sheff* region received \$3,060 per student for each in-district (resident) student attending their magnet school(s).
- BOE magnet school operators in the *Sheff* region do not receive any per-student state grant funding for in-district students attending their magnet school(s).

### ***Out-of-District Funding Formula***

- For each out-of-district student they educated, BOE magnet school operators received their partial weighted funding amount in addition to 58% of the per-student tuition amount the operator charged in FY 2024 to districts sending students to the operator's magnet school(s).
  - This means for each non-resident student enrolled in FY 2026, BOE magnet school operators received a per-student state grant equal to the per-student state grant the operator received in FY 2024, plus 42% of the difference between the weighted funding amount (based on the Education Cost Sharing (ECS) formula) of the magnet school student's resident town (also known as the sending town) and the FY 2024 per-student state grant.

## How will BOE magnet schools be funded in FY 2027?

- The official funding calculation for BOE magnet school operators remains unchanged for FY 2027.<sup>5</sup>
- An additional \$2.75 million in supplemental funding will be provided for magnet schools operated by boards of education.
  - While the budget does not stipulate how this funding will be distributed, the supplemental grant appears to be based on increasing the foundation to \$12,210, or the growth permitted under the State's spending cap.
- A total of \$339,255,603 is appropriated to fund all magnet schools in FY 2027.<sup>6</sup> This does not include the one-time supplemental funds.
  - The FY 2027 appropriation includes a one-time \$6,410,000 investment for RESC magnet schools, as well as an additional \$500,000 grant for GUMSS.

<sup>4</sup> For more information on how BOE-operated magnet schools were funded in FY 2026, please visit <https://schoolstatefinance.org/hubfs/Reports/Funding%20for%20BOE%20Magnet%20Schools%20in%20FYs%202026%20and%202027.pdf>.

<sup>5</sup> Calculations are adjusted in each fiscal year to reflect updated student counts and other relevant enrollment data.

<sup>6</sup> The figures represent the sums of the appropriated amounts to fund BOE-operated and RESC-operated magnet schools, as well as magnet schools operated by GUMSS.

- BOE magnet school operators continue to be held harmless to their FY 2024 total funding levels per student.

The per-student calculations on the following page illustrate example calculations for FY 2027 for in-district and out-of-district students attending a BOE-operated magnet school. **These examples are not inclusive of the \$2.75 million in one-time supplemental funds, as there is currently no information on how these funds will be distributed.**

**In-District Student (Bridgeport student attending a Bridgeport-operated magnet school):**

As stated above, BOE magnet school operators receive \$3,060 per student for every in-district (resident) student enrolled in their school(s). While BOE operators in the *Sheff* region will not receive any per-student state grant funding for in-district students, this example calculation reflects an in-district student attending a BOE magnet school outside the *Sheff* region.

State Grant  
(\$3,060)

**Out-of-District Sending Town Weighted Funding Amount**

BOE magnet school operators will receive state grants based partially on the weighted funding amounts of each out-of-district student enrolled in the magnet school.<sup>7</sup> An example of the formula calculation is provided below.

|                                     |   |                                                                       |   |                                                 |
|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------------------|
| Foundation<br>(\$11,525)            | x | Sending Town Need<br>Student Count<br>(based on town<br>demographics) |   | Sending Town<br>Weighted Funding<br>Per Student |
| Sending Town Resident Student Count |   |                                                                       | = |                                                 |

**Out-of-District Student (Trumbull student attending a Bridgeport magnet school)<sup>8</sup>:**

The below example uses a student from Trumbull attending a magnet school, operated by Bridgeport Public Schools, as an out-of-district student. Trumbull's weighted funding per student, according to the ECS formula, is \$12,341.

|                                                  |   |                                                                                                                                                                                        |   |                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| FY 2024 State<br>Per-Student Grant<br>\$7,227    | + | <b>42%</b> of the difference between the<br><b>Sending Town Weighted Funding<br/>Amount</b> and the FY 2024 Per-Student<br>State Grant<br>$42\% * (\$12,373 - \$7,227)$<br>$= \$2,161$ | + | <b>58%</b> of FY 2024<br>Per-Student<br>Tuition<br>$58\% * \$3,000 =$<br>$\$1,740$ |
| =                                                |   |                                                                                                                                                                                        |   |                                                                                    |
| FY 2027 Total<br>Per-Student Funding<br>\$11,128 |   |                                                                                                                                                                                        |   |                                                                                    |

<sup>7</sup> These weighted funding amounts are different for each town and are calculated using the ECS formula.

