



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Office of Higher Education

2018 Legislative Highlights

[Public Act 18-33](#), An Act Extending the Moratorium on Approval of a Certain Number of Programs of Independent Institutions of Higher Education (Effective July 1, 2018)

This Act extends the moratorium established in Public Act 16-36 from July 1 of 2018 to July 1 of 2020. Pursuant to that Act, certain programs and program modifications proposed by institutions of higher education that meet specific criteria are not subject to program approval by the Office of Higher Education. In addition to extending the moratorium, this Act also adds several elements: First, up to twelve new programs per academic year shall be eligible for exemption; each program beyond that number would require an application. Further, for exempt programs, an offering institution must submit a program actions form to the Office of Higher Education prior to enrolling students in any new or modified program and file “all actions of the governing board concerning approval of any new program of higher learning.”

[Public Act 18-34](#), An Act Concerning Minority Teacher Recruitment and Retention (Effective July 1, 2018)

This Act makes a number of changes to existing law, including requiring the state Department of Education to work in consultation with the Office of Higher Education to develop or review and approve alternate route to certification programs aimed at individuals that meet certain “alternate profession” criteria.

[Public Act 18-103](#), An Act Concerning the Legislative Commissioners’ Recommendations for Technical Revisions to the Higher Education Statutes (Effective from passage or from July 1, 2018, depending on section)

This Act makes several small technical changes to wording in existing statutes.

[Public Act 18-36](#), An Act Concerning Acceptance of Institutional Accreditation of Private Occupational Schools by the Office of Higher Education (Effective July 1, 2018)

This Act makes two changes to existing law as applied to postsecondary career schools: the executive director of the Office of Higher Education is no longer required to accept third-party institutional accreditation of such schools in lieu of applying state standards, and incomplete applications for new schools that are submitted to the Office of Higher Education expire after six months.

[Public Act 18-81](#), An Act Concerning Revisions to the State Budget for Fiscal Year 2019 and Deficiency Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2018 (Effective July 1, 2018)

The appropriations for the Office of Higher Education for the second half of the biennium are as follows (numbers do not reflect holdbacks):

Personal Services	\$1,425,036
Other Expenses	\$66,466
Minority Advancement Program	\$1,610,721
National Service Act	\$234,806
Minority Teacher Incentive Program	\$320,134
Roberta B. Willis Scholarship Program	\$33,388,637
Total	\$37,045,800