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**Testimony for the
Appropriations Committee
Judith B. Greiman
Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges
February 24, 2015**

“Private institutions ... are major contributors to the education of Connecticut citizens, the preparation of the state’s workforce, and the fabric of the communities in which they are located.” NCHEMS report for Planning Commission for Higher Education-February 2015

On behalf of the member institutions of the Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges (CCIC), I am submitting testimony in opposition to Governor Malloy’s proposal beginning next year to exclude Connecticut students who attend Connecticut private colleges from receiving state financial aid funds through the Governor’s Scholarship Program. The proposal would cut \$4.6 million in FY16 and \$7.6 million FY17 with further cuts assumed in future years as current recipients graduate.

We recognize that Connecticut’s budget is extremely tight this year, but believe that the savings achieved by this cut will pale in comparison to the impact it will have on needy students and the state’s workforce. Based on an average award of \$2,666 in 2013-2014 to over 5,500 students, this proposal will impact an estimated 1,700 needy students in FY 16 and 2,850 needy students in FY 17.

While Connecticut has a relatively well-educated population compared to other states, according to a [recent report](#) adopted by the state’s [Planning Commission for Higher Education](#), we are not educated *enough* to meet the skilled workforce needs in the foreseeable future. The report, written in consultation with [the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems \(NCHEMS\)](#), notes that in 2012, 47.5% of Connecticut’s population had an Associate’s Degree or higher. Projections done by [Georgetown University’s Center on Education in the Workforce](#) indicate that by 2025, Connecticut’s economy will require a workforce in which 70% of residents have education beyond high school.

In specific reference to our state’s financial aid policy, the Planning Commission states that “the capacities of all sectors, including the independent sector, must be harnessed if state goals are to be reached.” Cutting private colleges out of the state supported financial aid program, which provides college access for needy students to the state’s [most productive institutions](#) is contrary to what the Planning Commission determined is needed for our economy to thrive.

It is noteworthy that states that compete with Connecticut in attracting college students are far more generous in the aid that they provide resident independent college students who attend private colleges and often provide other money to the private college sector merely for graduating or enrolling state residents. New York, New Jersey, Maryland and Pennsylvania are good examples of states that understand the workforce implications of supporting private college students and institutions.

Further, the education [attainment gaps between whites and minorities](#) are greater in Connecticut than in almost all other states in the country. CCIC Member institutions [graduate minority students](#) in 4-years at a significantly higher rate than their public counterparts, and 2,458 minority students attending CCIC Member Institutions received a

Albertus Magnus College, Connecticut College, Fairfield University, Goodwin College, Mitchell College, Quinnipiac University, Rensselaer at Hartford, Sacred Heart University, St. Vincent’s College, Trinity College, University of Bridgeport, University of Hartford, University of New Haven, University of Saint Joseph, Wesleyan University, Yale University

Governor’s Scholarship grant in 2013-2014 – 44% of all grant recipients at our schools. To help close the attainment gap, the state needs to continue to invest in the Governor’s Scholarship Program for needy students to attend all Connecticut colleges and universities.

The investment the State makes in Connecticut students to attend Connecticut private colleges is a partnership; a partnership that CCIC’s member institutions take seriously. In fact, in 2013-2014, CCIC member institutions invested over \$70 million in need-based aid for Connecticut undergraduate students. In turn, over 5,500 Connecticut students received \$14 million in Governor’s Scholarship Grant aid. This partnership allows Connecticut students the opportunity to attend the institution that might best fit their needs. It allows them to [graduate in four years](#), more likely than not. It allows the state to meet its needs in the areas of the [greatest economic growth](#) such as engineering and computer science in this state.

