

AGENCY NAME:

University of South Carolina Sumter

AGENCY CODE:

H390

SECTION:

20G



Fiscal Year 2026-27 Agency Budget Plan

FORM A - BUDGET PLAN SUMMARY

OPERATING REQUESTS (FORM B1)

For FY 2026-27, my agency is (mark "X"):

- ☒ Requesting General Fund Appropriations.
☒ Requesting Federal/Other Authorization.
☐ Not requesting any changes.

NON-RECURRING REQUESTS (FORM B2)

For FY 2026-27, my agency is (mark "X"):

- ☒ Requesting Non-Recurring Appropriations.
☐ Requesting Non-Recurring Federal/Other Authorization.
☐ Not requesting any changes.

CAPITAL REQUESTS (FORM C)

For FY 2026-27, my agency is (mark "X"):

- ☒ Requesting funding for Capital Projects.
☐ Not requesting any changes.

PROVISOS (FORM D)

For FY 2026-27, my agency is (mark "X"):

- ☐ Requesting a new proviso and/or substantive changes to existing provisos.
☐ Only requesting technical proviso changes (such as date references).
☒ Not requesting any proviso changes.

Please identify your agency's preferred contacts for this year's budget process.

PRIMARY CONTACT: SECONDARY CONTACT:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
Kelly Epting	803-777-8411	eptingk@mailbox.sc.edu
Kevin Russell	803-777-0781	russelkr@mailbox.sc.edu

I have reviewed and approved the enclosed FY 2026-27 Agency Budget Plan, which is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

SIGN/DATE:

Agency DirectorBoard or Commission Chair

<i>Michael Amiridis 9/14/25</i>	<i>Thad H. Westbrook 9/24/25</i>
Michael Amiridis	Thad H. Westbrook

TYPE/PRINT NAME:

This form must be signed by the agency head – not a delegate.

Agency Name:	USC - Sumter Campus
Agency Code:	H390
Section:	20G

BUDGET REQUESTS			FUNDING					FTES				
Priority	Request Type	Request Title	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total
1	B1 - Recurring	Tuition Mitigation	531,000	0	0	0	531,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	B2 - Non-Recurring	Central Access Control for Exterior Doors/ADA and Security Upgrades for Interior Classroom and Office Openings	1,550,000	0	0	0	1,550,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	C - Capital	The Health, Wellness, and Athletics Center	8,000,000	0	0	0	8,000,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	B1 - Recurring	Federal and Other Funds Authorization	0	1,000,000	0	0	1,000,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS			10,081,000	1,000,000	0	0	11,081,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Agency Name:	USC - Sumter Campus		
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FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	1
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Tuition Mitigation
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$531,000 Federal: \$0 Other: \$0 Total: \$531,000
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	0.00
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark “X” for all that apply:	
	X	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
		Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
		Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
		Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
		Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
		Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
		Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
		IT Technology/Security related
		HR/Personnel Related
		Consulted DTO during development
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark “X” for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	X	Education, Training, and Human Development
		Healthy and Safe Families
		Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
		Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
		Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	This request will allow for adjustments in cost of salary and fringe benefits for faculty and staff needed for both traditional, dual-enrollment instruction and will allow for adjustments in cost of non-personnel cost, including insurance premiums, custodial services and maintenance cost.
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency’s accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF	Faculty, staff and students at USC Sumter.
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FUNDS

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

**JUSTIFICATION OF
REQUEST**

The cost of personnel (compensation and fringe benefits) increased \$987K (10%) from FY24 to FY25. The cost of non-personnel increased \$455K (11%) from FY24 to FY25. Starting Fall 2023, the Lottery Tuition Assistance Program (LTAB) award was reduced from \$85 to \$80 per credit hour for a maximum of 15 credit hours, impacting USC Sumter about \$50,000. This request is for 35% of this budget impact. The balance to be absorbed by revenue from increased enrollment.

This request is consistent with the Tuition Mitigation proviso (11.187) and will offset the need for tuition increases and will also offset the reduction in tuition assistance (LTAB) revenue.

