

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

FERRIS FORWARD

Fiscal 2025-26

Final General Fund Operating Budget

October 3, 2025

Approved by the Board of Trustees October 3, 2025



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Ferris State University
Fiscal 2024-25
Final General Fund Operating Budget
October 3, 2025

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Ferris State University
Fiscal 2025-26 Final General Fund Operating Budget
October 3, 2025

General Fund Budget Comparison: FY25 to FY26

	FY25 Budget	FY26 Budget	Change from FY25	
			\$	%
REVENUE				
Tuition & Fees	\$143,223,437	\$143,131,751	(91,686)	-0.1%
State Appropriation	61,137,700	\$62,409,089	1,271,389	2.1%
Investment Income	2,025,929	\$2,014,400	(11,529)	-0.6%
Other Revenue	2,083,602	\$3,564,150	1,480,548	71.1%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$208,470,668	\$211,119,390	\$2,648,722	1.3%
EXPENDITURES				
Compensation				
Salaries	\$106,280,438	\$109,009,313	\$2,728,875	2.6%
Benefits	38,353,639	\$38,041,362	(312,277)	-0.8%
Total Compensation	144,634,077	147,050,675	2,416,598	1.7%
Operating Expenses				
Supplies	8,505,396	7,718,387	(787,009)	-9.3%
Travel	3,585,087	4,467,521	882,434	24.6%
Contracts and Services	20,407,260	14,770,383	(5,636,877)	-27.6%
Maintenance and Repairs	1,290,617	1,423,836	133,219	10.3%
Equipment and Plant	394,868	496,800	101,932	25.8%
Building and Land	0	0	0	0.0%
Student Assistance & Scholarships	29,640,675	28,583,618	(1,057,057)	-3.6%
Student Loan Costs	0	0	0	0.0%
Utilities	4,387,617	4,664,585	276,968	6.3%
Total Operating Expenses	68,211,520	62,125,130	(6,086,390)	-8.9%
Transfers				
Transfers In	(5,126,648)	(6,703,826)	(1,577,178)	30.8%
Transfers Out	751,719	8,647,410	7,895,691	1050.4%
Total Net Transfers	(4,374,929)	1,943,584	6,318,513	-144.4%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$208,470,668	\$211,119,389	\$2,648,721	1.3%
NET BUDGET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$0	\$0	\$0	

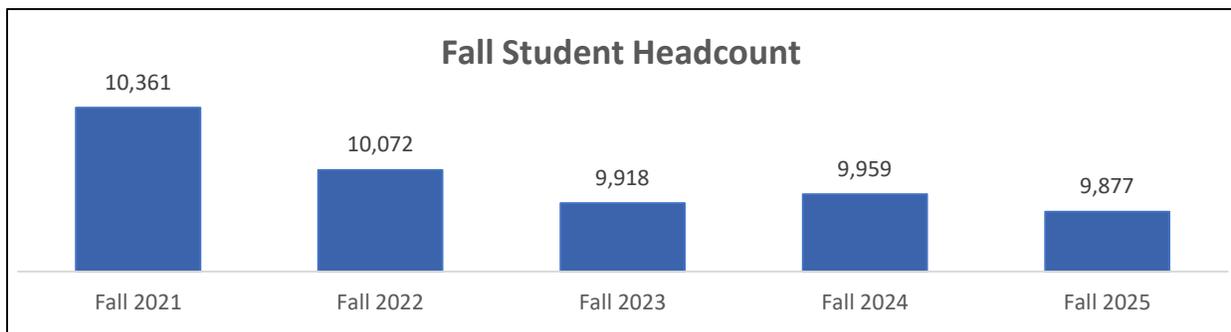
Fiscal 2025-26 Final General Fund Operating Budget

The University presents a general fund operating budget for approval by the Board of Trustees in two stages. In the spring, the University recommends a preliminary budget to establish tuition rates and base operating support levels for the new fiscal year which begins on July 1. In the fall, a final budget is brought forward for approval when enrollment and state funding decisions are known. Below provides the details for the University's final budget recommendation.

