

May 7, 2026

On May 2, 2026, the Connecticut General Assembly passed an adjusted budget for fiscal year (FY) 2027, which makes several changes to K-12 education funding. Included in the adjusted budget are **one-time** supplemental grants aimed at helping school districts and towns manage rising education costs and reduce the burden on local taxpayers.<sup>1</sup>

The adjusted budget appropriates roughly \$173 million to towns under two separate supplemental grants that are based off the Education Cost Sharing (ECS) formula: 1) the Supplemental Education Aid grant and 2) the District Relief and Compensatory Use Learning Aid (DRACULA) grant. While the supplemental funding provided in the budget is one-time aid and **does not make permanent changes to existing education funding formulas**, the revised budget does provide a \$152.2 million increase to the ECS grant appropriation for FY 2028.<sup>2</sup>

## Supplemental Education Aid Grant

Supplemental Education Aid grant amounts provided in the revised FY 2027 budget were calculated based on what districts would receive if a number of changes were made to the ECS formula. Grant amounts reflect how much towns would receive if the ECS foundation amount was increased from \$11,525 to \$13,087 and if the current Regional District and Endowed Academy Bonus was extended to towns that do not have a high school and pay tuition to a designated high school.<sup>3</sup> Under these adjustments, 82 towns were calculated to receive funding in excess of the FY 2027 ECS grant. As a result, the revised FY 2027 budget appropriates to these towns as a Supplemental Education Aid grant the difference between this calculation and the town's FY 2027 ECS grant.

Additionally, the Supplemental Education Aid grant ensures all towns receive additional state education funding equal to **at least 2%** of their FY 2027 ECS grant amount. As a result, the 87 towns that were not calculated to receive increased state education funding under the adjustments outlined in the above paragraph, will receive Supplemental Education Aid grants equal to 2% of their FY 2027 ECS grants.

However, there were 12 towns that were calculated to receive increased funding with the foundation increase and Designated High School Bonus, but that increase in funding did not equal at least 2% of their FY 2027 ECS grant amount. As a result, these towns will receive additional funding to reflect the gap between the Supplemental Education Aid

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<sup>1</sup> Conn. Acts 26-68 as amended by Conn. Acts 26-76 and amended further by H.B. 5563 (An Act Concerning Various Criminal Law Proposals) as amended by House Amendment A (LCO #5944) and Senate Amendment A (LCO #6252).

<sup>2</sup> The \$152.2 million increase in ECS funding for FY 2028 reflects the amount needed to provide a foundation increase from \$11,525 to \$13,087 and extend the Regional District and Endowed Academy Bonus to towns that do not have a high school and pay tuition to a designated high school. However, there is no statutory language distributing this funding.

<sup>3</sup> The Regional District and Endowed Academy Bonus provides additional funding to towns that send students to a regional school district or one of Connecticut's three endowed academies. Towns receive \$100 per student, multiplied by the number of grades served by the regional district or academy. The Designated High School Bonus would apply to 18 towns. These towns are Bozrah, Brooklyn, Canterbury, Columbia, Eastford, Franklin, Hartland, Lisbon, Norwich, Pomfret, Preston, Salem, Sherman, Sprague, Sterling, Union, Voluntown, and Woodstock.

they would have otherwise received and the 2% minimum. Table 1 below provides an example of this case.

**Table 1: Montville Supplemental Education Aid Grant Calculation<sup>4</sup>**

Component	Amount
2% of FY 2027 ECS Grant Amount	= \$12,802,864 * 2% = <b>\$256,057</b> <i>(minimum aid amount)</i>
Amount Needed to Provide Foundation Increase and Designated High School Bonus	= <b>\$201,389</b>
<b><u>Additional</u></b> Amount Needed to Provide 2% Minimum	= \$256,057 - \$201,389 = <b>\$54,668</b>
<b><u>FINAL</u></b> Supplemental Education Aid Grant	= <b>\$256,057</b>

### District Relief and Compensatory Use Learning Aid (DRACULA)

The second supplemental grant, the District Relief and Compensatory Use Learning Aid (DRACULA) grant, builds on the Supplemental Education Aid grant by providing additional state funding to ensure all towns receive increases in state education funding for FY 2027 that are equal to **at least 4%** of their FY 2027 ECS grant amount. However, **not all towns will receive funding under the DRACULA grant** as some towns already meet or exceed the 4% threshold.

