

Scholarship Transfers

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Issue

Explain whether a student's scholarship to a Connecticut public higher education institution is transferable if he or she changes institutions.

Summary

Scholarships awarded by a specific UConn campus are generally not transferable to other UConn campuses, including to the central campus in Storrs. This is because scholarships are often funded by a specific campus' budget or supporting foundation. However, certain merit scholarships are "system wide," and are transferable between campuses.

Scholarships awarded by Connecticut State Universities (Central Connecticut State University, Eastern Connecticut State University, Southern Connecticut State University, and Western Connecticut State University) are not transferable.

We found no example of an institutional scholarship that is transferable between (1) a public and private institution or (2) between a UConn campus and Board of Regents (BOR)-governed school.

Since these institutions establish their budgets and scholarships independently and based on institution specific factors (such as enrollment and supporting foundations or endowments), it is not clear whether institutional scholarships could be made transferable.

At least one scholarship, [the Roberta Willis scholarship](#), is provided by the state to an institution on a student's behalf, and as such would be available to students attending any eligible institution, although the award amount may differ.

UConn System

The UConn system is governed by the Board of Trustees (BOT), which among other things directs the system's expenditures. Each campus' budget establishes an amount for scholarships, which are awarded by administrators of those campuses to their students. These scholarships may be supplemented by funds from supporting foundations which would be typically restricted to students meeting the funds' criteria. For example, the UConn Foundation has funds [dedicated to scholarships](#) at each regional campus.

However, there are several [centrally managed merit scholarships](#), many of which are available to eligible students regardless of which campus they attend. According to UConn, these scholarships (including the Nutmeg, Day of Pride, Presidential, and Academic Excellence scholarships) would generally follow a student if they transferred between UConn campuses and remained otherwise eligible.

Connecticut State Universities

BOR governs the four state universities. Among other responsibilities, BOR sets statewide tuition and student fee policies and establishes financial aid. However, each state university budget and scholarship are established independently and in relation to factors such as enrollment and cost. Additionally, each university is supported by a foundation ([CCSU](#), [ECSU](#), [SCSU](#), [WCSU](#)) which provides scholarships to students attending those universities. According to BOR, no scholarships are transferable between these institutions.

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