Student Enrollment

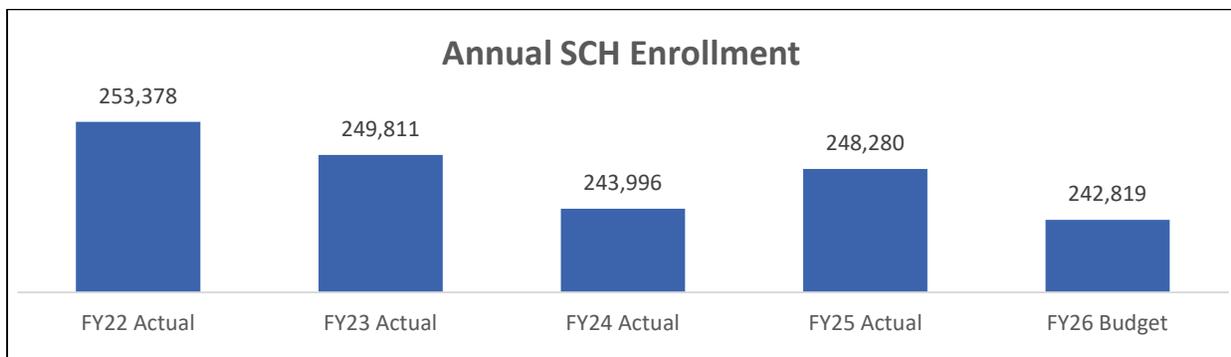
Fall Student Headcount

Student enrollment is the primary driver in the general fund budget. Fall 2025 enrollment is 9,877 which is 0.82% decrease from FY25.



Annual Semester Credit Hours

Tuition revenue is calculated using Semester Credit Hours (SCH). Projected annual semester credit hour enrollment is 242,819 which is 2.20% decrease from FY25.



General Fund Revenue

General Fund revenue comes from three main sources: state appropriations, tuition and fees, and other departmental revenue.

State Appropriation

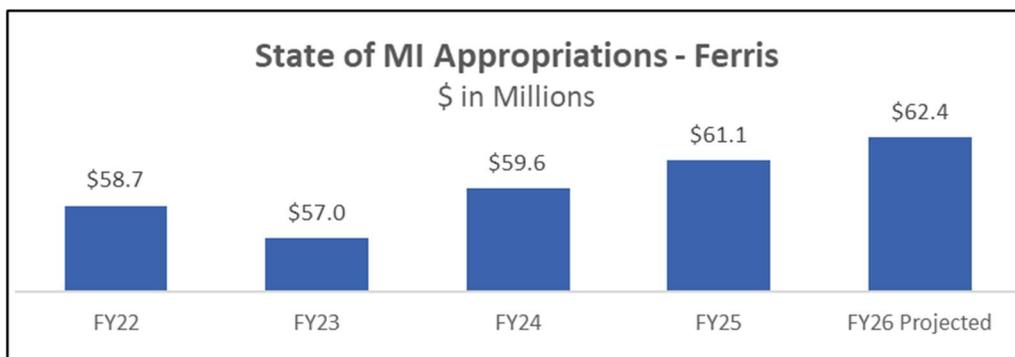
At this time, state funding for Michigan public universities has not been finalized. The following chart reflects legislative recommendations to date:

State Appropriation Proposals			
Component	Executive	Senate	House
Appropriations - Operations Increase	3.10%	2.10%	-

For this final budget recommendation, we have assumed a 3.0% base appropriation increase.

State appropriations represent 29.6% of total university revenues.

State Appropriation	
Current 2025 State Appropriation	\$61,137,700
Projected 2026 State Appropriation	62,409,089
Increase/(Decrease)	\$1,271,389



The budget approach at Ferris State University to present a balanced budget to the Board of Trustees. This balanced budget only uses base appropriation funding for ongoing commitments.

Tuition and Fees

In June, the Board approved an average 3.7% undergraduate tuition increase: 3.5% for lower division and 3.8% for upper division. The approved 2025-26 tuition rates are lower than the State's undergraduate tuition restraint limit of 4.5% or \$735.

