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NO. 508

JULY 10, 2025

City Colleges of Chicago FY26 Preliminary Budget

CITY COLLEGES[®]
OF CHICAGO

Presentation to the Finance and Administrative Services Committee

July 10, 2025

Agenda

- CCC Strategic Plan
- FY26 Budget Priorities
- FY26 Tentative Budget
- Cash Position Update

Our Vision

City Colleges is the city's **most accessible** higher education engine of **socioeconomic mobility** and **racial equity** — empowering all Chicagoans to take part in building a **stronger and more just city**.



Our work is guided by a five-year strategic framework with equity at its center

A district-wide strategic framework and strategic plans for each college for 2021-25



www.ccc.edu/strategicplan



Create an **exceptional student experience**



Become a “student-ready” **equitable institution**



Develop and strengthen pathways that are **responsive** to the economic needs of the City



Build a **culture of excellence**



Create a **collaborative and connected** ecosystem



Monitor and ensure financial sustainability and the overall **health** of our institution

FY26 Budget Priorities

FY26 Budget Priorities

FY2026 budget represents a year of investments in model programs that advance City Colleges' ambitious 55 for All goal

- City Colleges is bolstered by enrollment gains that exceed pre-pandemic enrollment and statewide and national averages. This budget makes critical investments to continue that momentum, including:
 - **Achieving 55 for All in Student Outcomes**
 - The growth of high-quality programs in in-demand fields, including engineering, information technology, health sciences, and more, in partnership with industry leaders
 - Priority retention and completion strategies, such as: mandatory new student academic advising, strategic year-long scheduling with guaranteed-to-run courses, proactive student re-enrollment campaigns, One Million Degrees partnership, and predictive analytics that enable early intervention to help students stay on-track to completion
 - The Chicago Roadmap, an unprecedented partnership with the Chicago Public Schools and its initial university partner, UIC, to support students on the path to and through college and careers
 - **Meeting Students Needs & Removing Barriers to Success**
 - A suite of student supports that deliver an exceptional student experience, including a full complement of advisors, tutors, career and transfer centers, undocumented student liaisons, and more
 - Historic investments in student mental health supports that maintain a 20% increase in wellness staff
 - Student basic need supports, including food pantries, a Food for Life pilot, housing, and technology

FY26 Budget Priorities, continued

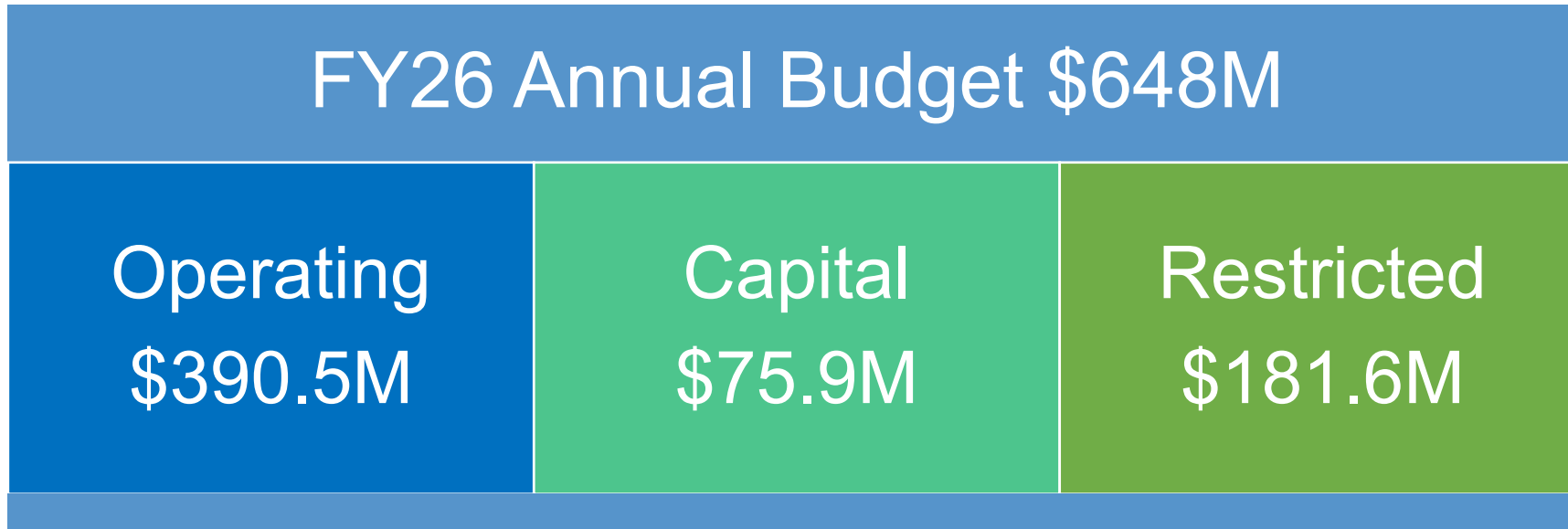
- This budget makes critical investments to continue the enrollment momentum, including:
 - **Affordability & Accessibility**
 - A high-quality education at one of the most affordable tuition rates in Chicagoland with a credit hour rate of \$157/hour
 - A robust offering of in-person, remote, and online learning options
 - An average class size of 16 students to 1 instructor
 - Future Ready, offering no cost short term programs in high-demand fields
 - Star Scholarship for recent CPS and Big Shoulder Fund partner high school graduates with a B grade point average
 - Options for the Future Scholarship for graduates of CPS options schools
 - **Strengthened Institutional Health**
 - Increased faculty and staff pay and benefits following successful negotiations with labor partners
 - Enhanced marketing and enrollment infrastructure to attract and retain a diverse student body
 - Capital program, including technology, deferred maintenance, and funds to expand healthcare programs to the South Side
 - Substantial reduction in student bad debt
 - Allows City Colleges to continue in increasingly strong financial health