<sup>8</sup> This calculation is an estimated example. The Connecticut State Department of Education will be responsible for calculating actual grant amounts. Trumbull's weighted student funding amount was calculated using the most recent ECS shell data provided by the Connecticut General Assembly's Office of Fiscal Analysis.

## Appendix

### Weighted Per-Student Funding by Sending Town

The table below contains **estimated** weighted per-student funding amounts for use in calculating BOE magnet school state grants for FY 2027. Please note, these estimates are not the FY 2027 per-student state grant amounts for students from each town, as these amounts will be phased in above the current state grant amount as described earlier in this document.

*Note: These amounts are estimated based only on data contained in the most recently available ECS shell. Changes in student demographics or town wealth could result in different amounts.*

| Sending Town | Weighted Per-Student Amount |
|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Andover      | \$12,626                    |
| Ansonia      | \$14,035                    |
| Ashford      | \$12,885                    |
| Avon         | \$11,961                    |
| Barkhamsted  | \$12,400                    |
| Beacon Falls | \$12,686                    |
| Berlin       | \$12,509                    |
| Bethany      | \$12,089                    |
| Bethel       | \$13,070                    |
| Bethlehem    | \$12,407                    |
| Bloomfield   | \$13,377                    |
| Bolton       | \$12,119                    |
| Bozrah       | \$12,915                    |
| Branford     | \$12,992                    |
| Bridgeport   | \$16,008                    |
| Bridgewater  | \$12,248                    |
| Bristol      | \$13,529                    |
| Brookfield   | \$12,501                    |
| Brooklyn     | \$12,580                    |
| Burlington   | \$12,016                    |
| Canaan       | \$12,702                    |
| Canterbury   | \$12,593                    |
| Canton       | \$12,069                    |
| Chaplin      | \$12,737                    |
| Cheshire     | \$12,237                    |
| Chester      | \$12,418                    |
| Clinton      | \$13,245                    |
| Colchester   | \$12,375                    |

| Sending Town  | Weighted Per-Student Amount |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Colebrook     | \$12,536                    |
| Columbia      | \$12,319                    |
| Cornwall      | \$12,672                    |
| Coventry      | \$12,483                    |
| Cromwell      | \$12,466                    |
| Danbury       | \$14,514                    |
| Darien        | \$11,636                    |
| Deep River    | \$12,692                    |
| Derby         | \$12,516                    |
| Durham        | \$12,092                    |
| Eastford      | \$12,172                    |
| East Granby   | \$12,079                    |
| East Haddam   | \$12,458                    |
| East Hampton  | \$12,442                    |
| East Hartford | \$14,256                    |
| East Haven    | \$14,006                    |
| East Lyme     | \$12,572                    |
| Easton        | \$11,956                    |
| East Windsor  | \$13,501                    |
| Ellington     | \$12,289                    |
| Enfield       | \$13,274                    |
| Essex         | \$12,440                    |
| Fairfield     | \$12,226                    |
| Farmington    | \$12,278                    |
| Franklin      | \$12,274                    |
| Glastonbury   | \$12,142                    |
| Goshen        | \$12,442                    |
| Granby        | \$12,044                    |