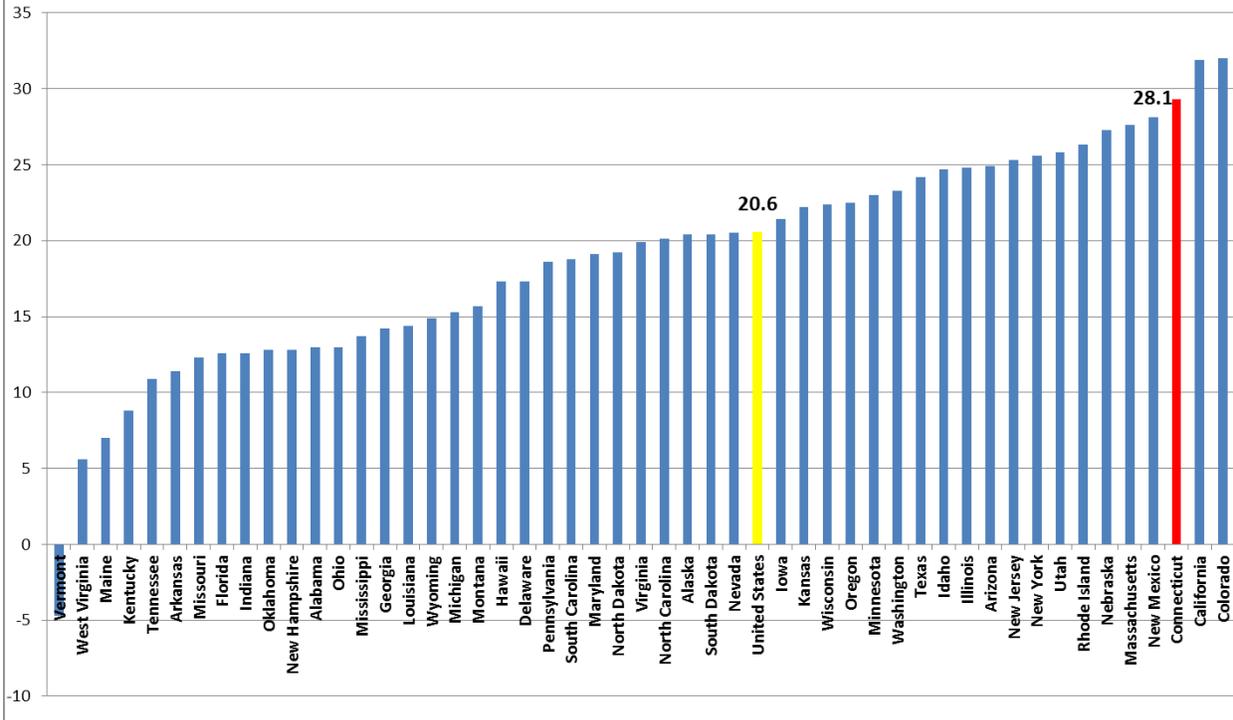
As you make the hard choices in crafting this budget, we urge you to be strategic rather than categorical. We know that this need-based aid program is doing what it was set up to do—*help resident students who lack resources go to the colleges of their choice in Connecticut*. College graduates, who stay and work in Connecticut, like the more than 190,000 resident alumni of CCIC institutions, will fuel tomorrow’s economic growth.

We hope you will join us in our fight to stop this proposal from becoming law.

State	Need-Based Grant Aid to Private College Students	Other State Aid to Private Colleges
New York	Maximum Grant is \$5,165.	\$35M to private colleges for degrees awarded at a pro-rated rate of \$1500/BA, \$950/MA, and \$4,550/PhD.
Massachusetts	Publics/Privates-up to \$1600 in Mass Grant program. Private only-up to \$2500 in Gilbert Grant program. Students may get both.	
Maryland	Private college students are eligible for two need-based aid programs- one has a maximum grant of \$16,500, and the other has a maximum of \$3000.	Provides state funds to several private colleges based on their enrollment. The current payment is \$950 per FTE student (includes in-state, out of state, undergrad and grad students). Provides capital grants of \$8-11 million per year to private colleges via the private college association.
New Jersey	Maximum grant is \$12,016.	Provides modest funds to colleges based on the number of state students enrolled who receive at least \$1000 in institutional aid. Private colleges are eligible for capital funding.
Pennsylvania	Maximum grant is around \$4000.	Private colleges receive \$500 for every need-based grant recipient enrolled at each college. Private colleges are eligible for grants to stimulate economic development that they must match 1:1.
Rhode Island	\$500 per public or private college student.	

