

Agency Name:	University Of Charleston		
Agency Code:	H150	Section:	15



Fiscal Year FY 2026-2027

Agency Budget Plan

FORM A - BUDGET PLAN SUMMARY

OPERATING REQUESTS <i>(FORM B1)</i>	For FY 2026-2027, my agency is (mark "X"):	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requesting General Fund Appropriations.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Federal/Other Authorization.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.

NON-RECURRING REQUESTS <i>(FORM B2)</i>	For FY 2026-2027, my agency is (mark "X"):	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Non-Recurring Appropriations.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Non-Recurring Federal/Other Authorization.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.

CAPITAL REQUESTS <i>(FORM C)</i>	For FY 2026-2027, my agency is (mark "X"):	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requesting funding for Capital Projects.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.

PROVISOS <i>(FORM D)</i>	For FY 2026-2027, my agency is (mark "X"):	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting a new proviso and/or substantive changes to existing provisos.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Only requesting technical proviso changes (such as date references).
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any proviso changes.

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

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
PRIMARY CONTACT:	Dawn Willan	(843) 953-6367	willande@cofc.edu
SECONDARY CONTACT:	John Loonan	(843) 953-1634	loonanjf@cofc.edu

I have reviewed and approved the enclosed FY 2026-2027 Agency Budget Plan, which is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

SIGN/DATE: TYPE/PRINT NAME:	<u>Agency Director</u>	<u>Board or Commission Chair</u>

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

Agency Name:	University Of Charleston
Agency Code:	H150
Section:	15

BUDGET REQUESTS			FUNDING					FTES				
Priority	Request Type	Request Title	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total
1	B1 - Recurring	Tuition Mitigation	4,556,620	0	0	0	4,556,620	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	B1 - Recurring	Joseph P. Riley Jr. Center for Livable Communities	300,000	0	0	0	300,000	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.00
3	B1 - Recurring	Biomedical Engineering Collaboration between the College of Charleston and MUSC	324,563	0	0	0	324,563	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
4	B1 - Recurring	Cancer Biology Collaboration between the College of Charleston and MUSC	216,375	0	0	0	216,375	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
5	C - Capital	New School of Business Building	40,000,000	0	0	0	40,000,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	C - Capital	Admissions Recruiting Center	20,000,000	0	0	0	20,000,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS			65,397,558	0	0	0	65,397,558	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.00

Agency Name:	University Of Charleston		
Agency Code:	H150	Section:	15

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: \$4,556,620 Federal: \$0 Other: \$0 Total: \$4,556,620
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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:	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input type="checkbox"/>	HR/Personnel Related
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens	

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>Additional appropriation funds would support the strategies outlined in the Accountability Report. These funds would be directed to the College's Education and General Fund (E&G) and would help offset the growing financial pressures caused by persistent inflation. Without this support, the College faces the near-term likelihood of raising in-state tuition rates simply to keep pace with the rising cost of operations—particularly personnel and essential non-personnel expenses that have been significantly affected by inflationary pressures.</p> <p>Continued investment is critical for the College to develop new programs and expand into emerging markets, ensuring strong enrollment and enhancing our ability to attract outstanding students, faculty, and staff. Our location in the heart of Charleston presents unique opportunities, but also challenges that add to operating costs. While inflation is the most significant factor, the historic nature of our campus also requires ongoing maintenance and upkeep of facilities to preserve both academic and student spaces.</p> <p>The successful use of these additional dollars will be evident in stable tuition rates for</p>
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South Carolina students, strengthened campus operations, steady enrollment growth with higher-quality students, and the creation of innovative academic programs that prepare graduates to meet the evolving workforce needs of the state.

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 support approximately 10,600 students educated by the College of Charleston. The increase in appropriation, as mentioned above, would reside in our overall E&G fund where it is operationalized in all aspects of campus personnel and non-personnel operations. In other words, our business operations include a labor-intensive educational operation as well as a facilities maintenance operation. For our maintenance environment, we use the services of contractors and suppliers in addition to in-house staff.

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?

The College is requesting \$4,556,620 in Tuition Mitigation funds. This figure represents a preliminary estimate and will be further refined and fully documented in the College's Form H submission due on October 7. The College's location in downtown Charleston provides a unique setting for learning and scholarship. At the same time, the local cost environment imposes financial pressures that are not experienced to the same extent by other South Carolina institutions. This narrative outlines the major recurring operating cost drivers that shape the College's FY27 request.

