

The Agency

Public Higher Education

Agency Operations

The mission of the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education is to provide an excellent, efficient, accessible and affordable system of higher education designed to improve the overall educational attainment of Rhode Islanders and thereby enrich the intellectual, economic, social and cultural life of the state, its residents and its communities.

The Board consists of twelve public members appointed by the Governor and the Chair of the Board of Regents for Elementary/Secondary Education. The Board is staffed by the Office of Higher Education under the direction of the Commissioner who also serves as Chief Executive Officer of the Board.

The Office of Higher Education is the policy development, research and monitoring arm of the Board of Governors. The Office is organized into four units: Academic and Student Affairs, External Affairs, Legal and Labor Relations, and Finance and Management. Its principal responsibilities include: the preparation of a public higher education budget and capital development program and the development of policies in the pursuit of the primary goal of improving overall educational attainment in the state through a commitment to excellence, opportunity and access, diversity and responsiveness, coordination, and accountability in public higher education.

Statutory History

In 1981, The Rhode Island Legislature reorganized the governance of education in Rhode Island in the effect dividing the Board of Regents, then responsible for education from kindergarten through the graduate level, into two governing units -- the Board of Regents, which retained responsibility for Elementary/Secondary Education, and the Board of Governors, which was given responsibility for higher education. The legislature held that the Board of Governors not be a Department of State government, but rather an independent public corporation which acts in concert and cooperation with the executive and legislative branches in the best interest of the higher education needs of Rhode Islanders. This legal independence applies not only to matters of educational policy, but also to fiscal and budgetary matters, personnel administration and property ownership and control.

The Budget

Public Higher Education

	FY 2007 Actual	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Enacted	FY 2009 Revised	FY 2010 Recommended
Expenditures by Program					
Board of Governors/OHE	11,041,801	12,929,072	10,912,064	17,420,272	18,867,002
University of Rhode Island	489,918,199	523,704,821	551,187,879	559,099,554	579,883,976
Rhode Island College	126,152,029	131,704,221	140,041,605	140,519,168	150,455,193
Community College of Rhode Island	107,623,281	116,408,577	117,447,461	123,716,092	129,192,699
Total Expenditures	\$734,735,310	\$784,746,691	\$819,589,009	\$840,755,086	\$878,398,870
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	393,076,191	417,976,245	433,423,625	445,408,548	466,479,813
Operating Supplies and Expenses	162,628,004	162,400,688	149,860,892	162,272,738	171,441,473
Aid To Local Units Of Government	2,377,705	69,346	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	133,365,525	157,985,434	156,149,451	168,871,654	175,850,524
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$691,447,425	\$738,431,713	\$739,433,968	\$776,552,940	\$813,771,810
Capital Purchases and Equipment	14,425,735	6,810,513	27,539,836	29,471,891	22,479,154
Debt Service	20,423,134	31,042,810	38,636,970	34,730,255	42,147,906
Operating Transfers	8,439,016	8,461,655	13,978,235	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$734,735,310	\$784,746,691	\$819,589,009	\$840,755,086	\$878,398,870
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	189,489,620	189,982,771	179,856,018	172,860,842	174,885,270
Federal Funds	2,871,077	4,924,539	3,646,277	11,134,309	11,997,554
Restricted Receipts	1,074,589	715,937	1,041,526	666,433	667,543
Other Funds	541,300,024	589,123,444	635,045,188	656,093,502	690,848,503
Total Expenditures	\$734,735,310	\$784,746,691	\$819,589,009	\$840,755,086	\$878,398,870
FTE Authorization					
	3,554.8	3,549.8	3,490.9	3,395.0	3,397.1
Sponsored Research					
	785.0	785.0	785.0	785.0	785.0
Total	4,339.8	4,334.8	4,275.9	4,180.0	4,182.1
Agency Measures					
Minorities as a Percentage of the Workforce	10.6%	17.6%	17.6%	17.6%	11.1%
Females as a Percentage of the Workforce	57.1%	70.6%	70.6%	70.6%	56.9%
Persons with Disabilities as a Percentage of the Workforce	-	-	-	-	2.7%

The Program

Public Higher Education Board of Governors/Office of Higher Education

Program Operations

The Board of Governors for Higher Education was established by the General Assembly in 1981.

