

ALLIANCE DISTRICT FUNDING CHANGES IN THE  
2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

June 15, 2016

The recently signed budget (Conn. Acts 16-02 (May Special Session)) and budget implementer (Conn. Acts 16-03 (May Special Session)) made changes to Alliance District and Priority School District funding distributions, as well as the Minimum Budget Requirement (MBR) for Alliance Districts.

The FY 2016-17 Education Cost Sharing (ECS) grant entitlement for Alliance Districts is composed of two parts: Alliance District funding and non-Alliance District funding.<sup>1</sup> At \$140.6 million, FY 2016-17 Alliance District funding will be \$6.8 million less than it was in FY 2015-16<sup>2</sup> (see Table 1 below for greater details). Non-Alliance District funding for FY 2016-17 is the difference between the Alliance District funding and the FY 2016-17 total ECS entitlement<sup>3</sup> (see Table 2 below for greater details).

The Priority School District grant is composed of three separate grants: Priority School District, Extended Day, and Summer School, the distribution formulas for which are set statutorily<sup>4</sup> (see Table 3 below for greater details). The new budget reduces FY 2016-17 Priority School District funding by \$2.5 million.<sup>5</sup> In FY 2016-17, the \$2.5 million reduction will occur in the Priority School District portion of the grant.<sup>6</sup>

For FY 2016-17, the Minimum Budget Requirement (MBR) requires Alliance District communities to budget what they did in FY 2015-16 plus any new aid. As a result, Alliance District communities are not allowed to reduce their municipal contribution to their school districts' education budgets in FY 2016-17.<sup>7</sup> However, the \$140.6 million in Alliance District-specific funding is not part of the MBR calculation;<sup>8</sup> consequently, an Alliance District's total budget can be reduced by the difference between FY 2015-16 and FY 2016-17 Alliance District funding without violating a community's MBR.<sup>9</sup>

***Note: This summary and analysis is intended for informational purposes only, and should not be construed as either supporting or opposing any of the provisions in the budget.***

**Table I: Comparing Alliance District Entitlements For FY 2015-16 and FY 2016-17**

<b>Town</b>	<b>FY 2015-16 Alliance District Entitlement (Column B)<sup>10</sup></b>	<b>FY 2016-17 Alliance District Entitlement (Column C)<sup>11</sup></b>	<b>\$ Change FY 2016-17 - FY 2015-16 (Columns C-B)</b>
Ansonia	\$1,609,809	\$1,526,602	(\$83,207)
Bloomfield	\$909,353	\$877,755	(\$31,598)
Bridgeport	\$18,071,380	\$17,160,046	(\$911,334)
Bristol	\$4,048,611	\$3,446,362	(\$602,249)
Danbury	\$7,847,721	\$8,682,524	\$834,803
Derby	\$1,135,825	\$1,095,817	(\$40,008)
East Hartford	\$7,852,667	\$7,604,850	(\$247,817)
East Haven	\$1,240,108	\$976,520	(\$263,588)
East Windsor	\$328,408	\$251,845	(\$76,563)
Hamden	\$4,100,376	\$4,164,720	\$64,344
Hartford	\$13,802,240	\$12,793,354	(\$1,008,886)
Killingly	\$625,621	\$416,492	(\$209,129)
Manchester	\$4,245,648	\$4,071,324	(\$174,324)
Meriden	\$7,028,746	\$6,724,684	(\$304,062)
Middletown	\$3,209,164	\$3,109,856	(\$99,308)
Naugatuck	\$1,619,602	\$1,213,354	(\$406,248)
New Britain	\$12,749,366	\$12,515,973	(\$233,393)
New Haven	\$12,819,095	\$12,042,452	(\$776,643)
New London	\$3,118,238	\$2,987,944	(\$130,294)
Norwalk	\$1,455,964	\$1,398,209	(\$57,755)
Norwich	\$4,261,426	\$4,078,536	(\$182,890)
Putnam	\$426,409	\$314,431	(\$111,978)
Stamford	\$2,906,407	\$3,074,882	\$168,475
Vernon	\$2,004,961	\$1,746,039	(\$258,922)
Waterbury	\$20,911,528	\$20,238,884	(\$672,644)
West Haven	\$4,597,263	\$3,991,184	(\$606,079)
Winchester	\$363,989	\$256,099	(\$107,890)
Windham	\$2,646,307	\$2,512,227	(\$134,080)
Windsor	\$928,381	\$763,989	(\$164,392)
Windsor Locks	\$622,417	\$596,043	(\$26,374)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$147,487,030</b>	<b>\$140,632,997</b>	<b>(\$6,854,033)</b>

