



**NCI Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, November 12, 2025
4:00 p.m.**

VIRTUAL

Livestream available at www.youtube.com/@NewCollegeInst

IN-PERSON

Martin-Lacy Lecture Hall at NCI's Baldwin Building
191 Fayette Street Martinsville, VA 24112

AGENDA

- I.** Call to Order and Roll Call
- II.** Approval of June 12, 2025, Board Minutes
- III.** Approval of Electronic Meeting Policy
- IV.** Partner Updates
- V.** Public Comments
- VI.** Committee Reports
- VII.** New Business
 - a. Proposal from Dr. Mark Crabtree
- VIII.** Chair's Report
- IX.** Executive Director's Report
- X.** Adjournment

Optional for in-person attendees: 3:00 p.m. tour of NCI's high bay and GENEDGE's new office spaces at the Baldwin Building. Meet in the front lobby. Open to the public, no votes will be taken.

Public comment form: <https://forms.office.com/r/QQ6G3pqAJ5>



**NCI Board of Directors Meeting
King Hall Building, 30 Franklin Street, Room 207
Martinsville, VA 24112**

Thursday, June 12, 2025, 1:00 p.m.

In-Person Attendees: Eric Jones (Chair), Valerie Crummie Johnson (Secretary), Dr. Mark Crabtree, Jay Dickens, Delegate Destiny LeVere Bolling, Lee Prillaman, Senator Kannan Srinivasan, Marcus Stone, Delegate Wren Williams

Virtual Attendees: Ashley Lockhart (Vice Chair)

Absent: Senator Chris Head, Dr. Rebecca Horner, Kevin Laine, Michael Lundsgaard, Delegate Sam Rasoul

Other Attendees: Joe Sumner (Executive Director), Christina Reed (Deputy Director), Olivia Garrett (Chief Advancement Officer), Latoshua LeGrant (Chief Information Officer), JoAnn Shellhammer-Fox (Director of Finance and HR), Adam Kane (Office of the Attorney General)

Minutes

I. Call to Order

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

II. Chair's Update

Chairman Jones welcomed members, staff, and invited guests. He shared opening remarks reflecting on the challenges and opportunities facing NCI and emphasized the importance of bridging the board with the local community. Board members and special guests were invited to introduce themselves.

Longwood University Elementary Education Graduates

Scott Harmon and Madison Denny, recent graduates from Longwood University at NCI's Bachelors of Elementary Education Program, spoke about their experiences earning degrees at NCI and securing teaching positions in local schools. Mr. Harmon will be a teacher at Axton Elementary School and Ms. Denny will teach at Carlisle School. Chairman Jones praised the program for meeting regional workforce needs, as elementary teachers are identified as a "high demand job" by the Virginia Office of Education Economics' "High Demand Jobs" dashboard for the West Piedmont Local Workforce Development Area.

Piedmont Regional Criminal Justice Training Academy (PRCJTA)

Executive Director Ben Rea introduced recent law enforcement graduates and shared the academy's successful partnership with NCI. He discussed the MILO simulator, housing needs for late-night trainees, and the upcoming graduation on June 20. Board members commended the program's success and community impact. Recent graduates in attendance were Rodney Ragans (Henry County Police Department), John Riddle (Henry County Police Department), and Anthony Powell (Danville Adult Detention Center).

National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE)

Ms. Helen Howell introduced the following NSBE students: Destiny Johnson, Keegan Redd, Aaliyah Williams, Alivia Williams, Alyssa Williams. Ms. Helen shared NSBE's recent national achievements, including Golden Torch Awards, STEM competitions, and community service milestone. Chairman Jones recognized Ms. Howell for receiving the 2024 SEA Dickinson Award for Teaching Excellence. A ceremony was held in her honor at NCI in May.

III. Roll Call

Olivia Garrett called the roll and noted the presence of an in-person quorum.

IV. Approval of April 24, 2025, Board Minutes

Upon review of the April 24, 2025, board minutes, Jay Dickens motioned to approved. Delegate Destiny LeVere Bolling seconded. Motion carried.

V. Executive Director's Update

Mission Spotlight

Joe Sumner, Executive Director, commended Trevor Martin, Workforce Development Instructor, for his participation in the Martinsville Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Cohort this spring as well as his leadership in the Wind Industry program.

Operations & Facilities

Mr. Sumner updated the board on the following operations and facilities topics:

- Transition from third-party facilities management to in-house operations remains on track and will be completed by the end of June 2025
- Hiring in progress: Procurement Specialist and other support staff
- Major repairs to roof and concrete funded via maintenance reserve
- Safety audits and full asset inventory underway ahead of the state ARMICS deadline.
- Year-end closeout and preparation of FY26 budgets and goals
- All required state reports have been submitted on time

Workforce & Academic Program Updates

- PRCJTA has graduated 79 new law enforcement officers this fiscal year and expects to graduate another 20 officers on June 20

- Fiber optics training shows lower-than-expected demand; program pivoting to quarterly offerings and remote delivery
- Wind Industry program is plateauing due to national uncertainty; contingency plan in development for industrial and construction safety training

Testing Center

- The Praxxis exam saw a record volume in May
- To date, 173 Praxxis exams have been administered
- Application to the National College Testing Association is on track and in progress

Academic Program Updates

Longwood University graduated 11 students this spring from the elementary education program at NCI. Longwood intends to sunset the early childhood education program due to low demand and staff turnover; the elementary program will continue with grant-funded tuition support.

