

Office of Health Strategy OHS49450

Permanent Full-Time Positions

Fund	Actual FY 21	Actual FY 22	Appropriation FY 23	Governor Recommended		Legislative	
				FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25
General Fund	23	30	34	33	33	35	35
Insurance Fund	10	10	10	20	20	18	18

Budget Summary

Account	Actual FY 21	Actual FY 22	Appropriation FY 23	Governor Recommended		Legislative	
				FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25
Personal Services	1,921,338	2,400,065	3,155,860	3,421,050	3,454,529	3,421,050	3,454,529
Other Expenses	856,668	4,088	13,042	13,042	13,042	13,042	13,042
Other Than Payments to Local Governments							
Covered Connecticut Program	-	794,623	15,600,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Agency Total - General Fund	2,778,006	3,198,776	18,768,902	4,434,092	4,467,571	4,434,092	4,467,571
Personal Services	769,706	847,662	1,025,464	2,222,966	2,238,773	1,966,556	1,982,363
Other Expenses	2,107,269	4,302,905	8,311,961	9,823,324	9,829,264	9,823,324	9,829,264
Equipment	7,468	7,231	10,000	28,000	10,000	20,000	10,000
Other Current Expenses							
Fringe Benefits	669,256	756,172	839,589	2,166,503	2,181,909	1,924,234	1,939,640
Agency Total - Insurance Fund	3,553,699	5,913,970	10,187,014	14,240,793	14,259,946	13,734,114	13,761,267
Total - Appropriated Funds	6,331,705	9,112,746	28,955,916	18,674,885	18,727,517	18,168,206	18,228,838
Additional Funds Available							
Carry Forward Insurance Fund	-	-	400,000	-	-	-	-
American Rescue Plan Act	-	-	1,655,000	1,250,000	-	650,000	-
Agency Grand Total	6,331,705	9,112,746	31,010,916	19,924,885	18,727,517	18,818,206	18,228,838

Account	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25

Policy Revisions

Fund Staff Positions to Implement Recommendations of the 5-Year Statewide Health IT Plan

Personal Services	384,615	384,615	128,205	128,205	(256,410)	(256,410)
Fringe Benefits	374,846	374,846	132,577	132,577	(242,269)	(242,269)
Total - Insurance Fund	759,461	759,461	260,782	260,782	(498,679)	(498,679)
Positions - Insurance Fund	3	3	1	1	(2)	(2)

Background

The Office of Health Strategy (OHS) is responsible for developing and periodically revising the 5-Year Statewide Health IT Plan in accordance with C.G.S. 17b-59a. The plan will: 1) guide investments in Connecticut's health information technology and health information exchange infrastructure; 2) advance the state's health improvement goals; and 3) set the vision for expanded data availability and sharing services across the continuum of care.

Governor

Provide funding of \$759,461 in FY 24 and FY 25 to the Insurance Fund for three new positions to support the activities associated with the 5-Year Statewide Health IT Plan.

Account	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25

Legislative

Provide funding of \$260,782 in FY 24 and FY 25 to the Insurance Fund for one new position to support the activities associated with the 5-Year Statewide Health IT Plan.

Fund Staff Position to Monitor Certificate of Need Compliance

Personal Services	85,000	86,577	85,000	86,577	-	-
Total - General Fund	85,000	86,577	85,000	86,577	-	-
Positions - General Fund	1	1	1	1	-	-

Governor

Provide funding of \$85,000 in FY 24 and \$86,577 in FY 25 for one new paralegal specialist position to assist with Certificate of Need compliance.

Legislative

Same as Governor

Fund Staff Positions to Implement Affordability Activities Capping Out-of-Network Costs

Personal Services	547,200	547,200	547,200	547,200	-	-
Other Expenses	20,000	-	20,000	-	-	-
Equipment	10,000	-	10,000	-	-	-
Fringe Benefits	533,301	533,301	533,301	533,301	-	-
Total - Insurance Fund	1,110,501	1,080,501	1,110,501	1,080,501	-	-
Positions - Insurance Fund	5	5	5	5	-	-

Governor

Provide funding of \$1,110,501 in FY 24 and \$1,080,501 in FY 25 to the Insurance Fund for five new positions at OHS related to the implementation of affordability activities to cap out-of-network costs.

