

Impact of Proposed FY 2026 Budget on Rutgers University

Governor Murphy's FY 2026 budget proposal would impose 35 total line-item cuts to Rutgers totaling \$65 million, including \$27 million to Rutgers' institutional operating aid, \$33 million to programmatic support, \$5 million to research fringe relief, and additional reductions to student assistance programs (Garden State Guarantee would be scaled back; summer TAG would be eliminated for 2026). When accounting for these cuts to student assistance programs, the total impact on Rutgers would be approximately \$80 million.

The overall impact of the proposed budget on Rutgers, system-wide, is displayed in the chart below. This is followed by a detailed summary of cuts included in the Governor's budget proposal, broken down by chancellor led unit.

FY26 Proposed Cuts	(\$000)
Rutgers New Brunswick	\$19,142
Rutgers Health	\$8,634
Rutgers Newark	\$13,019
Rutgers Camden	\$11,414
Rutgers Agricultural Experiment Station	\$4,298
Rutgers Cancer Institute	\$3,271
Research Fringe Relief	\$5,000
University Wide Total	\$64,778*

*does not include student assistance program cuts

Rutgers—New Brunswick:

- Funding totaling \$19.142 million for various programs at Rutgers—New Brunswick would be reduced or eliminated as follows:

- Outcomes Based Allocation funding would be reduced by \$16.422 million; these funds were provided in the current budget to partially offset the increased costs in FY 2025 associated with the collective bargaining agreement, and that will continue in FY 2026.
- Funding of \$1 million for the New Jersey Climate Change Resource Center would be eliminated in its entirety. The Center provides resources and assistance to counties and municipalities in their efforts to adapt to and plan for the impacts of climate change. The Center was established in statute in 2019 (18A:65-103).
- Funding of \$500,000 for the Center for American Women and Politics would be eliminated in its entirety.
- Funding of \$320,000 for the State Government Science and Engineering Fellowship Program at the Rutgers Eagleton Institute would be eliminated in its entirety. Science Fellows serve in both legislative partisan staff offices and agencies in the executive branch of New Jersey government.
- Funding for the New Jersey State Policy Lab, which is housed in the Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, would be reduced by \$750,000, from \$1 million to \$250,000. The New Jersey State Policy Lab assists the State of New Jersey and its many communities in the design, implementation, and evaluation of state policies and programs by conducting evidence-based, nonpartisan research.
- Funding of \$150,000 for the New Jersey Center for Civic Education would be eliminated in its entirety. (Note: this is a pass-through appropriation that Rutgers facilitates on behalf of the Center).

Agricultural Experiment Station:

- Funding totaling \$4.298 million for various programs would be reduced or eliminated as follows:
- Supplemental operating aid of \$4.5 million would be reduced by \$3 million (67%), to \$1.5 million. This supplemental aid has been in the State budget for several

years and is critical to maintaining the Ag Station's ability to serve the agricultural community in all 21 counties.

- Funding of \$1.25 million for Cooperative Extension Outreach would be eliminated in its entirety.
- Funding of \$48,000 for the Equine Science Center would be eliminated in its entirety.

Rutgers Health:

- Funding totaling \$8.634 million for various programs at Rutgers Health would be reduced or eliminated as follows:
 - University Behavioral Health Care funding for behavioral health programs in Newark and Piscataway would be reduced by \$4.55 million, from \$18.2 million to \$13.650 million. This cut will result in a reduction in mental health services to individuals in need across the State.
 - Funding of \$1.7 million for the Child Health Institute would be eliminated. This funding has been included in the budget for more than a decade. The Institute improves the health of children everywhere by studying the causes of childhood illnesses and developing new treatments and preventions.
 - Funding for the Gun Violence Research Center, which is housed in the School of Public Health, would be reduced by \$1 million, from \$3 million to \$2 million.
 - Funding for the Community Living Education Project (CLEP) would be reduced by \$545,000—the Project is administered by the School of Public Health. CLEP works one-on-one with individuals who have intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families to help them understand their options for community living, services and support.
 - Funding for University Behavioral Health Care's Vet2Vet call center would be reduced by \$500,000, from \$2.5 million to \$2.0 million. The Center provides 24/7 crisis assistance to veterans in New Jersey and nationwide.

- Funding of \$250,000 for the Rutgers School of Dental Medicine's Special Needs Dental Treatment Center would be eliminated in its entirety. The Center provides routine and surgical dental care to the disabled community, most of whom are unable to self-administer basic dental hygiene.
- Funding for University Behavioral Health Care's Mom2Mom call center would be reduced by \$90,000 (20%), from \$439,000 to \$349,000. The Center, which was established in statute in 2013 (9:3A-15), provides peer support for parents of children with developmental disabilities.

