

Head 26: Ministry of Education

A SUMMARY OF THE MINISTRY'S EXPENDITURE, DIVISIONS AND PROJECTS
FINANCIAL SCRUTINY UNIT, PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

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About this Guide

This guide provides a summary of expenditure for the Ministry of Education for the period 2011-2017. It provides Members of Parliament and stakeholders with an overview of the Ministry's responsibilities. The primary purpose of this guide is to consolidate the information contained within the various Budget Documents pertaining to the Ministry of Education. This guide is based primarily on the Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure, the Estimates of Development Programme, and the Auditor General's Report on the Public Accounts on the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the fiscal year 2015.

Head 26 – Ministry of Education

Ministry Overview

Background Information¹

The goals of the Ministry of Education are to:

- Design and develop a quality education system;
- Transform the organisation into a modern and high performing agency; and
- Engage stakeholders in the transformation process.

As a result, the Ministry has compiled a list of twenty-four priority objectives; some of which are to:

- Preserve and expand where necessary the institution of free education at all levels;
- Establish new and improved school infrastructure;
- Update the current school curriculum;
- Develop and encourage best administrative practices in the educational system;
- Ensure that the Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses (GATE) programme; which was created in 2004, remain relevant and easily accessible to citizens who may need it.

¹ Ministry of Education website: accessed on September 29th, 2016: <http://moe.edu.tt/>

The twenty-four priorities are aimed at improving the quality of teaching and learning in educational institutions, as well as directly supporting the agency's goal to design and develop a quality education system.

Mission

To educate and develop children who are: able to fulfill their full potential, healthy and growing normally, academically balanced, well-adjusted socially and culturally, and emotionally mature and happy.

Vision

The Ministry is a high performing and dynamic organization leading a quality education system that is responsive to the diverse needs of 21st century learners to contribute to the education and versatility of holistically developed children who are able to satisfy the human capital needs and sustainable development of society.²

² Ministry of Education Website, accessed on September 29th, 2016: <http://moe.edu.tt/>

The Ministry of Education is assigned the following areas of responsibility as published in the Trinidad and Tobago Gazette.³

- Educational Broadcasting
- Educational Counselling and Guidance
- Educational Facilities Management (Preschool, Primary, Secondary)
- Examinations
- ICT in Schools
- Moral, Ethical and Spiritual Values in Schools
- Physical Education in Schools
- Pre-School Education
- Primary School Education
- Registration of Private Education Institutions
- School Laboratory Equipment Maintenance
- School Library Services
- School Nutrition Programme
- Secondary School Education
- Special Education
- Curriculum Development and Management
- Tertiary Education
- Youth Training Programmes
- Research and Development
- Scholarships and Advanced Training
- Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses
- Financial Assistance Studies Programme
- Higher Education Loan Programme
- Skills Training and Education
- National Human Development
- National Innovation System
- Nursing Education
- Spanish Implementation

Minister: The Honourable Anthony Garcia, MP

Minister of State: The Honourable Dr. Lovell Francis, MP

³ Trinidad and Tobago Gazette, pg. 1365, accessed on September 29th, 2016: <http://www.news.gov.tt/archive/E-gazette/Gazette%202015/Gazette/Gazette%20No.%2097.pdf>

Permanent Secretary: Mrs. Angela Sinaswee-Gervais

To see a list of the specified duties of the Ministry of Education please refer to **Appendix 1**.

2016-2017 Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure

Head 26 – Ministry of Education

The budget allocation for the Ministry of Education is comprised of:

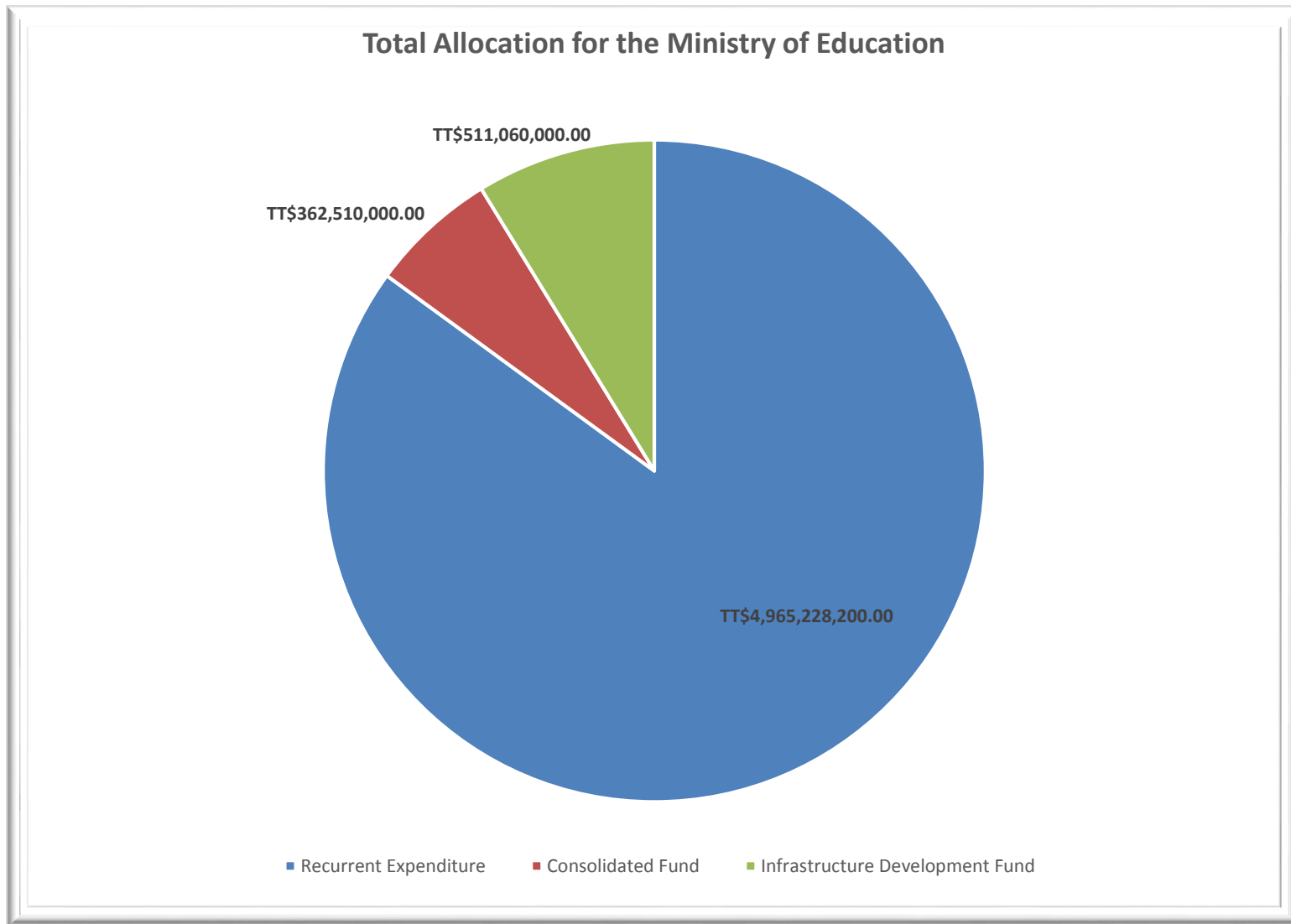
- The Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure in the sum of **\$4,965,228,200.00**;
- The Draft Estimates of Development Programme – Consolidated Fund in the sum of **\$362,510,000.00**; and
- The Draft Estimates of Development Programme –Infrastructure Development Fund of the sum **\$511,060,000.00**.

The Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure include:

- 01 Personnel Expenditure; - **\$2,509,418,940.00**;
- 02 Goods and Services;- **\$545,481,974.00**;
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases; **\$2,176,000.00**;
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies; **\$1,699,885,336.00**; and
- 06 Current Transfers to Statutory Boards and Similar Bodies **\$ 208,265,950.00**.