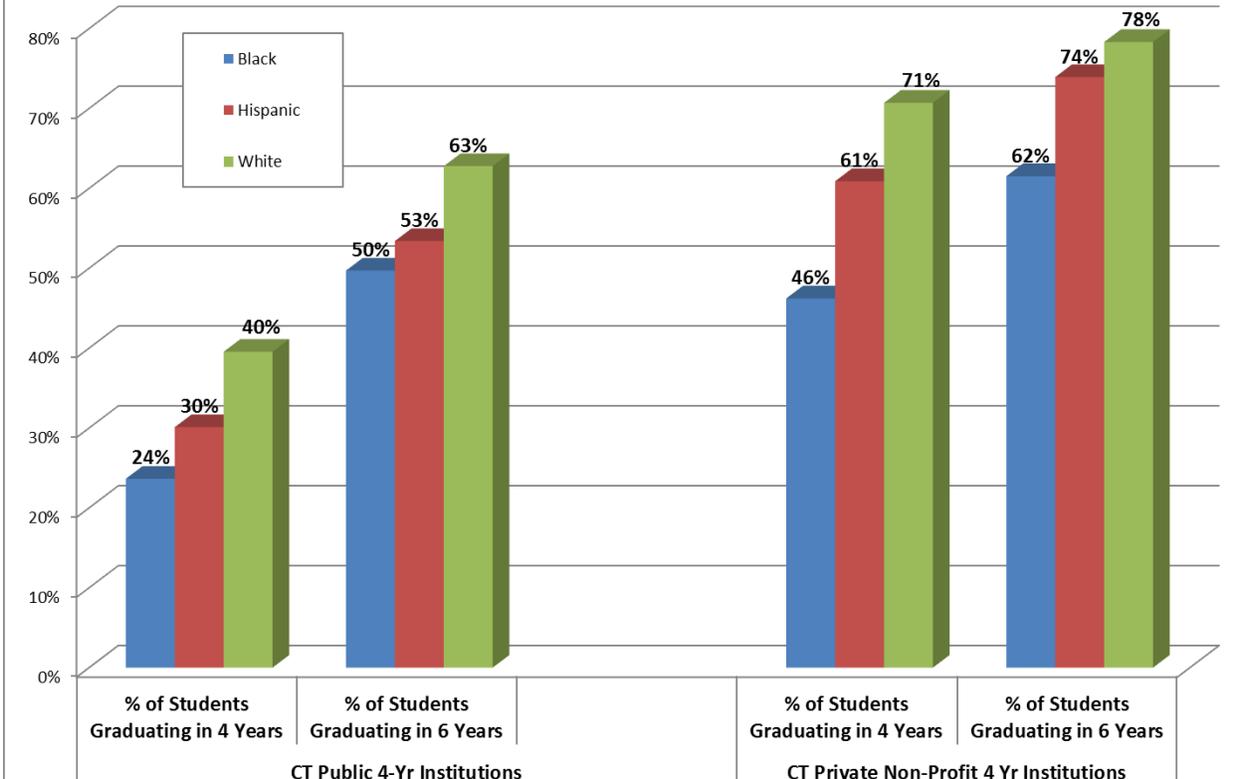
Difference in College Attainment between Whites & Minorities (Blacks, Hispanics, Native Americans)(2010-12)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2012 American Community Survey via NCHEMS