Similar to the Supplemental Education Aid grant, there were nine towns that were calculated to receive increased funding with the foundation increase and Designated High School Bonus, but that increase in funding did not equal at least 4% of their FY 2027 ECS grant amount. As a result, these towns will receive additional funding to reflect the amount needed to provide them with total supplemental funding equal to at least 4% of their FY 2027 ECS grant amount. Table 2 on the following page provides an example of this case.

<sup>4</sup> Conn. Acts 26-68 as amended by Conn. Acts 26-76 and amended further by H.B. 5563 (An Act Concerning Various Criminal Law Proposals) as amended by House Amendment A (LCO #5944) and Senate Amendment A (LCO #6252).

**Table 2: East Haven Supplemental Education Aid and DRACULA Grant Calculations<sup>5</sup>**

Component	Amount
2% of FY 2027 ECS Grant Amount	= \$20,005,957 * 2% = <b>\$400,119</b> <i>(minimum aid amount)</i>
Amount Needed to Provide Foundation Increase and Designated High School Bonus	= <b>\$541,052</b>
<b><u>Additional</u></b> Amount Needed to Provide 2% Minimum	= <b>\$0</b> <i>(not needed since greater than 2%)</i>
<b><u>FINAL</u> Supplemental Education Aid Grant</b>	= <b>\$541,052</b>
4% of FY 2027 ECS Grant Amount	= \$20,005,957 * 4% = <b>\$800,238</b> <i>(minimum aid amount under DRACULA)</i>
<b><u>Additional</u></b> Amount Needed to Provide 4% Minimum	= \$800,238 - \$541,052 = <b>\$259,186</b>
<b><u>FINAL</u> DRACULA Grant</b>	= <b>\$259,186</b>

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

Table 3 below lists the 12 towns that will receive additional funding to meet the 2% minimum threshold under the Supplemental Education Aid grant, and the nine towns that will receive additional funding through the DRACULA grant to meet the 4% minimum threshold.

**Table 3: Towns Impacted by the Percent Minimum Thresholds Under the Supplemental Education Aid and DRACULA Grants<sup>6</sup>**

Towns Impacted Under the Supplemental Education Aid Grant	Towns Impacted Under the DRACULA Grant
Barkhamsted Bethel Bridgewater Essex Goshen Montville Morris Prospect Roxbury Seymour Warren Washington	East Haven Easton Enfield Haddam Kent Ridgefield Shelton Sprague Stratford

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

Table 4 below shows the combined town-level impact of the Supplemental Education Aid and DRACULA grants, including the impact driven by the foundation increase, Designated High School Bonus, and the 2% and 4% minimum thresholds

**Table 4: Estimated Town Impacts for the Supplemental Education Aid and the District Relief and Compensatory Use Learning Aid (DRACULA) Grants<sup>7</sup>**

Town	Supplemental Education Aid Grant		DRACULA Grant	Total Impact (Supplemental Education Aid + DRACULA)
	Impact of \$13,087 Foundation & Designated High School Bonus	Impact of 2% Minimum	Impact of 4% Minimum	
Andover	\$0	\$40,096	\$40,096	\$80,192
Ansonia	\$939,494	\$0	\$0	\$939,494
Ashford	\$0	\$69,181	\$69,181	\$138,362
Avon	\$173,326	\$0	\$0	\$173,326
Barkhamsted	\$29,004	\$881	\$29,885	\$59,770
Beacon Falls	\$253,476	\$0	\$0	\$253,476
Berlin	\$581,191	\$0	\$0	\$581,191
Bethany	\$0	\$35,291	\$35,291	\$70,582
Bethel	\$172,596	\$28,357	\$200,953	\$401,906
Bethlehem	\$105,234	\$0	\$0	\$105,234
Bloomfield	\$0	\$160,957	\$160,957	\$321,914
Bolton	\$0	\$53,664	\$53,664	\$107,328
Bozrah	\$0	\$23,802	\$23,802	\$47,604
Branford	\$0	\$75,457	\$75,457	\$150,914
Bridgeport	\$15,015,199	\$0	\$0	\$15,015,199
Bridgewater	\$2,608	\$1,807	\$4,415	\$8,830
Bristol	\$4,528,816	\$0	\$0	\$4,528,816
Brookfield	\$0	\$27,584	\$27,584	\$55,168
Brooklyn	\$0	\$139,394	\$139,394	\$278,788
Burlington	\$280,369	\$0	\$0	\$280,369
Canaan	\$0	\$2,515	\$2,515	\$5,030
Canterbury	\$0	\$80,097	\$80,097	\$160,194
Canton	\$0	\$81,370	\$81,370	\$162,740
Chaplin	\$0	\$33,043	\$33,043	\$66,086
Cheshire	\$849,486	\$0	\$0	\$849,486
Chester	\$125,301	\$0	\$0	\$125,301