FY26 Budget Priorities, continued

- To balance this budget, City Colleges relies on:
 - Substantial savings achieved from a bond refinancing
 - Revenue from a modest tuition increase
 - State Budget increase of 1% for community college funding
 - Taxing to the city levy cap
 - Tax Increment Financing (TIF) surplus proceeds from the City of Chicago
 - State PPRT collections
 - Expense management practices to achieve continued operational efficiency

FY26 Tentative Budget

FY26 Tentative Budget



Operating Funds
(Unrestricted, Enterprise,
Debt Service) for CCC
general operations

Capital Funds
(Restricted) for new
facilities and deferred
maintenance

Restricted Funds
(State and Federal Grants,
Financial Aid) awarded to
CCC

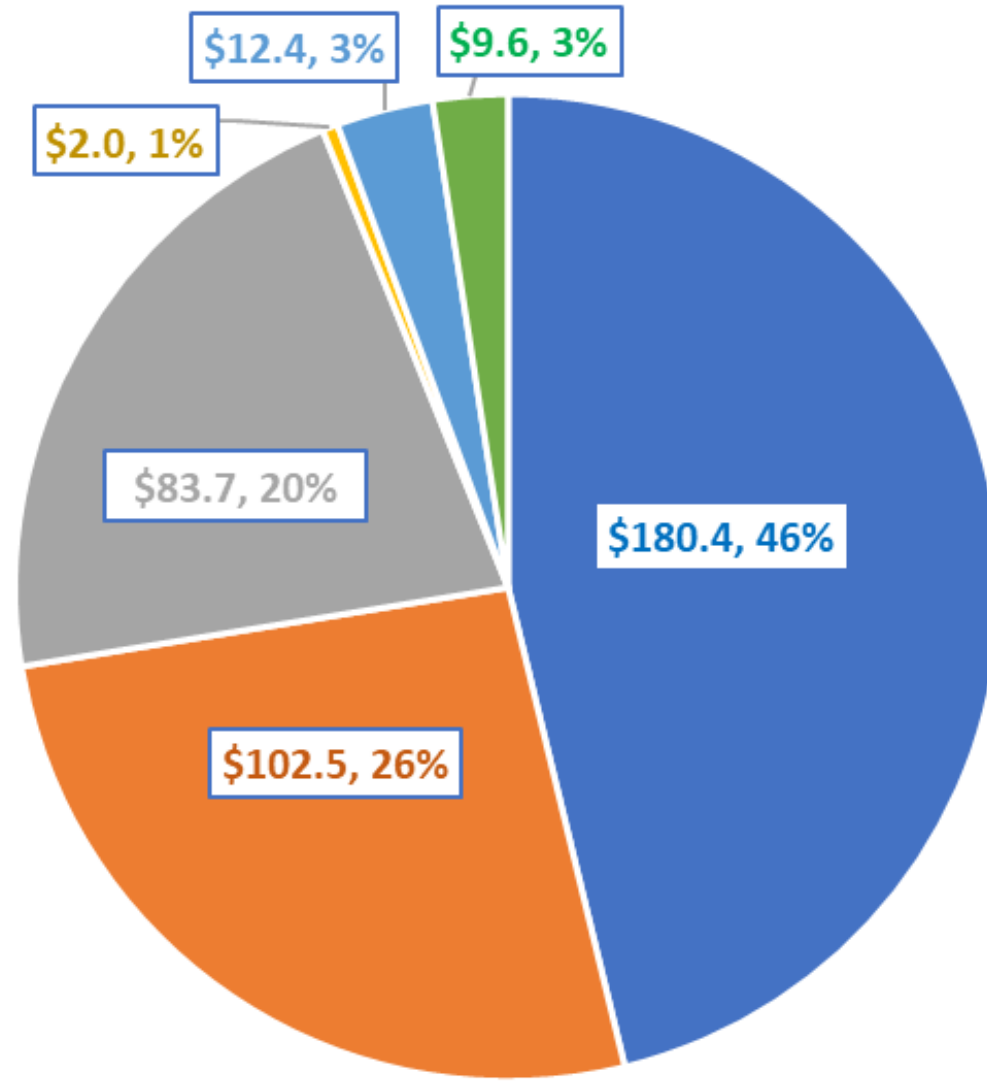
FY26 Revenue Estimates – Total \$390.5M

(\$ in millions)

- Local Revenue
- Tuition
- State Revenue/PPRT
- Federal Revenue
- Auxiliary/Enterprise
- Other Revenues

Auxiliary/Enterprise primarily includes:
Childcare Centers, KK Washburne, Continuing Education,
Bookstore, U-Pass student fees

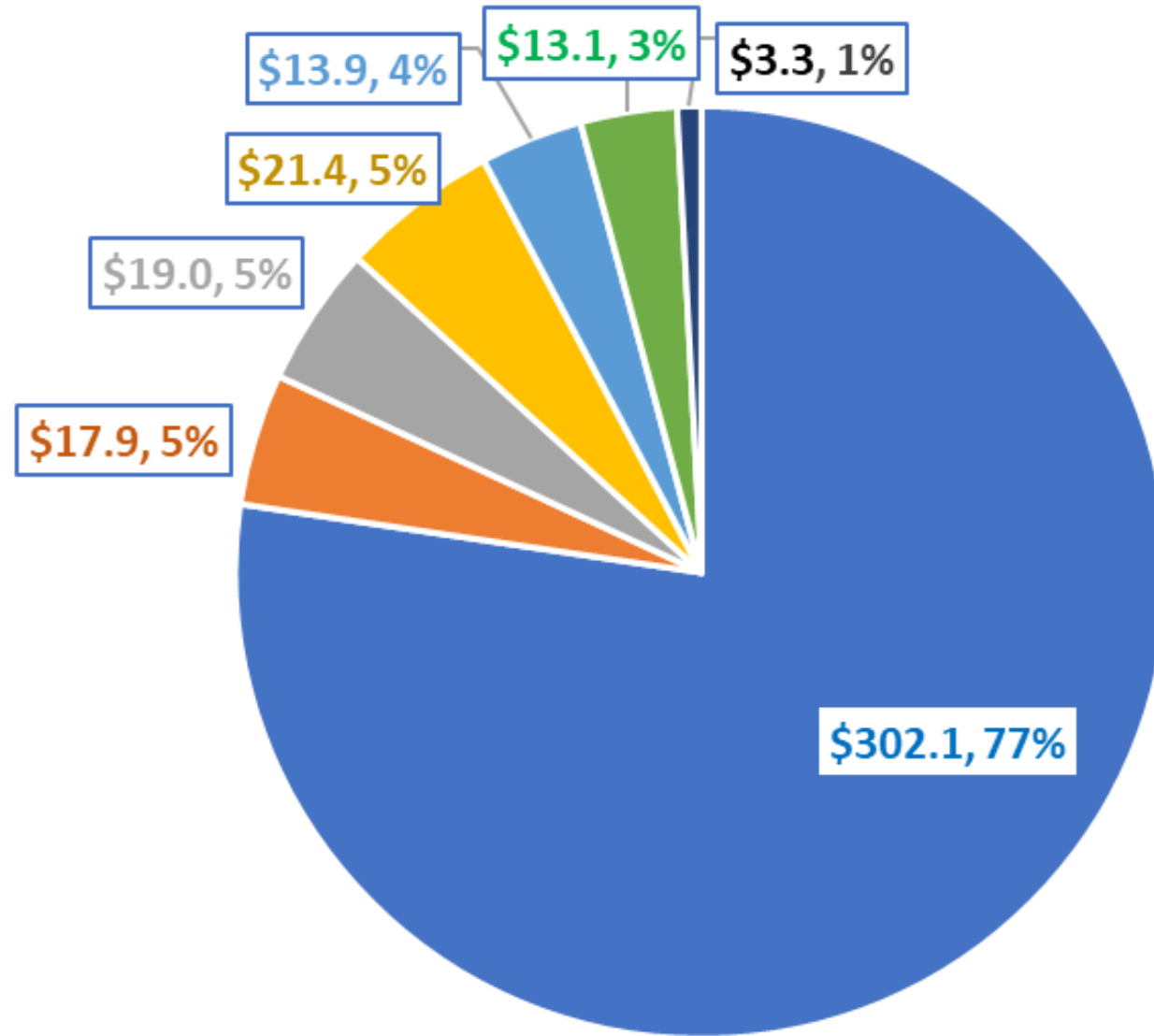
Other Revenues includes:
Investment Income, Facilities Rental,
and Fundraising