This request is consistent with Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objectives:

#1 Education, Training and Human Development

- Improve educational infrastructure to elevate the levels of educational preparedness of every South Carolinian to lead a healthy and productive life, including success in a job or career and in the community.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

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FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	4
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Federal and Other Funds Authorization
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$0 Federal: \$1,000,000 Other: \$0 Total: \$1,000,000
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	0.00
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Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark “X” for all that apply:	
	X	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	X	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
		Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
		Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
		Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
		Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
		Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
		IT Technology/Security related
		HR/Personnel Related
		Consulted DTO during development
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark “X” for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	X	Education, Training, and Human Development
		Healthy and Safe Families
		Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
		Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
		Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	This request is to increase spending authorization for Education and General Other Earmarked Funds, which are generated by the University and provide support for Education, Training, and Human Development as well as Public Infrastructure and Economic Development.
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency’s accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF	Use of these funds benefits the USC Sumter student body and the faculty/administrative staff who serve them.
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FUNDS

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

Sumter's Federal Funds are comprised primarily of Student Financial Aid (mostly Pell Grants, but also work study, SEOG and Teach grants). Preliminary figures for Fall 2025 indicate undergrad enrollment will be up for the ninth year in which should lead to Student Financial Aid expenditures and corresponding authorizations.

Federal \$1M

- Increased enrollment
- Increased Pell grants
- Rising mandatory costs such as:
 - State mandate and/or market salary increases
 - Employee fringe benefits including retirement and health insurance
 - Property and liability insurance
 - Cost of materials, travel and facilities maintenance costs
 - Utility costs

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

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FORM B2 – NON-RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	2
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Central Access Control for Exterior Doors/ADA and Security Upgrades for Interior Classroom and Office Openings
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	\$1,550,000
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What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark “X” for all that apply:	
	☒	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	☐	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	☐	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	☐	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	☐	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	☐	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	☐	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	☐	IT Technology/Security related
	☐	Consulted DTO during development
	☐	HR/Personnel Related
	☐	Request for Non-Recurring Appropriations
	☐	Request for Federal/Other Authorization to spend existing funding
	☐	Related to a Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark “X” for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	☐	Education, Training, and Human Development
	☐	Healthy and Safe Families
	☒	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	☐	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	☐	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	USC Sumter has seen significant growth in overall headcount in the past several years. Trends in enrollment of first-time full-time freshman have produced the highest 3-year trend in over 25 years. The University of South Carolina Sumter is committed to affordably providing students with flexible and quality access to a general educational background necessary to complete not just associate degrees and but also baccalaureate degrees, and the opportunities to learn knowledge and skills needed for lifelong education and success.
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What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency’s accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	These funds would benefit the students at USC Sumter in both traditional and professional programs. These expanding programs benefit the Sumter and surrounding communities by preparing students for high-in-demand organizational leadership, nursing, education and business careers.
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What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

Most of USC Sumter's interior and exterior door locks are more than 50 years old, and even with routine maintenance, are well beyond the expected life cycle. This project will implement a centralized access control system for all exterior doors and will streamline entry management by enabling timed unlocking and relocking of doors, provide immediate "Lock Down" capabilities in the event of an active shooter or other critical incidents, and maintain key override options with free egress from the building.

Centralizing control and monitoring will enhance overall security and offer potential future integration with existing security measures, such as cameras or alarm systems.

The project also includes upgrading locks for interior classroom and office doors to meet ADA compliance and to enhance security for classrooms and offices to potentially reduce unauthorized access, thereby ensuring the safety of students and staff.

This request is consistent with the Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objectives:

#1 Education, Training and Human Development

- Improve educational infrastructure to elevate the levels of educational preparedness of every South Carolinian to lead a healthy and productive life, including success in a job or career and in the community.

