

State Council of Higher Education for Virginia



**FY 2022 Budget and Policy
Recommendations for Higher
Education in Virginia**

November 2020



TABLE OF CONTENTS

SUMMARY	1
OVERVIEW OF SCHEV BUDGET AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FY 2022.....	3
Impact of Current Issues on Virginia’s Objective to Be the Best-educated State by 2030	3
State and Federal Funding Support to Institutions as a Result of COVID in 2020.....	4
Table 1: CARES Funding as of October 2020 to Virginia Higher Education Institutions	5
BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS.....	7
Priority 1: Hold students harmless by continuing financial aid funding and increasing access and outreach.....	7
Priority 2: Increase support and aid for the most vulnerable populations and help individuals get back to work.	9
Priority 3: Use remaining funding to support new initiatives, grow specialized programs and support affordability.....	10
Table 2: Summary of SCHEV budget considerations by priority area for FY2022.....	11
POLICY CONSIDERATIONS	11
Labor market and education alignment.....	12
Pre-K-12 and equity alignment	12
Higher education costs and planning reviews.....	12
State need-based aid for high school graduates who qualify for in-state tuition through recent legislation	14
APPENDIX: SCHEV RECOMMENDED ALLOCATION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION EQUIPMENT TRUST FUND IN FY 2022	16

SUMMARY

In the second year of the biennial budget, The State Council of Higher Education in Virginia (SCHEV) generally affirms the two-year budget passed in the prior General Assembly session, considers SCHEV recommendations that did not receive support in the previous session and seeks budget and language adjustments based on new circumstances that may arise. SCHEV staff presents the budget recommendations based on FY 2022 higher education funding. These recommendations seek to maintain the momentum established in the 2020 General Assembly session and recognize that the considerable changes have occurred since then, with a global pandemic and a heightened awareness of social justice concerns.

While it is possible that state revenues will not permit any additional investment in higher education in the 2021 General Assembly session, these recommendations provide a path to prioritizing appropriations should revenues be sufficient and provide policy options to address the state's most urgent higher education needs.

The proposed general fund budget recommendations total approximately \$136.6 million for FY 2022 that the General Assembly passed in the 2020 regular session and later unallotted. It prioritized the funding into three groups, depending on the availability of additional state funds in FY 2022. These groups include the following:

- Priority 1:** Hold students harmless by continuing financial aid funding and increasing access and outreach.
- Priority 2:** Increase support and aid for the most vulnerable populations and help individuals get back to work.
- Priority 3:** Use remaining funding to support new initiatives, grow specialized programs and support other initiatives approved in 2020.

In addition to the budget recommendations, SCHEV recommends the Governor and General Assembly may wish to consider several non-budgetary initiatives that align with efforts to improve equity, affordability and transformative processes support transformation.

The following includes the resolution approved by the SCHEV Council at its October 26, 2020, meeting.

Council Resolution

WHEREAS, higher education and the attainment of a credential or degree contributes to greater prosperity for individuals, the Commonwealth and its regions, including

increased earnings, improved economic growth, greater levels of community engagement and improved health outcomes,

WHEREAS, Virginia’s public higher education system ranks as one of the best in the country when considering factors such as graduation rates, average net price, low loan default rates and high return on investment, it is a status that must be preserved and nurtured,

WHEREAS, The Virginia Plan for Higher Education, the statewide strategic plan for the Commonwealth, focuses on placing Virginia as the best-educated state by 2030,

WHEREAS, Virginia’s higher education system is a shared responsibility of the state, institutions and students and parents to reach the highest level of performance and accountability,

WHEREAS, budget recommendations for FY 2022 focus on addressing the statewide needs of equity, affordability and transformation, now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia approves the Budget and Policy Recommendations for FY 2022.