**Table 2: FY 2016-17 Estimated Non-Alliance, Alliance, and Total ECS Entitlements**

<b>Town</b>	<b>Non-Alliance ECS Entitlement<sup>12</sup> (Column B)</b>	<b>Alliance District Entitlement<sup>13</sup> (Column C)</b>	<b>Total ECS Entitlement (Columns B+C)<sup>14</sup></b>
Ansonia	\$15,031,668	\$1,526,602	\$16,558,270
Bloomfield	\$5,410,345	\$877,755	\$6,288,100
Bridgeport	\$164,195,344	\$17,160,046	\$181,355,390
Bristol	\$41,657,314	\$3,446,362	\$45,103,676
Danbury	\$22,857,956	\$8,682,524	\$31,540,480
Derby	\$6,865,689	\$1,095,817	\$7,961,506
East Hartford	\$41,710,817	\$7,604,850	\$49,315,667
East Haven	\$18,764,125	\$976,520	\$19,740,645
East Windsor	\$5,482,135	\$251,845	\$5,733,980
Hamden	\$23,030,761	\$4,164,720	\$27,195,481
Hartford	\$187,974,890	\$12,793,354	\$200,768,244
Killingly	\$15,245,633	\$416,492	\$15,662,125
Manchester	\$30,619,100	\$4,071,324	\$34,690,424
Meriden	\$53,783,711	\$6,724,684	\$60,508,395
Middletown	\$16,652,386	\$3,109,856	\$19,762,242
Naugatuck	\$29,211,401	\$1,213,354	\$30,424,755
New Britain	\$73,929,296	\$12,515,973	\$86,445,269
New Haven	\$142,509,525	\$12,042,452	\$154,551,977
New London	\$22,940,565	\$2,987,944	\$25,928,509
Norwalk	\$10,095,131	\$1,398,209	\$11,493,340
Norwich	\$32,316,543	\$4,078,536	\$36,395,079
Putnam	\$8,071,851	\$314,431	\$8,386,282
Stamford	\$7,978,877	\$3,074,882	\$11,053,759
Vernon	\$17,645,165	\$1,746,039	\$19,391,204
Waterbury	\$113,617,182	\$20,238,884	\$133,856,066
West Haven	\$41,399,303	\$3,991,184	\$45,390,487
Winchester	\$7,823,991	\$256,099	\$8,080,090
Windham	\$24,169,717	\$2,512,227	\$26,681,944
Windsor	\$11,547,663	\$763,989	\$12,311,652
Windsor Locks	\$4,652,368	\$596,043	\$5,248,411
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,197,190,452</b>	<b>\$140,632,997</b>	<b>\$1,337,823,449</b>

**Table 3: FY 2016-17 Preliminary Priority School District, Extended Day, Summer School, and Total Priority School District Entitlements**

