

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 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Revised	FY 2008 Recommended
Expenditures by Program				
Board of Governors/OHE	8,410,721	9,745,086	11,572,433	11,817,354
University of Rhode Island	413,144,967	460,364,203	484,461,747	527,721,752
Rhode Island College	110,720,656	116,058,473	126,299,337	148,803,068
Community College of Rhode Island	97,196,939	101,292,430	107,432,102	119,511,876
Total Expenditures	\$629,473,283	\$687,460,192	\$729,765,619	807,854,050
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	363,740,265	381,410,862	411,333,829	457,919,530
Operating Supplies and Expenses	102,513,138	110,074,540	113,572,555	124,605,705
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	118,879,312	126,624,762	136,284,650	146,989,886
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$585,132,715	\$618,110,164	\$661,191,034	\$729,515,121
Capital Purchases and Equipment	16,429,035	35,637,656	21,688,472	23,775,688
Debt Service	2,548,613	8,033,792	19,651,890	28,125,738
Operating Transfers	25,362,920	25,678,580	27,234,223	26,437,503
Total Expenditures	\$629,473,283	\$687,460,192	\$729,765,619	\$807,854,050
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	173,432,404	180,371,797	189,491,502	197,605,320
Federal Funds	2,527,352	1,347,949	3,146,976	3,526,446
Restricted Receipts	532,955	763,276	1,384,896	893,520
Other Funds	452,980,572	504,977,170	535,742,245	605,828,764
Total Expenditures	\$629,473,283	\$687,460,192	\$729,765,619	\$807,854,050
FTE Authorization	3,556.7	3,589.7	3,554.8	3,567.8
Sponsored Research	781.0	785.0	785.0	785.0
Total	4,337.7	4,374.7	4,339.8	4,352.8
Agency Measures				
Minorities as a Percentage of the Workforce	10.6%	10.6%	10.6%	15.4%
Females as a Percentage of the Workforce	57.1%	57.1%	57.1%	69.2%
Persons with Disabilities as a Percentage of the Workforce	3.6%	-	-	-

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 2006 Actual	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Revised	FY 2008 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	1,814,988	1,850,078	2,847,806	2,544,407
Operating Supplies and Expenses	1,747,430	1,651,112	1,815,983	1,521,167
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	4,839,395	5,029,139	6,908,644	7,732,780
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$8,401,813	\$8,530,329	\$11,572,433	\$11,798,354
Capital Purchases and Equipment	8,908	3,550	-	19,000
Debt Service	-	1,211,207	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$8,410,721	\$9,745,086	\$11,572,433	\$11,817,354
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	5,883,369	8,246,513	7,734,081	8,090,908
Federal Funds	2,527,352	1,347,949	3,146,976	3,526,446
Restricted Receipts	-	150,624	691,376	200,000
Total Expenditures	\$8,410,721	\$9,745,086	\$11,572,433	\$11,817,354
Program Measures				
Public Higher Education Enrollees Aged 18-24 as a Percentage of State Population Aged 18-24	22.7%	19.2%	19.2%	19.2%

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 2006 Actual	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Revised	FY 2008 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	218,115,728	227,959,036	244,919,278	266,871,357
Operating Supplies and Expenses	69,808,229	75,695,010	78,792,430	84,628,274
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	89,784,257	98,494,793	105,395,405	113,065,882
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$377,708,214	\$402,148,839	\$429,107,113	\$464,565,513
Capital Purchases and Equipment	9,487,835	29,066,546	15,392,890	16,662,082
Debt Service	2,308,107	5,153,819	14,622,593	22,127,173
Operating Transfers	23,640,811	23,994,999	25,339,151	24,366,984
Total Expenditures	\$413,144,967	\$460,364,203	\$484,461,747	\$527,721,752
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	81,841,071	82,378,400	85,900,766	89,150,084
Other Funds	331,303,896	377,985,803	398,560,981	438,571,668
Total Expenditures	\$413,144,967	\$460,364,203	\$484,461,747	\$527,721,752
Program Measures				
Percentage Change in Tuition and Mandatory Fees (In-State) from Previous Year	8.9%	7.9%	7.4%	6.0%
Minority Enrollment - African Americans	4.2%	4.4%	4.4%	4.9%
Minority Enrollment - Hispanics	4.1%	4.1%	4.1%	4.6%
Minority Enrollment - Native Americans	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%
Minority Enrollment - Asians	2.9%	2.7%	2.7%	2.4%
Percentage Nursing Students Passing State Licensing Exams	87.8%	87.8%	87.8%	88.0%
Six-Year Graduation Rates	55.8%	55.8%	56.9%	56.9%
First-Year Retention Rates of First-Time, Degree-Seeking Freshman	79.1%	80.2%	80.6%	80.6%