OVERVIEW OF SCHEV BUDGET AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FY 2022

The 2020 General Assembly adjourned its regular session by providing over \$390 million in additional general fund support for Virginia higher education institutions in the 2020-22 biennium. However, in March, the nation experienced the COVID-19 pandemic. In order to address the repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic on state revenues, Governor Northam and the General Assembly unallocated (the budget language uses the term “unallotted”) nearly all new spending in the state budget for the 2020-22 biennium. As a result of the pandemic and economic uncertainty, the federal government provided additional funding to states and higher education through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES).

In August, the Governor convened the 2020 special session with minimal changes to the budget, but the General Assembly restored additional funding for higher education, primarily for fiscal year 2021. The vast majority of funding for higher education remains unallotted for FY 2022.

In addition to the pandemic and the economic impact on state revenues, recent events related to racial justice also raised short- and long-term questions regarding how higher education’s budgets, policies and practices support equity at a state and institution level. This topic has been the focus of extensive discussion among policy makers and institutions.

These changes impact Virginia’s objective to be the best-educated state by 2030 and raise concerns that gaps in attainment by race and income could widen and that costs could increase. As a result, higher education at a state and institution level will need to assess its current structure to avoid impacts on equity and affordability.

The following report provides SCHEV’s overview and assessment of the impact of events that have occurred over the last nine months, additional funding provided to higher education in 2020, and budget and policy recommendations for the Governor and General Assembly consideration in the upcoming 2021 session.

Impact of Current Issues on Virginia’s Objective to Be the Best-educated State by 2030

The current issues resulting from the pandemic and economic impacts could significantly affect Virginia’s objective of having 70% of the working age population holding a degree or postsecondary credential by 2030 – the expected percentage needed to have the highest

educational attainment rate in the nation. While Virginia had made consistent progress in improving educational attainment each year prior to the pandemic, gaps by race, income and region remain and could grow without increased effort given the current environment. To ensure our higher education system continues to be relevant and meet the needs of individuals, the Commonwealth and our communities, we will need an increased focus on equity, affordability and transformative processes.

Even prior to the pandemic and racial justice concerns, Virginia faced challenges related to institutional culture and inequitable outcomes for students. The current environment, however, has made these and other long-standing issues more acute. In addition, with more high school, college and outreach activities occurring virtually, the Commonwealth could see growing access and attainment gaps among students more vulnerable to the pandemic, including first-generation, low-income, African American, Hispanic and other individuals who already face barriers. Similarly, while affordability was a primary concern prior to the pandemic, more students and parents are facing job losses and reduced pay as a result of the pandemic. Affordability could be a key driver for students to decide not to attend college or not return.

To address these growing concerns, higher education has and will need to adapt and transform through short- and long-term strategies. This includes state and institution-based reviews of operations, such as the delivery virtual learning services, the availability of access to broadband and computers, the alignment of programs to changing workforce demands and the assessment of space and future capital needs.

State and Federal Funding Support to Institutions as a Result of COVID in 2020

In spring, Virginia public colleges and universities shut down and students continued their education at home through remote learning. It also required many institutions to provide refunds to students for parking, housing and meal plans. Using the Governor's [Guidance on Reopening Higher Education](#), most institutions reopened in the fall semester by offering a mix of hybrid and in-person learning. The changes occurring in the fall and spring semesters required institutions to expend additional resources related to cleaning, disinfection, expanded capacity for technology and internet access. The federal and state government responded by providing a mix of funding and costs savings. In the spring, the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Act Security (CARES) Act provided additional federal support to institutions and the state. The Governor also authorized additional funds through the CARES Act and provided an option for institutions to refinance some debt.

Federal funding support

Based on [SCHEV estimates](#) of the federal CARES Act funding to date, Virginia’s public institutions have received approximately \$287 million, \$105 million of which went directly to students. The majority of funds received by Virginia’s institutions came from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF). The HEERF funds were divided into three different sections. The first section allocated the largest portion of HEERF (90% of the fund) as direct aid to institutions. However, lawmakers required at least 50% of this section’s allocation go directly to students as emergency aid.