FY26 Expenses by Object – Total \$390.5M

(\$ in millions)

- Personnel (including Benefits)
- Fixed Charges (including Debt Service)
- Contractual Services
- Materials & Supplies
- Scholarships and Waivers
- Travel, Utilities, Other
- Bad Debt (Uncollected Tuition)



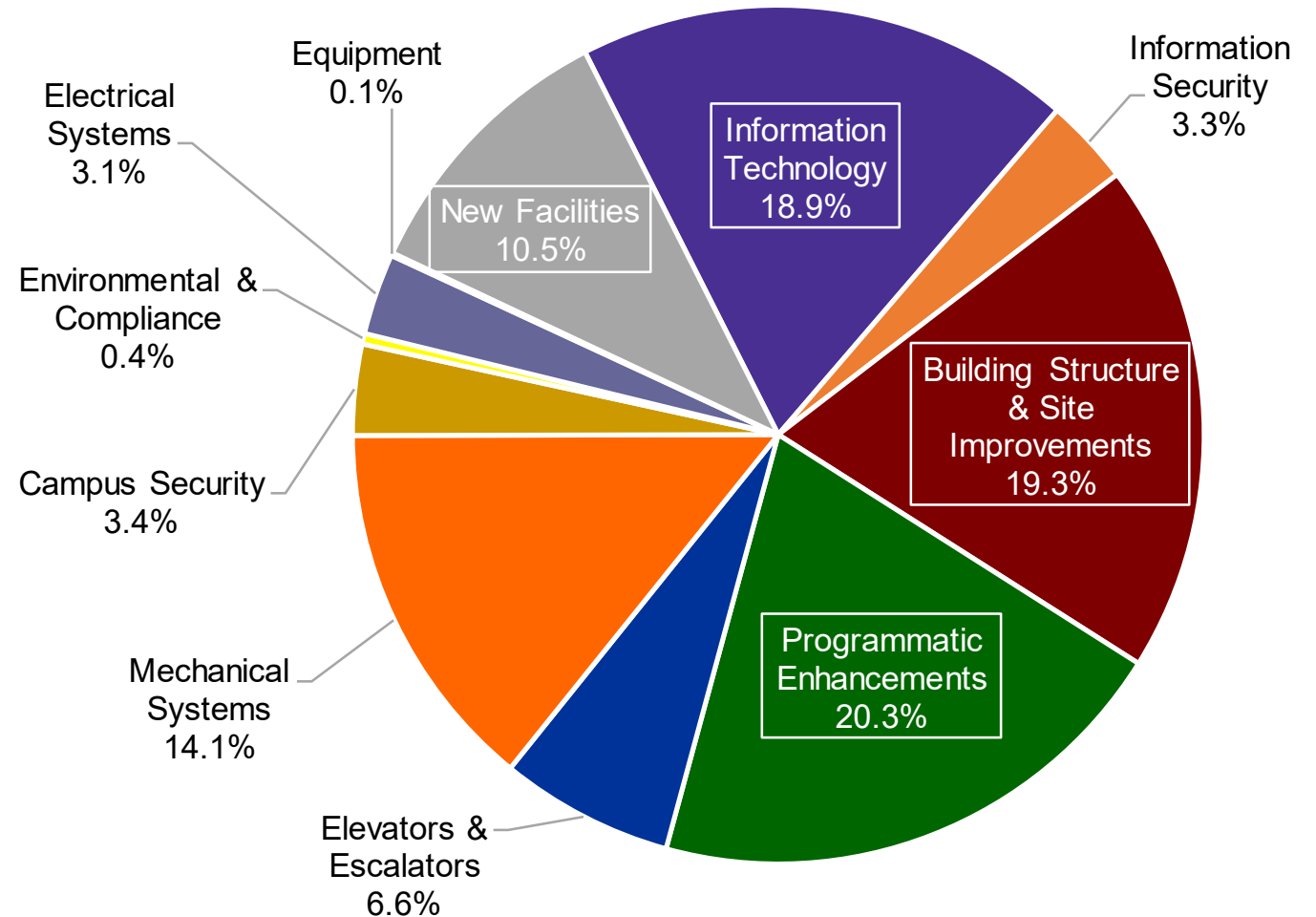
FY26 Capital Plan – Total \$75.9M

City Colleges embarks on a comprehensive Capital Plan every five years which prioritizes projects to support the academic vision, address student needs, and to maintain our physical and technological infrastructure. FY26 is the final year of the current plan.