Rutgers—Newark:

- Funding totaling \$13.019 million for various programs at Rutgers—Newark would be reduced or eliminated as follows:
 - Outcomes Based Allocation funding would be reduced by \$6.944 million; these funds were provided in the current budget to partially offset the increased costs in FY 2025 associated with the collective bargaining agreement, and that will continue in FY 2026.
 - Funding of \$1.2 million for the Nursing Emotional Well-Being Institute would be eliminated in its entirety. The Institute provides programming and direct support to the NJ nursing workforce to address anxiety, depression, job-induced stress, burnout, and turnover.
 - Funding of \$1 million for the Center on Law, Inequality and Metropolitan Equity would be eliminated in its entirety. The Center is committed to studying the role of law and policy in encouraging or inhibiting opportunity based on place.
 - Funding of \$1 million for the Center on Local Supply Chain Resiliency would be eliminated in its entirety. The Center is an applied research center focused on conducting research that leads to positive social and economic impacts while creating a robust resilient New Jersey Supply Chain system.

- The \$1.25 million appropriation for the Sheila Y. Oliver Center for Politics and Race in America would be reduced to \$250,000, a reduction of \$1 million. The Center, named for the former NJ Lieutenant Governor, is a non-partisan, multidisciplinary, “fact tank” that explores the link between race and politics in America.
- Funding of \$2.583 million for NJ Scholarship and Transformative Education in Prisons (NJ STEP) initiative would be reduced by \$783,000 (30%), to \$1.8 million. This program, which is housed at Rutgers-Newark, provides higher education courses toward a college degree for students while they are incarcerated.
- Funding of \$742,000 for the Rutgers Law School at Newark—Legal Assistance for Tenants program would be eliminated in its entirety.
- Funding of \$250,000 for the Center for Real Estate would be eliminated in its entirety.
- Funding of \$200,000 for the Law School’s Legal Assistance for the Poor would be reduced by \$100,000 (50%), to \$100,000.

Rutgers—Camden:

- Funding totaling \$11.414 million for various programs would be reduced or eliminated as follows:
 - Outcomes Based Allocation funding would be reduced by \$3.612 million; these funds were provided in the current budget to partially offset the increased costs in FY 2025 associated with the collective bargaining agreement, and that will continue in FY 2026.
 - Funding of \$2.5 million for the Civic Engagement Initiative would be eliminated in its entirety. Working with local partners, this initiative supports student efforts to meet the challenges facing our city, county, and region through engaged civic learning, volunteerism and service, community-based research, and integrated efforts and partnerships

- Funding of \$2.25 million for the Rutgers-Rowan Board of Governors for planning for a new Rutgers Camden business school building would be eliminated in its entirety.
- Funding of \$1.5 million for the Rutgers-Rowan Board of Governors for unspecified health initiatives would be eliminated in its entirety.
- Funding of \$742,000 for the Rutgers Law School at Camden—Legal Assistance for Tenants would be eliminated in its entirety.
- Funding of \$500,000 for Student Success Initiatives would be eliminated in its entirety. These initiatives employ multiple supports to maximize student success for timely degree completion.
- Funding of \$210,000 for the Student Mental Health and Well-Being program would be eliminated in its entirety.
- Funding of \$200,000 for the Law School's Legal Assistance for the Poor would be reduced by \$100,000 (50%), to \$100,000.

Rutgers Cancer Institute:

- Funding totaling \$3.271 million for various programs would be reduced or eliminated as follows:
- Operating aid funding of \$33 million would be reduced by 5.3%, or \$1.771 million. This is the second time a Governor has recommended cutting operating aid to the Institute in its 25-year history—the first was under then-Governor Corzine during the Great Recession of 2008-09. Every dollar of operating support yields between \$10 and \$14 of return on investment, primarily in the form of federal research awards.
- The ScreenNJ program, which provides cancer screening services for vulnerable communities, would be reduced by 50%, from \$3 million to \$1.5 million; this comes one year after the program was cut from \$4 million to \$3 million in the FY25 budget. To date, Screen NJ has identified 9,100 pre-cancerous or cancerous conditions; this cut would effectively eliminate the Institute's ability to

administer the program. The program currently operates in all 21 counties in partnership with dozens of community health organizations to provide cancer screening to vulnerable populations.

Impact of Proposed FY 2026 Budget on Rowan University

FY26 Proposed Cuts	(\$000)
Outcomes-Based Allocation	\$5,737 (27%)
Cooper University Hospital - Population and Health and Joint Board	\$500 (100%)
School of Veterinary Medicine	\$12,000 (100%)
Child Abuse Research Education and Service Institute	\$1,850 (100%)
Camden Opioid Research Initiative	\$500 (100%)
Virtua Health College of Medicine and Life Sciences	\$8,000 (100%)
Center for Research and Education in Advanced Transportation Engineering Systems	\$2,000 (100%)
University Wide Total	\$21,587

Impact of Proposed FY 2026 Budget on University Hospital

FY26 Proposed Cuts	(\$000)
University Hospital Capital Improvements	\$40,000 (100%)
City of Newark Emergency Medical Services	\$2,000 (100%)
Master Facility Plan Capital Investment	\$45,000 (100%)
Hospital Wide Total	\$87,000