Program Objective

To ensure that public higher education remains economically and geographically accessible to all qualified residents in Rhode Island; deliver public higher education programs on a cost-effective basis; remain coordinated in program offerings, responsive in services and accountable in operations; and to pursue the major goal of excellence in education.

Statutory History

The Board of Governors is established under Title 16, Chapter 59 of the Rhode Island General Laws, and is successor to the authority previously exercised over public higher education by the Board of Regents for Education until 1981. At that time, the Board of Regents was abolished and its authority vested in three new entities: The Board of Governors for Higher Education; the Board of regents for Elementary/Secondary Education as designated in Title 26, Chapter 60; and the Rhode Island Public Telecommunications Authority as designated in Title 16, Chapter 61 of the Rhode Island General Laws.

The Budget

Public Higher Education Board of Governors/Office of Higher Education

	FY 2007 Actual	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Enacted	FY 2009 Revised	FY 2010 Recommended
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	2,240,447	2,025,670	2,673,605	2,719,053	2,836,261
Operating Supplies and Expenses	3,970,713	3,752,908	3,522,521	3,501,246	3,579,702
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	3,383,736	7,140,118	1,237,768	4,546,755	4,667,932
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$9,594,896	\$12,918,696	\$7,433,894	\$10,767,054	\$11,083,895
Capital Purchases and Equipment	38,361	10,376	3,478,170	6,653,218	7,783,107
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	1,408,544	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$11,041,801	\$12,929,072	\$10,912,064	\$17,420,272	\$18,867,002
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	7,732,199	7,907,869	6,865,787	6,748,278	7,334,037
Federal Funds	2,871,077	4,924,539	3,646,277	10,671,994	11,532,965
Restricted Receipts	438,525	96,664	400,000	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$11,041,801	\$12,929,072	\$10,912,064	\$17,420,272	\$18,867,002
Program Measures					
Public Higher Education Enrollees Aged 18-24 as a Percentage of State Population Aged 18-24	19.6%	20.5%	21.7%	21.7%	21.6%

The Program

Public Higher Education University of Rhode Island

Program Operations

The University of Rhode Island is the principal public research and graduate institution in the State of Rhode Island with responsibilities for expanding knowledge, for transmitting it, and for fostering its application. Its status as a land grant, sea grant, and urban grant institution highlights its traditions of natural resource, marine, and urban-related research. The University is committed to providing strong undergraduate programs to promote students' ethical development and capabilities as critical and independent thinkers. To meet student and societal needs, it offers undergraduate professional education programs in a wide range of disciplines. Graduate programs provide rigorous advanced study and research opportunities for personal and professional development. With undergraduate and graduate programs in the liberal arts and sciences and focus programs in the areas of marine and environmental studies; health; children, families, and communities; and enterprise and advanced technology, the University strives to meet the rapidly changing needs of the State, the country, and the world.

Program Objective

Fulfill the education mission of the University by providing traditional and non-traditional opportunities for education at the undergraduate and graduate levels, conduct research, and support other scholarly activities.

Statutory History

Title 16, Chapters 31 and 32 of the Rhode Island General Laws relate to the University of Rhode Island.

