



VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE FUNDING



Revised, Effective FY 26

RECENT CHANGES

PA 24-81 replaced a flat per-student state grant amount of \$5,200 with a partially need-based formula, in FY 25 only. PA 25-168, the FY 26 and FY 27 Budget, made the FY 25 grant structure and tuition reduction permanent. The grant phase-in and tuition reduction levels have been unchanged since FY 25.

DEFINITIONS

- **Average ECS Student Weight:** A measure of student need in the sending town
- **Total Revenue:** Tuition (from sending town) plus state grant
- **Sending Town:** Where the student lives, when the student attends an out-of-district program
- **Sending Town's Weighted Student Amount:** A dollar value per student based on the town's average ECS student weight and the ECS foundation amount

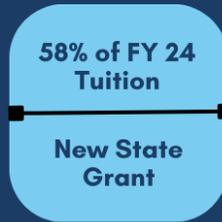
TOTAL REVENUE PER STUDENT

IN-DISTRICT STUDENTS



SAME AS FY 24

OUT-OF-DISTRICT STUDENTS



NEW STATE GRANT (STARTING IN FY 25) ENSURES PER STUDENT TOTAL REVENUE = AT LEAST FY 24 LEVEL

CALCULATING THE NEW STATE GRANT FOR EACH OUT-OF-DISTRICT STUDENT

STEP 1: Compare FY 24 per student total revenue to *Sending Town's Weighted Student Amount* (see next page)

STEP 2: If FY 24 per student total revenue is...



For a full-time student, the resulting grant is \$8,066.

For a part-time student, the resulting grant is lower.

The grant will vary depending on the sending town's amount.

THE VO AG OPERATOR RECEIVES THE SUM OF THE RESULTING PER-STUDENT GRANTS (ALONG WITH TUITION).



VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE FUNDING (CONTINUED)



Revised, Effective FY 26

WHAT IS THE SENDING TOWN'S WEIGHTED STUDENT AMOUNT?

\$11,525
ECS Foundation 

×
Multiplied by

Average Student Weight of the Sending Town



- In FY 26, these amounts range from \$11,544 to \$15,932.



AVERAGE STUDENT WEIGHT

Town's Total ECS Weighted Student Count



Town's ECS # of students adjusted upward for the # of students eligible for free and reduced price lunch and English learners



-- Divided by --

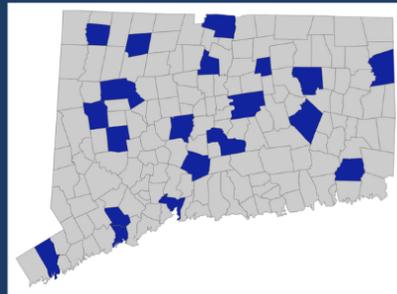
Town's ECS # of Students



MEANING:

- A town with a higher percentage of students eligible for free and reduced price lunch / English learners will have a higher Average Student Weight.
- A Vo Ag operator who receives a student from a town with a higher Average Student Weight will receive more grant funding for that student, than for a student from a town with a lower Average Student Weight.

VO AG OPERATORS AND STUDENTS



20 OPERATORS

- 18 full-time
- 1 part-time
- 1 both (mostly full-time)

STUDENTS IN FY 25

- 3,722 total
- 49% out-of-district, meaning operators received tuition and in FY 25, the funding changes were first applied
- 92% in full-time programs

FUNDING IN FY 24

- **Grant:** \$5,200 per student (from state)
- **Tuition for out-of-district students:**
 - Full-time programs: \$6,823
 - Part-time programs: \$2,500 (Bloomfield) and \$3,412 (Bridgeport)