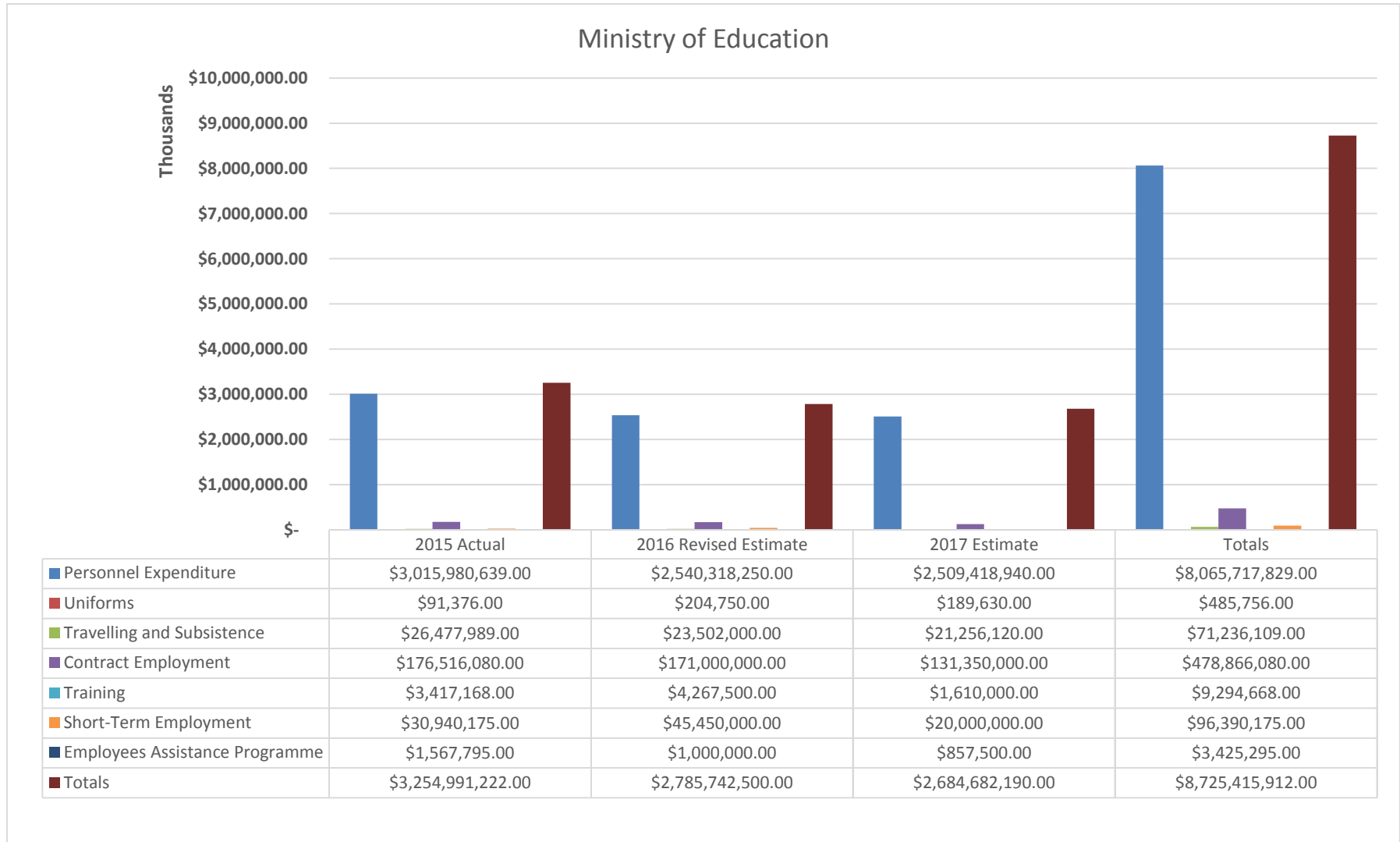
The Estimates of Development Programme are presented in two parts. Part ‘A’ represents the funds appropriated by Parliament and disbursed directly from the Consolidated Fund and Part ‘B’ represents funds disbursed directly from the Infrastructure Development Fund. The Ministry of Education’s total allocation as a percentage of the total Recurrent Expenditure, the Development Programme – (Consolidated Fund and Infrastructure Development Fund) budget allocation were **9%**, **15%** and **19%** respectively.

The Graph below illustrates the budget allocation for the Ministry of Education for the financial year 2016/2017.

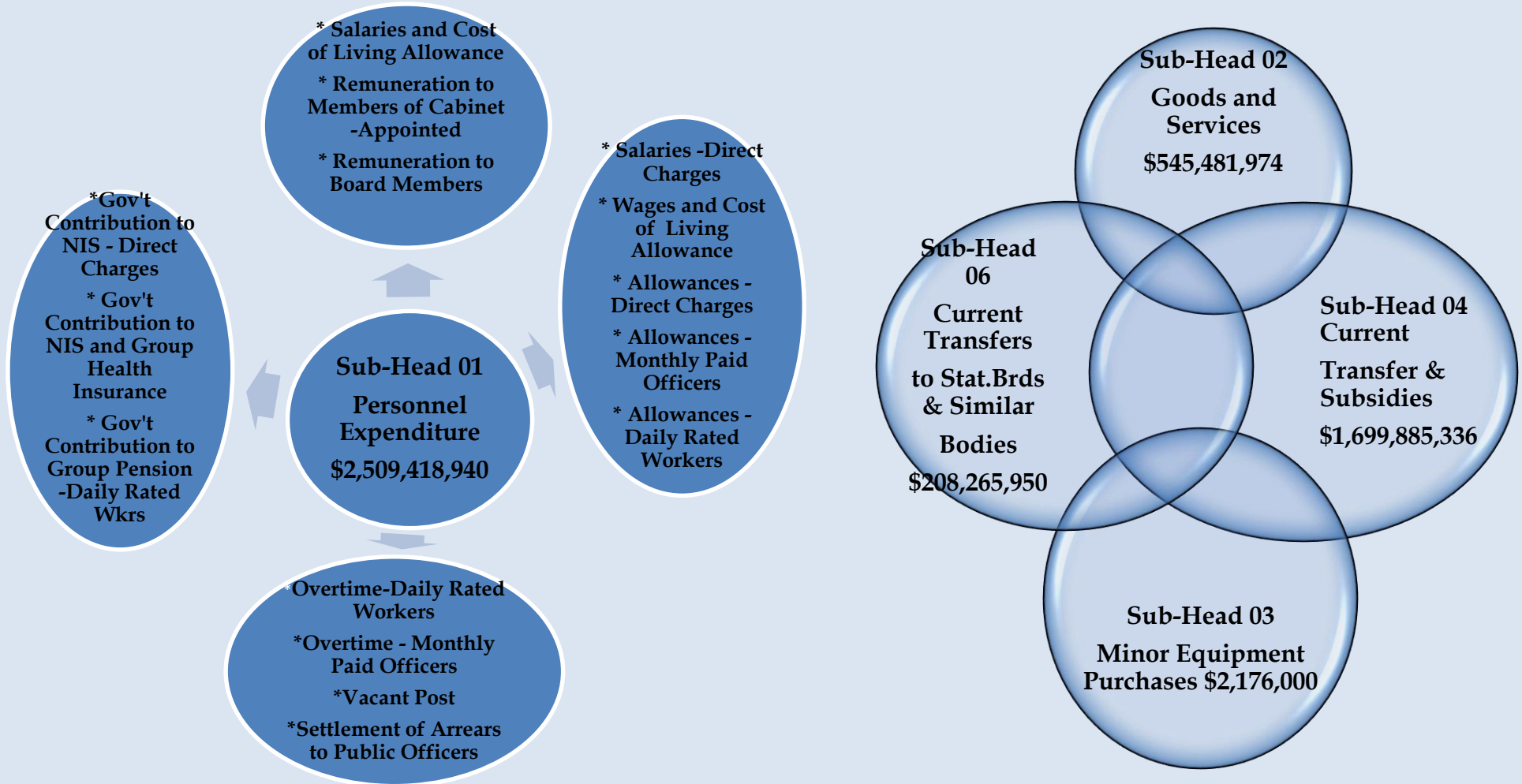


Staff and Pay

The allocation of staff expenditure for the year 2017 was \$2,684,682,190, which is a decrease of approximately 4% from the last fiscal year 2016. The diagram below provides a breakdown of all staff related expenditure for 2015-2017.