| Sending Town  | Weighted Per-Student Amount |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Greenwich     | \$12,344                    |
| Griswold      | \$13,443                    |
| Groton        | \$13,319                    |
| Guilford      | \$12,021                    |
| Haddam        | \$12,103                    |
| Hamden        | \$13,463                    |
| Hampton       | \$12,954                    |
| Hartford      | \$15,720                    |
| Hartland      | \$12,143                    |
| Harwinton     | \$12,422                    |
| Hebron        | \$12,160                    |
| Kent          | \$12,651                    |
| Killingly     | \$13,268                    |
| Killingworth  | \$12,053                    |
| Lebanon       | \$12,455                    |
| Ledyard       | \$12,460                    |
| Lisbon        | \$12,798                    |
| Litchfield    | \$12,441                    |
| Lyme          | \$12,073                    |
| Madison       | \$11,726                    |
| Manchester    | \$13,931                    |
| Mansfield     | \$12,775                    |
| Marlborough   | \$12,231                    |
| Meriden       | \$15,078                    |
| Middlebury    | \$12,124                    |
| Middlefield   | \$12,241                    |
| Middletown    | \$13,361                    |
| Milford       | \$12,629                    |
| Monroe        | \$12,075                    |
| Montville     | \$13,217                    |
| Morris        | \$12,731                    |
| Naugatuck     | \$13,824                    |
| New Britain   | \$14,893                    |
| New Canaan    | \$11,543                    |
| New Fairfield | \$12,346                    |
| New Hartford  | \$12,307                    |
| New Haven     | \$15,251                    |
| Newington     | \$13,014                    |
| New London    | \$15,835                    |
| New Milford   | \$13,079                    |
| Newtown       | \$12,112                    |

| Sending Town     | Weighted Per-Student Amount |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Norfolk          | \$12,776                    |
| North Branford   | \$12,349                    |
| North Canaan     | \$13,176                    |
| North Haven      | \$12,473                    |
| North Stonington | \$12,121                    |
| Norwalk          | \$14,029                    |
| Norwich          | \$15,129                    |
| Old Lyme         | \$12,081                    |
| Old Saybrook     | \$12,626                    |
| Orange           | \$12,157                    |
| Oxford           | \$12,198                    |
| Plainfield       | \$13,474                    |
| Plainville       | \$13,109                    |
| Plymouth         | \$13,212                    |
| Pomfret          | \$12,255                    |
| Portland         | \$12,580                    |
| Preston          | \$12,611                    |
| Prospect         | \$12,305                    |
| Putnam           | \$13,546                    |
| Redding          | \$11,896                    |
| Ridgefield       | \$11,839                    |
| Rocky Hill       | \$12,617                    |
| Roxbury          | \$12,100                    |
| Salem            | \$12,376                    |
| Salisbury        | \$12,434                    |
| Scotland         | \$12,997                    |
| Seymour          | \$13,418                    |
| Sharon           | \$13,051                    |
| Shelton          | \$12,980                    |
| Sherman          | \$11,785                    |
| Simsbury         | \$12,070                    |
| Somers           | \$11,830                    |
| Southbury        | \$12,049                    |
| Southington      | \$12,550                    |
| South Windsor    | \$12,368                    |
| Sprague          | \$13,527                    |
| Stafford         | \$12,768                    |
| Stamford         | \$13,968                    |
| Sterling         | \$12,886                    |
| Stonington       | \$12,374                    |

| Sending Town | Weighted Per-Student Amount |
|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Stratford    | \$13,608                    |
| Suffield     | \$12,157                    |
| Thomaston    | \$12,748                    |
| Thompson     | \$13,257                    |
| Tolland      | \$12,144                    |
| Torrington   | \$14,265                    |
| Trumbull     | \$12,373                    |
| Union        | \$12,218                    |
| Vernon       | \$13,621                    |
| Voluntown    | \$12,864                    |
| Wallingford  | \$12,896                    |
| Warren       | \$12,287                    |
| Washington   | \$12,703                    |
| Waterbury    | \$14,969                    |
| Waterford    | \$12,755                    |
| Watertown    | \$13,058                    |

| Sending Town  | Weighted Per-Student Amount |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Westbrook     | \$13,195                    |
| West Hartford | \$12,698                    |
| West Haven    | \$14,182                    |
| Weston        | \$11,617                    |
| Westport      | \$11,661                    |
| Wethersfield  | \$12,746                    |
| Willington    | \$12,602                    |
| Wilton        | \$11,766                    |
| Winchester    | \$13,687                    |
| Windham       | \$15,372                    |
| Windsor       | \$13,403                    |
| Windsor Locks | \$13,368                    |
| Wolcott       | \$12,773                    |
| Woodbridge    | \$12,123                    |
| Woodbury      | \$12,217                    |
| Woodstock     | \$12,233                    |