2 Healthy and Safe Families

- Enhance public well-being by delivering efficient and cost-effective public health and support services.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

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FORM C – CAPITAL REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	3 <i>Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.</i>
TITLE	The Health, Wellness, and Athletics Center <i>Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.</i>
AMOUNT	\$8,000,000 <i>How much is requested for this project in FY 2026-2027? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.</i>
CPIP PRIORITY	FY2026-2027. Priority Plan Year 1. Overall, 1 of 1. This project was first included in the CPIP FY 22-23. This is an additional request because of reassessed program needs and increased construction costs. If state funding is not approved, funds will be obtained from W-Fund balance. <i>Identify the project's CPIP plan year and priority number, along with the first year in which the project was included in the agency's CPIP. If not included in the agency's CPIP, please provide an explanation. If the project involves a request for appropriated state funding, briefly describe the agency's contingency plan in the event that state funding is not made available in the amount requested.</i>
OTHER APPROVALS	Approvals will be obtained as required. <i>What approvals have already been obtained? Are there additional approvals that must be secured in order for the project to succeed? (Institutional board, JBRC, SFAA, etc.)</i>
LONG-TERM PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY	Once the improvements are made, the systems will be maintained with existing maintenance and operating funds. <i>What other funds have already been invested in this project (source/type, amount, timeframe)? Will other capital and/or operating funds for this project be requested in the future? If so, how much, and in which fiscal years? Has a source for those funds been identified/secured? What is the agency's expectation with regard to additional annual costs or savings associated with this capital improvement? What source of funds will be impacted by those costs or savings? What is the expected useful life of the capital improvement?</i>
	The Health, Wellness, and Athletics Center will house programs that focus on health, human performance and athletics, community services and education success for active military and veterans. This facility is much needed. The USC Sumter Fire Ants athletics teams have expanded in recent years and are essential for recruitment and Title IX compliance. USC Sumter has outgrown the current athletic facilities both for practice, competition, and administration. The indoor basketball court is 4 decades old (1980's) and was designed strictly for recreational purposes. It is unsafe for competitive sports.

SUMMARY

Sumter's Athletics Programs has more than 200 participants. The Athletes contribute \$1.7M in gross tuition. 80% of these Athletes indicate that they are attending USC Sumter because of the Athletics Program. Thus, the net impact of these programs on tuition is \$1.4M.

The Health and Athletics Center will include an updated facility that will meet the current and future needs and will allow athletics programs to expand and to increase student enrollment. The current facility is in great demand for community activities, but these events compete with athletics for space. The new facility will allow USC Sumter to repurpose the old gymnasium for such community events and recreational activities.

The Health and Athletics Center will house mental health services available to students, faculty and staff and education success services for active-duty soldiers and their dependents reservists, and veterans.

This project is consistent with the Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objectives:

1 Education, Training and Human Development

- Improve educational infrastructure to elevate the levels of educational preparedness of every South Carolinian to lead a healthy and productive life, including success in a job or career and in the community.

2 Healthy and Safe Families

- Enhance public well-being by delivering efficient and cost-effective public health and support services.

Provide a summary of the project and explain why it is necessary. Please refer to the budget guidelines for appropriate questions and thoroughly answer all related items.

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FORM E – AGENCY COST SAVINGS AND GENERAL FUND REDUCTION CONTINGENCY PLAN

TITLE	Agency Cost Savings and General Fund Reduction Contingency Plan
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AMOUNT	\$319,198
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What is the General Fund 3% reduction amount? This amount should correspond to the reduction spreadsheet prepared by EBO.

ASSOCIATED FTE REDUCTIONS	None
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How many FTEs would be reduced in association with this General Fund reduction?

PROGRAM / ACTIVITY IMPACT	Defer maintenance and reduce custodial expenditures \$320,000 There will not be any negative impact to programs or activities based on this reorganization plan.
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What programs or activities are supported by the General Funds identified?

SUMMARY	The Sumter campus has a sound fund balance and can withstand a reduction in appropriations without a reduction in services.
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Please provide a detailed summary of service delivery impact caused by a reduction in General Fund Appropriations and provide the method of calculation for anticipated reductions. Agencies should prioritize reduction in expenditures that have the least significant impact on service delivery.

AGENCY COST SAVINGS PLANS	Defer maintenance and reduce custodial expenditures by \$320,000. Savings would be repurposed for instructional programs.
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What measures does the agency plan to implement to reduce its costs and operating expenses by more than \$50,000? Provide a summary of the measures taken and the estimated amount of savings. How does the agency plan to repurpose the savings?