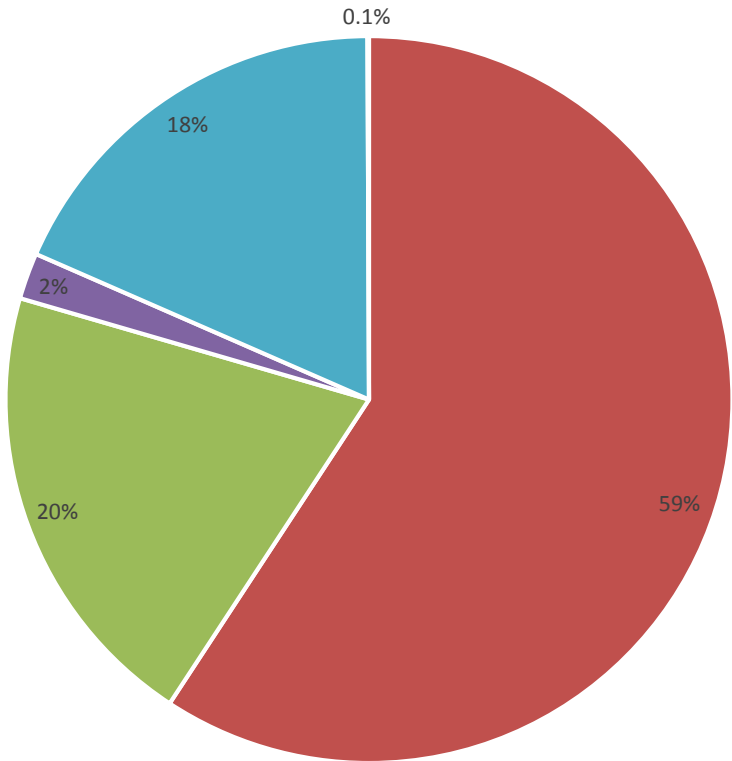
2016-2017 Estimates of Expenditure Head 26 – Ministry of Education



✓ Note

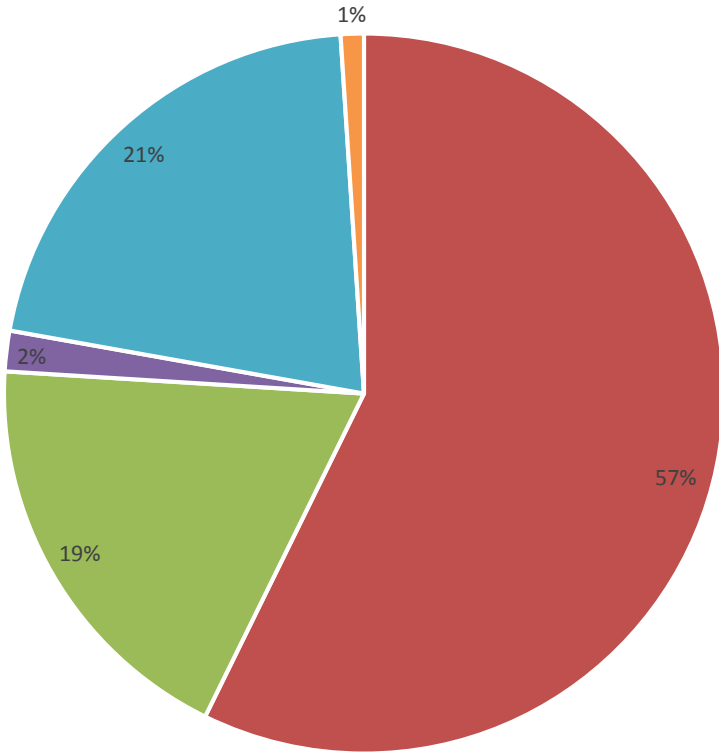
- \$7,436,228,200 for Head 26 – Ministry of Education is issued from the Consolidated Fund for meeting expenditure for the service of Trinidad and Tobago for the financial year ending on 30-09-2017.

2011 Actual



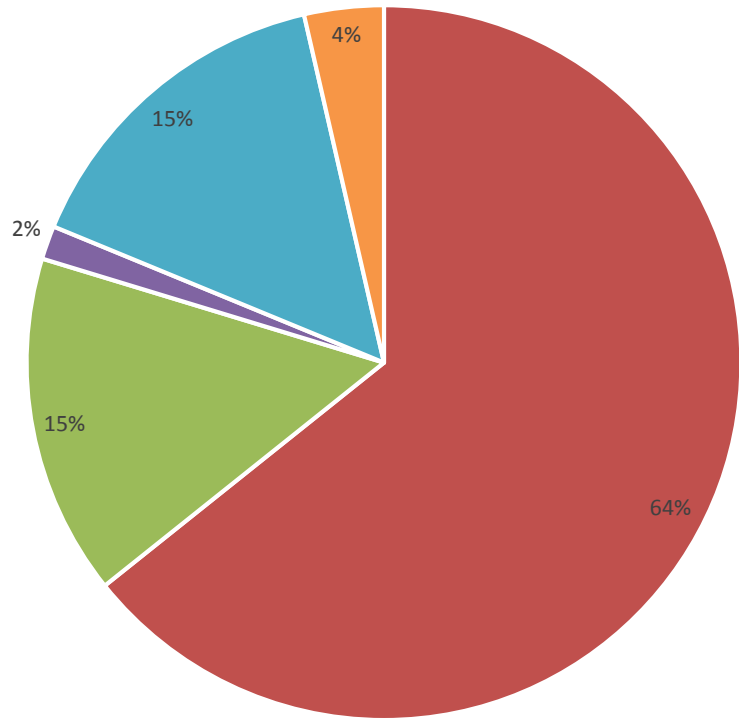
- 01 Personnel Expenditure
- 02 Goods and Services
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies
- 06 Current Transfers to Stat. Brds. & Similar Bodies

2012 Actual



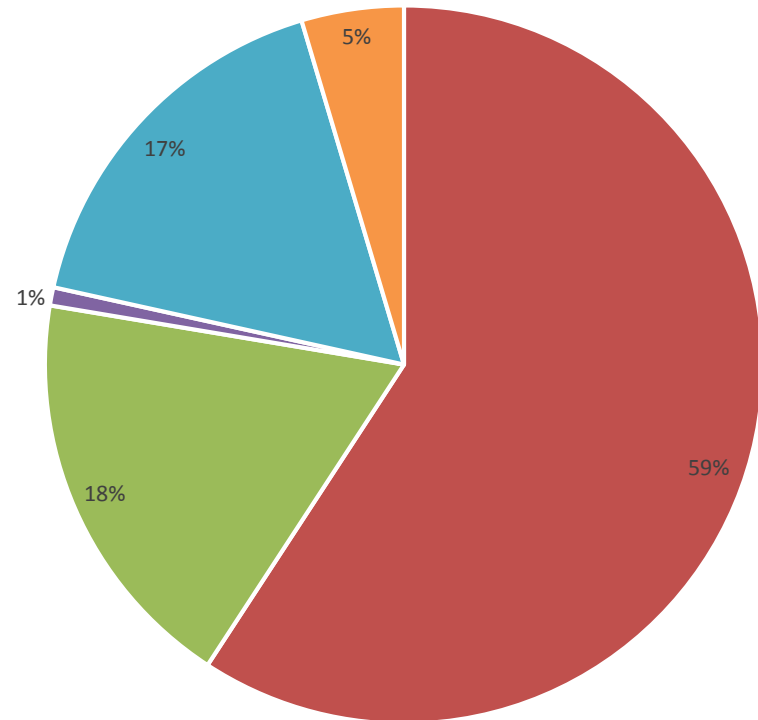
- 01 Personnel Expenditure
- 02 Goods and Services
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies
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2013 Actual