The Budget

Public Higher Education University of Rhode Island

	FY 2007 Actual	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Enacted	FY 2009 Revised	FY 2010 Recommended
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	233,615,284	252,220,359	258,774,897	265,021,424	273,171,799
Operating Supplies and Expenses	121,768,519	114,467,067	107,243,255	119,098,498	124,876,225
Aid To Local Units Of Government	2,377,705	69,346	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	104,648,778	120,669,035	127,916,505	134,758,433	138,681,643
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$462,410,286	\$487,425,807	\$493,934,657	\$518,878,355	\$536,729,667
Capital Purchases and Equipment	6,386,651	4,017,823	14,537,711	13,104,900	8,251,027
Debt Service	15,431,818	23,493,325	31,023,014	27,116,299	34,903,282
Operating Transfers	5,689,444	8,767,866	11,692,497	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$489,918,199	\$523,704,821	\$551,187,879	\$559,099,554	\$579,883,976
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	85,900,766	85,334,311	78,110,575	75,479,900	75,784,427
Federal Funds	-	-	-	462,315	464,589
Other Funds	404,017,433	438,370,510	473,077,304	483,157,339	503,634,960
Total Expenditures	\$489,918,199	\$523,704,821	\$551,187,879	\$559,099,554	\$579,883,976
Program Measures					
Percentage Change in Tuition and Mandatory Fees (In-State) from Previous Year	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	9.8%
Minority Enrollment - African Americans	4.5%	4.3%	4.4%	4.4%	4.4%
Minority Enrollment - Hispanics	4.2%	4.2%	4.6%	4.6%	4.6%
Minority Enrollment - Native Americans	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%
Minority Enrollment - Asians	2.7%	2.4%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%
Percentage Nursing Students Passing State Licensing Exams	87.8%	88.2%	88.5%	88.5%	88.4%
Six-Year Graduation Rates	56.9%	57.5%	57.9%	57.9%	57.9%
First-Year Retention Rates of First-Time, Degree-Seeking Freshman	81.0%	81.0%	80.1%	80.1%	80.1%

The Program

Public Higher Education Rhode Island College

Program Operations

Rhode Island College is the State's comprehensive public institution of higher education. Its primary mission is to make its academic programs available to any qualified resident of Rhode Island who can benefit from its educational services. The College offers programs of study in that array of disciplines traditionally considered as the liberal arts, including humanities, social sciences, sciences, and fine arts, and a broad array of professional offerings in the health and helping professions, education, management, and technology. Selected curricula are offered at the graduate level within the liberal arts and in applied and practitioner oriented fields within the service sector. Liberal education refers to learning opportunities designed to ensure that students have a breadth of educational experiences, which foster the development of insights and multiple perspectives on ideas, issues, and events, as well as an appreciation of the interconnectedness of fields of knowledge, and the value dimensions of the human condition.

Program Objective

The College is dedicated to making a high quality education accessible to a diverse group of students. Through its educational, social and cultural programs and activities, the College seeks to contribute to the professional mobility and advancement of its students and alumni, to the economic development of the State of Rhode Island, and to the enrichment of the larger community.

Statutory History

Title 16, Chapters 31 and 33 of the Rhode Island General Laws relate to Rhode Island College.

The Budget

Public Higher Education Rhode Island College

	FY 2007 Actual	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Enacted	FY 2009 Revised	FY 2010 Recommended
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	84,579,420	87,490,725	90,370,841	95,075,697	101,448,046
Operating Supplies and Expenses	18,499,716	21,597,697	22,376,644	20,886,122	23,276,960
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	13,110,135	15,362,384	14,688,594	14,690,594	17,432,508
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$116,189,271	\$124,450,806	\$127,436,079	\$130,652,413	\$142,157,514
Capital Purchases and Equipment	5,211,994	485,095	4,510,555	3,862,526	2,599,910
Debt Service	3,409,736	6,022,554	6,004,229	6,004,229	5,697,769
Operating Transfers	1,341,028	745,766	2,090,742	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$126,152,029	\$131,704,221	\$140,041,605	\$140,519,168	\$150,455,193
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	47,338,089	47,539,037	45,695,785	43,690,090	43,795,225
Other Funds	78,813,940	84,165,184	94,345,820	96,829,078	106,659,968
Total Expenditures	\$126,152,029	\$131,704,221	\$140,041,605	\$140,519,168	\$150,455,193
Program Measures					
Percentage Change in Tuition and Mandatory Fees (In-State) from Previous Year	6.0%	6.0%	9.8%	9.8%	9.5%
Minority Enrollment - African Americans	4.9%	5.3%	5.2%	5.2%	5.2%
Minority Enrollment - Hispanics	4.9%	5.6%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%
Minority Enrollment - Native Americans	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
Minority Enrollment - Asians	1.8%	1.9%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%
Percentage Nursing Students Passing State Licensing Exams	95.7%	95.2%	92.7%	92.7%	92.0%
Six-Year Graduation Rates	45.1%	45.0%	45.0%	45.0%	45.0%
First-Year Retention Rates of First-Time, Degree-Seeking Freshman	75.7%	75.4%	77.0%	77.0%	77.0%