In addition to HEERF direct aid, public institutions also received assistance from two discretionary CARES Act provisions: the Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEERF), which provided flexible funds to governors to use for both pre-K-12 and higher education and the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF), which assists state agencies in covering costs related to COVID-19 response.

Table 1: CARES Funding as of October 2020 to Virginia Higher Education Institutions

CARES Funding by Sector and Source					
Fund Source	Public 4 Year	Public 2 Year (VCCS & RBC)	Total - Publics	Private Non-profit	Grand Total
Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF)	\$162,181,833	\$74,868,596	\$237,050,429	\$72,645,199	\$309,695,628
Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEERF)	\$14,380,500	\$5,024,500	\$19,405,000	\$3,780,000	\$23,185,000
Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)	\$106,819,339	\$11,586,059	\$118,405,398	\$22,000,000	\$140,405,398
Grand Total	\$283,381,672	\$91,479,155	\$374,860,827	\$98,425,199	\$473,286,026
Institutional Use (Total - Student Aid)	\$214,410,782	\$55,289,858	\$269,700,640	\$72,594,052	\$342,294,692
Student Aid	\$68,970,890	\$36,189,297	\$105,160,187	\$25,831,147	\$130,991,334

Note - Table excludes CARES funds received by medical centers and for-profits institutions.

Additional State Support

In the 2020 regular session conference report, the General Assembly provided \$205 million in FY 2021 and \$193 million in FY 2022 for higher education. The Governor and the General Assembly subsequently "unallotted" most of these funds. Unallotted amounts include \$30.1 million each year in undergraduate financial aid, \$4.1 million in FY 2021 and \$7.9 million in FY 2022 for students attending private nonprofit institutions, \$34.5 million each year for the Get a Job, Get Skilled, Give Back (G3) program and additional funding for institutional support, higher education centers, research initiatives and other programs. These funds will remain unallotted unless the 2021 General Assembly takes action to reallocate these funds. The funding provided by the state primarily provides support for financial aid and education and

general (E&G) programs. However, in September the Governor also [announced](#) a refinancing plan to reduce the institution debt payments for state-issued debt totaling \$300 million over the next two years. This debt supports institution's auxiliary operations, including financing for dorms, dining halls and parking garages. SCHEV estimates that these savings reduce the institution's existing debt payments by half over the next two years for those who participate.

BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

While additional state and federal support over the last nine months has provided added relief to higher education, the state's budget outlook remains uncertain, and funding for FY 2022 remains largely unallotted. Also, the federal funding largely provided funding for 2020. The SCHEV Council is concerned that if the Governor and the General Assembly do not provide additional funds in FY 2022, the most vulnerable students – those who are minority race, low-income and first-generation – will experience the greatest loss. As a result, existing gaps in educational attainment could widen.

Should revenue estimates for FY 2022 allow for additional appropriations, the following budget recommendations offer options for the Governor and the General Assembly to prioritize funding. They are grounded in the higher education funding and policies that the General Assembly and Governor approved in the 2020 session, but later unallotted.

The budget recommendations are categorized into three priority areas. The following pages include an overview of these areas and include a summary table of the amounts.

Priority 1: Hold students harmless by continuing financial aid funding and increasing access and outreach

The 2020 General Assembly session concluded with several initiatives to support affordability, completion and equity efforts. This included increases to undergraduate financial aid, the Tuition Assistance Grant (TAG) program and the military survivors programs, and new funding to support increased outreach to students who may not pursue postsecondary education (Guidance to Postsecondary Success). The following list provides recommendations that include partial or full funding for these programs as the highest priority.

