



General Assembly

***Substitute Bill No. 6887***

*January Session, 2025*



***AN ACT CONCERNING HIGHER EDUCATION MANAGEMENT AND FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) Not later than January 1, 2026,  
2       the Board of Regents for Higher Education shall adopt or update the  
3       management and fiscal accountability policies applicable to each  
4       constituent unit and institution of higher education governed by said  
5       board and the central office of the Connecticut State Colleges and  
6       Universities. Such policies shall include, but need not be limited to, the  
7       following:

8       (1) The use of purchasing cards pursuant to subsection (c) of section  
9       4-98 of the general statutes, that includes, but need not be limited to, the  
10      (A) permitted and restricted uses of purchasing cards, (B) provision of  
11      uniform training to each cardholder on such permitted and restricted  
12      uses and required record-keeping, and a signed acknowledgment of  
13      receiving such training, (C) requirement for a secondary review and  
14      sign-off on any exceptions to the spending limits on purchasing cards,  
15      (D) provision of uniform training to each supervisor to regularly  
16      monitor the use of purchasing cards, (E) use of purchasing cards by  
17      persons in executive positions for food and entertainment costs, and (F)  
18      establishment and enforcement of accountability measures to address  
19      any purchasing card misuse, including, but not limited to, written

20 acknowledgment of such misuse, an agreement to remedy such misuse  
21 and the revocation of purchasing cards when necessary.

22 (2) The use of state vehicles that includes, but need not be limited to,  
23 the (A) establishment of rules on the use of state vehicles and related  
24 record-keeping, (B) treatment of state vehicle use for compensation and  
25 tax purposes, and (C) establishment and enforcement of accountability  
26 measures to address any state vehicle misuse and noncompliance with  
27 such policy.

28 (3) Residency requirements for certain executive positions, including,  
29 but not limited to, the chancellor, vice-chancellors, president, vice-  
30 presidents and other equivalent positions. Any employment contract  
31 negotiated on and after July 1, 2025, for the chancellor of the Connecticut  
32 State College and Universities shall include a requirement to maintain  
33 such chancellor's primary residence in the state.

34 (4) The development and provision of uniform training to all  
35 executives, administrators and staff at each such constituent unit,  
36 institution of higher education and central office regarding the business  
37 functions and compliance practices relevant to such position.

38 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) Not later than January 1, 2026,  
39 the Board of Trustees of The University of Connecticut shall adopt or  
40 update policies concerning the management and fiscal accountability of  
41 The University of Connecticut. Such policies shall include, but need not  
42 be limited to, the following:

43 (1) The use of purchasing cards pursuant to subsection (c) of section  
44 4-98 of the general statutes, that includes, but need not be limited to, the  
45 (A) permitted and restricted uses of purchasing cards, (B) provision of  
46 uniform training to each cardholder on such permitted and restricted  
47 uses and required record-keeping, and a signed acknowledgment of  
48 receiving such training, (C) requirement for a secondary review and  
49 sign-off on any exceptions to the spending limits on purchasing cards,  
50 (D) provision of uniform training to each supervisor to regularly  
51 monitor the use of purchasing cards, (E) use of purchasing cards by

52 persons in executive positions for food and entertainment costs, and (F)  
53 establishment and enforcement of accountability measures to address  
54 any purchasing card misuse, including, but not limited to, written  
55 acknowledgment of such misuse, an agreement to remedy such misuse  
56 and the revocation of purchasing cards when necessary.

57 (2) The use of state vehicles that includes, but need not be limited to,  
58 the (A) establishment of rules on the use of state vehicles and related  
59 record-keeping, (B) treatment of state vehicle use for compensation and  
60 tax purposes, and (C) establishment and enforcement of accountability  
61 measures to address any state vehicle misuse and noncompliance with  
62 such policy.

63 (3) Residency requirements for certain executive positions, including,  
64 but not limited to, the president, vice-presidents and other equivalent  
65 positions. Any employment contract negotiated on and after July 1,  
66 2025, for the president of The University of Connecticut shall include a  
67 requirement to maintain such president's primary residence in the state.

68 (4) The development and provision of uniform training to all  
69 executives, administrators and staff at said university regarding the  
70 business functions and compliance practices relevant to such position.

71 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) Not later than January 1, 2026,  
72 the Board of Regents for Higher Education shall establish an internal  
73 audit office. The duties of such office shall include, but need not be  
74 limited to, (1) conducting audits on a regular basis of the records and  
75 expenditures at each constituent unit and institution of higher education  
76 governed by said board and the central office of the Connecticut State  
77 Colleges and Universities to measure, as often as deemed necessary by  
78 such office, (A) compliance with applicable laws and regulations and  
79 policies adopted by said board, (B) reliability of financial reporting and  
80 record-keeping, (C) effectiveness and efficiency of operations, and (D)  
81 assessing the adequacy and uniformity of internal controls and  
82 compliance practices at each such institution and the central office; (2)  
83 reporting to said board on the findings of such audit and assessment

84 and making recommendations for improvement; and (3) performing the  
85 audit required pursuant to subsection (r) of section 1-84 of the general  
86 statutes.

87 (b) The Comptroller shall conduct a randomized post-audit  
88 examination of the records and expenditures of the Connecticut State  
89 Colleges and Universities. The Board of Regents for Higher Education  
90 shall submit or allow access to all accounting records and expenditures  
91 of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities to the office of the  
92 Comptroller for the purposes of such post-audit examination.

93 Sec. 4. Section 10a-9b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
94 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

95 (a) The constituent units of the state system of higher education, as  
96 defined in section 10a-1, shall use best efforts to work with the Secretary  
97 of the Office of Policy and Management, the Department of  
98 Administrative Services and the Comptroller to fully utilize the CORE-  
99 CT system in carrying out accounting processes and financial reporting  
100 that meet constitutional needs and providing for budgetary and  
101 financial reporting needs.

102 (b) [The] Each constituent [units of the state system of higher  
103 education, as defined in section 10a-1,] unit shall use best efforts to work  
104 with the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, the  
105 Department of Administrative Services and the Comptroller to fully  
106 utilize the CORE-CT system to provide for human resources and payroll  
107 reporting and to initiate the process of determining consistent  
108 classification and compensation for employees not represented by an  
109 employee organization, as defined in section 5-270.

110 (c) Not later than October 1, 2025, and quarterly thereafter, each  
111 constituent unit shall submit to the Comptroller, in the form and manner  
112 agreed upon by the Comptroller and such constituent unit, data, as  
113 prescribed by the Comptroller, on the budget and expenditures of such  
114 constituent unit and such constituent unit's central office, if any, for  
115 inclusion in any program concerning state-wide fiscal transparency and

116 the databases maintained by the office of the Comptroller pursuant to  
117 section 2-53l.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	10a-9b

**HED**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*