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

Town	Supplemental Education Aid Grant		DRACULA Grant	Total Impact (Supplemental Education Aid + DRACULA)
	<i>Impact of \$13,087 Foundation &amp; Designated High School Bonus</i>	<i>Impact of 2% Minimum</i>	<i>Impact of 4% Minimum</i>	
Clinton	\$0	\$103,842	\$103,842	\$207,684
Colchester	\$0	\$240,804	\$240,804	\$481,608
Colebrook	\$0	\$8,078	\$8,078	\$16,156
Columbia	\$0	\$46,324	\$46,324	\$92,648
Cornwall	\$0	\$644	\$644	\$1,288
Coventry	\$0	\$159,058	\$159,058	\$318,116
Cromwell	\$520,405	\$0	\$0	\$520,405
Danbury	\$2,952,103	\$0	\$0	\$2,952,103
Darien	\$60,986	\$0	\$0	\$60,986
Deep River	\$0	\$33,522	\$33,522	\$67,044
Derby	\$0	\$219,809	\$219,809	\$439,618
Durham	\$0	\$65,865	\$65,865	\$131,730
Eastford	\$0	\$18,944	\$18,944	\$37,888
East Granby	\$255,098	\$0	\$0	\$255,098
East Haddam	\$0	\$71,119	\$71,119	\$142,238
East Hampton	\$0	\$139,219	\$139,219	\$278,438
East Hartford	\$6,938,531	\$0	\$0	\$6,938,531
East Haven	\$541,052	\$0	\$259,186	\$800,238
East Lyme	\$0	\$121,530	\$121,530	\$243,060
Easton	\$8,972	\$0	\$3,113	\$12,085
East Windsor	\$0	\$113,382	\$113,382	\$226,764
Ellington	\$0	\$206,833	\$206,833	\$413,666
Enfield	\$1,019,672	\$0	\$173,274	\$1,192,946
Essex	\$4,214	\$97	\$4,311	\$8,622
Fairfield	\$122,691	\$0	\$0	\$122,691
Farmington	\$0	\$74,160	\$74,160	\$148,320
Franklin	\$0	\$14,725	\$14,725	\$29,450
Glastonbury	\$0	\$134,346	\$134,346	\$268,692
Goshen	\$4,791	\$3,274	\$8,065	\$16,130
Granby	\$655,539	\$0	\$0	\$655,539
Greenwich	\$110,062	\$0	\$0	\$110,062