- **Maintain funding for the undergraduate need-based aid and the Tuition Assistance Grant at the amounts provided through federal funds in FY 2021:** At the end of the 2020 session, the undergraduate need-based aid amounts for FY 2022 were approximately \$30.3 million annually. These amounts were developed based on a new methodology the SCHEV Council approved that better targets institutions serving more low-income students, reduces the impact of an individual institution increasing tuition costs and improves the calculation of need for low-income students.

In addition, the 2020 session concluded with the goal of increasing the TAG award to \$3,750 in FY 2021 and \$4,000 in FY 2022 for undergraduates and maintaining \$2,200

awards for graduate students attending private nonprofit institutions through the TAG. The legislation also restricted state support for online education by phasing out TAG eligibility for new students enrolled exclusively online beginning in FY 2021. As with state need-based aid, the increase in funding in FY 2022 of \$7.9 million needed to achieve these goals was unallotted.

During the pandemic, the administration provided funding through the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEERF) (via the CARES Act) of approximately \$15.6 million for undergraduate need-based aid for students at public institutions and \$3.8 million for TAG-eligible undergraduate students for FY 2021. These funds will no longer be available in FY 2022; therefore, providing funding at the GEERF levels will maintain funding to these students. SCHEV estimates that funding TAG at the \$3.8 million level could increase the award to \$3,760.

- **Maintain funding commitments to the Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program (VMSDEP):** This program provides assistance to dependents of Virginia's veterans who have made significant personal sacrifices, including loss of life, liberty or "limb" (90% or more disabled as a result of service) by waiving tuition and required fees and providing a stipend. During the 2020 regular session, the General Assembly provided an additional \$750,000 in each year of the 2020-22 biennium, but the funding later was unallotted. Restoring these funds will allow the Commonwealth to maintain its commitment to this population.
- **Implement the Guidance to Postsecondary Success (GPS) initiative:** This initiative increases outreach efforts to potential students who may not consider postsecondary education as an option. According to SCHEV's [early enrollment estimates](#), while overall fall enrollments declined 1.3%, many institutions with higher percentages of minority and low-income students had larger declines. With more high schools operating in a virtual environment and students, particularly those with lower rates of postsecondary enrollment – low-income, African American, Hispanic, Native American and first-generation – may not know the steps to prepare, apply and pay for college. As a result, fewer students who could benefit from postsecondary education may not find their way to it. The GPS initiative will provide materials, resources and outreach efforts to help address these concerns.
- **Support the Virtual Library of Virginia (VIVA) program:** This [consortium initiative](#) provides support to both public and private institutions across Virginia and funding was proposed to increase by \$400,000 for each year of the biennium prior to the unallotments. During the special session, this funding was restored for FY 2021 to

support increased demand in digital resources as a result of more virtual learning and the need to expand access to more diverse materials. This recommendation maintains the same level of funding in the second year of the biennium.

Priority 2: Increase support and aid for the most vulnerable populations and help individuals get back to work.

The second priority increases support and aid to vulnerable students and the institutions serving them. It considers initiatives that help individuals who are unemployed or underemployed update their skills and get back to work.

This includes the following:

- **Restore undergraduate need-based aid and TAG to unallotted amounts.** The funding amounts included in Priority One maintain the funding levels provided through the GEERF funds. The additional funding amounts would restore the remaining funding unallotted during the 2020 session.
- **Implement the Governor’s Get Skilled, Get a Job, Give Back (G3) initiative.** This initiative, passed during the 2020 session, provided free community college to low- and middle-income students in high-demand areas. The program can be especially helpful to individuals whose work was disrupted by COVID. This recommendation offers a scaled approach to restoring the amounts originally approved by the 2020 General Assembly. If limited funds are available, the program could be implemented at a reduced amount by limiting funding to the following: (1) individuals who are unemployed or underemployed; (2) programs that lead to specific high-demand occupations; and (3) programs and credentials of shorter-length to avoid obligating state funds on a continuing basis.
- **Provide institutions with support to assist vulnerable students:** The unallotted amounts provided to institutions included a combination of general operating support and special initiatives to make college more affordable. During the special session, the Governor and General Assembly appropriated \$93.9 million in FY 2021 to colleges and universities and included flexible use of the funds to be used for financial aid or operational support. With the exception of ODU and GMU, the General Assembly provided no additional funding in FY 2022. SCHEV recommends that for this priority area, additional limited funding should consider institutions that enroll more vulnerable students and should provide flexibility in the use of funds to better manage the impacts of the pandemic.