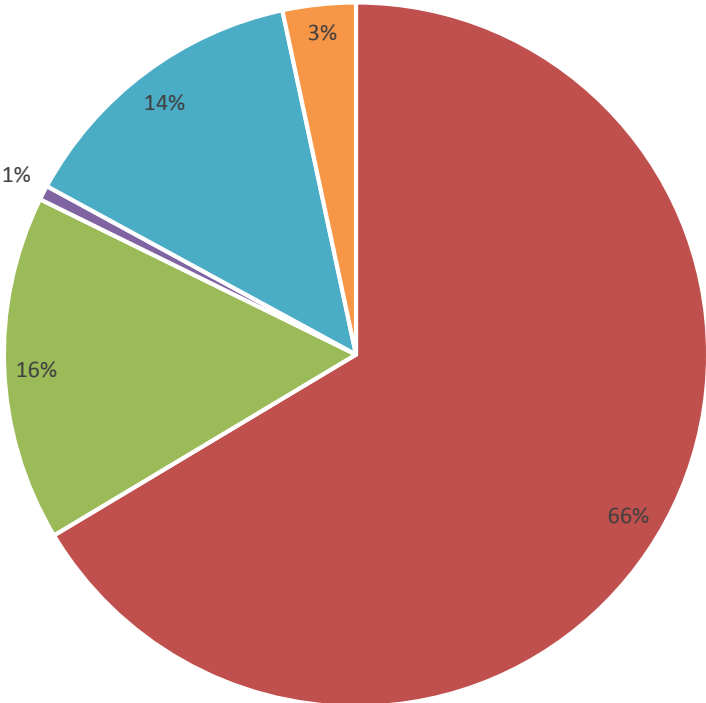
- 01 Personnel Expenditure
- 02 Goods and Services
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies
- 06 Current Transfers to Stat. Brds. & Similar Bodies

2014 Actual



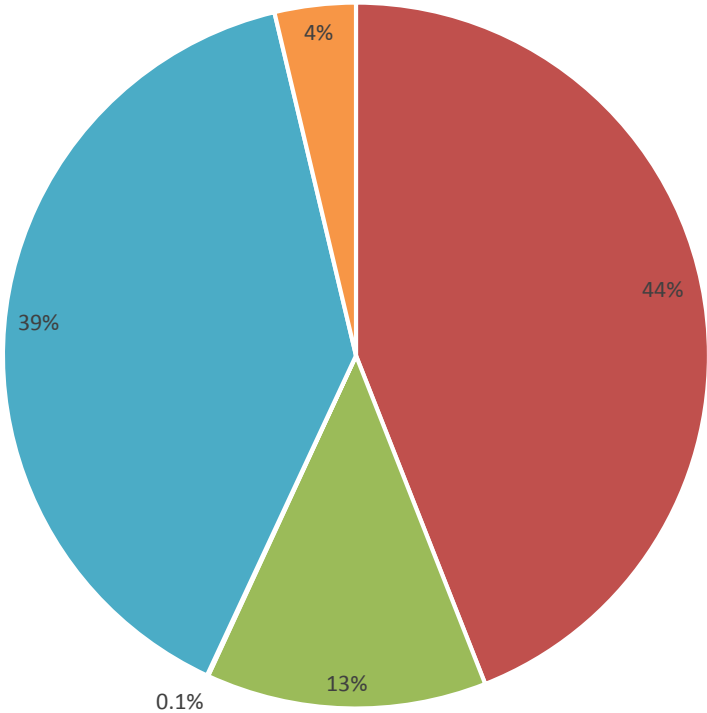
- 01 Personnel Expenditure
- 02 Goods and Services
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies
- 06 Current Transfers to Stat. Brds. & Similar Bodies

2015 Actual



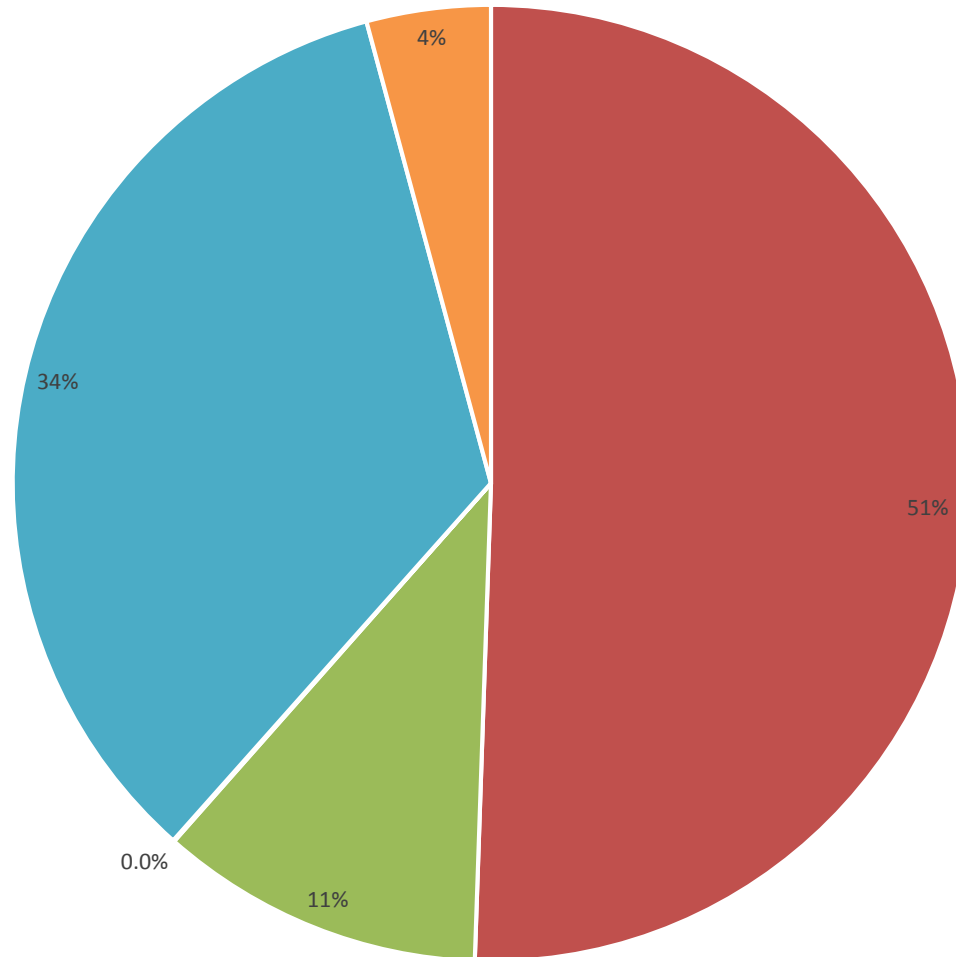
- 01 Personnel Expenditure
- 02 Goods and Services
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies
- 06 Current Transfers to Stat. Brds. & Similar Bodies

2016 Revised Estimates



- 01 Personnel Expenditure
- 02 Goods and Services
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies
- 06 Current Transfers to Stat. Brds. & Similar Bodies