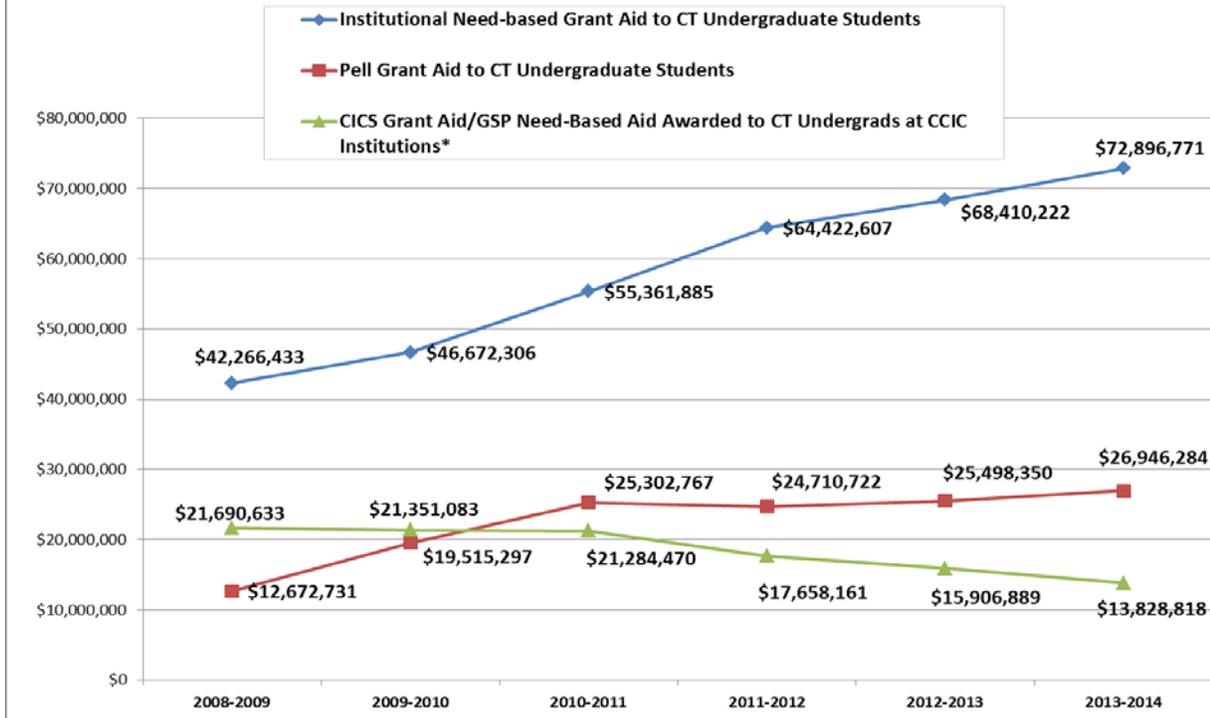
CCIC Institutions Graduate Minority Undergraduate Students in 4-years at a significantly higher rate than CT Public Institutions: 2012-2013

Source: IPEDS



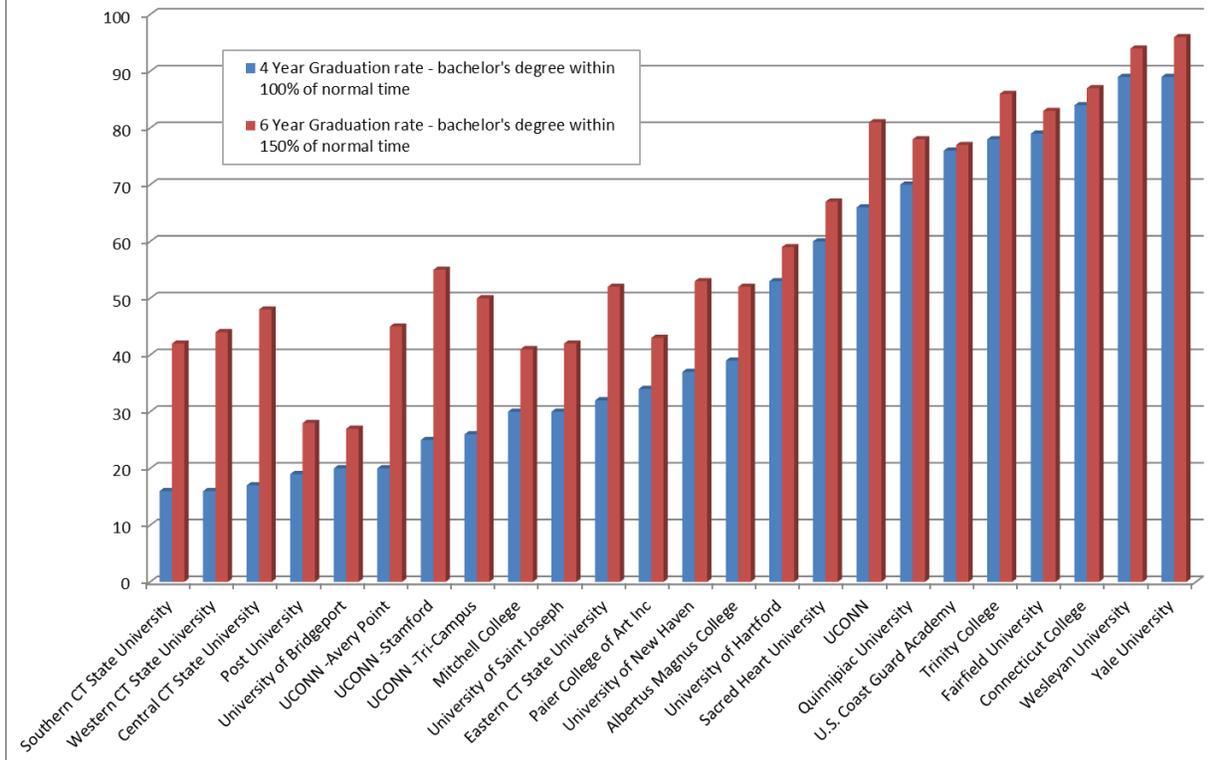
State, Federal and Institutional Need-based Grant Aid Awarded to Connecticut Undergraduate students at CCIC Institutions: 2008-2014