- **Increase funding for the Higher Education Equipment Trust Fund (HEETF) to support growth in technology needs as a result of moving more instruction online:** While the pandemic created crisis situations that have understandably been addressed with short-term strategies, the state also could include long-term strategies related to important priorities. For example, the switch to more online learning will increase the need for ongoing technology infrastructure support. One option to support this growing need is to consider additional investments in the Higher Education Equipment Trust Fund. Last year, SCHEV recommended an allocation of \$114.1 million for HEETF in each year of the 2020-22 biennium. The 2020 General Assembly provided an allocation of \$84.1 million for FY 2022, of which \$69.1 million supports instructional equipment and \$15 million supports specialized research equipment. An additional \$31 million for FY 2022 would meet the SCHEV Council’s original recommendation and increase the support to meet the needs of remote learning. It is estimated that \$4.9 million is required to pay the annual debt service for the additional funding, and the payments would not begin until FY 2023.
- **Grow funding for the Innovative Internship Program:** This program was established in 2018 through legislation and is intended to grow internship and work-based learning opportunities statewide. It is administered by SCHEV. The program currently receives \$700,000 a year and includes grants to institutions to grow internship programs and to match employers establishing internship programs. Over the last year, SCHEV partnered with the Virginia Chamber of Commerce to create a brand ([The Virginia Talent and Opportunity Partnership](#) or VTOP) and provide resources to employers to establish or grow their programs. Additional funding will expand these efforts.

Priority 3: Use remaining funding to support new initiatives, grow specialized programs and support affordability.

In addition to supporting increased funding through the items listed above, the General Assembly included additional funding for other initiatives during the 2020 regular session. This included funding for specific research activities, higher education centers, graduate aid and several SCHEV-specific initiatives.



Table 2: Summary of SCHEV budget considerations by priority area for FY 2022

Item	FY 2022 Unallotted Amount	Funding Priorities		
		Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3
Undergraduate Financial Aid	\$30,285,800	\$15,623,200	\$14,662,600	
G3-free community college	\$34,500,000		\$17,250,000	\$17,250,000
Affordable Access/Institution Support	\$52,596,480		\$26,298,240	\$26,298,240
Graduate Aid	\$1,500,000			\$1,500,000
Other (higher ed centers, research and non-specific funding)	\$6,531,598			\$6,531,598
HEETF*				
SCHEV				
Tuition Assistance Grant	\$7,900,000	\$3,780,000	\$4,120,000	
Military Survivor Program	\$750,000	\$750,000		
Guidance to Postsecondary Success	\$250,000	\$250,000		
Virtual Library of Virginia	\$400,000	\$400,000		
Innovative Internship Fund	\$1,300,000		\$300,000	\$1,000,000
Other (cost study, earth system science, grow your own teacher, title IX)	\$595,375			\$595,375
Grand Total	\$136,609,253	\$20,803,200	\$62,630,840	\$53,175,213

Priority 1: Hold the most vulnerable students harmless through financial aid and increase access and outreach

Priority 2: Increase support for vulnerable populations and help individuals get back to work

Priority 3: Support for new initiatives and increasing support for existing initiatives

Notes:

*SCHEV recommends increasing the HEETF allocation by \$31 million in FY2022. The debt service of this increase is estimated at \$4.9 million which won't begin till FY2023.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

In addition to the above budget considerations, the Governor and General Assembly also may wish to consider several initiatives that align with efforts to improve equity, affordability and support transformative processes. This includes the following:

Labor market and education alignment

In 2020, SCHEV conducted a review of national labor market and education alignment efforts and identified a set of [core recommendations](#) to further the alignment between labor market outcomes and education. These recommendations also included state-level efforts to better identify the talent needs of Virginia's economy and related education to meet those needs. The SCHEV Council supports legislation and initiatives that could further the recommendations of the report and estimates that the initial costs to support labor market and education alignment would be approximately \$500,000.