K-12 Program Updates

- NCI's STEMbots will be housed at Franklin County Schools and Patrick County Schools
- The EduTech Library is highly successful at Henry County Schools with 886 students actively using the technology in the classroom.
- Robotics is seeing strong participation with 42 students involved this year
- K-12 program outreach exceeded its goal of 2,095 engagements. Total outreach for FY25 is 2,692 students engaged.

Facility Usage

Usage of NCI's classroom and lecture halls spaces dramatically increased during FY25 with 887 bookings and an estimated 28,101 visitors. Revenue generated from Lecture Hall rentals is \$34,077. Ms. Garrett noted that while facility usage has increased over the last year, revenue has not increased as much. On July 1, 2025, a new fee structure will be in place for both the Lecture Hall and classrooms. The fees are modest in an effort to remain accessible to all types of organizations.

End of Year Program Summary

Program	FY24	FY25 Goal	FY25 Actual
Workforce Certificates	453	305	581 (625 est.)
Degrees	31	15	11
Testing Center	825	615	765 (847 est.)
K-12 Programming	2,393	2,095	2,692
Community Outreach	5,964	3,556	5,085
Facility Usage	512 events/ 16,667 visitors	n/a	887 events/ 28,101 visitors
Lecture Hall Revenue	\$32,693.00	n/a	\$34,077.00

VI. FOIA Training

Adam Kane from the Office of the Attorney General provided FOIA training for board members.

VII. Committee Reports

Executive Committee

Chairman Jones gave an overview of the executive committee meeting that occurred prior to the Board of Directors meeting on June 12. The committee approved the April 24 minutes as well as the amended committee plan. Mr. Sumner provided an update on strategic planning, including VOEE “High Demand Jobs” data, program evaluations, and how NCI can improve economic development partnerships as a “convener” to inform workforce development needs in the region.

Finance & Resource Development

Lee Prillaman, Chair of the Finance and Resource Development Committee, shared that the committee met on May 21 to review year-to-date General Fund and Nongeneral Fund spending as well as review and approve the FY26 budget.

VIII. Approval of FY26 Budget

Upon review of the proposed FY26 budget, Senator Kannan Srinivasan motioned to approved. Ms. Valerie Crummie Johnson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

IX. Closed Session

Ms. Crummie Johnson moved that the Board of Directors convene in closed session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(7) for consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members pertaining to actual or probably litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body; and pursuant to 2.2-3711(A)(8) for consultation with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.

Staff members of NCI (Joe Sumner, Christina Reed, and Olivia Garrett) were requested to stay.

The motion was seconded by Eric Jones and approved unanimously. Closed session began at 3:35 p.m.

Ms. Crummie Johnson moved to come out of the closed session,

“Whereas, the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the New College Institute convened in closed session on June 12, 2025, pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and;

Whereas, Virginia Code Section 2.2-3712 requires a certification by this Executive Committee of the Board of Directors that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

Now, be it resolved that the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge:

Only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under Virginia law; and

Only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed session meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the closed meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors."

Ms. Garrett called the roll, noting the approval of the closed meeting certification. The meeting was out of closed session.

Ms. Crummie Johnson made a motion to delegate Eric Jones as the authority to negotiate and engage with the Martinsville-Henry County Academic Foundation in accordance with what was discussed in closed session. Dr. Mark Crabtree seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

X. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

XI. Adjournment

Jay Dickens motioned to adjourn. Marcus Stone seconded. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 4:37 p.m.

**ALL VIRTUAL BOARD MEETINGS AND
ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETINGS
GENERAL POLICY**

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish a written policy, in accordance with §§ 2.2-3708.2 and -3708.3 of the Code of Virginia (Virginia Code) to allow for and govern participation of **New College Institute (Institute)** membership meetings by the means of electronic communication, including, all virtual meetings, and to specify the requirements for remote participation by members.

II. AUTHORITY

The membership of the Institute's Board of Directors (Board) interprets this policy and this policy applies to the full Board, its designated subcommittees, and ad hoc committees.

This policy must be applied strictly and uniformly, without exception, to the entire membership and without regard to the identity of the member requesting remote participation or the matters that will be considered or voted on at the meeting.

III. POLICY

A. Member Electronic Participation

Pursuant to applicable law and guidance, the Board adopts the following practice and procedures for the participation of members of its body who cannot physically attend meetings for which public business will be conducted.

1. Prior to a scheduled Board meeting, a member must (1) notify the Chair or Board Liaison that he or she is unable to attend the meeting due to (a) a temporary or permanent disability or other medical condition that prevents physical attendance, (b) a family member's medical condition that requires the member to provide care for such family member thereby preventing the member's physical attendance, (c) a member's residence is more than sixty

(60) miles from the meeting location identified in the notice, and (d) a personal matter that prevents physical attendance.

