June 6, 2024

On May 7, 2024, the Connecticut General Assembly passed a budget stabilization bill (Public Act 24-81) that appropriates funds for fiscal year 2025 and makes a number of different policy changes to K-12 education and other areas. Along with maintaining an additional \$150 million in funding for K-12 education in FY 2025, which was allotted as part of the biennial state budget passed in 2023, Public Act 24-81 overhauls how Connecticut distributes state education funding to school districts.

This frequently asked questions document provides more information on FY 2025 funding for state charter schools. Additionally, this document details how state grants will be calculated for state charter schools in FY 2025.

How were state charter school grants funded previously?

In FY 2024, per the state biennial budget, weighted funding for state charter schools was phased-in — meaning for each student they educate, state charter schools received the foundation amount (\$11,525) from the Education Cost Sharing (ECS) formula, plus 36.08 percent of their weighted funding.

How will state charter school grants be funded in FY 2025?

In FY 2025, state grants for state charter schools will continue to be phased-in, as determined by the biennial budget. Charter schools will receive the ECS foundation plus 56.7 percent of their weighted funding phase-in.

There are <u>no changes</u> to any of the grant formula components for state charter schools. However, changes were made to the number of seats at existing charter schools for FY 2025. Table 1 below details these changes by charter school.¹

Table 1: Seat Changes by Charter School

| Charter School | Seat Changes |
|---|-----------------------|
| Brass City Charter School | 40 Additional Seats |
| Odyssey Community School | 36 Additional Seats |
| Interdistrict School for the Arts and Communication | 52 Additional Seats |
| Integrated Day Charter School | 22 Additional Seats |
| Booker T. Washington Academy | Reduction of 40 seats |

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¹ Conn. Acts 24-81 § 120(2).

How will state charter school grants be funded in FY 2026 and beyond?

In FY 2026 and beyond, state charter schools will continue to receive the same phase-in percentage as FY 2025 (56.7 percent). There is currently **no schedule** in statute for state charter schools to receive full weighted funding. The Connecticut State Department of Education is required to provide state charter schools with their estimated FY 2026 grant amounts no later than February 1, 2025.²

² Conn. Acts 24-81 § 113.