Legislative

Same as Governor

Fund Staff Positions to Enhance Agency Data Analytic Capacity

Personal Services	204,066	207,180	204,066	207,180	-	-
Fringe Benefits	198,883	201,918	198,883	201,918	-	-
Total - Insurance Fund	402,949	409,098	402,949	409,098	-	-
Positions - Insurance Fund	2	2	2	2	-	-

Governor

Provide funding of \$402,949 in FY 24 and \$409,098 in FY 25 to the Insurance Fund for a Data Scientist position and Health Care Analyst position within OHS.

Legislative

Same as Governor

Adjust Funding for Equipment Needs for Additional Staff

Equipment	8,000	-	-	-	(8,000)	-
Total - Insurance Fund	8,000	-	-	-	(8,000)	-

Governor

Provide funding of \$8,000 to the Insurance Fund in FY 24 to support equipment costs for new employees.

Legislative

Do not provide funding of \$8,000 for equipment costs for new employees.

Eliminate Information Technology Transfer

Personal Services	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total - General Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-
Positions - General Fund	(2)	(2)	-	-	2	2

Account	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25

Background

The Governor's Recommended Budget consolidates IT positions from eight agencies across the General Fund and Special Transportation Fund into the Department of Administrative Services' (DAS') Bureau of Information Technology Solutions. The IT positions will transfer to DAS while the funding will remain with the agencies to allow for different funding reimbursement scenarios (i.e., federal and multisource funding models).

Governor

Transfer two IT positions to DAS in FY 24 and FY 25.

Legislative

Two IT positions are retained within the agency.

Current Services

Transfer Funding for the Covered CT Program to the Department of Social Services

Covered Connecticut Program	(26,340,000)	(37,270,000)	(26,340,000)	(37,270,000)	-	-
Total - General Fund	(26,340,000)	(37,270,000)	(26,340,000)	(37,270,000)	-	-

Background

Public Act 22-118 transferred the financial responsibility for the Covered CT program from the Office of Health Strategy (OHS) to the Department of Social Services (DSS). DSS will manage the reimbursements to insurers for the monthly premiums and the cost-sharing amounts on behalf of the enrollees. A Medicaid 1115 waiver enables the state to receive federal reimbursement for the state's costs of paying premiums and cost-sharing amounts, as well as the dental and non-emergency medical transportation services.

Governor

Transfer funding of \$26,340,000 in FY 24 and \$37,270,000 in FY 25 from OHS to DSS for the Covered CT program.

Legislative

Same as Governor

Fund Current Services Requirements for Covered CT Program

Covered Connecticut Program	11,740,000	22,670,000	11,740,000	22,670,000	-	-
Total - General Fund	11,740,000	22,670,000	11,740,000	22,670,000	-	-

Background

The Covered CT program, established by Sec. 16-19 of PA 21-2, JSS, began on July 1, 2021 and was created to support low-income individuals who earn too much to qualify for Medicaid but not enough to afford coverage through the state's health insurance marketplace, Access Health CT. The program provides no-cost coverage by eliminating any remaining premium obligation or cost-sharing obligation for a qualified health plan (QHP) available through Access Health CT. The state directly reimburses the plan for the monthly premium and cost-sharing amounts that the participant would normally have to pay. Participants will also receive free dental care and non-emergency medical transportation services, comparable to the benefits offered under the Connecticut Medicaid program.

Funding will support the state's share of costs for the Covered CT program. Enrollment is projected to increase from the current caseload of approximately 15,000 participants as of December 2022 to over 40,000 participants by June 2025.

Governor

Provide funding of \$11,740,000 in FY 24 and \$22,670,000 in FY 25 to support the state's share of costs for the Covered CT program.

Legislative

Same as Governor

Fund Costs Related to Health Information Exchange

Other Expenses	1,491,363	1,517,303	1,491,363	1,517,303	-	-
Total - Insurance Fund	1,491,363	1,517,303	1,491,363	1,517,303	-	-

Account	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25

Background

Connecticut’s statewide health information exchange (HIE), referred to as Connie, was established pursuant to CGS Sec. 17b-59d to allow consumers to make effective health care decisions, promote patient-centered care, improve the quality, safety, and value of health care, reduce waste and duplication of services, support clinical decision-making, keep confidential health information secure and make progress toward the state’s public health goals.