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FORM F – REDUCING COST AND BURDEN TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS

TITLE	Reducing cost and burdent to businesses and citizens
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

EXPECTED SAVINGS TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS	\$1,075,000
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What is the expected savings to South Carolina’s businesses and citizens that is generated by this proposal? The savings could be related to time or money.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark “X” for all that apply:	
	☐	Repeal or revision of regulations.
	☐	Reduction of agency fees or fines to businesses or citizens.
	☐	Greater efficiency in agency services or reduction in compliance burden.
	☒	Other

METHOD OF CALCULATION	Military reduced fees: In FY25, USC Sumter applied more than \$1M in exemptions to Active-Duty Military and Military Dependents, for the benefit of 365 students Low user fees for Sumter Community. \$1,000 per event for local school district, agencies, and donors.
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Describe the method of calculation for determining the expected cost or time savings to businesses or citizens.

REDUCTION OF FEES OR FINES	Reduction in rental fees to local school district and industries who are donors to the campus. Military discounts.
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Which fees or fines does the agency intend to reduce? What was the fine or fee revenue for the previous fiscal year? What was the associated program expenditure for the previous fiscal year? What is the enabling authority for the issuance of the fee or fine?

REDUCTION OF REGULATION	None.
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Which regulations does the agency intend to amend or delete? What is the enabling authority for the regulation?

	• Military TA reduce fees for personnel from Shaw Air Force Base. • Elementary & Middle Schools’ Graduations using our facilities at no cost. • SAFE Federal Credit Union and BD, local businesses with significant donations, use meeting spaces for company-wide training and meeting needs. • Athletic fields are used by city and county recreation teams for practice and athletic competitions reducing the need for more construction of fields.
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SUMMARY

- Outdoor open space to co-sponsor city-wide farmer's market.
- Provide free space in galleries for community art displays.

Provide an explanation of the proposal and its positive results on businesses or citizens. How will the request affect agency operations?

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FORM H – TUITION MITIGATION (PROVISO 117.187)

TITLE	Tuition Mitigation Proviso 117.187
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AMOUNT	\$531,000
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What is the amount needed for Tuition Mitigation for FY27? This amount should correspond to the priority 1 recurring budget request. Tuition Mitigation should ONLY include the state funding necessary to continue existing operations on July 1, 2026 with no in-state undergraduate tuition or mandatory fee increases. Tuition Mitigation should not include any new programs or expansion of existing academic programs that may be contemplated for Fiscal Year 2026-27.

EXPLANATION OF METHODOLOGY	The top budget priority for the USC Sumter continuing to partner with the state to invest in predictable funding to mitigate against annual resident tuition increases. With this partnership, USC Sumter has held tuition and fees flat for a record six consecutive years. USC Sumter is among the most affordable colleges in the state, charging \$7,158 resident tuition and \$690 fees per year. HEPI provides an objective estimate of inflationary pressure specific to higher education. When applying HEPI index over both state appropriations and tuition (Education and General operating funds), USC Sumter continues to experience lost purchasing power even when factoring tuition mitigation funding, for which USC is grateful. To fulfill its mission to maintain quality programs that benefit the citizens of South Carolina while managing cost increases, the USC Sumter continually assesses viability of programs.											
	USC Sumter Total Direct Expenses <table border="1"> <caption>USC Sumter Total Direct Expenses (Estimated)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Fiscal Year</th> <th>Total Direct Expenses</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>FY21</td> <td>~9,800,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FY22</td> <td>~10,800,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FY23</td> <td>~12,200,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FY24</td> <td>~14,200,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FY25</td> <td>~15,800,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> Fall 2025 Headcount 1,910 as of 10/7/25. (Not official until freeze date.) Non-resident portion 221.	Fiscal Year	Total Direct Expenses	FY21	~9,800,000	FY22	~10,800,000	FY23	~12,200,000	FY24	~14,200,000	FY25
Fiscal Year	Total Direct Expenses											
FY21	~9,800,000											
FY22	~10,800,000											
FY23	~12,200,000											
FY24	~14,200,000											
FY25	~15,800,000											

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4% Fee Waiver Information: USC Sumter					
Total		Resident		NonResident	
# Students	Amount	# Students	Amount	# Students	Amount
269	177,772.25	167	108,966.25	102	68,806.00

Abatements for FY25 totaled \$899,790.

