



**BOARD OF REGENTS OF  
THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA**

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Board of Regents of the  
University System of Georgia  
270 Washington Street, SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Dear Regents:

Today, the General Assembly passed the final version of the Amended Fiscal Year 2026 (AFY26) Appropriations Act. This budget represents a significant investment in the University System of Georgia and our students. The bill now goes to the Governor for consideration. As a reminder, the Governor has 40 days to sign the bill into law, veto it, or allow it to become law without a signature.

The General Assembly included \$325 million for the DREAMS scholarship program, which will reside and be administered by the Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC). As I've shared previously, I remain committed to leveraging this historic state investment and securing additional private funding to strengthen this critical needs-based scholarship.

The budget also includes \$17.8 million in one-time funding through the Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce to expand graduate medical education programs in South Georgia.

Full details are available in the attached file. A summary of key items follows:

**Amended Fiscal Year 2026:**

- \$104.6 million to support a one-time salary supplement of \$2,000 to full-time, regular state employees.
- \$10 million to establish a robotics academy at the Savannah campus of the Georgia Institute of Technology.
- \$6 million for the Research and Education Center for infrastructure and facility upgrades - Cooperative Extension Service at the University of Georgia.

**Capital Items:**

- The capital items listed below would be cash funded and included in the budget for the Georgia State Financing and Investment Commission (GSFIC):
  - \$88.2 million for the design and construction of the Daniel Guggenheim School of Aerospace Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology.
  - \$29.8 million for the design, construction and equipment of the building to establish the School of Optometry at Georgia Southern University.
  - \$5 million for the Arts and Science renovation at Georgia College & State University.

- \$3.9 million for the renovation of the Criminal Justice Learning Lab and Public Safety Facility at Albany State University.
  - \$5.6 million for the design of the UGA School of Nursing facility.
  - \$11.43 million for equipment in support of the UGA School of Medicine.
  - \$5 million for the renovation of the Technology-Enhancing Learning Center at the University of West Georgia.
  - \$1.9 million for construction of the renovation for the Long County Public Library.
  - \$33.5 million in additional Major Repair and Rehabilitation (MRR) funding, supplementing the \$65.9 million already in the base budget, to help address systemwide maintenance and infrastructure needs.
- Two projects (GSOU Optometry Facility and UGA Nursing School design funds) would be funded using interest and investment income earned and held at GSFIC.

This budget outcome reflects a true team effort. The USO staff, our Presidents, and all of you worked tirelessly to advocate for the University System and its priorities. Thank you for your leadership and dedication. We will continue this momentum as we shift our focus to the FY 2027 budget.

Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,



Sonny Perdue

CC: USO Cabinet  
USG Presidents  
USG Chief Business Officers