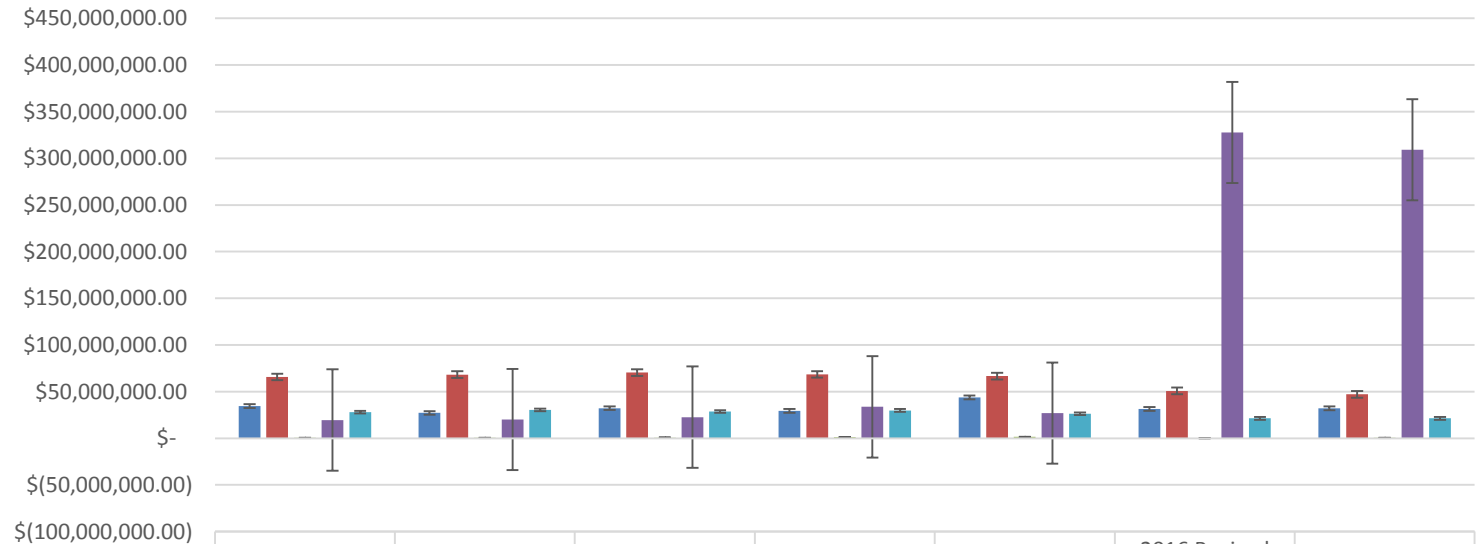
2017 Estimates



- 01 Personnel Expenditure
- 02 Goods and Services
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies
- 06 Current Transfers to Stat. Brds. & Similar Bodies

Summary of Estimates for Recurrent Expenditure for the period 2011-2017

Summary of Expenditure for the period 2011 - 2017



	2011 Actual	2012 Actual	2013 Actual	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Revised Estimates	2017 Estimate
■ Personnel Expenditure	\$34,508,068.00	\$27,153,038.00	\$32,264,968.00	\$29,470,004.00	\$43,854,568.00	\$31,467,000.00	\$32,120,300.00
■ Goods and Services	\$65,713,027.00	\$68,203,470.00	\$70,427,169.00	\$68,483,779.00	\$66,658,754.00	\$50,713,500.00	\$47,049,400.00
■ Minor Equipment Purchases	\$399,390.00	\$499,711.00	\$614,356.00	\$1,128,743.00	\$1,483,527.00	\$181,000.00	\$455,300.00
■ Current Transfer and Subsidies	\$19,539,051.00	\$20,165,272.00	\$22,610,157.00	\$33,710,214.00	\$27,050,882.00	\$327,753,890.00	\$309,224,855.00
■ Current Transfers to Statutory Boards and Similar Bodies	\$27,980,101.00	\$30,400,347.00	\$28,667,030.00	\$29,824,000.00	\$26,349,070.00	\$21,350,000.00	\$21,350,000.00

■ Personnel Expenditure ■ Goods and Services ■ Minor Equipment Purchases ■ Current Transfer and Subsidies ■ Current Transfers to Statutory Boards and Similar Bodies

Analysis of Summary of Expenditures

Year	National Budget	Total Allocation	Percentage of National Budget
2011	\$58,025,963,057.00	\$4,076,067,389	7%
2012	\$59,402,159,722.00	\$4,017,166,637	7%
2013	\$64,320,728,236.00	\$4,748,100,353	7%
2014	\$69,825,729,627.00	\$4,614,870,748	7%
2015	\$62,551,084,429.00	\$5,391,724,069	9%
2016	\$57,274,282,164.00	\$6,291,574,077	11%
2017	\$59,200,398,031.00	\$5,838,851,200	10%

Recurrent Expenditure refers to the payments for expenses which are incurred during the day-to-day operations of the Ministry including Personnel Expenditure, Goods and Services, Minor Equipment Purchases, Current Transfers and Subsidies and Current Transfers to Statutory Boards and Similar Bodies.

- Recurrent Expenditure for Fiscal Year 2016/2017 was estimated at \$4,965,228,200. This represents 9.18% of the total Estimated Recurrent Expenditure for the Financial year 2016/2017.
- Recurrent Expenditure for Fiscal Year 2015/2016 was \$5,769,077,297 (Revised). Comparing this figure with the allocation in Fiscal Year 2016/2017, there is a decrease of \$803,849,097 or 14%.
- The larger portion of the allocation has consistently gone to Sub-Head 01 Personnel Expenditure. This figure has been fluctuating over the period 2011 - 2017 from 59% in fiscal year 2011, decreasing to 57% in fiscal year 2012 and increased to 66% in 2015.

- In 2017 the allocation, **Personnel Expenditure** will account for 67% of the Ministry's total recurrent allocation.
- **Minor Equipment Purchases** received the lowest portion of the Ministry's allocations for the period 2011 to 2017.
- **Current transfers and subsidies** represented approximately 34% of the total recurrent allocation when compared to the last fiscal year 2016, there was a decrease of 5%.
- **Current transfers to State Boards and Similar Bodies** represented approximately 4% of the allocation when compared to the last fiscal year.
- The actual/estimated expenditure for the four (4) Sub-Heads has been fluctuating over the seven (7) year period, from a low of \$3,475,411,204.00 in 2011 to a high of \$5,769,077,297.00 in 2016.
- Total allocation to the Ministry as a percentage of the national budget decreased by 1% between the period 2015/2016 and 2016/2017.

Developments in 2015-2016 Financial Year

For the fiscal year 2015-2016, the following new projects were scheduled for implementation under the Ministry of Education, and as such requires further inquiry on the progress of completion⁴

Projects	2016 Estimate	2016 Revised Estimate	2017 Estimate
Teach Me	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$300,000
Development of a Tertiary Level Training and Education Strategy	\$500,000	\$0	\$0
Student Hall of Residence St. John Road	\$8,000,000	\$8,000,000	\$5,000,000
Construction of La Fillette R.C. Primary School	\$6,000,000	\$200,000	\$5,000,000
Construction of San Juan Boys Government Primary Schools	\$6,000,000	\$5,500,000	\$4,000,000
Construction of Arima Hindu Primary School	\$5,000,000	\$160,000	\$0
Construction of Marabella Girls and Boys AC	\$15,000,000	\$6,200,000	\$4,000,000

⁴ Estimates of Development Programme 2016 (pg. 93-97), accessed on October 2, 2016: <http://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Development-Programme-2016-Final.pdf>

Projects	2016 Estimate	2016 Revised Estimate	2017 Estimate
Construction of Freeport SDMS Primary	\$6,000,000	\$200,000	\$0
Construction of Endeavour SDMS Primary School	\$7,000,000	\$0	\$0
Construction of Ramai Trace SDMS Primary School	\$1,800,000	\$1,800,000	\$0
Improvement/Refurbishment/Extensions to Secondary Schools	\$35,000,000	\$20,163,107	\$5,000,000
Construction of Shiva Boys Hindu College	\$15,000,000	\$0	\$0
Construction Parvati Girls Hindu College	\$12,000,000	\$0	\$0
Construction of Holy Name Convent Pt. Fortin	\$10,000,000	\$0	\$0
UTT Pt. Lisas Campus	\$7,000,000	\$2,230,000	\$5,000,000
Establishment of a South Campus UWI	\$43,000,000	\$9,610,000	\$0

New Programmes and Projects for the Financial Year 2016-2017

The following table shows a list of the new or reactivated programmes and projects under the Ministry of Education for the 2016-2017 financial year

Sub-Head 9 Development Programmes	New Programmes/Project	2017 Estimate
005-06-A037	School Improvement Project- Laventille Community	\$20,000,000
005-06-A038	Acquisition of Property in Tobago to House ACTT Offices	\$5,000,000
005-06-A039	Establishment of a Knowledge Centre in Laventille	\$8,000,000
005-06-F009	Establishment of a Centre for Geography, Environment and Natural Resource Management	\$1,000,0000
005-06-F027	Building of the International Fine Cocoa Innovation Centre	\$4,500,000
004-04-B421-IDF	Construction of San Francique Hindu Primary School	\$0
004-04-C395-IDF	Construction and Refurbishment of Holy Cross College	\$10,000,000

Reactivated Projects

Sub-Head 09 Development Programmes	Reactivated Programmes/Project	2017 Reactivated Projects Estimates
004-04-J033	Acquisition of Capital Equipment for Metal	\$500,000
004-04-J035	La Brea Technology Centre	\$700,000
004-04-B327-IDF	Construction of Enterprise Government	\$3,100,000
004-04-B368-IDF	Construction of Palo Seco Government Primary	\$4,000,000
004-04-B403-IDF	Construction of Eckel Village A.C.	\$550,000
004-04-B420-IDF	Construction of Mafeking Government Primary	\$4,000,000
004-04-B421-IDF	Construction of San Francique Hindu Primary School	\$0
004-04-B427-IDF	Construction of Picadilly Primary	\$8,000,000

Major Programmes and Projects

The Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses Programme (GATE)

The Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses Programme (GATE) is managed by the Funding and Grants Administration Division of the Ministry of Education – Tertiary Education Division.