The FY26 Capital Plan totals \$75.9 million and consists of new facilities, deferred maintenance, select programmatic enhancements, technology, information security, and technology infrastructure enhancements necessary for continued operation and meeting student needs.

FY26 PROJECTS

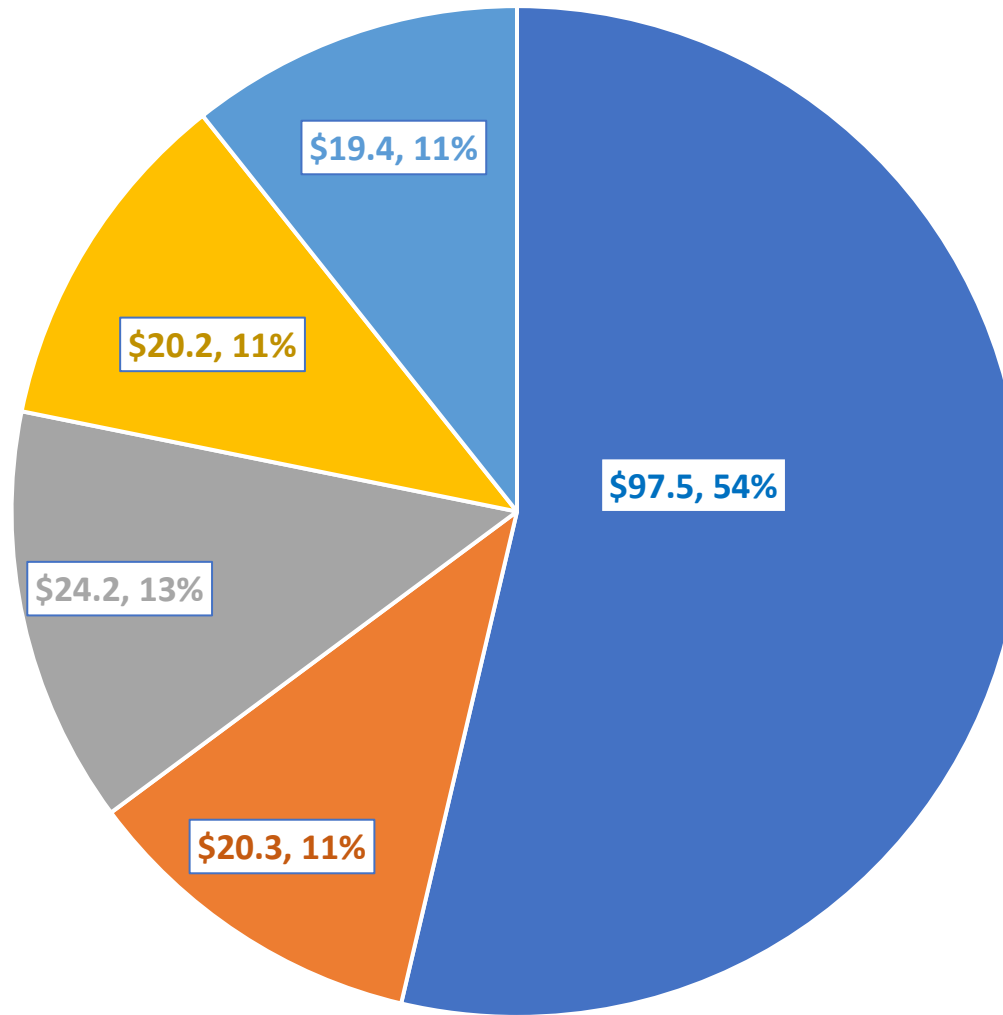
- Technology Infrastructure & Security
- Piping Replacement & HVAC Upgrades
- Escalators Replacement & Elevator Upgrades
- Fire Alarm Replacements
- Façade/ Curtain Wall Upgrades
- Programming & Design for a New Facility
- Renovations for Academic Program Expansions