Sources: OFAAHE CICS Expenditure Report, OFA Budget Book & Institutional Reporting to CCIC

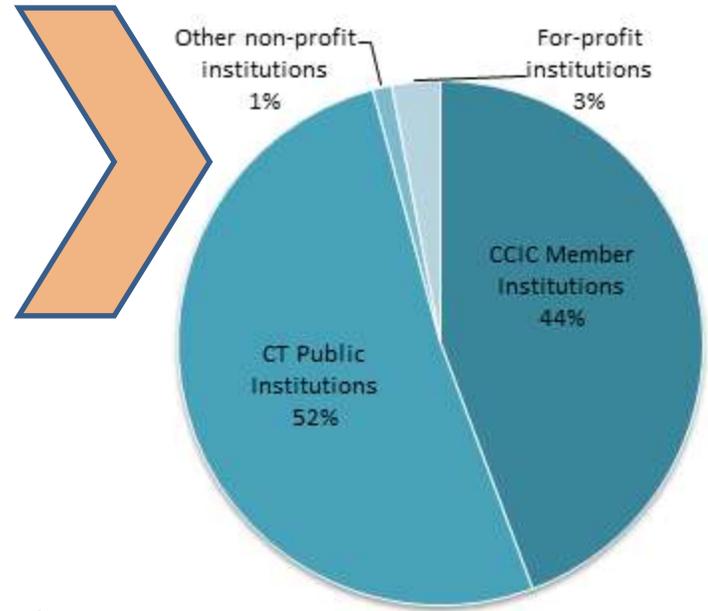


4-year & 6-year Graduation Rates for Connecticut Higher Education Institutions: 2012-2013

Source: IPEDS

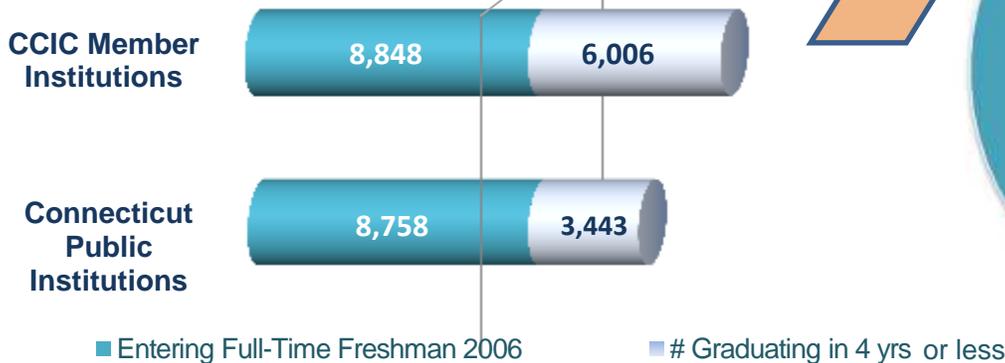


Annually, CCIC Member Institutions award nearly half of the bachelor's degrees earned in Connecticut - 2012-13
Source: IPEDS



Productivity within Higher Education

Number of students entering 4-year institutions and the number that graduate in 4 years or less (2006 cohort)
Source: IPEDS



Anchor Tenants

\$6.19 billion = total impact on Connecticut's economy by CCIC member campuses

\$3.38 billion = direct spending by the institutions, their students and visitors