In keeping with Government's philosophy for developing human capital and entrepreneurship and for permitting access to education for ALL, the government intends to ensure that:

- There are no limitations to accessing quality education;
- All recognized tertiary education programmes will be considered, providing they fulfill the Government's quality assurance requirements;
- All students, including post-graduate students, will be bound by a period of service;
- The period of service will be linked to the value of the grant.⁵

School Nutrition Programme

The Government of Trinidad and Tobago recognises that education must involve the total health and well-being of the child. Deserving students throughout Trinidad are therefore provided breakfast and lunch through the School Nutrition Programme. Each school day, over 40,000 breakfast and almost 100,000 lunch meals are served to students enrolled in 822 pre-primary, primary, secondary and special schools.

⁵ Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education Division, website, accessed Thursday October 6, 2016. <http://test.gov.tt/Services/GATE>

The programme is managed by the National Schools Dietary Services Limited (NSDSL), which falls under the authority of the Ministry of Education.⁶

Textbook Rental Programme

The Ministry of Education, through its Textbook Rental/Loan Programme (TRP), provides textbooks and other educational resources to ensure that all students have easy affordable access to the learning materials required for the core curriculum areas. This is part of the Ministry's efforts towards achieving equity in the provision of educational opportunities and towards equalizing the playing field in the access of education. Items are loaned to each student and must be returned to the student's school at the end of the academic year.

The Textbook Rental Programme is only one aspect of the Ministry's comprehensive programme of activities to promote excellence in education.⁷

The Higher Education Loan Programme (HELP)

The Higher Education Loan Programme (HELP) is available to citizens of Trinidad and Tobago under 50 years of age who have been accepted and are enrolled in a tertiary level programme within CARICOM. The applicant must complete a HELP Application Form. The loan is available to part-time or full-time, employed or unemployed students.

Applicants who do not meet the age criterion may on review be given special consideration. The loan is available to part-time or full-time, employed or unemployed students.⁸

⁶ TTconnect website, School Nutrition Programme, accessed Thursday October 6, 2016. https://www.ttconnect.gov.tt/gortt/portal/ttconnect/!ut/p/a1/jdBNC4JAEAbgX-PVGZUN7ebBTA1C-9K9hMK2GuaKbtrPz7yFZc1thueFlwEKMdAq7QqeykJUafna6elchDoSzzJwG6KFeuRpDpLAMPf6AJI3ELmrAThEWwdHAXH_y-OXsX_md6yCE9A5vpkAqY1RzDTwwfKS5GNP0nsKjNMDrRhF9awRr03wzmXsm6XCirY973KheAIU6VU8FMiF62E-A1CfTvED-9Kym5jPwE9nJoT/dl5/d5/L2dBISevZ0FBIS9nQSEh/?WCM_GLOBAL_CONTEXT=/gortt/wcm/connect/gortt+web+content/TTConnect/Citizen/Role/AParent/EducationandTraining/School+Nutrition+Programme

⁷ Ministry of Education website, accessed on Thursday October 6, 2016. <http://moe.edu.tt/services/assistance/textbook-rental>

⁸ Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education Division, accessed Thursday October 6, 2016. <http://test.gov.tt/Services/HELP>

The National Examinations Council (NEC)

The National Examinations Council (NEC) was established in 1965 to oversee examinations, certification and related activities in respect to technical and vocational education and training at the sub-professional level. NEC certifies 37 courses at Level I; 30 courses at Level II; 6 courses at Level III, and 2 courses at Pre-technician Level at secondary schools. Technical/vocational programmes provide a foundation to the world of work in the respective occupational fields. As such, the programmes are designed with a highly applied, hands-on orientation in order to prepare participants for functioning in the world of work. The academic/theoretical/technical knowledge aspects of the courses are intended to facilitate the development of practical competence, in that, they provide the theoretical/technical knowledge and the cognitive skills necessary for efficient performance in the occupational field.⁹

The Secretariat for the Implementation of Spanish (SIS)

The Secretariat for the Implementation of Spanish or SIS was formed under Cabinet Directive on September 9th 2004 and formally launched on March 22nd 2005. It was formed as a unit of the Ministry of Trade and Industry and is currently a division of the Ministry of Education – Tertiary Education Division.¹⁰

⁹ Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education Division, accessed Thursday October 6, 2016. <http://test.gov.tt/Services/NEC>

¹⁰ Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education Division, accessed Thursday October 6, 2016. <http://test.gov.tt/Services/SIS>

2015-2017 Development Programme Estimates

Sub-Head 9 Development Programmes	Programme/Project	2015 Actual	2016 Revised Estimate	2017 Estimate
005-06-A031	Seamless Education System Project	\$126,330,320	\$16,500,000	\$5,500,000
005-06-F021	Establishment of a South Campus, UWI	-	\$9,610,000	-
005-06-F022	Construction of an OPEN Campus Facility in Chaguanas	-	-	\$20,000,000
005-06-F023	Expansion of the School of Dentistry at the Medical Sciences Complex	-	\$15,000,000	\$5,000,000
004-04-J016	Establishment of a COSTAATT Campus in Chaguanas	-	45616283	\$8,000,000
004-04-J027	Establishment of a National Science Centre	-	\$5,040,000	12000000
004-04-A025	Establishment of the Aviation Institute - UTT	-	\$25,000,000	\$10,000,000
004-04-J008	Establishment of the University of Trinidad and Tobago	-	\$15,500,000	\$17,000,000

Sub-Head 9 Development Programmes	Programme/Project	2015 Actual	2016 Revised Estimate	2017 Estimate
004-04-G003	Scholarships/Full Pay Study Leave for Teachers	-	\$13,000,000	\$6,000,000
004-04-G004	National /Additional Scholarships based on Level Examinations	-	\$125,000,000	\$120,000,000
004-04-G009	Post Graduate Scholarship	-	\$18,250,000	\$11,000,000
004-04-G711	Development of a Management Information System Unit	-	-	-
003-11-F001	Support to Non-University Tertiary Education (EU Grant)	-	\$7,000,000	\$8,000,000
005-06-A019	Development Works at the University of the West Indies	-	\$24,300,000	\$17,000,000
004-04-A001-IDF	Early Childhood Care and Education	\$57,075,110	\$3,000,000	\$40,000,000
004-04-120-IDF	Improvement/Refurbishment/Extensions to Primary Schools	\$106,762,022	\$50,651,601	\$25,000,000
004-04-C342-IDF	Construction of Shiva Boys' Hindu College	\$15,818,831	-	-
004-04-C344-IDF	Construction of Parvati Girls' Hindu College	\$30,639,344	-	-
004-04-C348-IDF	Construction of Siparia East Secondary	\$24,380,790	-	-

Sub-Head 9 Development Programmes	Programme/Project	2015 Actual	2016 Revised Estimate	2017 Estimate
004-04-C394-IDF	Secondary School Construction and Other Infrastructure Works	\$52,755,357	\$11,651,000	\$90,000,000
004-04-E041-IDF	UTT Main Campus Tamana E-Teck Park at Wallerfield	-	\$6,112,000	\$120,000,000

Division and Units¹¹

Information Technology Unit

The vision of the Information Technology Unit is to ensure that information and communication technology is applied effectively and efficiently to educational content, delivery and administration, by empowering all stakeholders in the use of ICT.