Housing and Real Estate

Housing in Charleston remains among the most expensive in South Carolina. As of August 2025, the median home sale price reached approximately \$635,000, a 10.3 percent increase over the previous year (Redfin). The median listing price in July 2025 was \$650,000, with a listing price per square foot of \$377 (Realtor.com).

These prices are significantly higher than the statewide median, which in many counties falls closer to the \$300,000–\$400,000 range. Limited availability of land in the historic peninsula further increases the cost of facility expansion and capital projects.

Utilities and Environmental Compliance

Charleston's coastal infrastructure and dense urban footprint contribute to higher utility and compliance expenses. Costs for electricity, water, stormwater, and drainage are elevated by both demand growth and coastal regulations.

In addition, many College facilities are historic, requiring maintenance and renovation practices that conform to strict preservation standards. These requirements require specialized materials and processes that are more costly than conventional construction.

Insurance and Risk Management

Insurance costs in Charleston are consistently higher due to the city's exposure to flooding, storm surge, and hurricanes. Premiums for property, flood, and wind coverage are substantially greater than those in inland markets.

The College must also devote recurring funds to preparedness measures such as

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

flood mitigation, resilient infrastructure, and backup systems to ensure continuity of operations. These expenses are unavoidable and integral to managing risk in a coastal setting.

Logistics and Infrastructure

The city's geography adds complexity to transportation and construction. Charleston's peninsula location and limited access routes increase freight and contractor costs.

Construction projects in the historic district also require additional approvals and oversight, extending timelines and raising budgets. These logistical realities create a structural cost premium relative to campuses in less constrained locations.

Inflation and HEPI

General inflation continues to affect institutional budgets. While consumer inflation has eased compared to recent highs, core operating costs—utilities, insurance, and supplies—remain elevated. The Higher Education Price Index (HEPI), which more closely reflects higher education cost structures, increased by 3.4 percent in FY2024 and is projected to rise by approximately 3.7 percent in FY2025 (Commonfund). These increases underscore the reality that recurring budget growth is required simply to maintain current operating levels.

In addition to traditional categories such as utilities and insurance, inflationary pressure is evident in several other critical areas of campus operations:

- **Technology and Cybersecurity:** Costs for enterprise software, cloud services, network infrastructure, and cybersecurity protections are rising steadily. Protecting institutional data, research, and student information requires continual investment in monitoring systems, compliance measures, and cyber insurance. These expenses are recurring and escalate annually.
- **Library and Academic Resources:** Subscriptions for digital journals, research databases, and specialized academic software increase faster than general inflation. The College must maintain access to these resources to ensure students and faculty remain competitive in teaching and scholarship.
- **Supplies and Services:** Essential operating contracts—including custodial services, dining, landscaping, and transportation—carry built-in annual escalations to reflect labor and material costs. Likewise, the price of basic supplies has continued to rise, with institutions paying more for goods that are indispensable to daily operations.

Taken together, these trends reinforce that even absent new initiatives, the College's budget must grow each year to preserve its purchasing power and sustain the quality of its academic and student support services.

Conclusion

The College of Charleston's cost environment is shaped by structural factors linked to its location: high real estate values, elevated utility and compliance costs, above-average insurance premiums, and logistical challenges.

Combined with inflationary pressures reflected in HEPI, these factors demonstrate the necessity of recurring state support that grows in alignment with actual operating costs. Adequate funding is essential to sustain the College's mission and to ensure that it can continue providing high-quality education in a uniquely challenging cost environment.

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.

Agency Name:	University Of Charleston		
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FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

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

TITLE	Joseph P. Riley Jr. Center for Livable Communities
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$300,000 Federal: \$0 Other: \$0 Total: \$300,000
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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	4.00
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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:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HR/Personnel Related
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens	

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>Recognize and encourage efficiencies and innovations - The Riley Center's statewide training and technical assistance work is specifically designed to help local governments and nonprofits modernize and strengthen core administrative functions —such as strategic planning, succession planning, supervisory development, process and data analysis, program evaluation, and community engagement—so they can operate more effectively under increasing demand created by South Carolina's rapid growth. This funding would advance that strategy by increasing the Riley Center's capacity to deliver scalable professional development and applied technical assistance statewide, with a deliberate focus on rural and lower-resourced communities that have the greatest capacity gaps. Additional staffing and program support would expand the Local Government Leadership Institute, launch a new Small City/Town Leadership Program, and establish a Resource Center and Inquiry Service supported by experienced senior advisors.</p> <p>In addition, the request supports the strategy to make experiential learning a differentiator of the College educational experience by strengthening statewide partnerships and applied community projects that can expand internship and hands-on learning opportunities for students interested in public service, policy, planning, and nonprofit leadership.</p>
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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

The requested funds would be received by the College of Charleston to support Riley Center staffing and operations, with expenditures primarily for two new full-time positions, contracted senior advisors/technical assistance professionals, and program-related travel and training vendors. The funds would be allocated through the College's internal budgeting and standard hiring/procurement processes.

