



# Vermont State Colleges Update to House Appropriations

Dr. Elizabeth K. Mauch, Chancellor

# “For the benefit of Vermont”

The system embraces this idea in every action we take.

*-VSC mission statement*



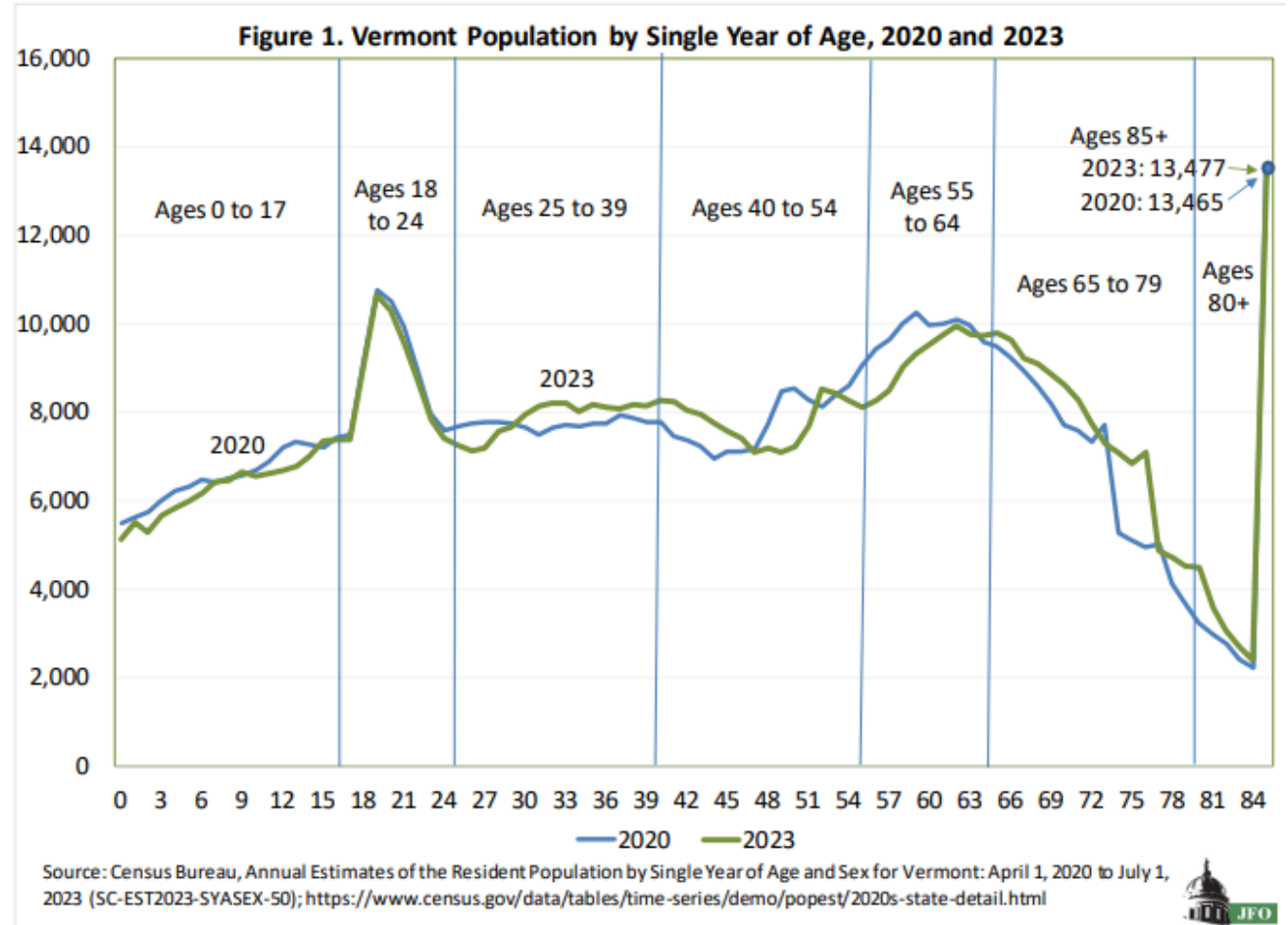


# The Vermont State Colleges are Thriving

- More than 83% of all students are Vermonters
- Overall enrollment is up 1.4% since fall 2024
- Online enrollment continues to surge – up 10% year-over-year, highlighting demand for flexible, accessible learning
- Lyndon, Williston & satellite campuses all saw enrollment growth
- Notable growth in key programs including Elementary Education (+58%), Health Science (+26%), and Mechanical Engineering (+46%)

# Commitment to our Students

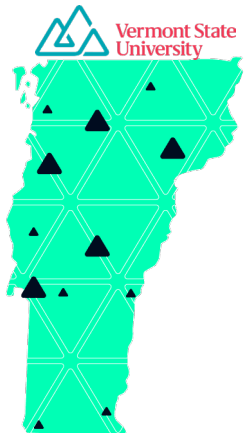
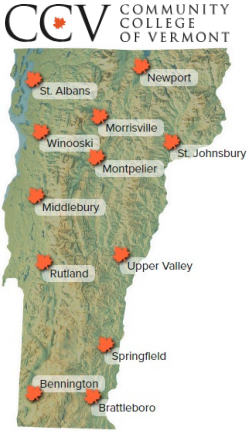
- Vermont is aging and our students' needs are changing too
- Students are older than they used to be with an average age of more than 27
- Concerned about paying for college experience
- Want flexibility and choice





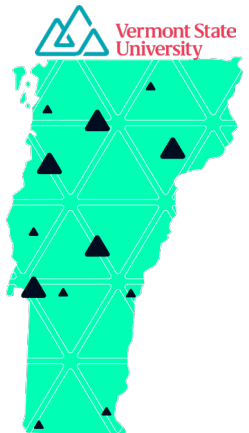
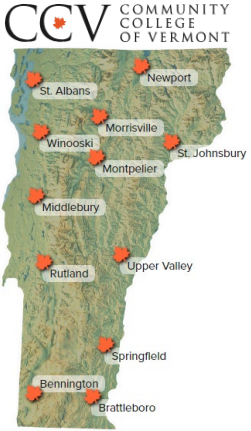
# Commitment to our Communities

- Agency of Commerce & Community Development awarded \$6.5 million to Downstreet to create senior housing and apartments in the **McClelland Building of Vermont State University** paving the way for much needed senior housing in Johnson
- Johnson Health Center is actively working with the Vermont State University to relocate operations from the village to the **Johnson campus** in spring 2026