Student Support Services Division

Student Support Services Division was established on January 29, 2004. It consists of the unification of the former Central Guidance and Special Education Units and a School Social Work component at the primary school level. The mission of the programme is to provide ongoing support for all students to maximise their learning potential, do well at school, achieve to their capabilities and develop holistically.

School Library Services

The School Library Services was set up in 1978 to promote and coordinate the development of the school libraries. The School Library Services forms part of the Ministry of Education, and is managed by the National Library and Information System Authority (NALIS). The core functions are to: provide professional advice to the Ministry of Education on all matters relating to the development of the library services in schools, provide professional training for school librarians, library assistants and teachers in charge of primary school libraries nationally, so that they will develop and maintain an efficient school library service, supervise the functioning of all school libraries by monitoring the services, ensuring that standards are adhered to and making recommendations to principals and staff.

¹¹ Ministry of Education website, accessed on Thursday October 6, 2016. <http://moe.edu.tt/services/administration/divisions/educational-services>

School Supervision

School supervision in Trinidad and Tobago started in the 1850's when a school inspection system was first established in the fledgling government-organised education system in the then British colonies. The establishment of school inspection, even then, implied a degree of decentralization of decision-making and an attempt to maintain standards and accountability in the school system. School supervision has thus played an essential role in the evolution of a decentralised system of education. School Inspectors and later School Supervisors earned significant respect for their role in preserving school standards.

Finance and Accounts

The Finance and Accounts Division was created as a mechanism to achieve the vision of the Ministry of Education to lead the modernization and renewal of the current system of education. The Division comprises of the following Sub-units:

- Budgetary control
- General accounting
- Payroll accounting
- Financial reporting
- Revenue collection
- Financial advice and training

Educational Services

The Division of Educational Services comprises of the following units:

- Textbook Rental
- Educational Television /Instructional Materials Development
- Examinations
- Schools Broadcasting
- School Libraries
- School Publications
- Adult Education

The division collaborates with other divisions of the Ministry of Education, government ministries, and organizations and communities to determine educational needs within and outside the reach of the educational system.

Educational Research and Evaluation

The DERE was established on October 21st, 1994, based on recommendations made by the National Task Force on Education, 1993. The DERE is a key player in the process of reforming the Ministry of Education. It is involved in all the initiatives aimed at strengthening the planning, management and implementation capability of the organization in its thrust for increased efficiency and effectiveness.

Curriculum Development Process

In a broad sense, the curriculum development process includes the design, development, implementation and evaluation of curricula. However, as one examines the process more closely it becomes evident that each component may itself comprise several varied but inter-related activities. The Curriculum Development is charged with the responsibility to operationalise the Curriculum Development Process. Accordingly, the work of the division may be more adequately described as designing, developing, implementing, monitoring, evaluating and reviewing curricula that are appropriate and relevant to the needs and interests of a developing nation, such as ours.

Auditor General Report Findings for the Fiscal Year 2015

Ref: Auditor General's Report pg.57¹²

Documents Not Produced

- As reported in the previous year, the agreement with the Public Transport Service Corporation for the provision of transport to students was not provided. Related expenditure for the year was \$47,825,872.07.
- A Register of Contracts as required by Financial Regulation 129 (1) was not produced. Particulars of all contracts awarded and relevant amounts outstanding could therefore not be determined.

Inventory Control

- Physical verification of computer equipment at one office revealed no evidence of tagging as State property in accordance with Financial Regulation (Stores) 55.

Overpayments

Overpayments continue to be a problem at this Ministry. During the year, 107 cases totaling \$9,530,791.03 were discovered as compared to amounts recovered of \$4,348,271.36 which includes amounts discovered in prior years.

¹² Report of the Auditor General on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the financial year 2015, accessed on, September 29th 2016: <http://www.auditorgeneral.gov.tt/sites/default/files/Auditor%20General%27s%20Report%20on%20the%20Public%20Accounts%202015.pdf>

Position	Overpayment (\$)	Period Overpaid	Remarks
Teacher III	264,002.79	2011.09.29 to 2014.01.01	Reported to Comptroller of Accounts on 2014.10.14
Assistant Teacher	154,849.50	2012.09.01 to 2014.06.30	On scholarship from 2012.09.01 to 2014.07.31
Teacher III	108,432.05	2013.11.13 to 2014.08.31	Retired on 2013.11.13 on grounds of ill-health
Principal	53,252.00	2008.10.01 to 2013.02.28	Retired on 2013.04.06. not recovered from retirement benefits
Part-Time Cleaner	46,097.85	2005.11.02 to 2007.05.31	Appointment ended 2005.11.02. Reported to Comptroller of Accounts on 2015.01.15
Teacher I	123,237.06	1989.10.01 to 2013.01.31	Full salary paid while on half-pay and no-pay leave
Teacher II	185,315.09	2006.01.03 to 2014.02.28	Paid as Teacher III. Now a legal matter
Teacher I	134,797.42	2008.01.07 to 2009.04.30	Employed on contract with UTT
Teacher I	143,558.84	2014.03.07 to 2015.02.28	Ceased reporting for duty on 2014.03.07
Teacher I	229,899.84	2009.11.13 to 2013.03.31	Received full pay while on half-pay and no-pay sick leave. Salary not stopped upon retirement on 2012.08.15 on grounds of ill-health

Control of Projects

A Memorandum of Understanding with the executing agency, Education Facilities Company Limited was not produced.

The total estimated cost of this project was \$8,346,317.43 and the expected completion date was December 2015. In May 2015, a 20% advance payment of \$1,669,263.49 was made to a contractor for the construction works. However, the project was stopped in mid-2015 reportedly due to stakeholder-related matters. The Ministry indicated on 4th April, 2016 that the project is temporarily on hold. Chapter 2 Expenditure: Accounts of Accounting Officers Auditor General's Report 59 Public Accounts of Trinidad and Tobago 2015.

A copy of the contract between the executing agency and the construction company was not provided.

Expenditure Control

At the time of the audit in November 2015, the Daily Abstract of Payments required to be prepared under Financial Instruction 31 (1) was only completed up to August 2015. The stale-dated cheques presented bore no evidence of having been voided.

Internal Audit

Evidence of internal audit review was not seen on any of the documents examined at the time of the audit in November, 2015. It was explained that the Internal Audit Unit had been involved in the verification of arrears due to public servants and could not complete their work programme.

There was no evidence of site visits being made by officials of the Ministry to any of the projects sampled or that the projects were monitored to ensure successful completion or adherence to agreed terms and conditions. Details of expenditure incurred were not provided on the Daily Abstract of Payments to facilitate the audit trail and enable the identification of individual payments. Expenditure was instead shown by category of project.

State Enterprises, Statutory Boards and Other Bodies

Local School Boards

Local school boards established the vision for the community's schools that reflects a consensus of the board, community and district staff. Boards receive reports and other information about their school and promote the exchange of information between the school, parents and the community. Boards also report to the wider parent body and help improve parents' understanding of what the school is trying to achieve. Local School Boards have been introduced at each Government Secondary School with the aim of improving student achievement and enriching the school environment.¹³

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)

UNESCO promotes, stimulates and facilitates activity and projects in Trinidad and Tobago in UNESCO's fields of competence which are Education, Natural Sciences, Social and Human Sciences, Culture and Communication and Information and consistent with UNESCO's objectives, programmes and thrust. This is done while contributing to the realization of national development objectives and priorities and to the strengthening of national and regional representation at UNESCO. Specifically, it must perform information, advisory, liaison, executive, oversight and co-ordination roles and functions.¹⁴

National Institute of Higher Education (Research, Science and Technology) (NIHERST)

NIHERST was established as a statutory body by Republic of Trinidad and Tobago Act No. 20 of 1984, now Chapter 39:58. Since its establishment, NIHERST has resourcefully pursued its mandate to promote the development of science, technology and higher education

¹³ Ministry of Education website, September 29, 2016. <http://moe.edu.tt/portal/parent-portal/local-school-boards>