- a. in the case of a personal matter, the member must identify with specificity the nature of the personal matter.
 - b. Participation by a member pursuant to a personal matter is limited each calendar year to two meetings or 25 percent of the meetings held per calendar year rounded up to the next whole number, whichever is greater.
2. A quorum of the Board members must be physically assembled at the primary or central meeting location for the Board to consider the participation of a remote member. A member with a disability as defined in Code of Virginia § 51.5-40.1 and uses remote participation counts toward the quorum as if the individual was physically present. Additionally, a member who is a caregiver for a person with a disability as defined in Code of Virginia § 51.5-40.1 and uses remote participation counts toward the quorum as if the individual was physically present.
3. Requests for remote participation shall be conveyed to the Board Liaison who shall then relay such requests to the Chair or, in the Chair's absence, the Vice Chair. Individual participation from a remote location shall be approved unless such participation violates this policy or the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (§ 2.2-3700 et seq. of the *Code of Virginia*). If a member's participation from a remote location is challenged, then NCI shall vote whether to allow such participation. The request for remote participation shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. If NCI votes to disapprove the member's participation because such participation would violate this policy, such disapproval shall be recorded in the minutes with specificity. The minutes shall include other information as required by §§ 2.2-3707 and 2.2-3708.3 depending on the type of remote participation, including:
- a. the fact of the remote participation;
 - b. the location of the remote participation (and the remote location need not be open to the public);
 - c. whether the remote participation is because of:
 - (a) a temporary or permanent disability or other medical condition, or

- (b) a family member's medical condition that required the member to provide care for such family member, or
 - (c) the distance between the member's principal residence and the meeting location, or
 - (d) a personal matter; and
 - (e) in the case of a personal matter, the specific nature of personal matter.
4. This policy must be applied strictly and uniformly, without exception, to the entire membership and without regard to the identity of the member requesting remote participation or the matters that will be considered or voted on at the meeting.
 5. The Board may deny participation for personal matters only if participation would violate this policy. If a member's participation is disapproved, the disapproval and the reason for the disapproval shall be recorded in the minutes with specificity.
 6. The Board must plan for the voice of the remote participant to be heard by all persons at the primary or central meeting location.
 7. Should the requirements of this policy not be met, the Board member will be allowed to listen into the proceedings through an electronic means, if available.
 8. The Board will provide the public access to observe any meeting at which a member is permitted to participate by remote means. The Board will state in the notice for the meeting whether public comment will be taken at the meeting and will provide a means for submitting written comments.

In the event that multiple members opt to participate electronically impacting the ability to obtain a physical quorum, the Board members should consider compliance with the all virtual meeting requirements pursuant to the Board's policy as subscribed in Section III.B.

B. All Virtual Meetings

Pursuant to applicable law and guidance, the Board adopts the following practice and procedures for participation of members of its body when the intent is that all members participate electronically and for such time public business will be conducted.

1. Upon the decision by the Chair or Majority of the Board membership that a Board meeting will be held in an all-virtual format, the public body will issue a required meeting notice and include a statement notifying the public that the all-virtual meeting format will be used.

- a. This notice should include a statement that should the meeting format change, that subsequent notice will be issued and in accordance with Virginia Code 2.2-3707.
2. The public body will provide for the general public to observe the all virtual meeting via electronic communications which allow the public to hear the Board members' deliberations, other than for any portion of the meeting that is closed pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3711.
 - a. If audio-visual technology is used, the electronic communication means should allow the public to also see the public body.
 - b. The Board will provide the public access to observe all-virtual meetings. The Board will state in the notice for the meeting whether public comment will be taken at the meeting or provide a means for submitting written comments.
3. A copy of the proposed agenda and all agenda packets and, unless exempt, all materials furnished to the members of the public body for a meeting shall be made available to the public in electronic format at the same time that the materials are provide to the members of the public body.
4. No more than two members of the public body can be together or present in any one of the remote locations used during the all-virtual meeting unless that remote location is open to the public and physically accessible to the public.
5. The Board is limited in convening meetings in the all-virtual format to two meetings or 50 percent of the meetings held each calendar year rounded up to the next whole number, whichever is greater.
6. The public body is prohibited from holding meetings in the all-virtual format consecutively with another all-virtual public meeting.
7. The public body will provide a phone number or other live contact information so the public can alert the public body of the audio or video transmission issues that interfere with their access, participation or viewing of the public bodies meeting.
 - a. The public body will monitor such designated means of communication during the meeting.
 - b. Should access fail, the public body shall take a recess until public access is restored (subject to reasonable time limitations).

8. In the event the public body convenes a closed session during the all-virtual public meeting, transmission of the meeting to the public must resume before the public body votes to certify the closed meeting as required by subsection D of Virginia Code § [2.2-3712](#).
9. Minutes of all-virtual public meetings held by electronic communication means are taken as required by Virginia Code § [2.2-3707](#) and include the fact that the meeting was held by electronic communication means and the type of electronic communication means by which the meeting was held.

STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS

This policy shall be effective during ordinary times during which the Governor has not declared an emergency pursuant to Virginia Code § 44-146.17 or where the locality in which the body is located has declared a local state of emergency pursuant to Virginia Code § 44-146.21.

When an emergency has been declared, other provisions of law or declarations of Governor or the locality may prevail. In such cases, the Board must affirm that (i) the catastrophic nature of the declared emergency makes it impracticable or unsafe to assemble a quorum in a single location and (ii) the purpose of the meeting is to provide for the continuity of operations of the public body or the discharge of its lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities.

In such cases, a physical quorum is not required for the conduct of public business.

In cases of emergency, the Board will:

- A. Give public notice using the best available method given the nature of the emergency, which notice shall be given contemporaneously with the notice provided to members of the public body conducting the meeting;
- B. Make arrangements for public access to such meeting through electronic communication means, including videoconferencing if already used by the public body;
- C. Provide the public with the opportunity to comment at those meetings of the public body when public comment is customarily received; and
- D. Follow other mandates of this policy and law.

EDUCATION AND COMPLIANCE

Members of the Board shall be made aware of this and any other Board policies as part of the new Board member orientation process. Any changes to this policy shall be communicated to the Board by the Chair or Board Liaison no later than the Board's next scheduled meeting. The Board Chair shall be responsible for ensuring annual compliance with the provisions of this policy.

REFERENCES

§ 2.2-3708.2. Meetings held through electronic communication means (virginia.gov)

§ 2.2-3708.3. Meetings held through electronic communication means; situations other than declared emergency (virginia.gov)

FOIA Electronic Meetings Guide (2025)

§ 44-146.17. (Effective July 1, 2023) Powers and duties of Governor (virginia.gov)

§ 44-146.21. Declaration of local emergency (virginia.gov)

New College Institute
DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE AND EXPENSE REPORT
 Fiscal Year 2026

FISCAL YTD THRU: June 30, 2026

FISCAL MO 3

3

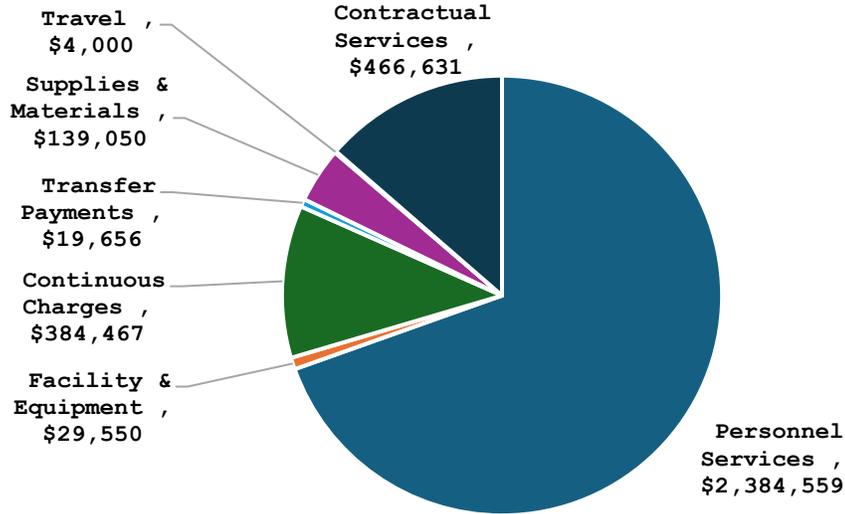
Department 938 Agency

RUN DATE: 09/30/25

Sub-Object Code	PREV FY ACTUAL	CURR FY BUDGET	CURR FY BUD YTD	CURR FY YTD ACT	BUDGET BALANCE	CURR FY VAR \$	CURR FY VAR %
REVENUES:							
GENERAL FUNDS-Appropriation	3,101,809	3,101,809	775,452	3,101,809	-	(2,326,357)	-300.0%
GENERAL FUNDS-Adjustments	46,388	82,955	20,739	-	82,955	20,739	100.0%
Anticipated Maintenance Reserve	127,590	135,000	33,750	-	135,000	33,750	100.0%
NGF BROUGHT FORWARD	543,865	-	-	-	-	-	-
NGF RECEIVED FYTD	-	122,474	30,619	74,431	48,043	(43,812)	-143.1%
NGF - Adjustments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRANT FUNDS	-	41,426	10,356	41,426	(0)	(31,070)	-300.0%
TOTAL REVENUES	3,819,632	3,483,664	870,916	3,217,666	265,998	(2,346,750)	-269.5%
GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:							
TOTAL CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	914,761	466,631	116,658	42,129	433,064	74,529	63.9%
TOTAL TRAVEL EXPENDITURES	23,689	4,000	1,000	539	3,461	461	46.1%
TOTAL SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS	109,489	139,050	34,763	5,305	132,884	29,456	84.7%
TOTAL TRANSFER PAYMENTS	5,171	19,656	-	-	19,656	-	-
TOTAL CONTINUOUS CHARGES	116,448	384,467	96,117	69,415	314,620	26,702	27.8%
TOTAL FACILITIES & EQUIPMENT	124,355	29,550	7,388	-	29,550	7,388	100.0%
TOTAL PERSONNEL SERVICES	1,979,903	2,384,559	596,140	581,487	1,803,072	14,652	2.5%
NON-GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:							
TOTAL CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	1,355	-	-	869	(869)	(869)	-
TOTAL TRAVEL EXPENDITURES	313	-	-	539	(539)	(539)	-
TOTAL SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS	5,627	-	-	1,317	(1,317)	(1,317)	-
TOTAL CONTINUOUS CHARGES	4,006	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	3,273,816	3,427,913	856,978	698,876	2,729,037	158,103	18.4%
TOTAL NON-GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	6,982	-	-	2,187	(2,187)	(2,187)	-
TOTAL OPERATIONS EXPENSES	3,273,816	3,427,913	856,978	698,876	2,729,037	158,103	18.4%
TOTAL OPERATIONAL REVENUE	3,819,632	3,483,664	870,916	3,217,666	265,998	(2,346,750)	-269.5%
PERSONNEL BUDGET:	1,979,903	2,384,559	596,140	581,487	1,803,072	14,652	2.5%
NON-PERSONAL BUDGET:	(1,434,087)	1,099,105	274,776	117,388	933,235	981,717	357.3%
TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET	545,816	3,483,664	852,064	698,876	2,784,788	153,189	18.0%