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?

The request is for \$300,000 recurring to increase the College of Charleston Joseph P. Riley Jr. Center for Livable Communities' capacity to deliver statewide local government and nonprofit training and technical assistance. South Carolina is experiencing rapid growth and rising complexity in housing, infrastructure, public finance, workforce, and service delivery. Local governments and nonprofits are on the front lines, but many—particularly in smaller and rural communities—lack sufficient staff, training, and planning capacity. The Riley Center is the only university-based center in South Carolina dedicated to local government and nonprofit capacity building at scale, and it is currently staffed by only three full-time positions with partial state support. Demand for the Center's services exceeds current capacity. State funds are requested to build the staffing and operating infrastructure required to meet statewide demand, expand equitable access for under-resourced communities, and strengthen the leadership pipeline for city/county management.

Full-time Training Director \$85,000 + fringe = \$119,000

Operations Assistant \$50,000 + fringe = \$71,000

Senior advisors (2) \$50,000 + fringe (\$50,000 will be raised) = \$70,000

Travel \$10,000

Training \$30,000

Total \$300,000

This investment increases capacity in three integrated areas:

Local Government Leadership Institute (LGLI): expand program reach statewide, increase participation from smaller/lower-resourced communities, and add advanced/continuing education sessions that demand has already demonstrated.

Small City/Town Leadership Program: develop and deliver a four-session series for municipalities under 6,000 population, in partnership with entities such as the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC), with a goal of little-to-no cost participation.

Small City/County Technical Assistance Program: establish a Resource Center and Inquiry Service, pairing communities with experienced retired administrators for strategic planning, succession planning, supervisory training, process/data analysis, program evaluation, and community engagement support; and catalog/disseminate

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

leading practices statewide.

The budget includes two Senior Advisor roles with a stated offset: \$50,000 of the Senior Advisor cost will be raised through non-state sources (philanthropy/partners). This means the state appropriation would not cover the full cost of that line item; the Center is leveraging external support to reduce the state share of total program costs. Existing staff capacity and infrastructure already in place at the College of Charleston (space, administrative oversight, financial controls, established partnerships, and program credibility) effectively function as institutional support that allows state dollars to be concentrated on direct delivery capacity. Partnerships already established with organizations such as SCCCMA and potential delivery partners such as MASC allow the Center to scale reach without duplicating statewide networks.

If the requested funds are not received, the Center's ability to meet statewide demand will remain constrained by staffing and operating capacity. Expected impacts include:

LGLI growth will remain limited: demand to expand cohort participation and offer additional advanced/continuing education sessions will continue to exceed capacity, limiting the state's pipeline of prepared city/county managers and administrators.

Small City/Town Leadership Program may not launch or will be significantly delayed: municipalities under 6,000 population—often those with the greatest training need and least ability to pay—will continue to have limited access to practical training in core functions such as public finance, HR, ethics, and statutory requirements.

Technical Assistance Program and Resource Center will not scale: rural and smaller communities will continue to face gaps in strategic planning, succession planning, data/process analysis, evaluation, and engagement capacity. Without additional staff and advisor capacity, the Center cannot provide the inquiry service and structured support model described.

Inequitable access will persist: the communities least able to self-fund training and consulting support will remain least served, reinforcing disparities between fast-growing, resource-rich jurisdictions and shrinking or rural communities.

Lost opportunity to strengthen statewide civic infrastructure: without added capacity, South Carolina will continue to lag peer southeastern states that have made sustained investments in local government support centers, limiting statewide competitiveness.

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.

Agency Name:	University Of Charleston		
Agency Code:	H150	Section:	15

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	3
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Biomedical Engineering Collaboration between the College of Charleston and MUSC
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	<p>General: \$324,563</p> <p>Federal: \$0</p> <p>Other: \$0</p> <p>Total: \$324,563</p>
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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	1.00
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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:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HR/Personnel Related
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>The College of Charleston is very committed to the economic and workforce development needs of the state of South Carolina. Under the leadership of President Andrew Hsu, over the past six years, the College has developed a number of workforce-specific degree programs in engineering, business and the health sciences. In addition, we are currently developing a 5-year strategic plan with our colleagues at the medical University of South Carolina designed to address workforce needs, in particular those related to improving the health of individuals and families across the state.</p> <p>The College of Charleston's strategic plan, "Tradition and Transformation," has a stated goal to "identify and develop signature undergraduate programs that will advance the profile of the university." An undergraduate program in biomedical engineering designed in collaboration with colleagues at MUSC will certainly enhance the institutional reputation and support the economic development and workforce needs of the state of South Carolina.</p>
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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 will support the salary and benefits of a full or associate professor of biomedical engineering who will recruit and teach undergraduate majors at the College of Charleston. This individual would also collaborate with the biomedical engineering program at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) on research projects and building a pipeline of CofC graduates into the biomedical engineering master's and PhD programs at MUSC.