The approved tuition and fee rates applied to the budgeted enrollment level will yield annual tuition and fee revenue of \$143.1 million; a decrease of \$100 thousand or -0.1% from FY 2024-25 budgeted revenue. Tuition and Fees represent 67.8% of university revenues.

Tuition and Fee Revenue (in Millions)	FY25 Budget	FY26 Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Tuition	\$142.0	\$141.2	(\$0.8)	-0.6%
Fees	1.2	1.9	0.7	58.3%
Total Tuition & Fee Revenue	\$143.2	\$143.1	(\$0.1)	-0.1%

Other Revenues

Other Revenue increased in FY26 due to budgeting for all departmental income sources under the new zero-based budgeting model. Other revenues comprise 1.7% of total university revenues.

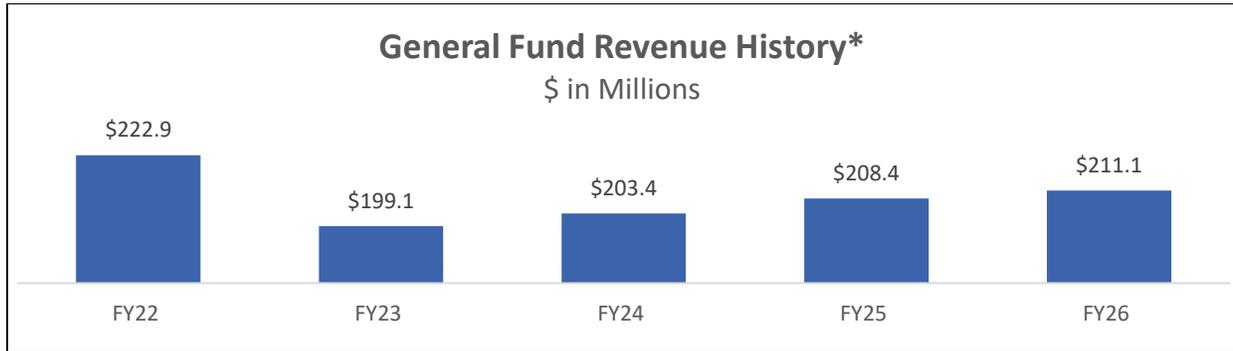
Other Revenue (in Millions)	FY25 Budget	FY26 Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Investment Income	\$2.0	\$2.0	\$0.0	-0.6%
Other Revenue	2.1	3.6	1.5	71.1%
Total Other Revenue	\$4.1	\$5.6	\$1.5	35.7%

FY 2025-26 Revenue Summary

The final budget reflects an overall revenue increase of \$2.7 million, or 1.3% over FY25 budget. This is the net result of increases of \$1.3 million in state appropriations and \$1.5 million in other revenues.

Revenue Summary (in Millions)	FY25 Budget	FY26 Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Tuition & Fees	\$143.2	\$143.1	(\$0.1)	-0.1%
State Appropriation	61.1	62.4	1.3	2.1%
Investment Income	2.0	2.0	0.0	-0.6%
Other Revenue	2.1	3.6	1.5	71.1%
Total Revenue	\$208.4	\$211.1	\$2.7	1.3%

5 Year General Fund Revenue History



General Fund Expenses

Compensation Expense

Total compensation has increased by 1.7% from the prior year budget and represents 69.7% of total university expenditures.

Compensation includes annual salary increases for faculty and staff, based on labor contracts where applicable, non-exempt employee wage adjustments required by the Department of Labor (where required), and other pooled compensation adjustments to bring overall budgets in-line with historical actual spending in areas such as overtime and vacation/sick payouts for employee retirements/departures. Salaries will increase by 2.6% however there is an overall reduction in total university benefit costs of 0.8%. Overall, compensation expenses will only increase by 1.7%.