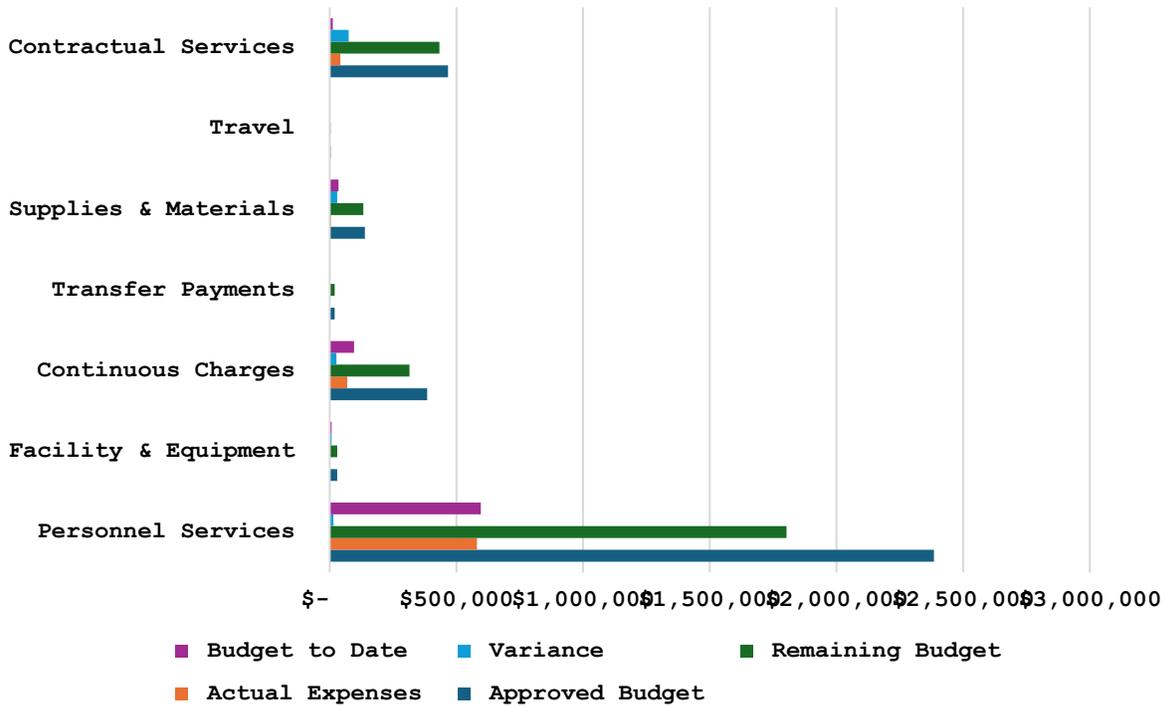
REMAINING BALANCE
 2,485,889
 664,152

General Fund Expenses FY26 Period 3

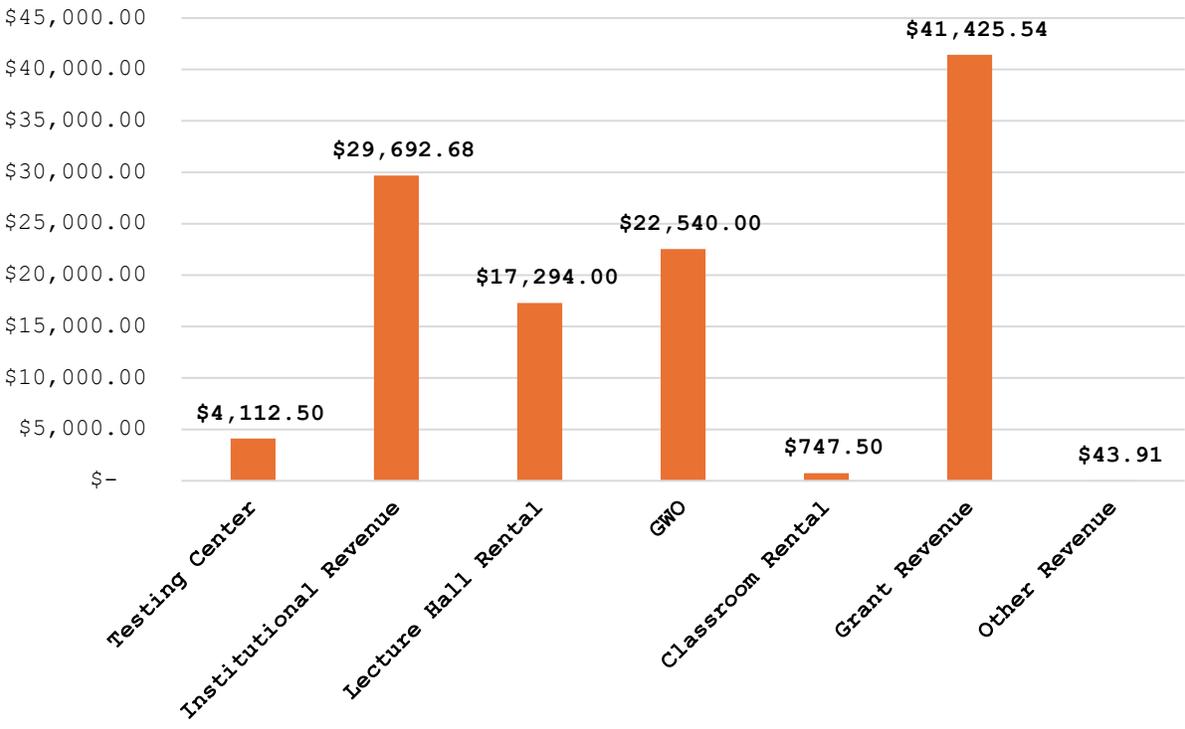


- Personnel Services ■ Facility & Equipment ■ Continuous Charges
- Transfer Payments ■ Supplies & Materials ■ Travel
- Contractual Services

General Fund Expenses FY26 Period 3



Non-General Fund Revenue FY26 Period 3



New College Institute Resolution Establishing Patrick & Henry Community College Center for Workforce and Economic Development at the Baldwin Building

WHEREAS in response to the loss of thousands of manufacturing jobs in the 1990s, local civic and political leaders identified the need for improved access to higher public four-year university education and began to advocate for the establishment of a college in southern Virginia. Thus, the concept of New College Institute (NCI) was born; and

WHEREAS in 2004 a bipartisan coalition of state and local officials spearheaded legislation to establish a college in southern Virginia. To sustain the legislative momentum, the Harvest Foundation of the Piedmont pledged \$50 million towards the establishment of a state-supported, baccalaureate-level college in Martinsville-Henry County; and

WHEREAS in 2006 NCI was officially established by state charter as an educational institution located in the Martinsville and Henry County area with its primary mission to expand educational opportunities, develop a skilled workforce, and diversify the region's economy, which had historically relied on tobacco, furniture and textiles. NCI sought to achieve these goals by partnering with other higher education institutions and engaging with both public and private sector organizations in the region and in the Commonwealth. It aimed to be a catalyst for economic and community transformation by leveraging resources and facilitating the development of technology and a trained workforce needed for new economic enterprises; and

WHEREAS NCI collaborated with state universities in its early years, bringing in faculty and paying universities for partnerships. Enrollment grew from 118 students in 2006-2007 to 329 students in 2017-2018. NCI helped 403 students obtain bachelor's and master's degrees during that time. Outreach efforts were conducted, making at least 5,000 contacts annually with students and families. NCI partnered with Virginia colleges to offer degrees in fields important to the Southern Virginia region. They also offered K-12 programming and experiential learning opportunities. Facilities grew into the classroom building on Franklin Street, the lab on Fayette Street and the Jefferson Plaza; and