- Actively engaging with regional education partner to potentially relocate operations to the Lyndon Campus of Vermont State University in summer 2026
- Where compatible with the University's academic mission, exploring short & long-term housing arrangements
- Developing an apartment concept, if implemented in Johnson could free up 49 apartments to the open market



# Solutions for Business

- Created **Career Pathway Entry Program (CPEP)** employer-first model including job shadows, on-the-job training, classroom instruction with 21 employers statewide
- Enrollment in the university's **plumbing and electrical apprenticeship programs** continued their multi-year growth trend, jumping 3% in headcount
- Joined **Science & Technology Research Initiative** for the Vermont Economy (STRIVE) emphasizing career entry pathways and workforce initiatives in science and technology fields
- Developed **English for Healthcare** course supports students who may have healthcare experience from another country but need help navigating language and culture of the American system



# FY2027: General Fund & One-Times

Section B.602 Vermont State Colleges	FY26	FY27 Request	Recommend	Difference
General Fund	52,468,692	54,042,753	54,042,753	-

Section 1110 One-Times	FY26	FY27 Request	Recommend	Difference
FY26 Bridge Funding	5,000,000	-	-	-
Rural Micro Credential & Certificate Expansion	-	1,500,000	-	1,500,000
<b>Total One-Time Sources</b>	<b>5,000,000</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>