Town	Supplemental Education Aid Grant		DRACULA Grant	Total Impact (Supplemental Education Aid + DRACULA)
	<i>Impact of \$13,087 Foundation &amp; Designated High School Bonus</i>	<i>Impact of 2% Minimum</i>	<i>Impact of 4% Minimum</i>	
Griswold	\$735,679	\$0	\$0	\$735,679
Groton	\$0	\$500,801	\$500,801	\$1,001,602
Guilford	\$0	\$35,322	\$35,322	\$70,644
Haddam	\$153,075	\$0	\$4,607	\$157,682
Hamden	\$2,227,363	\$0	\$0	\$2,227,363
Hampton	\$0	\$21,168	\$21,168	\$42,336
Hartford	\$20,530,197	\$0	\$0	\$20,530,197
Hartland	\$0	\$21,434	\$21,434	\$42,868
Harwinton	\$253,904	\$0	\$0	\$253,904
Hebron	\$0	\$119,954	\$119,954	\$239,908
Kent	\$1,532	\$0	\$138	\$1,670
Killingly	\$0	\$311,488	\$311,488	\$622,976
Killingworth	\$0	\$44,145	\$44,145	\$88,290
Lebanon	\$0	\$91,572	\$91,572	\$183,144
Ledyard	\$0	\$240,652	\$240,652	\$481,304
Lisbon	\$0	\$57,990	\$57,990	\$115,980
Litchfield	\$123,294	\$0	\$0	\$123,294
Lyme	\$0	\$6,428	\$6,428	\$12,856
Madison	\$0	\$7,909	\$7,909	\$15,818
Manchester	\$5,247,464	\$0	\$0	\$5,247,464
Mansfield	\$0	\$262,244	\$262,244	\$524,488
Marlborough	\$0	\$59,042	\$59,042	\$118,084
Meriden	\$7,755,320	\$0	\$0	\$7,755,320
Middlebury	\$0	\$54,899	\$54,899	\$109,798
Middlefield	\$0	\$42,007	\$42,007	\$84,014
Middletown	\$2,656,038	\$0	\$0	\$2,656,038
Milford	\$0	\$193,465	\$193,465	\$386,930
Monroe	\$0	\$105,459	\$105,459	\$210,918
Montville	\$201,389	\$54,668	\$256,057	\$512,114
Morris	\$3,776	\$2,449	\$6,225	\$12,450
Naugatuck	\$1,438,012	\$0	\$0	\$1,438,012

Town	Supplemental Education Aid Grant		DRACULA Grant	Total Impact (Supplemental Education Aid + DRACULA)
	<i>Impact of \$13,087 Foundation &amp; Designated High School Bonus</i>	<i>Impact of 2% Minimum</i>	<i>Impact of 4% Minimum</i>	
New Britain	\$13,292,120	\$0	\$0	\$13,292,120
New Canaan	\$59,493	\$0	\$0	\$59,493
New Fairfield	\$0	\$69,622	\$69,622	\$139,244
New Hartford	\$172,353	\$0	\$0	\$172,353
New Haven	\$7,652,745	\$0	\$0	\$7,652,745
Newington	\$928,230	\$0	\$0	\$928,230
New London	\$1,926,108	\$0	\$0	\$1,926,108
New Milford	\$0	\$232,906	\$232,906	\$465,812
Newtown	\$0	\$89,914	\$89,914	\$179,828
Norfolk	\$0	\$1,108	\$1,108	\$2,216
North Branford	\$0	\$146,627	\$146,627	\$293,254
North Canaan	\$138,210	\$0	\$0	\$138,210
North Haven	\$0	\$87,989	\$87,989	\$175,978
North Stonington	\$0	\$53,206	\$53,206	\$106,412
Norwalk	\$1,959,389	\$0	\$0	\$1,959,389
Norwich	\$5,913,205	\$0	\$0	\$5,913,205
Old Lyme	\$0	\$29,897	\$29,897	\$59,794
Old Saybrook	\$12,132	\$0	\$0	\$12,132
Orange	\$0	\$20,310	\$20,310	\$40,620
Oxford	\$0	\$73,540	\$73,540	\$147,080
Plainfield	\$0	\$307,289	\$307,289	\$614,578
Plainville	\$745,435	\$0	\$0	\$745,435
Plymouth	\$0	\$196,042	\$196,042	\$392,084
Pomfret	\$0	\$53,420	\$53,420	\$106,840
Portland	\$527,951	\$0	\$0	\$527,951
Preston	\$0	\$59,050	\$59,050	\$118,100
Prospect	\$94,029	\$22,699	\$116,728	\$233,456
Putnam	\$0	\$166,806	\$166,806	\$333,612
Redding	\$19,287	\$0	\$0	\$19,287
Ridgefield	\$19,656	\$0	\$3,092	\$22,748
Rocky Hill	\$1,259,142	\$0	\$0	\$1,259,142