Pre-K-12 and equity alignment

Last summer, the Governor formed the Virginia African American History Education Commission and tasked the group to review K-12's "curricula, professional development practices, and instructional supports to make recommendations for improving the way African American history is taught in Virginia schools." The Commission issued its [recommendations](#) in August 2020. The SCHEV Council supports these recommendations and will work closely with higher education institutions to further align these efforts through its teacher education and leadership programs and through institution-based efforts that support similar reviews.

Higher education costs and planning reviews

The need to transform operations based on recent events and to ensure that higher education remains relevant provides an opportunity for SCHEV and the state to review principles for prioritizing limited state funding. Last year, SCHEV conducted a review of its [state financial aid funding formula](#) and awarding practices. As a result, SCHEV recommended a revised formula that focused limited state dollars on students with the highest unmet need. Additional reviews could be conducted in other areas, such as base costs, capital outlay and the six-year planning process to ensure practices are equitable and align with the changing needs of the Commonwealth.

Cost and funding review: The 2020 General Assembly provided funding for SCHEV to conduct a study over the 2020-22 biennium. This funding was later unallotted. SCHEV could adjust the scope of the project over the coming year to focus on identifying and

recommending (1) measures of productivity and efficiency and (2) strategies to allocate limited state resources based on outcomes that align with state needs that are related to affordability, access, completion and equity.

Capital projects policies and guidelines study: Virginia Code § 23.1-203(12) requires the SCHEV Council to review biennially and approve or disapprove all changes in the inventory of educational and general space that any public institution of higher education may propose, and to make a report to the Governor and the General Assembly. The process includes data collections from the institutions that would normally take place in November 2020. SCHEV uses the information in the review and prioritization of capital project requests from the institutions.

However, the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic has affected planning activities for Virginia's higher education institutions. Therefore, SCHEV submitted a request on behalf of the institutions, which the Governor's office granted, to delay these data collection activities. In discussions with the Six-year Project Advisory Committee (Six-PAC) about the request, SCHEV received a recommendation to take this opportunity to review the data collection activities, as well as all guidelines and procedures associated with the review and prioritization of capital project requests from the public higher education institutions.

For example, the Fixed Asset Guidelines for Educational and General Programs have been in place since July 2001. A 2004 SCHEV study found that the guidelines were reasonable and should remain in place. In 2010, SCHEV updated the document to include guidelines for auxiliary enterprises for two-year institutions. Therefore, it has been at least 10 years since SCHEV has reviewed the fixed asset guidelines.

SCHEV uses the guidelines and related activities as a means to recommend equitable distribution of limited public resources for higher education capital projects. Moreover, a study is needed to determine how the digital learning environment affects space utilization considerations and how SCHEV can ensure that programmatic and state needs inform the prioritization process.

The following is potential budget language to support this study:

Page 200, add section T to Item 152 and insert:

1. The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, SCHEV, in consultation with staff from the House Appropriations Committee, the Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee, Department of General Services, and Department of Planning and Budget, as well as representatives of public higher education institutions shall perform a review of capital outlay guidelines and policies in Virginia higher education.