The Program

Public Higher Education Community College of Rhode Island

Program Operations

The Community College of Rhode Island is the largest public, two-year degree-granting college in New England. The Community College provides a variety of vocational, technical and academic programs at campuses in Warwick, Lincoln and Providence.

As a community-based college, the Community College is also committed to providing a wide range of programs, workshops and seminars to benefit area students, businesses and governmental agencies. In every sense, the Community College of Rhode Island strives to meet the educational needs of the commuters and the people of the state.

Program Objective

Fulfill the education mission of the Community College by providing academic transfer and career-oriented training of the highest caliber giving special attention to the quality of offerings and effectiveness of instruction, and offering students support services necessary to achieve their educational goals.

Statutory History

Title 16, Chapters 31, 33.1, and 44 of the Rhode Island General Laws relate to the Community College of Rhode Island.

The Budget

Public Higher Education Community College of Rhode Island

	FY 2007 Actual	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Enacted	FY 2009 Revised	FY 2010 Recommended
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	72,641,040	76,239,491	81,604,282	82,592,374	89,023,707
Operating Supplies and Expenses	18,389,056	22,583,016	16,718,472	18,786,872	19,708,586
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	12,222,876	14,813,897	12,306,584	14,875,872	15,068,441
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$103,252,972	\$113,636,404	\$110,629,338	\$116,255,118	\$123,800,734
Capital Purchases and Equipment	2,788,729	2,297,219	5,013,400	5,851,247	3,845,110
Debt Service	1,581,580	1,526,931	1,609,727	1,609,727	1,546,855
Operating Transfers	-	(1,051,977)	194,996	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$107,623,281	\$116,408,577	\$117,447,461	\$123,716,092	\$129,192,699
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	48,518,566	49,201,554	49,183,871	46,942,574	47,971,581
Restricted Receipts	636,064	619,273	641,526	666,433	667,543
Other Funds	58,468,651	66,587,750	67,622,064	76,107,085	80,553,575
Total Expenditures	\$107,623,281	\$116,408,577	\$117,447,461	\$123,716,092	\$129,192,699
Program Measures					
Percentage Change in Tuition and Mandatory Fees (In-State) from Previous Year	8.7%	6.0%	8.6%	8.6%	9.3%
Minority Enrollment - African Americans	8.0%	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%
Minority Enrollment - Hispanics	10.6%	12.1%	12.3%	12.3%	12.3%
Minority Enrollment - Native Americans	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%
Minority Enrollment - Asians	2.3%	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%
Percentage Nursing Students Passing State Licensing Exams (RN)	88.4%	85.9%	90.0%	90.0%	90.0%
Percentage Nursing Students Passing State Licensing Exams (LPN)	95.2%	90.9%	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%
Student Success Rate	29.6%	30.2%	30.0%	30.0%	30.0%
First-Year Retention Rates of First-Time, Degree-Seeking Freshman	61.8%	62.6%	62.0%	62.0%	62.0%