¹⁴ Trinidad and Tobago National Commission for UNESCO website, September 29, 2016. <http://unesco.org.tt/about/about-us/>

in Trinidad and Tobago, and enhance the innovative, creative and entrepreneurial capabilities of the general population. The fulfilment of this mandate has been guided both by changes in national development priorities and government's policy imperatives.¹⁵

National Training Agency

The NTA is responsible for;

- i. The development, implementation and maintenance of the National Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Plan that will create a workforce that is competent, certified, innovative, enterprising and entrepreneurial;
- ii. The establishment and maintenance of the National TVET System to harmonize, standardize, monitor and evaluate all formal and non-formal national training efforts in TVET;
- iii. Continuous assessment and provision of relevant information on TVET and workforce development, which includes the demand for and supply of human resources in collaboration with state and other agencies;
- iv. To assist, support and encourage the development of training programmes designed to develop innovation, enterprise and entrepreneurship in the nation's human resources;
- v. The development of a structured and active system of communication and partnership with stakeholders to ensure continued relevance and value of the Agency's products and services.¹⁶

¹⁵ Niherst website, accessed on September 29,2016;<http://www.niherst.gov.tt/about/about.html>

¹⁶ National Training Agency website, accessed on September 29th, 2016; <http://www.ntarestore.org/about-us>

Youth Training Education Partnership Programme

YTEPP Limited is a training organization with a focus on Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) throughout Trinidad and Tobago. YTEPP Limited has evolved into an organization that meets the labour market demands of industry. The organization targets unemployed youth, retrenched employees and displaced citizens between 15 and 60 years.¹⁷

Trinidad and Tobago Hospitality and Tourism Institute

The Trinidad and Tobago Hospitality and Tourism Institute is an accredited training organization based in Chaguaramas, Trinidad. It was established in 1967 and is one of the largest hospitality training centres in the Caribbean. The school offers degrees and certificate programmes for local, regional and international students.¹⁸

University of Trinidad and Tobago

The University of Trinidad and Tobago meets the needs of Trinidad and Tobago for a highly trained and qualified technological manpower base. As technology changed over the years to suit the evolving global environment, so too has the human resource needs of the country. In reviewing these needs, several distinct engineering functions have been identified with each function requiring its own set of specialised competencies and by extension, education, training and qualification.¹⁹

¹⁷ Youth Training Education Partnership Programme website, accessed on September 29th, 2016; <http://www.ytepp.gov.tt/about/>

¹⁸ Trinidad and Tobago Hospitality and Tourism Institute website, accessed on September 29th, 2016; <http://www.hospitalitytnt.com/about-us.html#the-tthti>

¹⁹ University of Trinidad and Tobago website, accessed on September 29th, 2016; https://u.tt/index.php?page_key=7&main=1

Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago

The Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago (ACTT) is a statutory body established by Chapter 39:06²⁰ as the principal body in Trinidad and Tobago responsible for the quality assurance of post-secondary and tertiary level institutions, programmes and awards. The Act creating the Council was proclaimed in 2004, and the organisation was launched in November 2005.²¹

College of Science, Technology and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago (COSTAATT)

COSTAATT was legally established as a body corporate on October 27th 2000 by Act of Parliament (Act No. 77 of 2000). As one of the largest public tertiary institutions in Trinidad and Tobago, COSTAATT awards certificates, advanced diplomas, associate and bachelor's degrees in a wide range of specialized, technical and academic programmes to full and part-time students. The College is the premier regional institution offering educational programmes in a number of critical areas including: radiography, medical laboratory technology, nursing, business and library studies. In addition, the College is the official translation body for the Government of Trinidad and Tobago. COSTAATT plays a role of strategic importance in national development, especially with respect to Government's plans for social equity and economic diversification. Its mandate for broadening access is pivotal to the achievement of the goal of increasing participation in tertiary education for a more diverse range of students.²²

Institute of Marine Affairs

The Institute of Marine Affairs (IMA) is a multi-disciplinary marine and environmental research organisation established by Act of Parliament (Chap. 37:01 of the Revised Laws of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, as amended by Act No. 13 of 1990). The IMA was established following negotiations for an agreement signed in 1974 between the Government of Trinidad and Tobago and the United

²⁰ Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago Act, accessed on October 6, 2016. http://rgd.legalaffairs.gov.tt/Laws2/Alphabetical_List/lawspdfs/39.06.pdf

²¹ Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago website, accessed on September 29, 2016; <http://actt.org.tt/index.php/about-actt>

²² College of Science, Technology and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago (COSTAATT) website; <http://www.costaatt.edu.tt/about-costaatt>

Nations, through its Executing Agency, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The Institute was mandated to collect, analyse and disseminate information relating to the economic, technological, environmental, social and legal developments in marine affairs and to formulate and implement specific programmes/projects.²³

MIC Institute of Technology (MIC-IT)

MIC Institute of Technology (formerly Metal Industries Company Limited) was established in 1974 as a joint venture of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, the United Nations Development Programme / United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNDP/UNIDO) and a number of private local industries. After forty years of providing manufacturing support to the customers through the design and production of high quality tools, moulds, precision machining and manufacturing engineering, MIC Institute of Technology has been rebranded as a unique entity, operating as both a commercial factory and training institution.²⁴

National Energy Skills Centre (NESC)

The National Energy Skills Center (NESC) was established in 1997 with its primary objective being the building of the human resource capital of Trinidad and Tobago. It was envisaged then, as the solution to the need for a premier training provider to lead national training initiatives. This vision was based on the projected demands for certified craftsmen, arising out of the growth in the energy sector and consequently, the construction and related industries.²⁵

²³ Institute of Marine Affairs website, accessed on September 29th, 2016; <http://www.ima.gov.tt/home/about-ima/history.html>

²⁴ MIC Institute of Technology website, accessed on September 29th, 2016; <http://www.mic.co.tt/page/about-us>

²⁵ Ministry of Education website, accessed on September 29th, 2016; <http://test.gov.tt/Services/Agencies/NESC>

Wholly Owned Enterprises

Education Facilities Company Ltd

EFCL is a Project Management Organisation that delivers, repairs and maintains educational institutions from the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) level to the Primary and Secondary levels. As an Organisation EFCL uses modern, innovative technology in its operations and aims to deliver all of its projects on time and within cost and specification.²⁶

National School Dietary Services Ltd

The National Schools Dietary Services Limited (NSDSL) is responsible for the School Nutrition Programme (SNP), which serves breakfast and lunch meals to over 120,000 school children in pre-primary, primary and secondary schools on a daily basis. The NSDSL employs over 70 caterers island-wide. Hot meals are delivered to schools within a 4-hour time frame from completion of preparation at the caterer to consumption by the students.²⁷

²⁶ Education Facilities Company Ltd. website, accessed on September 29th, 2016; <http://www.efcl.co.tt/about.htm>

²⁷ Ministry of Education Website, accessed on September 29th, 2016; <http://moe.edu.tt/services/administration/units/national-school-dietary-services/itemlist/category/74-national-schools-di> (Ministry of Education , 2016)[etary-services](http://moe.edu.tt/services/administration/units/national-school-dietary-services)

Last Report Submitted to Parliament

Entity	Last Report Submitted to Parliament	
	Administrative	Finance
Local School Boards	-	-
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)	2009	-
National Institute of Higher Education (Research, Science and Technology) (NIHERST)	2013	-
National Training Agency	-	-
Youth Training Education Partnership Programme	2014	2012
Trinidad and Tobago Hospitality and Tourism Institute	-	-
University of Trinidad and Tobago	-	-
Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago	2014	2006
College of Science, Technology and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago (COSTAATT)	2013	2005
Institute of Marine Affairs	-	-
University of the West Indies (including Open Campus)	-	-

MIC Institute of Technology (MIC-IT)	2013	2013
National Energy Skills Centre (NESC)	-	-

Similar Ministries in Other Jurisdictions

- Ministry of Human Resource Development, INDIA: http://mhrd.gov.in/higher_education
- Department of Education, UK: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-culture-media-sport>
- Department of Education and Training, AUS: <https://www.education.gov.au/>
- Ministry of Education, CAN: http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/relsites/oth_prov.html