



Connecticut Higher Education Financial Sustainability Advisory Board

Established July 1, 2023

Convened August 27 and September 9, 2024

Focus: Effectiveness, Efficiency, and Accountability in Higher
Ed

HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY
August 27th Advisory Board Meeting



Co-Chairs



Jeffrey Beckham
OPM Secretary



Senator Catherine Osten
Appropriations Co-Chair



Representative Toni Walker
Appropriations Co-Chair

Established by PA 24-81, the **Higher Education Financial Sustainability Advisory Board** is charged with meeting with public higher education institution and UConn Health Center administrators:

- **to accept and review financial and related reports and**
- **to discuss (a) barriers to meeting state workforce needs, (b) developing economic growth, and (c) achieving or maintaining affordable tuition.**

About NCHEMS



The National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS) is a postsecondary education research and advising organization that unlocks data and evidence to help states, systems, and institutions design policies and practices to meet their goals.



Since 1969, we've been engaging higher education leaders and state and system-level policy makers, providing the insights and intelligence they need to create and sustain successful higher education institutions and systems.

OPM has hired an external consultant, National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS). The consultant reported at the Sept. 9 meeting (screenshot left).

UConn and UConn Health data requested by the board include:

- Detailed and disaggregated financial reports (expenses, revenue sources)
- Restricted and unrestricted fund balances by organizational units
- Deficiency and mitigation plans
- Personnel counts and vacancies by bargaining units and organizational units
- Salary data
- UCH patient utilization plans
- UConn enrollment and housing plans
- Graduate and undergraduate head count and graduation by program
- Semester credit hours taught for full-time and part-time positions
- Athletics costs and benefits
- Cost drivers and budget constraints
- Organizational charts

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Upcoming Meeting Scheduled for October 10

Focus on UConn Health



CSCU presentation at the September 9 advisory board meeting

Fiscal Sustainability and Accountability Plan (FSAP)

- Greater efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability across the university. This includes but is not limited to investigating:
 - Shared service models
 - Better platforms and tools to reduce administrative burden
 - Internal controls and oversight
- Guided by our mission and strategic plan, we need to ensure intentional and targeted approaches to:
 - Cost containment
 - Growth and investment
- Continuous assessment and data-informed decision making
 - Example: Travel process
 - Challenges with Concur—we heard you
 - Working group to evaluate the platform and reduce administrative burden
 - Review by Internal Audit to identify vulnerabilities and opportunities for improvement
 - Implement changes to address vulnerabilities and reduce unnecessary administrative burden
- Budget update will be provided by Jeff Geoghegan later on the agenda. Happy to answer questions.