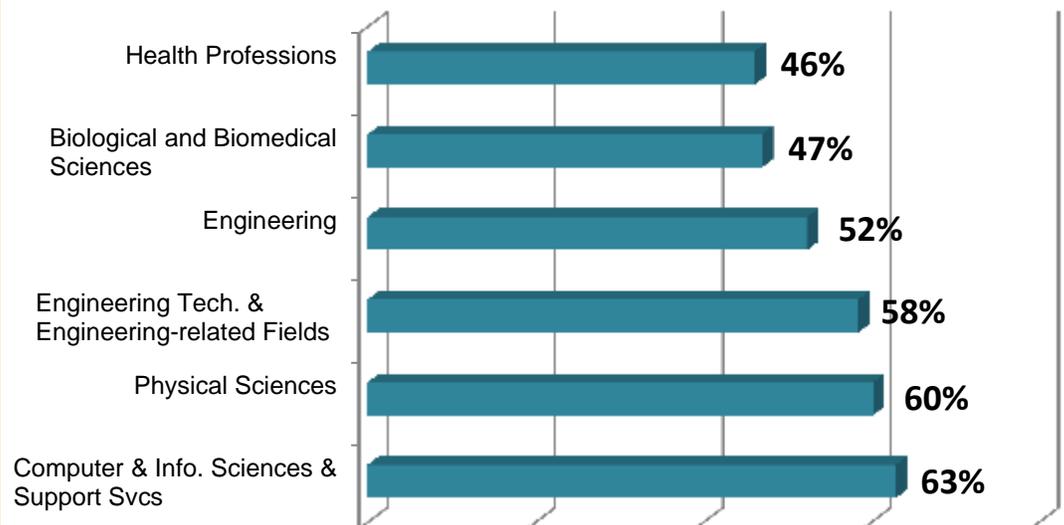
21,936 = full-time equivalent employees working at CCIC member institutions



There are **65,562** full-time equivalent students attending independent not for profit higher education institutions in Connecticut.

Educating Connecticut's Workforce

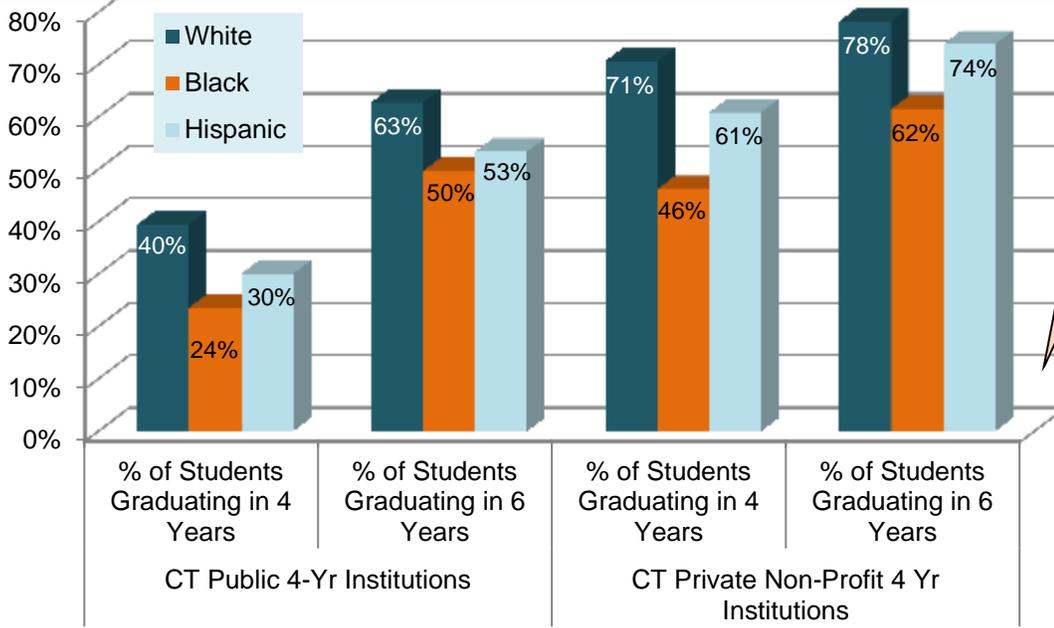
Percent of Degrees in Connecticut's Economic Growth Sector Awarded by Connecticut Independent Colleges in 2013: Bachelor's Degrees & Above *Source: IPEDS*



CCIC Institutions Graduate Minority Undergraduate Students

in 4-years at a **significantly higher** rate than CT Public Institutions.

