

# Funded: Connecticut Report

## A Detailed Look at Connecticut's Funding Policies



## Connecticut



### Funding Basics

#### Formula Type

Connecticut is not currently making use of its education funding formula and has not done so for several years. Connecticut has a primarily student-based funding formula. Though the formula has not been repealed or replaced, instead of calculating district's state education aid in accordance with that formula, the state legislature now awards each district a block grant. The grant amounts are specified in legislation.

As it exists in law, Connecticut's funding formula is primarily student-based. The formula assigns a cost to the education of a student with no special needs or services, called a base amount. It then accounts for the additional cost of educating specific categories of students both by applying multipliers to that amount to generate supplemental funding for those students and through program-specific allocations.

#### Base Amount

Connecticut is not currently making use of its education funding formula and has not done so for several years. Connecticut has a primarily student-based funding formula. Though the formula has not been repealed or replaced, instead of calculating district's state education aid in accordance with that formula, the state legislature now awards each district a block grant. The grant amounts are specified in legislation.

As it exists in law, the funding formula includes a fixed base funding amount per student. The most recent base amount used in the formula was \$11,525.

#### Expected Local Share

Connecticut is not currently making use of its education funding formula and has not done so for several years. Connecticut has a primarily student-based funding formula. Though the formula has not been repealed or replaced, instead of calculating district's state education aid in accordance with that formula, the state legislature now awards each district a block grant. The grant amounts are specified in legislation.

As it exists in law, Connecticut's funding formula expects school districts to contribute revenue to the funding of public schools. The amount each district is expected to raise is based on a combination of its property values and its residents' income.

### Student Characteristics

## Grade Level

Connecticut is not currently making use of its education funding formula and has not done so for several years. Though the formula has not been repealed or replaced, instead of calculating district's state education aid in accordance with that formula, the state legislature now awards each district a block grant. The grant amounts are specified in legislation.

As it exists in law, Connecticut's funding formula does not differentiate funding based on students' grade levels.

## English Language Learner

Connecticut is not currently making use of its education funding formula and has not done so for several years. Though the formula has not been repealed or replaced, instead of calculating district's state education aid in accordance with that formula, the state legislature now awards each district a block grant. The grant amounts are specified in legislation.

As it exists in law, Connecticut's funding formula does not provide increased funding for English language learners.

## Student Poverty

Connecticut is not currently making use of its education funding formula and has not done so for several years. Connecticut has a primarily student-based funding formula. Though the formula has not been repealed or replaced, instead of calculating district's state education aid in accordance with that formula, the state legislature now awards each district a block grant. The grant amounts are specified in legislation.

As it exists in law, Connecticut's funding formula is structured to provide increased funding for students from low-income households by applying a multiplier of 1.3 to the base per-pupil amount for these students.

## Special Education

Connecticut does not provide funding for special education in most cases, and state funds are set aside only for extremely high-cost or atypical special-needs students.

Connecticut includes \$911 for special education in its regular, per-student base amount, though the money need not be used for that purpose at the district level. Connecticut also maintains a catastrophic fund, the Excess Cost grant, to limit districts' liability for the cost of providing services to students with extraordinary needs. The Excess Cost grant provides reimbursement when the cost of educating a student with disabilities exceeds 4.5 times the district's net current expenditure per pupil.

## Gifted

Connecticut is not currently making use of its education funding formula and has not done so for several years. Though the formula has not been repealed or replaced, instead of calculating district's state education aid in accordance with that formula, the state legislature now awards each district a block grant. The grant amounts are specified in legislation.

As it exists in law, Connecticut's funding formula does not provide additional resources for gifted and talented students.

## Career and Technical Education

Connecticut provides specific funding for career and technical education programs. It does so through direct support for technical high schools and by providing a flat allocation for each student enrolled in regional agriscience centers.

The state-governed system of technical high schools is funded by a state appropriation. This appropriation was \$156.7 million in FY2015. Students may also attend classes at agriscience centers, which are embedded in traditional public schools and offer vocations agricultural curricula. The state provides each center with \$3,200 per enrolled student.



## Community Characteristics

### District Poverty

Connecticut is not currently making use of its education funding formula and has not done so for several years. Though the formula has not been repealed or replaced, instead of calculating district's state education aid in accordance with that formula, the state legislature now awards each district a block grant. The grant amounts are specified in legislation.

As it exists in law, Connecticut's funding formula does not provide increased funding based on the concentration of students from low-income households in a particular district.

### Sparsity and/or Small Size

Connecticut is not currently making use of its education funding formula and has not done so for several years. Though the formula has not been repealed or replaced, instead of calculating district's state education aid in accordance with that formula, the state legislature now awards each district a block grant. The grant amounts are specified in legislation.

As it exists in law, Connecticut's funding formula does not provide increased funding for sparse districts or small schools.

For a complete list of primary sources, please see the appropriate state page at [funded.edbuild.org](http://funded.edbuild.org)