WHEREAS Longwood University provides two remaining degree programs at NCI serving a total of twenty-seven students in the spring semester of 2024; and

WHEREAS ground was broken in 2012 for the new 52,000 sq. ft. facility and construction was completed in June 2014; and

WHEREAS the mission of New College Institute is to be a premier center of learning that provides access to academic degrees, credentials, non-credential, hands-on-training, and professional learning experiences in high quality learning environments to prepare students for regional and statewide career opportunities and participation in collaborative, positive community change, promoting regional economic prosperity and community transformation. And its Vision is that NCI will provide the best of both traditional and innovative postsecondary education through academic and workforce partnerships that are defined by creative thinking and problem-solving--all designed with the ultimate goal of being responsive to the current and future needs of employers in our region and beyond. New College Institute's values enabling students in the Martinsville-Henry County region to complete college and advanced degree programs that will provide them with enhanced life opportunities and to provide advanced

certifications and training that will enable the people of the region to increase the skill levels most relevant to their careers. NCI values providing students with support that will enable them to achieve excellence. Furthermore, NCI values working collaboratively with community colleges, four-year institutions, business and nonprofit partners to provide effective and cost-efficient access to higher education, increasing the percentage of adults with college degrees in the Martinsville-Henry County area and the commitment to higher education among the area's citizens, and making a positive contribution to the region's economic development strategy, and serving the broader community through K-12 collaborations; and

WHEREAS the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) aims to strengthen Virginia by providing accessible, quality, and affordable educational opportunities that empower students and support workforce development for economic growth. Its mission focuses on giving everyone the chance to learn skills, develop their potential, and contribute to stronger communities and a more prosperous Commonwealth.

