

## Comparison Table of ECS Formula Changes

	<b>Conn. Acts 18-81<sup>1</sup> (FY 2019 Budget Adjustments)</b>	<b>Governor Lamont's FY 2020 – FY 2021 Proposed Biennial Budget<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Foundation Amount</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$11,525</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Change</li> </ul>
<b>Need Student Weights</b>	<p>Low-income students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weight: 30%</li> <li>• Concentration weight: 5%</li> <li>• Concentration threshold: 75%</li> <li>• Identification Method: Eligibility for free and reduced price lunch (FRPL)</li> </ul> <p>English Learners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weight: 15%</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The count of low-income students has changed to students directly certified for free and reduced price lunch (FRPL).</li> </ul>
<b>State / Local Share Mechanism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 70% Property Wealth Factor               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determined by Equalized Net Grand List per Capita</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 30% Income Wealth Factor               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determined by Median Household Income</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Statewide Guaranteed Wealth Level: 1.35</li> <li>• Non-Alliance District Minimum Aid Ratio: 1%</li> <li>• Alliance District Minimum Aid Ratio: 10%</li> <li>• Provides an additional 3%-6% in the Base Aid Ratio for communities that have a Public Investment Communities (PIC) index<sup>3</sup> score over 300               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Top 5 towns: Additional 6%</li> <li>• Next 5 towns: Additional 5%</li> <li>• Next 5 towns: Additional 4%</li> <li>• Remaining 4 towns: Additional 3%</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Change</li> </ul>
<b>Choice Schools</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local and regional boards of education – In formula</li> <li>• Charter Schools – Remain as separate line item</li> <li>• Magnet Schools – Remain as separate line item</li> <li>• RESCs – Remain as separate line item</li> <li>• Vo-ag – Remain as separate line item</li> <li>• CTECS – Remains as separate line item</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Change</li> </ul>
<b>Special Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special education funding appears to be included in the foundation amount of the ECS grant.</li> <li>• The Excess Cost grant is increased to \$140.6 million for FY</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special education funding continues to be included in the foundation amount of the ECS grant.</li> </ul>

	2019, an increase of \$1.6 million over FY 2018 with holdbacks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Excess Cost grant is flat-funded at the FY 2019 level of \$140.6 million.</li> </ul>
<b>Phase-in Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Formula scheduled to be implemented beginning in FY 2019.</li> <li>Increases in aid over FY 2017 grant amounts would begin in FY 2019 and be phased in using the following schedule: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4.1% of the formula increase in FY 2019</li> <li>10.66% of the formula increase in FY 2020 – FY 2027</li> <li>100% of the formula amount in FY 2028 and each fiscal year thereafter</li> </ul> </li> <li>Decreases in aid compared to FY 2017 grant amounts would begin in FY 2019 and be phased in using the following schedule: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>25% of the formula decrease in FY 2019</li> <li>8.33% of the decrease in FY 2020 – FY 2027</li> <li>Alliance Districts that would see a loss of funding are held harmless in all fiscal years.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change to the schedule for increases in aid.</li> <li>Decreases in aid are accelerated and phased-out at 25% per year for FY 2021 and FY 2022.</li> <li>Alliance Districts that would have their funding reduced according to the formula are held harmless at FY 2017 grant amounts.</li> </ul>

Total Formula Cost	
<p>The ECS formula cost is compared to total FY 2019 estimated expenditures, which include a one-time appropriation of \$2.9 million for aid to districts hosting students displaced by Hurricane Maria.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECS funding is increased by \$17.7 million over FY 2019 estimated expenditures.</li> <li>Total estimated increase after formula is fully phased in is \$325.6 million over FY 2019.</li> <li>Total estimated increase is lower than previously projected in prior years due to updated student and town data.</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Conn. Acts 18-81.

<sup>2</sup> State of Connecticut, Office of Policy and Management. (2019). *FY 2020 - FY 2021 Biennium Governor's Budget*. Hartford, CT: Author. Retrieved from [https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/OPM/Budget/2020\\_2021\\_Biennial\\_Budget/GovBud\\_FY2020-21\\_Final.pdf?la=en](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/OPM/Budget/2020_2021_Biennial_Budget/GovBud_FY2020-21_Final.pdf?la=en).

<sup>3</sup> Conn. Acts 18-81.