



FY26 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 FY26 budget. However, we respectfully request a 3% increase for an additional \$11,546 in 2026. The requested increase will help **provide tuition support for more than 350 low-income students** and preserve the current expansion of our popular Health & Medicine Institute.

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.** In 2025, GIV anticipates serving 638 students through our Summer Institutes and an additional 100 with our One Day Adventures.
 - **85% or more request some amount of financial assistance to attend; 55% are low, very low, or extremely low-income households**
 - ~ 60% from rural areas, 12% first-generation college, 17% have a disability, 18% identify as BIPOC and 36% as LGBTQ+
- Vermont colleges and universities: **GIV spends ~ \$586K 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.**

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

- **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
- **More than 13,500 young Vermonters have been inspired over the past 41 years!**

STATE FUNDING

GIV's FY25 budget is ~ \$2.1M, and the State currently provides \$384,874 annually, which **we match 5:1 with intensive private fundraising.**

- Now serving 59% more students than we did in 2019, and annual application numbers are at record levels, ~750 each year for the last three years
- **Room & board costs have risen 43% since 2022**
- Have responded to workforce needs and student interest: added Health & Medicine, Entrepreneurship, and expanded Technology & Design.

WITHOUT AN INCREASE

We may need to reduce the number of students we currently serve and be unable to meet the increasing financial need demonstrated by our students. Last year's cohort of students demonstrated far greater financial need than in previous years. 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 2024, we provided nearly \$900,000 in financial support to students, 20% more than budgeted. We've dramatically increased the amount of tuition support we've budgeted for 2025 and anticipate providing \$1,176,000 in support to students with financial need.

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

*"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 2024 Impact Report](#)

2025 SUMMER INSTITUTES

Arts
Engineering
Entrepreneurship
Global Issues & Youth Action
Health & Medicine (2 sessions)
Mathematical Sciences
Technology & Design
Weather & Climate Sciences

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

*"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*

*"I am currently in the plumbing program at Central Vermont Career Center, and I really enjoy it. **I want to explore engineering as I am considering working in this field.** It would be a way for me to incorporate my plumbing experience to work on the infrastructure." - 2022 alum*

***"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." - 2021 alum*