Please provide a detailed explanation of the methods used to estimate the FY26 tuition mitigation needs. What standard inflation factor is being used (HEPI, CPI, etc.)? What base budget items is the inflation factor applied to? What is the impact of tuition waivers and abatements, including the amount of foregone revenue, and its impact on the need for additional state funding.

**COST
SAVINGS**

Operating Cost Savings
 USC Sumter’s \$15 million operating budget consists of Personnel (72%), Scholarships and Tuition Discounting (5%), Other Academic Program Costs (1%) and Facilities and Maintenance (22%). Salary and benefit levels are largely set at the state level. Facilities and Maintenance cost include primarily insurance, utilities, custodial, and repair and maintenance. Sumter has little control over insurance and utilities cost, other than careful energy management. The campus has been able to reduce costs by outsourcing custodial service and certain maintenance tasks at an estimated annual cost savings of \$132,000. Sumter has also partnered with the neighboring Central Carolina Technical College for shared security services, saving the campus an estimated \$250,000 per year. These savings are applied to offset inflationary cost increases in other areas of the operating budget and thus benefit students.

Program Assessment and Cost Savings
 USC Sumter became a University of South Carolina campus in 1973 and today has an

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enrollment of 1,800. Unlike large universities, Sumter does not have a multitude of academic or non-academic programs, other than the programs described below. The cost-benefit of these programs is carefully monitored to make sure that these programs are offered at the lowest cost possible without sacrificing academic quality.

Two-Year Academic Programs

USC Sumter confers two-year Associate of Arts degrees and Associate of Science degrees. USC Sumter also offers opportunities for eligible high school students to earn college credit while taking courses that also count toward high school graduation requirements.

Academic Partnerships for Bachelor's Degree Programs

Sumter partners with USC Aiken to provide B.S. in Nursing degrees, B.A. in Elementary Education and B.A. in Early Childhood Education. The B.S. and B.A. degrees are awarded by USC Aiken. These programs are highly successful and benefit both institutions. USC Sumter participates in various Bachelor's Online Degree-Completion Programs through Palmetto College.

Non-Academic Programs

Sumter's non-academic programs are primarily athletic programs. The primary purpose of these programs is recruiting. The participation in these athletic programs has grown from 84 in 2019 to 210 in FY25. About 80 percent of these athletes indicate that they are attending USC Sumter because of Athletics. The tuition and fees revenue from these programs exceed the incremental cost.

SC resident full-time tuition rates

- FY19 - \$3,579
- FY20 - \$3,579
- FY21 - \$3,579
- FY22 - \$3,579
- FY23 - \$3,579
- FY24 - \$3,579
- FY25 - \$3,579

Fees

- FY19 - \$345
- FY20 - \$345
- FY21 - \$345
- FY22 - \$345
- FY23 - \$345
- FY24 - \$345
- FY25 - \$345
-

Financial Aid

USC Sumter has several initiatives to provide education opportunities to students at low cost, including academic scholarships awarded from the Sumter Partnership of the USC Educational

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Foundation, and USC Sumter Education Fee Waivers. In combination with Pell grants and other financial assistance, many students are able to attend Sumter at zero cost to them.