General Fund Request Sources	FY26	FY27 Request	Recommend	Difference
Total General Fund	57,468,692	55,542,753	54,042,753	1,500,000

# FY2027: Allied Health/Global Commitment

Section B.603 VSC Allied Health	FY26	FY27 Request	Recommend	Difference
B.603: General Fund	297,087	306,000	306,000	-
B.603: Global Commitment Fund (GRANT)	1,500,000	3,894,000	1,500,000	2,394,000
Total Allied Health Programming	1,797,087	4,200,000	1,806,000	2,394,000

- Funds are vital in supporting faculty positions, clinical instruction, and student training across our nursing, radiologic sciences, respiratory therapy, and other allied health disciplines
- Acute challenge lies within our nursing programs, where we face significant recruitment and retention obstacles. Non-competitive faculty salaries, compared to regional and national benchmarks, hinder our ability to attract and retain qualified nursing educators.
- Shortfall jeopardizes program quality and limits capacity to train the next generation of nurses at a time when demand continues to rise across the state
- Requesting increasing in B.603: Allied Health Global Commitment grant funding to \$3,894,000 bringing total support to \$4,200,000



# FY2027 Capital Budget Request

Capital Bill Act 33 / H9494 as enacted	FY26	FY27	Recommend	Difference
Major Maintenance	1,500,000	1,500,000	n/a	
Johnson, Central Plant Replacement	1,500,000	3,500,000	n/a	
<b>Total Capital Budget as enacted</b>	<b>3,000,000</b>	<b>5,000,000</b>	-	-

Capital Bill Request		FY27	Recommend	Difference
Capital Planning & Pre-Development Costs for Housing		1,000,000	-	1,000,000



# Workforce Education: Rural Micro Credential & Certificate Expansion

- Fill critical **paraeducator** shortage
- Upskill workers in rural areas into in demand fields like **health professions** and **auto repair**
- **Short-stackable credentials** and **apprenticeships** with direct career pathways
- **Scalable** with right investment
- Retain & attract talented Vermonters

**\$1.5 million one-time investment** 10



# Freedom & Unity

- Free last dollar standard tuition at Vermont State University
- Administered by VSAC
- Currently offered to families with an AGI of \$65,000 or less
- In fall 2025 supported nearly 200 students
- Program allows students to achieve their bachelors or technical associates degree

**Vermont State Colleges is strongly supportive of VSAC's request for expansion to \$2.3 million in base appropriation for this important project**



# Equal Access, Flexible Paths, Real Opportunity

- Designed to level the playing field, Vermont's flexible pathways expand college readiness and meaningful choices for students
- Increases college and career readiness statewide
- Expands equitable access to opportunity across rural and urban communities
- Supports higher rates of high school completion and postsecondary continuation
- Gives students meaningful choice and ownership over their learning
- Strengthens Vermont's workforce pipeline
- Encourages innovation and local flexibility in schools
- Reduces time and cost to a postsecondary credential

Dual Enrollment	22-23	23-24	24-25
Course Placements	6,780	7,203	7,515
Number of Students Enrolled	2,713	3,139	3,129
Early College	22-23	23-24	24-25*
Students Enrolled	334	355	358
*24-25 data is estimated as of 1/14/2026			

# Vermont State Colleges

For the  
benefit  
of  
Vermont



# FY2027 Total Budget Request

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<b>Total One-Time Sources</b>	<b>5,000,000</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>

General Fund Request Sources	FY26	FY27 Request	Recommend	Difference
General Fund	57,765,779	55,848,753	54,348,753	1,500,000
Global Commitment Fund (GRANT)	1,500,000	3,894,000	1,500,000	2,394,000
<b>Total All Sources</b>	<b>59,265,779</b>	<b>59,742,753</b>	<b>55,848,753</b>	<b>3,894,000</b>

Capital Bill Act 33 / H9494 as enacted	FY26	FY27	Recommend	Difference
Major Maintenance	1,500,000	1,500,000	n/a	
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# Thank you!

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