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

As is the case nationally, recruiting a qualified pool of recent college graduates into master's and PhD programs in biomedical engineering is always a challenge. Close collaboration between these two institutions will allow CofC to develop an undergraduate program in biomedical engineering that will pipeline qualified students directly into graduate programs at MUSC. If funds are not received, full implementation of the undergraduate program in biomedical engineering will be delayed.

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.

Agency Name:	University Of Charleston		
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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	Cancer Biology Collaboration between the College of Charleston and MUSC
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	<p>General: \$216,375</p> <p>Federal: \$0</p> <p>Other: \$0</p> <p>Total: \$216,375</p>
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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	1.00
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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:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	HR/Personnel Related
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens	

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>The College of Charleston is very committed to the economic and workforce development needs of the state of South Carolina. Under the leadership of President Andrew Hsu, over the past six years, the College has developed a number of workforce-specific degree programs in engineering, business and the health sciences. In addition, we are currently developing a 5-year strategic plan with our colleagues at the medical University of South Carolina designed to address workforce needs, in particular those related to improving the health of individuals and families across the state.</p> <p>The College of Charleston's strategic plan, "Tradition and Transformation," has a stated goal to "identify and develop signature undergraduate programs that will advance the profile of the university." An undergraduate program in cancer biology designed in collaboration with colleagues at MUSC will certainly enhance the institutional reputation and support the economic development and workforce needs of the state of South Carolina.</p>
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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 will support the salary and benefits of a full or associate professor of cancer biology who will recruit and teach undergraduate biology/cancer biology majors at the College of Charleston. This individual will also collaborate with faculty members in the cancer biology program in the Hollings Cancer Center at the Medical University of South Carolina on research projects and creation of a pipeline of CofC cancer biology graduates into the cancer biology master's and PhD programs at MUSC.

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 Hollings Cancer Center at MUSC conducts cutting edge research and offers the most comprehensive protocols for cancer treatments in the state of South Carolina. As is the case nationally, recruiting a qualified pool of recent college graduates into master's and PhD programs in cancer biology is always a challenge. Close collaboration between these two institutions will allow CofC to develop an undergraduate program in cancer biology that will pipeline qualified students directly into graduate programs at MUSC. If funds are not received it will delay full implementation of the undergraduate program in cancer biology that underpins the collaboration and creation of the pipeline of appropriately trained graduates from the CofC into graduate programs at MUSC. In addition to this request, we are currently planning to use a vacant position to hire the first faculty member with expertise in cancer biology so that we can get the program started. Full implementation depends, however, on hiring a second faculty member.

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.

Agency Name:	University Of Charleston		
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FORM C – CAPITAL REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	5
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	New School of Business Building
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	\$40,000,000
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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.

CPIP PRIORITY	Priority 1 of 8 in 2027
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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.

OTHER APPROVALS	No approvals have been obtained yet.
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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.)

LONG-TERM PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY	No funds have been invested to date.
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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?

LONG-TERM PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY	<p>In the last five years, the School of Business has almost doubled the number of declared majors. With approximately 3,200 declared majors, the School of Business at the College of Charleston represents about one-third of the institution's total undergraduate population. The current Business School facility on Liberty Street is outdated both in terms of available space and resources. The new 100,000-square-foot facility would provide sufficient space to accommodate anticipated growth for the foreseeable future, especially in the programs of accounting, management, marketing, and supply chain management.</p> <p>In addition to housing the majority of its undergraduate programs, the School of Business is home to one of the nation's top full-time, one-year MBA programs. The College's MBA program has routinely been recognized as having the best job-placement</p>
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rate in the country. Building on that strong foundation, the School is also launching a new Executive Doctor of Business Administration (eDBA) program, one of the College's first doctoral degrees, which expands graduate opportunities for working professionals and further elevates the school's reputation and profile in the region and beyond.