2013 Graduation Rates of Undergraduate Students by Race & Sector Source: IPEDS



197,848

alumni of CCIC Institutions live in CT, generating \$1.7 billion in tax revenues annually.

Independent Colleges and universities are a bargain for Connecticut.

State Cost Per Degree 2012-2013

CT Public Institutions = **\$32,839**

CT Non-Profit Independent Institutions = **\$837**

Source: IPEDS & OFA Budget Book

28%

Undergraduate Students

59%

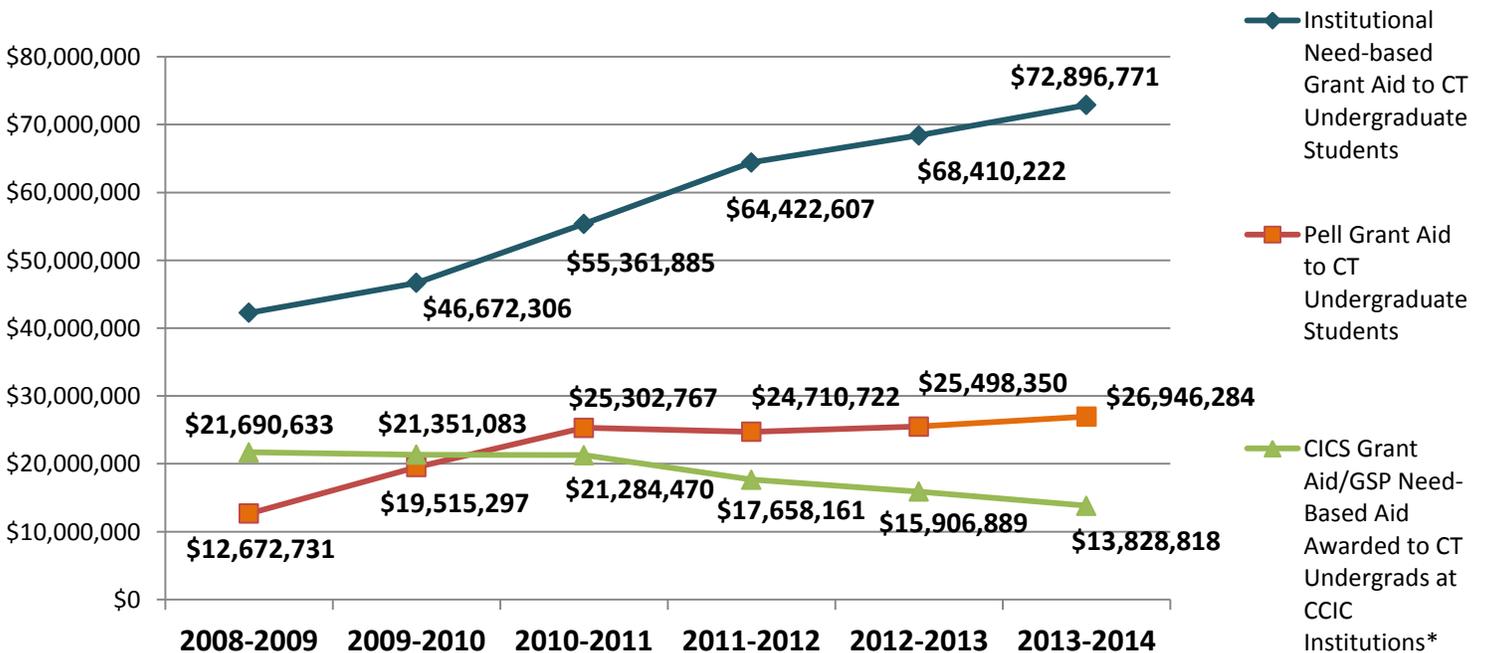
Graduate Students

A Significant Percentage of the Undergraduate and Graduate Students in Connecticut are enrolled at **CCIC Member Institutions**

State, Federal & Institutional Need-based Grant Aid Awarded to CT Undergraduate Students at CCIC Institutions: 2008-2014

From FY09-FY14, need-based institutional aid to CT undergrads at member campuses increased more than \$30 million (72%) while state need-based aid declined 36%.

Sources: OHE CICS Expenditure Report & OFA Budget Book



* In FY 14, the CICS program was replaced by the Governor's Scholarship Program.