Town	Supplemental Education Aid Grant		DRACULA Grant	Total Impact (Supplemental Education Aid + DRACULA)
	<i>Impact of \$13,087 Foundation &amp; Designated High School Bonus</i>	<i>Impact of 2% Minimum</i>	<i>Impact of 4% Minimum</i>	
Roxbury	\$2,893	\$2,058	\$4,951	\$9,902
Salem	\$0	\$50,502	\$50,502	\$101,004
Salisbury	\$0	\$1,447	\$1,447	\$2,894
Scotland	\$0	\$25,493	\$25,493	\$50,986
Seymour	\$42,641	\$195,586	\$238,227	\$476,454
Sharon	\$0	\$600	\$600	\$1,200
Shelton	\$317,310	\$0	\$46,190	\$363,500
Sherman	\$38,467	\$0	\$0	\$38,467
Simsbury	\$0	\$165,475	\$165,475	\$330,950
Somers	\$0	\$113,853	\$113,853	\$227,706
Southbury	\$732,698	\$0	\$0	\$732,698
Southington	\$0	\$416,967	\$416,967	\$833,934
South Windsor	\$0	\$228,162	\$228,162	\$456,324
Sprague	\$66,065	\$0	\$42,205	\$108,270
Stafford	\$0	\$191,030	\$191,030	\$382,060
Stamford	\$1,441,637	\$0	\$0	\$1,441,637
Sterling	\$0	\$63,492	\$63,492	\$126,984
Stonington	\$0	\$21,460	\$21,460	\$42,920
Stratford	\$1,119,920	\$0	\$92,255	\$1,212,175
Suffield	\$699,245	\$0	\$0	\$699,245
Thomaston	\$0	\$109,625	\$109,625	\$219,250
Thompson	\$0	\$150,694	\$150,694	\$301,388
Tolland	\$0	\$182,111	\$182,111	\$364,222
Torrington	\$2,752,854	\$0	\$0	\$2,752,854
Trumbull	\$0	\$68,341	\$68,341	\$136,682
Union	\$38,171	\$0	\$0	\$38,171
Vernon	\$3,276,608	\$0	\$0	\$3,276,608
Voluntown	\$0	\$42,345	\$42,345	\$84,690
Wallingford	\$0	\$425,723	\$425,723	\$851,446
Warren	\$1,950	\$1,525	\$3,475	\$6,950
Washington	\$4,521	\$2,880	\$7,401	\$14,802

Town	Supplemental Education Aid Grant		DRACULA Grant	Total Impact (Supplemental Education Aid + DRACULA)
	<i>Impact of \$13,087 Foundation &amp; Designated High School Bonus</i>	<i>Impact of 2% Minimum</i>	<i>Impact of 4% Minimum</i>	
Waterbury	\$14,775,836	\$0	\$0	\$14,775,836
Waterford	\$15,582	\$0	\$0	\$15,582
Watertown	\$1,454,776	\$0	\$0	\$1,454,776
Westbrook	\$3,846	\$0	\$0	\$3,846
West Hartford	\$2,824,592	\$0	\$0	\$2,824,592
West Haven	\$4,946,153	\$0	\$0	\$4,946,153
Weston	\$0	\$5,276	\$5,276	\$10,552
Westport	\$81,474	\$0	\$0	\$81,474
Wethersfield	\$1,009,684	\$0	\$0	\$1,009,684
Willington	\$0	\$69,132	\$69,132	\$138,264
Wilton	\$25,737	\$0	\$0	\$25,737
Winchester	\$0	\$160,499	\$160,499	\$320,998
Windham	\$3,759,271	\$0	\$0	\$3,759,271
Windsor	\$0	\$242,608	\$242,608	\$485,216
Windsor Locks	\$214,929	\$0	\$0	\$214,929
Wolcott	\$0	\$247,743	\$247,743	\$495,486
Woodbridge	\$26,948	\$0	\$0	\$26,948
Woodbury	\$250,602	\$0	\$0	\$250,602
Woodstock	\$0	\$99,811	\$99,811	\$199,622