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# *Union News*

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## **State Budget Cuts to CSU**

Last week, Governor Malloy announced a projected \$365 million deficit in the current fiscal year. The Governor is limited in how much he can unilaterally cut from the budget without legislative approval, but of the \$170 million he did cut, the cuts focus on social services and higher education. The breakdown of cuts to higher education are:

- \$7 million cut to CSU
- \$7.2 million cut for the community colleges
- \$10.2 million cut to UConn
- Public College Student financial aid was also cut by over \$1.2 million

The complete list of rescissions can be found [here](#).

It is important to note that this is the MINIMUM that will be cut from CSU before the end of the fiscal year. The legislature will meet mid-December to consider additional cuts to all state agencies.

Also, the deficit projection by the State Comptroller's office this week was estimated to be \$415 million, not \$365 million that the Governor estimated last week.

BOR Chairman Lewis Robinson is quoted in the *Connecticut Mirror* as saying, "'It's going to be very challenging...Numbers like that are going to present serious challenges... The idea of raising tuition is never a happy exercise. Tuition is not something we quickly go to."

The ConnSCU System has since instituted a hiring freeze, but it is unclear the extent of the hiring freeze on all the CSU campuses.

Read more about the cuts to higher education:

[Malloy shrinks deficit with cuts to social services, colleges \(CT Mirror\)](#)

[Connecticut agencies bracing for budget cuts; universities, health care, social services affected \(New Haven Register\)](#)

[Budget cuts stall plan to hire additional college faculty \(CT Mirror\)](#)

[Remember when merging CSU & Community Colleges was going to save money so they could hire more faculty... \(Jonathan Pelto\)](#)

**Looking for  
Something to Do  
Over Winter  
Break?**

CSU-AAUP active members can not only take advantage of discounts and special offers to popular theme parks such as Walt Disney World® but also to entertainment options such as movie tickets, skiing, and New York City performances through [TicketsatWork.com](http://TicketsatWork.com). Other member benefits can be found [here](#).

At the time of hire, faculty automatically become a member of the CSU-AAUP bargaining unit. All bargaining unit members are entitled to vote on contract ratification. However, to become an active member of the organization and become eligible to vote in chapter elections and to take advantage of member benefits such as [TicketsatWork.com](http://TicketsatWork.com), at no additional cost, faculty must fill out a [membership form](#).