Key aspects of the VCCS mission include:

- **Empowering individuals:**
Providing opportunities for personal growth, acquiring knowledge, and developing the skills necessary for life and career success.
- **Strengthening communities:**
Fostering economic development and community betterment through educational programs and workforce training.
- **Providing accessible education:**
Offering open, flexible, and affordable learning options, including credit and non-credit programs, for diverse learners.
- **Supporting the workforce:**
Addressing the training needs of businesses and industries to fuel economic growth and career readiness.
- **Promoting a culture of success:**
Cultivating an environment of care, support, and inclusivity for students and employees, which is a core value across the system.
- **Building partnerships:**
Collaborating with businesses, government, and communities to create strategic partnerships that advance Virginia's future; and

WHEREAS P&HCC's Statement of Purpose is: The Virginia Community College System and Patrick & Henry Community College are committed to providing comprehensive higher

education and workforce training programs and services that are financially and geographically accessible and that meet individual, business, and community needs of the Commonwealth. P&HCC's mission is committed to economic mobility and to enriching the quality of life in our service region through academic excellence, educational affordability, student success, workforce development, and community engagement. P&HCC's vision is to be the educational catalyst that provides access to economic prosperity for our community; and

WHEREAS the New College Foundation (a separate 501(c)3 organization) began receiving private gifts and grants in 2007 in support of NCI and organized a campaign to establish an endowment; and

WHEREAS P&HCC's rapidly growing Fast Forward programs provide short-term credentials leading directly to employment. Current offerings are delivered at multiple locations and over the last six years, these programs have grown by nearly 500%, placing continued demands on available space. Current enrollment indicates that a seventh year of growth is likely. Consolidating these programs into a state-of-the-art facility will provide the potential for even greater growth; and

WHEREAS P&HCC leadership envisions the creation of the Patrick & Henry Community College Center for Workforce and Economic Development at the Baldwin Building that will create a unique opportunity to accelerate the economic development of the region while aligning several regional workforce development programs and initiatives as well as advanced learning and community development. This includes bringing advanced education opportunities to the citizens of Martinsville and Henry County. The college is confident that additional four-year university partners can be recruited to deliver "Bachelors and Beyond" programming in pathways that are essential to the continued economic resurgence of the region including the current partnership with Longwood University. P&HCC possesses rich partnerships with all the public and private colleges in the Commonwealth and has guaranteed transfer agreements with each public institution. Further, their strong program-specific articulation agreements with many of the state's universities create further opportunities to bring advanced learning credentials to the new Patrick & Henry Community College's Center for Workforce and Economic Development at the Baldwin Building. Additionally, P&HCC's robust community training and enrichment initiatives can include programs such as the Piedmont Regional Criminal Justice Training Academy, and others as well as community events currently hosted to ensure that these regional partnerships are not impacted by the transition; and

WHEREAS Patrick & Henry Community College is the education and training partner for the Martinsville Henry County Economic Development Corporation (EDC), which is located in the Baldwin Building. The missions of the EDC and P&HCC are interwoven; thus, collocating these organizations and programs under one roof is a model that can significantly accelerate the economic renaissance occurring within the region. President and CEO Mark Heath has expressed overwhelming support for transitioning the building to P&HCC; and

WHEREAS the use of the NCI building frees up additional space in other P&HCC facilities to assist with accommodating the West Piedmont Region of Virginia Career Works (VCW) request to locate their regional offices on the college's campus. VCW serves as a vital link between job seekers and employers in the region and has been a critical partner to P&HCC as they seek to equip students with the skills and competencies they need to become successful employees and potential employers. Additionally, P&HCC partners with a regional agency to deliver entrepreneurship training and education to individuals seeking to start or grow their small businesses. The training has been immensely successful, creating another opportunity for regional economic growth. Many of the graduates of these programs seek office space from which to operate and/or expand their businesses. P&HCC seeks to provide a Small Business Accelerator space to allow entrepreneurs the opportunity to lease affordable space while simultaneously being mentored to more rapidly launch or expand their small business; and

WHEREAS the Commonwealth of Virginia bought NCI's main campus building from the New College Foundation and that relationship between NCI and its initial foundation became strained after 2020; and

WHEREAS the mission of The MHC Academic Foundation (formerly New College Foundation) is to provide financial and other support for the dissemination of education in Martinsville and Henry County, Virginia, and the MHC Academic Foundation believes that the Patrick & Henry Community College Center for Workforce and Economic Development proposal is consistent with that mission; and