SUMMARY

The new facility would be strategically located in Charleston's central business district. This move will bring our students even closer to the city's thriving business community, creating greater opportunities for internships, networking, and real-world engagement with local, regional, and global companies. The new project is expected to be supported, in part, by a not-yet publicly announced philanthropic gift. This gift will be transformative not only for the School of Business, but for the entire university.

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.

Agency Name:	University Of Charleston		
Agency Code:	H150	Section:	15

FORM C – CAPITAL REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	6
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Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Admissions Recruiting Center
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	\$20,000,000
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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.

CPIP PRIORITY	Priority 6 of 8 in 2027
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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.

OTHER APPROVALS	No approvals have been obtained yet.
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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.)

LONG-TERM PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY	No funds have been invested to date.
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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?

LONG-TERM PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY	<p>This project will provide a new Admissions Recruitment Center, currently called New Visitor's Center, to meet the demands of the increasing applications and visiting prospective students and families . The new space will be built on property the College already owns, in the heart of campus near Rivers Green where students congregate. Estimated size is 10,000 to 20,000sf, within a three-story building to better serve prospective students.</p> <p>Applications have increased 156% since 2019 (or 20,000 applications during this 5 year period), with current projections exceeding 32,000 for the second consecutive year. The College has experienced record-breaking interest that has led to unprecedented demand for campus visitors. Since 2019, the College has more than doubled the number of on campus visitors, surpassing 30,000 individuals in the last academic year. The current</p>
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SUMMARY

Admissions and Tours facility is located in a repurposed 1970s-era residence hall dining facility and also split in another location due to growth and productivity. These accommodations no longer meet the needs of prospective students or their families.

To compete in the institutional market, recruitment of students and families is the first impression of the College of Charleston. The Admissions Recruitment Center will provide a warm and impressive introduction for prospective students and families. The new facility will showcase the campus and enhance our ability to compete with other leading universities. This new space will house offices, presentation space, restrooms, and counseling services for potential families of students.

There are no other alternatives as we have renovated and outgrown the current spaces.

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.

Agency Name:	University Of Charleston		
Agency Code:	H150	Section:	15

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	\$1,782,454
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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	All programs and activities
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What programs or activities are supported by the General Funds identified?

SUMMARY	<p>In the event of a 3% reduction in the general fund appropriation, the College of Charleston would first look to non-personnel areas for savings. This would include taking the reduction proportionally from our other operating expenses funded with state appropriations and the Lowcountry Graduate Center, which is a line item in the College's budget. In FY21 the College reduced its operating budget by \$12.5 million through a number of initiatives, which included but were not limited to a voluntary separation program, the elimination of unfilled positions, and across-the-board cuts. Considering the reductions already taken in FY21, and the larger enrollment the College has experienced the past couple of years, having to incur additional budget reductions would have a negative impact to critical student support services.</p>
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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**

The College would review already lean operating budgets across the institution, looking to the individual department heads to identify the items within their areas that could be further reduced to have the least impact on the core mission of the College of Charleston.

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?

Agency Name:	University Of Charleston		
Agency Code:	H150	Section:	15

FORM F – REDUCING COST AND BURDEN TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS

TITLE	Reduction of Duplicative Oversight
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Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

EXPECTED SAVINGS TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS	Time/money, various depending on the project/program
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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: <input type="checkbox"/> Repeal or revision of regulations. <input type="checkbox"/> Reduction of agency fees or fines to businesses or citizens. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greater efficiency in agency services or reduction in compliance burden. <input type="checkbox"/> Other
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METHOD OF CALCULATION	Time savings vary, but are calculated on actual days saved.
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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	N/A
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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	Similar oversight by various organizations.
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Which regulations does the agency intend to amend or delete? What is the enabling authority for the regulation?

SUMMARY	<p>The College supports and values the regulatory and oversight processes that guide our operations and ensure accountability to the citizens of South Carolina. At the same time, prolonged or layered approval processes can unintentionally contribute to increased costs. In Charleston, where construction costs are already elevated and subject to inflationary escalation, even modest delays add significantly to the total cost of capital projects. These projects are supported by a mix of funding sources, including state appropriations, bonds, private philanthropy, and, in some cases, institutional resources. When costs rise due to delays—compounded by local requirements such as historical agency approvals—the College must redirect resources or identify additional revenue to cover the gap. This, in turn, increases pressure on operating budgets and can ultimately impact tuition as a revenue source.</p> <p>Streamlining the timing and coordination of approval processes—while maintaining the important oversight role of all governing bodies—would help mitigate cost escalations, reduce financial strain on students and families, and allow the College to deploy resources more effectively in support of academic and workforce needs.</p>
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Provide an explanation of the proposal and its positive results on businesses or citizens. How will the request affect agency operations?