



## FY27 Governor's Institutes of Vermont (GIV) Overview & Request

House and Senate Education Committees

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### REQUEST

**GIV needs your help to continue to serve low-income Vermonters and close the opportunity gap.** We are currently level-funded at \$384,874 in the Governor's FY27 budget. We respectfully request a 10% increase (\$38,487), bringing the **base funding to a total of \$423,361.**

This will **ensure tuition support for more than 300 low-income students** and preserve the current expansion of our popular Health & Medicine Institute. **Over the past two years, the percentage of students from low-income households has increased by 34%.** The last time we received an increase was for FY24.

### WHAT IS GIV?

The Governor's Institutes of Vermont (GIV) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit founded in partnership with the state, which **brings life-changing career opportunities to ALL motivated Vermont teenagers through intensive summer programs on college campuses.** Topics include Health & Medicine, STEM, business, social studies, and the arts. Sliding-scale tuition ensures access regardless of a family's ability to pay. GIV is part of a nationwide network of Governor's Schools, many of which are fully state-funded and tuition-free.

### WHO BENEFITS?

- **~ 700 high school students annually from every region of Vermont**
  - **87% request some amount of financial assistance to attend; 55% are low, very low, or extremely low-income households**
  - 73% from rural areas, 17% first-generation college, 17% have a disability, 23% identify as BIPOC and 36% as LGBTQ+
- Vermont colleges and universities: **GIV spent ~ \$542K in 2025 on room & board** and serves as an admissions funnel for these institutions.
- The whole state: **GIV is helping to train and retain some of our most motivated young people for Vermont's workforce.** These programs spotlight educational, training, and job opportunities right here in the state.

### HIGHER EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

All GIV Institutes offer opportunities for students to obtain high school credit as part of Vermont's Flexible Pathways program. **Four (4) GIV Institutes offer students an opportunity to earn college credit!** We know that students who invest early in their education are more likely to go on to secondary education or training and have higher completion rates.

### IMPACT (on 14,000 Vermonters and counting...)

- **98% of alumni report positive outcomes (up to 30 years later!)**
- 93% said GIV influenced their career and educational choices
- 88% called GIV one of their most important high school experiences
- 86% said GIV increased their self-confidence

## STATE FUNDING

GIV's FY26 budget is ~\$2.1M, and the State currently provides \$384,874 annually, which **we match 5:1 with intensive private fundraising**.

- In 2025, we served 42% more students than we did in 2019, and annual application numbers are at record levels, ~750 each year for the last four years
- **Room & board costs have risen 46% since 2022**
- State funding is less than Room & Board costs (by ~\$100K)
- Have responded to workforce needs and student interest: Health & Medicine especially in demand!

## WITHOUT AN INCREASE

We may need to reduce the number of students we currently serve and may be unable to meet the increasing financial need demonstrated by our students. **Recently, each cohort of students has demonstrated far greater financial need.** In 2025 and 2024, 55% had an annual household income that was low, very low, or extremely low, compared to 41% in 2023. Our historical average has been ~35%, indicating that our outreach to underserved youth has been effective. In 2025, we provided \$1 million in financial support to students. We've dramatically increased the amount of tuition support we've budgeted for 2026 and anticipate providing \$1.18 million in support to students with financial need.

**You can help** GIV serve any interested student, and at whatever level of financial need they may have.

*"In my 30 years as a guidance counselor, GIV is the one program where students come back and say it was **life-changing**." - Joni K, high school counselor*

## [GIV's 2025 Impact Report](#)

### 2026 SUMMER INSTITUTES

Arts  
Engineering  
Entrepreneurship  
Global Issues & Youth Action  
Health & Medicine (now at UVM!)  
Mathematical Sciences  
Technology & Design  
Weather & Climate Sciences

**College partners include UVM, Norwich University, Champlain College, and Vermont State University.**

***"GIV drastically changed my perspective on school and learning.**  
Although I learned so much about health and medicine...  
the most important lesson I learned was how capable I actually am." - Recent alum*

*"I LOVE GIV. My oldest grown child attended one summer and is now a computer programmer. It was the first time that they really **connected with others with similar aspirations**." - Rebecca M, parent*

***"GIV is a state treasure that must be continued, preserved, and protected no matter any potential costs.**  
What my daughter experienced was: **beautiful, inspiring, astonishing, profound**." - Byron B, parent*

## Governor's Institutes of Vermont & Vermont AHEC Network

The Governor's Institute on Health & Medicine is relocating in 2026 to the University of Vermont (UVM), offering a significant opportunity to expand access, enhance educational quality, and strengthen the pipeline of future healthcare professionals in Vermont, particularly those from rural and underserved communities.

The Governor's Institute on Health & Medicine is a seven-day, residential, health career exploration and health science enrichment program. It offers Vermont high school students **clinical skills** (including certifications like CPR, Stop the Bleed, and VT Emergency First Responder) **and a broad exposure to pathways in healthcare** (e.g. mental health, pathology, lab technician, public health, respiratory therapy, nursing, emergency medicine, medical research, physical therapy, pharmacy, and more). The partnership between the Governor's Institutes of Vermont (GIV) and the Vermont AHEC Network ensures an education that is top-notch, practical, and inspirational. Students live on a VT college campus for an intense week, living and learning together and forming personal and professional connections that last long past the experience itself.

### Who we serve:

- We reach students in **high schools all across Vermont**
- Demand is high: we have grown from 35 to 140 students since 2018. Even with that growth, we turned away more than 100 students in 2025.
- 44% of 2025 Health & Medicine Institute participants will be the **first in their families to attend college**. 63% were identified as **disadvantaged** (based on several proxy measures such as income and residence).
- Health & Medicine Institute participants needed **\$329,130 in financial aid** in 2025.

### Outcomes:

- **100% of 2025 students said they felt more confident in their ability to take next steps toward their goals**, and 92% said they felt they could now find the information they need about college and career pathways.
- **Post-Secondary Enrollment: 92%** of Health & Medicine Institute alum enrolled in college or post-secondary training (55% of which were enrolled in a VT college at some point)
- **Current Enrollment (2024–25):** of those who have not yet earned a post-secondary degree, **85%** are currently enrolled. **65%** of these are enrolled in a **health-related** program of study.
- **Post-Secondary Degrees:** of the **52** alumni who have completed a post-secondary degree, 28 graduated from a **Vermont** college and 36 earned a **health-related** degree.

The Health & Medicine Institute (H&M) has been located on four different campuses since it began in 2018. Northern Vermont AHEC and GIV have been working in collaboration to find the ideal location for this Institute as demand has grown each year. A move to UVM will not disrupt our existing partnership Vermont State University (VTSU), and all core elements of the program will be preserved. In fact, locating H&M at UVM will reduce barriers to the involvement of faculty from VTSU, particularly in Respiratory Therapy, Dental Hygiene, and Paramedicine, and faculty from Saint Michael's College Emergency Medical Services department. The move will allow us to add facility tours of VTSU's Williston campus to our 2026 schedule.

The Health & Medicine Institute plays a critical role in shaping the future of Vermont's healthcare workforce, and its presence at UVM will only strengthen that mission.