Compensation (in Millions)	FY25 Budget	FY26 Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Salaries	\$106.3	\$109.0	\$2.7	2.6%
Benefits	38.4	38.0	(0.4)	-0.8%
Total Compensation	\$144.7	\$147.0	\$2.3	1.7%

Operating Expenses

When the University presented the preliminary budget in June, we were anticipating higher enrollment than what we realized. This caused us to have to reduce our final budget operating expenses by \$2.8 million. Since enrollment was lower, we were able to reduce our scholarship budget by \$1 million and then divisions cut \$1.8 million from their operating expenses.

Operating Expenses (in Millions)	FY25 Budget	FY26 Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Supplies	\$8.5	\$7.7	(\$0.8)	11.9%
Travel	3.6	4.5	0.9	24.6%
Contracts and Services	20.4	14.8	(5.6)	-27.6%
Maintenance and Repairs	1.3	1.4	0.1	10.3%
Equipment and Plant	0.4	0.5	0.1	25.8%
Building and Land	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Student Assist & Scholarships	29.6	28.6	(1.0)	0.0%
Student Loan Costs	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Utilities	4.4	4.7	0.3	6.3%
Total Operating Expenses	\$68.2	\$62.2	(\$6.0)	-4.7%

Transfers

University fund transfers are inter-fund transfers between university funds. The change in net transfers reflects budget reallocations, including positions, from non-general funds to the general fund. The University is using \$1 million in reserves to cover the operating deficit due to lower enrollment.

Transfers (in Millions)	FY25 Budget	FY26 Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Transfers In	(\$5.1)	(\$6.7)	(\$1.6)	11.3%
Transfers Out	\$0.8	\$8.6	\$7.8	1050.4%
Total Net Transfers	(\$4.3)	\$1.9	\$6.2	-167.3%

FY 2024-25 Expense Summary

Total general fund expenses have increased by \$2.7 million, or 3.1%.

Expense Summary (in Millions)	FY25 Budget	FY26 Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Compensation	\$144.6	\$147.1	\$2.5	1.7%
Operating Expenses	68.2	62.1	(6.1)	-4.7%
Transfers	(4.4)	1.9	6.3	167.3%
Total Expenses	\$208.4	\$211.1	\$2.7	3.1%

Appendix

Ferris State University FY 2025-26 Preliminary to Final Budget Comparison

	FY26 Preliminary	FY26 Final	Prelim to Final Change	% Change
REVENUE				
Tuition & Fees	\$146,894,268	\$143,131,751	(\$3,762,517)	-2.6%
State Appropriation	62,409,089	62,409,089	0	0.0%
Investment Income	2,014,400	2,014,400	0	0.0%
Other Revenue	3,549,150	3,564,150	15,000	0.4%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$214,866,907	\$211,119,389	(\$3,747,518)	-1.7%
EXPENDITURES				
Compensation				
Salaries	\$112,856,931	\$109,009,313	(\$3,847,618)	-3.4%
Benefits	38,041,362	38,041,362	0	0.0%
Total Compensation	147,047,675	147,050,675	3,000	0.0%
Operating Expenses				
Supplies	9,491,687	7,718,387	(1,773,300)	-18.7%
Travel	4,467,521	4,467,521	0	0.0%
Contracts and Services	14,696,983	14,770,383	73,400	0.5%
Maintenance and Repairs	1,423,836	1,423,836	(0)	0.0%
Equipment and Plant	496,800	496,800	0	0.0%
Building and Land	0	0	0	0.0%
Student Assistance & Scholarships	29,634,237	28,583,618	(1,050,619)	-3.5%
Student Loan Costs	0	0	0	0.0%
Utilities	4,664,584	4,664,585	1	0.0%
Total Operating Expenses	64,875,648	62,125,130	(2,750,518)	-4.2%
Transfers				
Transfers In	(5,703,826)	(6,703,826)	(1,000,000)	17.5%
Transfers Out	8,647,410	8,647,410	0	0.0%
Total Net Transfers	2,943,584	1,943,584	(1,000,000)	-34.0%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$214,866,907	\$211,119,389	(\$3,747,518)	-1.7%
NET BUDGET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$0	\$0	(\$0)	
Annual SCH's	249,944	242,819	(7,125)	-2.9%