

2024 Hurricane Helene Recovery Funding Allocations

This document includes actions taken by the North Carolina General Assembly for the University of North Carolina System on October 24, 2024, in Session Law 2024-53, *The Disaster Recovery Act of 2024 – Part II*.

It is recommended that the following Hurricane Helene proposed allocations be approved, and the president be authorized to make refinements in the interest of accuracy and completeness. It is also recommended that the president be authorized to seek such concurrence as may be required of the director of the budget in the allocation of funds.

A. Recommended Allocations for Items Requiring Board Approval

The following appropriations have been allocated to the University of North Carolina Board of Governors and require approval. It is also recommended that the president be authorized to reallocate any unused funds to campuses that have additional needs, consistent with the intent of the legislation.

1. Emergency Grants for Affected UNC Students

The General Assembly allocated funds to the UNC Board of Governors (the Board) to assist students impacted by Hurricane Helene. Funding provides emergency scholarship grants in an amount up to \$2,500 per eligible student and may be used to cover any expenses that support a student’s continued enrollment, including costs related to transportation, textbooks, tuition, fees, and living expenses.

Appalachian State University, University of North Carolina Asheville, and Western Carolina University will each be awarded \$800,000 as these three universities suffered the greatest impact from Hurricane Helene. The remaining 13 University of North Carolina institutions will receive a pro rata portion of funding based on the number of students who are from declared disaster areas, with a minimum allocation amount of \$25,000.

Table 1: Emergency Scholarship Grants

Institution	Allocation (Nonrecurring)
App State	\$800,000
ECU	\$235,729
ECSU	\$25,000
FSU	\$25,000
North Carolina A&T	\$69,282
NC Central University	\$41,612
NC State	\$541,373
UNC Asheville	\$800,000
UNC-Chapel Hill	\$429,212
UNC Charlotte	\$653,112
UNC Greensboro	\$202,566
UNC Pembroke	\$59,777
UNC Wilmington	\$247,769
UNCSA	\$25,000
WCU	\$800,000
Winston-Salem State	\$44,568
Total	\$5,000,000

2. Tuition Grants for Students Attending UNC Asheville

The General Assembly appropriated \$5.5 million for UNC Asheville. Funds will provide spring 2025 grants that cover the cost of tuition for eligible students who are enrolled at UNC Asheville for the spring semester of the 2024-25 academic year. Tuition grants awarded shall cover tuition for eligible students up to the in-state resident tuition rate at UNC Asheville. This tuition grant will be awarded as a last dollar grant when combined with other tuition and scholarship grants and will not exceed the cost of tuition at UNC Asheville.

Institution	Allocation (Nonrecurring)
UNCA	\$5,500,000

B. Recommended Budget Allocations Delegated to the President

The Board delegates to the president the ability to allocate the Capital Recovery Funds to each campus upon identification of unmet needs, consistent with the intent of the legislation. Delegation will allow more timely response in allocating funds to meet campus needs.

1. UNC Capital Recovery Funds - \$5,000,000 NR

The General Assembly allocated funds to the Board specifically for unmet needs for repair and renovation of capital facilities in counties with a federal disaster declaration due to Hurricane Helene. Unmet needs include costs not covered by insurance or available federal aid.

C. Appropriated Directly to Campuses and Other Entities

The General Assembly appropriated funds to the North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority (NCSEAA) and directed the authority as described below, which do not require Board allocation. Legislative actions are described below, for information only.

3. Need-Based Scholarship for Public Colleges and Universities Additional Awards

The legislature appropriated \$3.5 million in nonrecurring funds to the NCSEAA to provide additional awards in FY2024-25 from the Need-Based Scholarship for Public Colleges and Universities program. Funds will be used to provide additional financial aid to eligible disaster-impacted students.

The legislature also directed NCSEAA to use an estimated \$15.6 million of unobligated program funds to distribute public college and university awards for this purpose.

4. Emergency Grants for Affected Private College and University Students and Need-Based Scholarships for Students Attending Private Colleges and Universities Additional Awards

The General Assembly appropriated \$1 million in nonrecurring funds to the NCSEAA to distribute to private colleges and universities to assist students impacted by Hurricane Helene with paying for tuition, fees, and emergency expenses that impact a student’s ability to remain enrolled.

The General Assembly also directed NCSEAA to use an estimated \$2.5 million of unobligated program funds to provide additional financial aid to eligible disaster-impacted private college and university students.