Governor

Provide funding of \$1,491,363 in FY 24 and \$1,517,303 in FY 25 to fund costs related to the HIE.

Legislative

Same as Governor

Provide Funding for Existing Wage Agreements

Personal Services	260,755	292,657	260,755	292,657	-	-
Total - General Fund	260,755	292,657	260,755	292,657	-	-
Personal Services	103,419	116,112	103,419	116,112	-	-
Total - Insurance Fund	103,419	116,112	103,419	116,112	-	-

Background

The Governor's Recommended Budget provides net funding of \$237.2 million in FY 24 and \$394 million in FY 25, across six appropriated funds, to reflect current wage-related adjustments resulting from existing wage agreements.

Governor

Provide funding of \$364,174 (\$260,755 to the General Fund and \$103,419 to the Insurance Fund) in FY 24 and \$408,769 (\$292,657 to the General Fund and \$116,112 to the Insurance Fund) in FY 25 to reflect this agency's increased wage costs.

Legislative

Same as Governor

Adjust Fringe Benefits to Reflect Actual Rates

Fringe Benefits	219,884	232,255	219,884	232,255	-	-
Total - Insurance Fund	219,884	232,255	219,884	232,255	-	-

Background

The fringe benefits costs for employees supported by funds other than the General Fund are budgeted within their respective agencies, as opposed to the fringe benefit account within the Office of the State Comptroller.

Governor

Provide funding of \$219,884 in FY 24 and \$232,255 in FY 25 to ensure sufficient funds for fringe benefits.

Legislative

Same as Governor

Remove Funding for 27th Payroll

Personal Services	(80,565)	(80,565)	(80,565)	(80,565)	-	-
Total - General Fund	(80,565)	(80,565)	(80,565)	(80,565)	-	-
Personal Services	(41,798)	(41,798)	(41,798)	(41,798)	-	-
Total - Insurance Fund	(41,798)	(41,798)	(41,798)	(41,798)	-	-

Background

The FY 23 Revised Budget included a total of \$128,456,014 for an extra 27th pay period for six appropriated funds. There are usually 26 pay periods in a fiscal year, but every 11 years there is an additional 27th pay period.

Governor

Remove funding of \$122,363 (\$80,565 from the General Fund and \$41,798 from the Insurance Fund) in both FY 24 and FY 25 to reflect 26 pay periods in each fiscal year.

Legislative

Same as Governor

Account	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25

American Rescue Plan Act

Pharmacy Benefit Managers Accountability and Oversight Study

ARPA - CSFRF	600,000	-	-	-	(600,000)	-
Total - American Rescue Plan Act	600,000	-	-	-	(600,000)	-

Governor

Provide funding of \$600,000 in FY 24 for the Pharmacy Benefit Managers Accountability and Oversight Study.

Legislative

Funding is not provided for the Pharmacy Benefit Managers Accountability and Oversight Study.

Totals

Budget Components	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25
FY 23 Appropriation - GF	18,768,902	18,768,902	18,768,902	18,768,902	-	-
Policy Revisions	85,000	86,577	85,000	86,577	-	-
Current Services	(14,419,810)	(14,387,908)	(14,419,810)	(14,387,908)	-	-
Total Recommended - GF	4,434,092	4,467,571	4,434,092	4,467,571	-	-
FY 23 Appropriation - IF	10,187,014	10,187,014	10,187,014	10,187,014	-	-
Policy Revisions	2,280,911	2,249,060	1,774,232	1,750,381	(506,679)	(498,679)
Current Services	1,772,868	1,823,872	1,772,868	1,823,872	-	-
Total Recommended - IF	14,240,793	14,259,946	13,734,114	13,761,267	(506,679)	(498,679)

Positions	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25
FY 23 Appropriation - GF	34	34	34	34	-	-
Policy Revisions	(1)	(1)	1	1	2	2
Total Recommended - GF	33	33	35	35	2	2
FY 23 Appropriation - IF	10	10	10	10	-	-
Policy Revisions	10	10	8	8	(2)	(2)
Total Recommended - IF	20	20	18	18	(2)	(2)