WHEREAS New College Institute was founded to boost educational and economic opportunities, initially partnering with universities, and through the years its operational model has changed to attempt to meet its mission. The higher education environment has evolved dramatically, and NCI has faced significant challenges after 2020; and

WHEREAS the mission and vision of NCI closely parallel that of the Virginia Community College System and Patrick & Henry Community College; and

WHEREAS the efficiency and effectiveness of the region's overall educational levels, economic development efforts and the quality of the region's workforce will achieve great improvement with the establishment of the Patrick & Henry Community College Center for Workforce and Economic Development which will lead to greater economic opportunities for the people of Martinsville, Henry County, Southside Virginia and the Commonwealth. Further, the alignment of several regional workforce development agencies will serve to accelerate the community's growth and maximize the overall economic development attractiveness of the area for future employers.; and

WHEREAS the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) (Draft) noted in its October, 2025 findings entitled Virginia's Community Colleges and the Changing Higher Education Landscape that "community colleges with a regional education center in their service region should coordinate with the center to ensure their programs are not duplicative and regional program needs are being met" (p. 61) and specifically noted "A proposal has been developed to merge the New College Institute with Patrick & Henry Community College."

Additionally, the report also highlights the growing need for Career and Technical Education across the Commonwealth and specifically notes the increased demand for and enrollment in Fast Forward programs. The report further notes that Patrick & Henry Community College has the highest percentage of face-to-face courses taught by any of the 23 colleges in the Virginia Community College System, demonstrating the need for additional space to maximize access, enrollment, and completion of Fast Forward programs that lead directly to regional employment; The Draft Report then offers “RECOMMENDATION 8: The State Board for Community Colleges should direct Virginia Community College System staff to initiate a strategic review and propose a plan for how the system can efficiently deliver services, especially in regions with smaller colleges.” This resolution offers a proactive approach to achieve this recommendation for our region, and

WHEREAS local state legislators representing Martinsville and Henry County Senator Bill Stanely and Delegate Eric Phillips, support the establishment of the Patrick & Henry Community College Center for Workforce Development; and

WHEREAS the Harvest Foundation supports the establishment of the Patrick & Henry Community College Center for Workforce and Economic Development; and

WHEREAS the Henry County Board of Supervisors unanimously supports the establishment of the Patrick & Henry Community College Center for Workforce and Economic Development at the Baldwin Building stating that “This transition represents a natural evolution of the New College Institute’s original mission to expand educational opportunities, develop a skilled workforce, and strengthen our local economy. By placing this work under the leadership of Patrick & Henry Community College, the region will gain a stronger and more efficient platform for workforce training, credentialing programs, and partnerships with four-year institutions.”

WHEREAS that the New College Institute Board current annual NCI state appropriation of \$3,101,089 million must be transferred and continued to P&HCC for the two-year biennium in order to provide sufficient resources to fully execute an effective transition, to successfully launch the Patrick & Henry Community College Center for Workforce and Economic Development at the Baldwin Building; and now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the NCI Board of Directors recognizes and expresses its grateful appreciation to the countless volunteers, staff, community leaders, organizations and political leaders for their tremendous contributions that helped NCI achieve many positive programmatic outcomes for the citizens of Martinsville, Henry County and the Commonwealth of Virginia during the last 20 plus years; and be it further

RESOLVED that the New College Institute Board recognizes that the higher education environment has evolved dramatically during this time and that NCI and our communities’ efforts must evolve to improve the lives of our citizens; and be it further

RESOLVED that the mission and vision of New College Institute can best be achieved through P&HCC and the establishment of the Patrick & Henry Community College Center for Workforce and Economic Development using the Baldwin building to house the college’s rapidly expanding

Fast Forward programs, which are short-term credentials leading directly to employment; and be it further

RESOLVED that all NCI lease agreements and programs must be honored and will be accommodated and will benefit from the synergy that is created with establishment of the Patrick & Henry Community College Center for Workforce and Economic Development.

RESOLVED that the New College Institute Board recognizes the current annual NCI state appropriation of \$3,101,089 must be appropriated to P&HCC for the two-year biennium in order to provide sufficient resources to fully execute the transition, staff the facility, and make all necessary building changes to successfully launch the Patrick & Henry Community College Center for Workforce and Economic Development at the Baldwin Building. The state budget requires transferring the \$3,101,089 from NCI Budget to the Virginia Community College System and adding the appropriation language to (Item 200), Educational and General Program (10000): *Out of this appropriation, \$3,101,809 in in the first year and \$3,101,809 in the second year from the general fund is used to support the Patrick & Henry Community College Center for Workforce and Economic Development at the Baldwin Building; and be it further*

RESOLVED that the Board respectfully requests that the members of the Virginia General Assembly introduce, debate and pass legislation during the 2026 Virginia General Assembly Session that will effectuate the merger of New College Institute with Patrick & Henry Community College in order to create the Patrick & Henry Workforce Development and Training Cener at the Baldwin Building in Martinsville, Virginia; and be it further

RESOLVED that the New College Institute Board of Directors requests that the Secretary of Education for the incoming 2026 Executive Branch Administration assist with the development of an executable plan to effectuate this transfer as soon as possible.