Town	FY 2016-17 Preliminary Priority School District <sup>15</sup> (Column B)	FY 2016-17 Preliminary Extended Day <sup>16</sup> (Column C)	FY 2016-17 Preliminary Summer School <sup>17</sup> (Column D)	FY 2016-17 Preliminary Total Priority School District (Columns B+C+D)
Ansonia				
Bloomfield				
Bridgeport	\$5,784,353	\$393,383	\$456,187	\$6,633,923
Bristol				
Danbury	\$1,947,886	\$199,283	\$237,292	\$2,384,461
Derby	\$988,371	\$29,608	\$33,738	\$1,051,717
East Hartford	\$1,043,461	\$152,176	\$175,873	\$1,371,510
East Haven				
East Windsor				
Hamden				
Hartford	\$5,317,039	\$402,726	\$465,483	\$6,185,248
Killingly				
Manchester				
Meriden	\$1,141,631	\$167,943	\$192,420	\$1,501,994
Middletown				
Naugatuck				
New Britain	\$1,947,886	\$208,064	\$247,964	\$2,403,914
New Haven	\$5,317,039	\$356,577	\$416,091	\$6,089,707
New London	\$988,371	\$67,036	\$78,508	\$1,133,915
Norwalk	\$3,907,780	\$213,544	\$251,730	\$4,373,054
Norwich	\$988,371	\$100,187	\$115,551	\$1,204,109
Putnam <sup>18</sup>	\$697,378	\$11,613	\$19,800	\$728,791
Stamford	\$2,415,201	\$294,142	\$339,605	\$3,048,948
Vernon				
Waterbury	\$2,369,582	\$340,053	\$399,388	\$3,109,023
West Haven				
Winchester				
Windham	\$988,371	\$58,417	\$70,069	\$1,116,857
Windsor				
Windsor Locks				
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$35,842,720</b>	<b>\$2,994,752</b>	<b>\$3,499,699</b>	<b>\$42,337,171</b>

## Endnotes

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<sup>1</sup> Connecticut State Department of Education. (n.d.). *Breakout of ECS Entitlements between Alliance and Non-Alliance*. Retrieved from <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/dgm/report1/ecs-alliance-nonalliance.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> Conn. Acts 16-03, section 126 (May Special Session).

*It should be noted that the statutory language does not currently meet the legislative intent for the calculation of the Alliance District funding. According to the Connecticut State Department of Education, the legislative intent was that Alliance District funding would be the difference between FY 2016-17 ECS entitlement and FY 2011-12 ECS entitlement.*

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Conn. Acts 16-02, section 39 (May Special Session).

<sup>5</sup> Reduction from original FY 2016-17 appropriation in Conn. Acts 15-244 and the FY 2016-17 revised appropriations found in Conn. Acts 16-02 (May Special Session).

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Conn. Acts 16-03, section 125 (May Special Session).

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> Connecticut State Department of Education. (n.d.). *Breakout of ECS Entitlements between Alliance and Non-Alliance*. Retrieved from <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/dgm/report1/ecs-alliance-nonalliance.pdf>.

<sup>11</sup> The FY 2016-17 Alliance District ECS entitlement is the difference between the FY 2011-12 ECS entitlement and the FY 2016-17 ECS entitlement. The FY 2011-12 ECS entitlement can be retrieved from <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/dgm/report1/ecs-alliance-nonalliance.pdf>. The FY 2016-17 ECS entitlement is in Conn. Acts 16-02, section 20 (May Special Session).

<sup>12</sup> Conn. Acts 16-03, section 126 (May Special Session).

*The non-Alliance ECS entitlement is the difference between the FY 2016-17 ECS entitlement and the FY 2016-17 Alliance District entitlement. The FY 2016-17 ECS entitlement is in Conn. Acts 16-02, section 20 (May Special Session). The FY 2016-17 Alliance District ECS entitlement is the difference between the FY 2011-12 ECS entitlement and the FY 2016-17 ECS entitlement. The FY 2011-12 ECS entitlement can be retrieved from <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/dgm/report1/ecs-alliance-nonalliance.pdf>.*

<sup>13</sup> The FY 2016-17 Alliance District ECS entitlement is the difference between the FY 2011-12 ECS entitlement and the FY 2016-17 ECS entitlement. The FY 2011-12 ECS entitlement can be retrieved from <http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/dgm/report1/ecs-alliance-nonalliance.pdf>. The FY 2016-17 ECS entitlement is in Conn. Acts 16-02, section 20 (May Special Session).

<sup>14</sup> Conn. Acts 16-02, section 20 (May Special Session).

<sup>15</sup> Connecticut State Department of Education. (2016). *FY 2016-17 Priority School District Grant*. Available from <http://ctschoolfinance.org/assets/uploads/files/FY2016-17-Priority-School-District-Grants.xlsx>. Amounts are based on current law and are subject to governor rescissions.

<sup>16</sup> Ibid.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid.

<sup>18</sup> Putnam is in its first year under the phase-out provision for School Accountability and in its second year under the phase-out provision for Extended School Hours.