FY26 Restricted Revenue – Total \$181.6M

(\$ in millions)

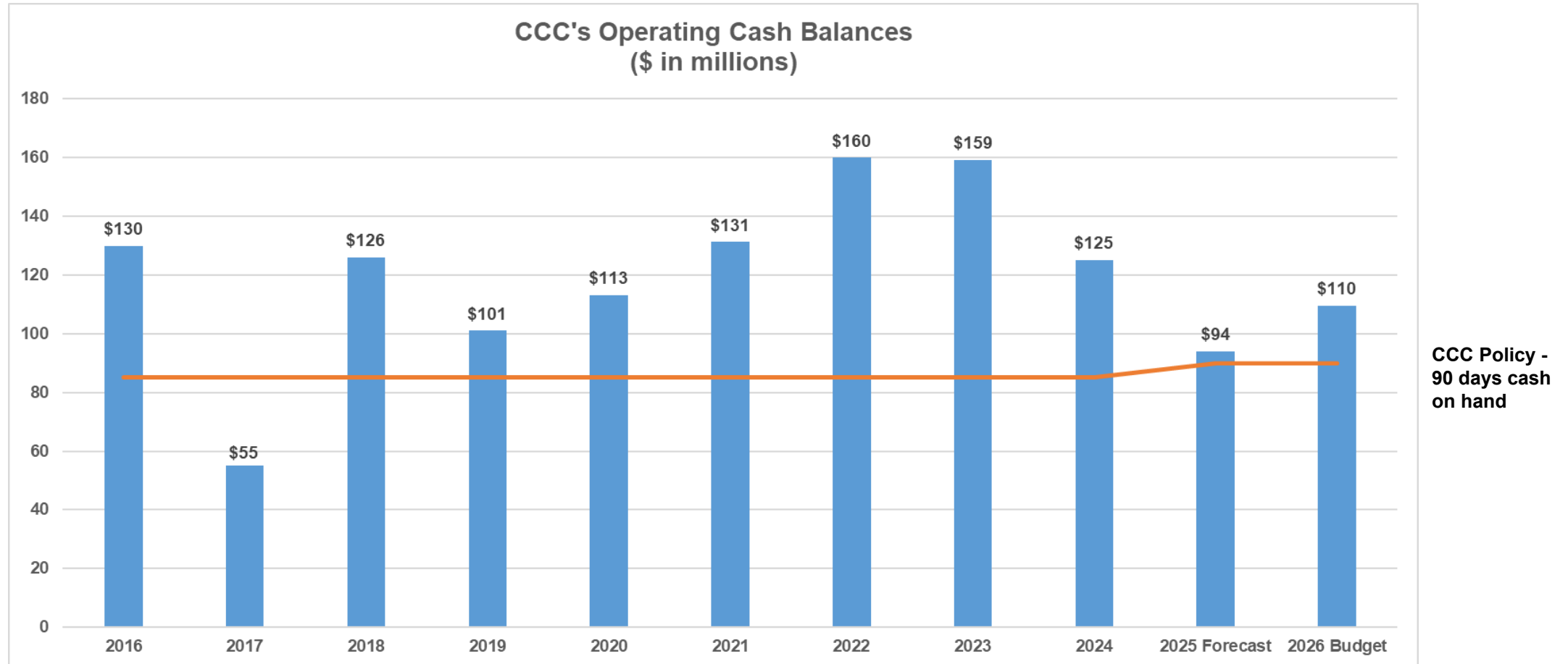
- Federal Financial Aid
- State Financial Aid
- Federal Grants
- State Grants
- Local Grants



Cash Position Update

Cash Position

City Colleges will continue to maintain healthy cash levels



- Since arriving in May 2017, Chancellor Salgado has worked to improve CCC's cash position, including reductions in force of non-student facing, non-bargained for employees, and the sale of CCC's downtown headquarters that closed in FY20.
- In FY21-FY23, the stimulus funds helped CCC to preserve its cash reserves.
- The FY26 budgeted cash position reflects planned cash utilization in the operating budget and alternative funding sources for capital projects.

Questions?