2. *The SCHEV Council's review shall include fixed asset guidelines and SCHEV's internal review process for determining recommendations for the prioritization of capital projects.*
3. *By November 1, 2021, the SCHEV Council shall submit an interim report to the Governor and the Chairs of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee.*
4. *By November 1, 2022, the SCHEV Council shall submit a final report and any related recommendations to the Governor and the Chairs of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee.*

Six-year plan review: With the changes occurring in higher education, the [six-year plan process](#) should be updated to eliminate duplicative reporting or other unnecessary data collection activities and to determine if other reporting is needed. For example, for the last several years, institutions have been required to provide economic impact and intellectual property information in their six-year plans. However, it may be that the newly formed Virginia Innovation Partnership Authority will want to collect this type of data directly from the institutions. In addition, with increased interest in the finances of institutions, the plans could include reporting related to measures of fiscal health and stress testing. The SCHEV Council recommends that staff review these plans in collaboration with stakeholders and identify any changes that may be needed to improve this process.

State need-based aid for high school graduates who qualify for in-state tuition through recent legislation

The 2020 session of the General Assembly provided in-state tuition eligibility to recent high school graduates. This legislation was established to provide an alternative approach to establish eligibility for in-state tuition for individuals who are unable to establish domicile. Since then, there is interest to extend access to state financial assistance to these students. This proposal can improve financial equity for those who call Virginia their home but currently are ineligible for state or federal aid. Depending on how a provision is constructed, there will be both logistical and financial challenges, including a need to develop an alternate application process for a need-based provision, as students who are undocumented would remain ineligible for federal aid, such as the Pell grant. In addition, there are several financial aid options to be considered with each providing varying levels of equity, cost, complications and time required to be available. The SCHEV Council supports providing assistance in this area and recommends that staff works closely with policymakers, advocacy groups and to identify the requirements to implement any legislation related to these efforts.

Broadband and technology access

In August 2020, SCHEV released an [article](#) highlighting that one in five Virginia students (K-12 and college) lack either high-speed internet or a computer in the home, both of which are necessary for successful distance learning. To help address this concern, funding was restored during the special session to support rural broadband efforts, and the Governor designated federal CARES funding to increase access to technology. While these initiatives will address obstacles students face to remote learning, the SCHEV Council supports additional initiatives and outreach to continue to improve technology and broadband access for all Virginians.

APPENDIX: SCHEV RECOMMENDED ALLOCATION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION EQUIPMENT TRUST FUND IN FY 2022

Institutions	SCHEV Original Recommendation of FY 2022 Allocation	General Assembly FY 2022 Allocation (Chapter 1289)	Required Additional Allocation in FY 2022
GMU	\$6,124,772	\$4,421,431	\$1,703,341
ODU	\$5,948,745	\$5,345,270	\$603,475
UVA	\$24,771,036	\$15,647,817	\$9,123,219
VCU	\$13,626,662	\$9,848,982	\$3,777,680
VT	\$23,143,693	\$15,572,097	\$7,571,596
W&M	\$2,886,751	\$2,896,350	
W&M-VIMS	\$1,086,030	\$537,407	\$548,623
CNU	\$912,325	\$754,464	\$157,861
UVA-Wise	\$450,693	\$250,681	\$200,012
JMU	\$2,722,601	\$2,309,646	\$412,955
LU	\$851,931	\$743,433	\$108,498
UMW	\$689,202	\$655,746	\$33,456
NSU	\$1,404,747	\$2,350,108	
RU	\$2,116,947	\$1,744,993	\$371,954
VMI	\$1,096,543	\$886,084	\$210,459
VSU	\$1,339,877	\$1,342,189	
RBC	\$184,727	\$160,149	\$24,578
VCCS ⁽²⁾	\$22,358,282	\$17,596,542	\$4,761,740
SWVHEC	\$86,338	\$80,111	\$6,227
RHEA	\$65,804	\$77,623	
IALR	\$222,980	\$274,172	
SVHEC	\$216,639	\$95,790	\$120,849
NCI	\$75,456	\$34,486	\$40,970
EVMS	\$1,742,065	\$524,429	\$1,217,636
TOTAL	\$114,124,843	\$84,150,000	\$30,995,127