Scholarship awards through the Educational Foundation of USC Sumter

- FY20 - \$128,186
- FY21 - \$ 91,295
- FY22 - \$110,032
- FY23 - \$141,058
- FY24 - \$233,063
- FY25 - \$255,982

USC Sumter Education Fee Waivers

- FY20 - \$134,773
- FY21 - \$171,012
- FY22 - \$197,319
- FY23 - \$153,228
- FY24 - \$192,662
- FY25 - \$177,772

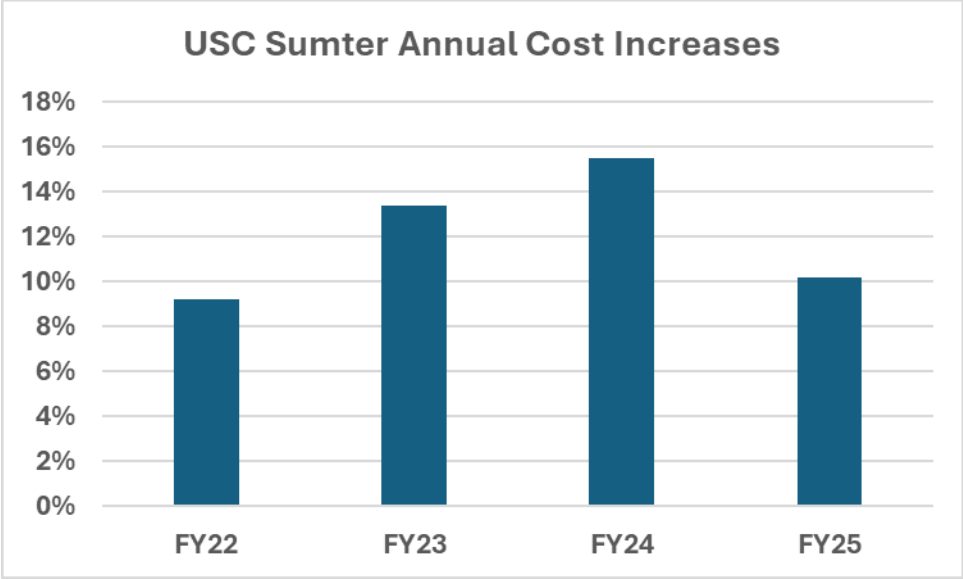
Higher Education Price Index (HEPI)

HEPI provides an objective estimate of inflationary pressures specific to Higher Education. HEPI data show that inflation for U.S. colleges and universities rose 3.4 percent in fiscal year 2024, falling from 4.0 percent in fiscal year 2023, but still elevated from the fiscal year 2020 rate of 1.9 percent. This year's rate is the third highest – only lower than fiscal years 2022 and 2023 – since fiscal year 2008 when HEPI was reported at 5.0 percent. (Fiscal year 2024 covers the period from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, and coincides with the budget year of most institutions of higher education.)

USC Sumter is a regional two-year campus and serves a diverse and ever-changing student population. There has been significant growth in high school dual enrollment students. For the past three years, the SC Commission for Higher Education (CHE) has decreased lottery tuition assistance for high school dual enrollment students. USC Sumter has absorbed this reduction in revenue.

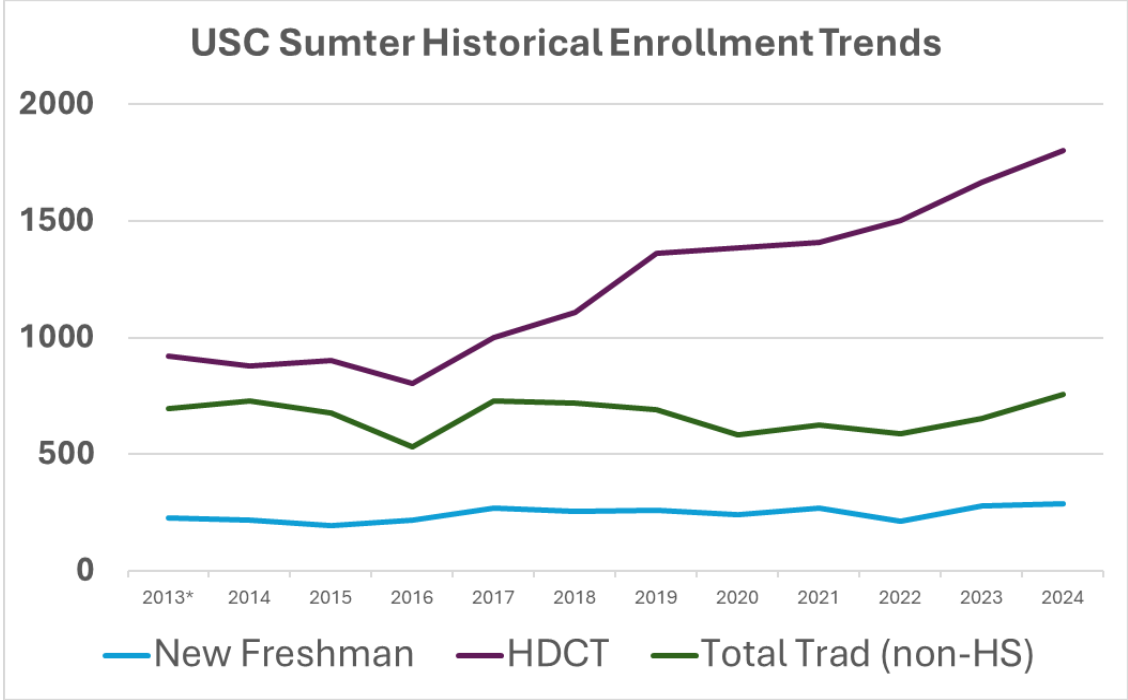
The graph below shows the annual operating cost increases for USC Sumter for the years FY21-FY24. These increases exceed the HEPI inflation rate primarily due to increased enrollment, and increases in the cost of personnel, utility costs, increases in insurance premia and maintenance cost.