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 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Revised	FY 2008 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	76,851,333	81,134,339	87,568,200	102,595,834
Operating Supplies and Expenses	16,879,141	17,223,831	16,976,975	21,657,483
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	11,960,392	11,965,293	12,588,630	13,718,590
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$105,690,866	\$110,323,463	\$117,133,805	\$137,971,907
Capital Purchases and Equipment	3,204,030	4,011,604	4,008,252	4,520,229
Debt Service	240,506	232,093	3,447,717	4,415,167
Operating Transfers	1,585,254	1,491,313	1,709,563	1,895,765
Total Expenditures	\$110,720,656	\$116,058,473	\$126,299,337	\$148,803,068
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	43,892,352	44,301,506	47,338,089	49,358,114
Other Funds	66,828,304	71,756,967	78,961,248	99,444,954
Total Expenditures	\$110,720,656	\$116,058,473	\$126,299,337	\$148,803,068
Program Measures				
Percentage Change in Tuition and Mandatory Fees (In-State) from Previous Year	8.6%	7.7%	6.2%	6.0%
Minority Enrollment - African Americans	3.5%	4.9%	4.3%	5.0%
Minority Enrollment - Hispanics	4.4%	4.9%	4.7%	5.0%
Minority Enrollment - Native Americans	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%
Minority Enrollment - Asians	1.6%	1.8%	1.6%	1.6%
Percentage Nursing Students Passing State Licensing Exams	89.3%	88.1%	95.7%	90.0%
Six-Year Graduation Rates	42.6%	43.7%	45.0%	45.0%
First-Year Retention Rates of First-Time, Degree-Seeking Freshman	77.7%	77.5%	75.7%	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 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Revised	FY 2008 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	66,958,216	70,467,409	75,998,545	85,907,932
Operating Supplies and Expenses	14,078,338	15,504,587	15,987,167	16,798,781
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	12,295,268	11,135,537	11,391,971	12,472,634
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$93,331,822	\$97,107,533	\$103,377,683	\$115,179,347
Capital Purchases and Equipment	3,728,262	2,555,956	2,287,330	2,574,377
Debt Service	-	1,436,673	1,581,580	1,583,398
Operating Transfers	136,855	192,268	185,509	174,754
Total Expenditures	\$97,196,939	\$101,292,430	\$107,432,102	\$119,511,876
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	41,815,612	45,445,378	48,518,566	51,006,214
Restricted Receipts	532,955	612,652	693,520	693,520
Other Funds	54,848,372	55,234,400	58,220,016	67,812,142
Total Expenditures	\$97,196,939	\$101,292,430	\$107,432,102	\$119,511,876
Program Measures				
Percentage Change in Tuition and Mandatory Fees (In-State) from Previous Year	9.0%	6.9%	8.7%	6.0%
Minority Enrollment - African Americans	6.9%	8.1%	8.1%	8.1%
Minority Enrollment - Hispanics	9.3%	10.2%	10.6%	10.6%
Minority Enrollment - Native Americans	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%
Minority Enrollment - Asians	2.7%	2.7%	2.7%	2.7%
Percentage Nursing Students Passing State Licensing Exams (RN)	80.2%	86.2%	86.2%	86.2%
Percentage Nursing Students Passing State Licensing Exams (LPN)	76.4%	95.0%	95.0%	95.0%
Student Success Rate	28.0%	32.0%	32.0%	32.0%
First-Year Retention Rates of First-Time, Degree-Seeking Freshman	58.0%	57.0%	57.0%	58.0%