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Increases in enrollment

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USC Sumter has managed this gap with a) State appropriations for tuition mitigation and direct allocations and b) cost-saving measures such as forced efficiencies and reprioritization.

As inflationary pressures impact faculty and staff hiring as well as cost of goods and services, the USC Sumter will continue to employ sound budgeting principles and operate as efficiently to educate South Carolina residents.

Provide a detailed analysis of any cost savings measures taken since FY19 to offset undergraduate tuition and fee increases and attach quantifiable documentation. Please include documentation of actions taken by the board of trustees or board of visitors or by administration. Attach any cost savings studies that have been undertaken and provide an explanation of actions taken to implement these studies. Provide future quantifiable cost savings plans and expectations for implementation.

Program review occurs:

USC Sumter provides general associates degrees in keeping with the University mission to provide an education for all South Carolina citizens including those who are unable to move and live away from home. Sumter reviews all course results, comparing actual enrollment and financial support to determine health of its courses, understanding courses deemed unhealthy should be considered for termination:

- Annually following the launch of a new academic program
- Compares the actual enrollment and financial support of new programs to original program projections. The most notable new programs are the partnerships with USC Aiken to provide degrees in Nursing and Education. Both programs continue to be successful.

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AGENCY NAME:

University of South Carolina Sumter

AGENCY CODE:

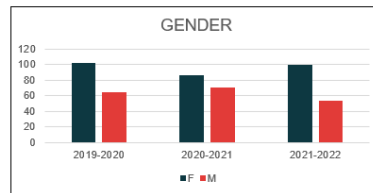
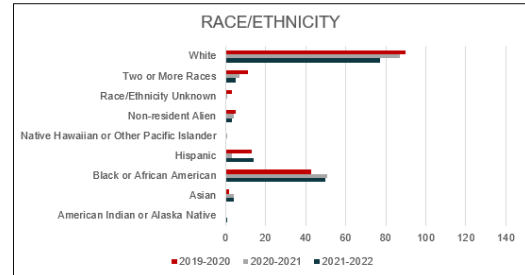
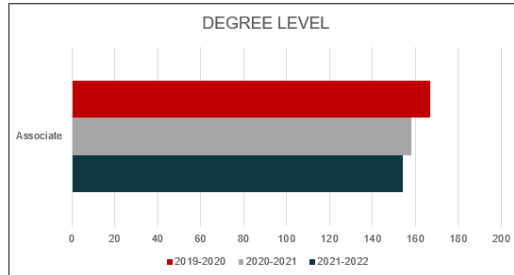
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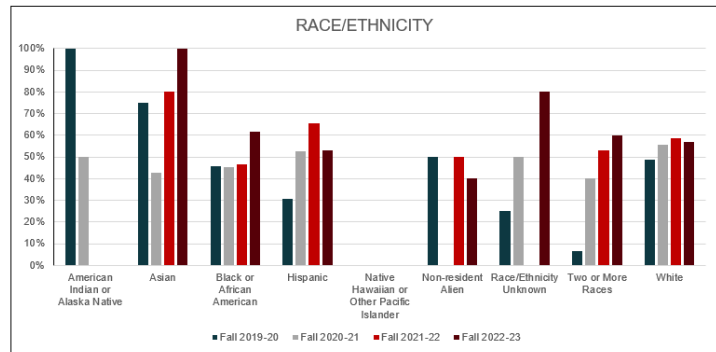
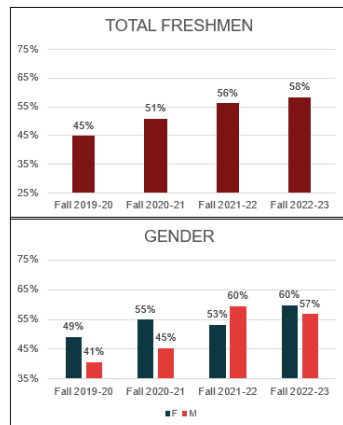
The success of USC Sumter's 2-year programs is illustrated by the Certificates and Degrees awarded, the Freshman Retention Rate, the 4-year and the 6-year Graduation Rates is shown below.

SUMTER CERTIFICATES AND DEGREES



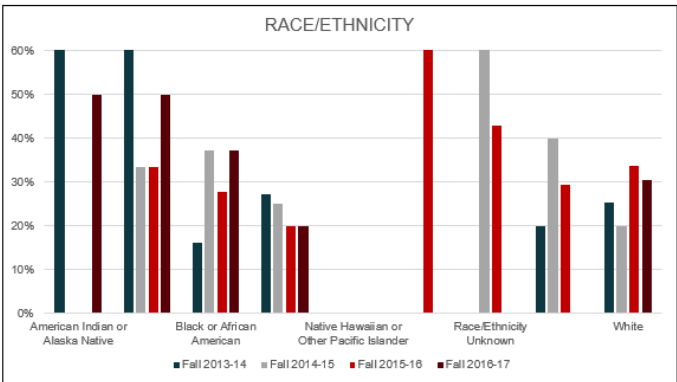
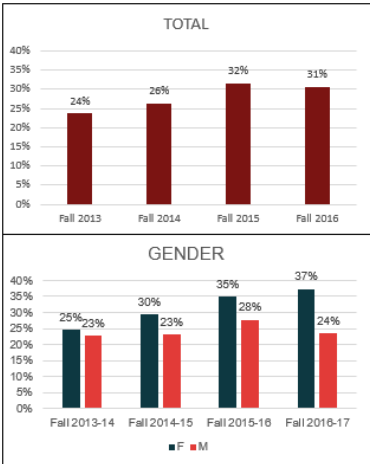
DISCIPLINE	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
General	167	158	154

SUMTER FRESHMAN RETENTION RATE



Academic year 2020-21 was impacted by COVID.

SUMTER 4-YEAR GRADUATION RATE



Four-year and Six-year graduation rates are based on Cohorts from academic years 2013-2014 through 2016-2017.

Provide a list of any undergraduate programs, academic or other, that have been reduced or eliminated since FY19. Please document the reasons for the reduction or elimination. If the institution has, or is expected to have, a decline in in-state undergraduate student enrollment, provide analysis on how the institution will ensure the corresponding reduction in tuition will not lead to requests for additional state funding.

UNOBLIGATED FUND BALANCE

Essentially all the University’s unrestricted net position/reserves have been internally designated for core missions such as instruction, research, and associated programs and initiatives that enhance these areas. Additional funds are used for capital projects that align with the University’s highest priorities, including capital renewal.

As of June 30, 2025, the Unrestricted Fund Balances for USC Sumter were:

Total A Funds	A - Operating Fund	\$6,608,630
Total C Funds	C - Auxiliary	\$24,278
Total D Funds	D - Student Activity	\$6,463
Total E Funds	E - Sales and Service	\$422,433

USC Sumter strives to maintain 3-6 months of fund balance to mitigate risks within our operating budget.

Provide the institution’s unobligated fund balance for the most recently completed fiscal year. Attach documentation showing this balance disaggregated to identify amounts that are restricted in their use by external authorities (General Assembly, Federal Government, donors, etc.) and those that are not subject to such restrictions. Provide an explanation of the amount the institution considers to be an appropriate unrestricted fund balance as a percentage of its operating budget and the percentage of the institution’s operating budget that the fund balance represents.