



BUDGET GUIDE

PREPARED BY:
THE OFFICE OF THE PARLIAMENT

HEAD 72: MINISTRY OF TERTIARY
EDUCATION AND SKILLS
TRAINING

ALLOCATION: \$1,355,249,700

Publication

An electronic copy of this Guide can be found on the Parliament website: www.ttparliament.org

All correspondence should be addressed to:

The Secretary

Standing Finance Committee

Office of the Parliament

Parliamentary Complex

Cabildo Building

St. Vincent Street, Port of Spain, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

Tel: (868) 624-7275; Fax: (868) 625-4672

Email: standingfinance@ttparliament.org

Table of Contents

About this Guide.....	5
Overview of Head 72: Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training	6
About The Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training	7
Review of Budget 2026 Allocation.....	8
Supplementation of Appropriation for fiscal year 2025	9
The Ministry's total allocation as a percentage of the National Budget for the period 2026-2027.....	10
The Ministry's Total Allocation as a Percentage of the National Budget by Subhead.....	11
Where the Ministry spends its money	12
Summary of Recurrent Expenditure for the 2026-2027	13
Analysis of Summary of Recurrent Expenditure.....	13
Staff and Pay	15
Current Transfers to State Enterprises, Statutory Boards and Similar Bodies.....	17
Summary of Development.....	18
Details of the Consolidated Fund by Item.....	20
Public Sector Investment Programme 2027	21
Social Sector Investment Programme 2027	28
Status of Projects Initiated in Financial Year 2026.....	31
Status of Projects Initiated in Financial Year 2027.....	31
Terms to Know	32
General Useful Information.....	36

About this Guide

This guide provides a summary of expenditure for the Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training for the period 2026-2027. 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 in the various Budget Documents pertaining to the Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training and provide readers with an analysis of that information. This guide is based primarily on:

- [the Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure 2027;](#)
- [the Draft Estimates of Development Programme 2027;](#)
- [the Draft Estimates of the Revenue and Expenditure of the Statutory Boards and Similar Bodies and of the Tobago House of Assembly 2027;](#)
- [the Public Sector Investment Programme 2027;](#)
- [Social Sector Investment Programme;](#) and
- [the State Enterprises Investment Programme 2027.](#)

Overview of Head 72: Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training

\$1,129,298,800

2027 Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure

\$225,950, 000

2027 Estimates of Development Programme

\$1,355,248,800

2027 Total Allocation¹

1.86%

% of National Budget²

¹ Total Allocation = Recurrent Expenditure + Development Programme

² National Budget is calculated by adding the Total Recurrent Expenditure and Total Consolidated Fund. Head 18 -Ministry of Finance, Sub-Head 04 - Current Transfers and Subsidies, Sub-Item 11- Infrastructure Development Fund (IDF) (Infrastructure Development Fund allocation is part of the Ministry of Finance allocation for the financial year. Therefore, the total recurrent expenditure for the Ministry does not include the IDF funding.

Therefore, Percentage of the National Budget = [(Ministry's Recurrent Expenditure + Ministry's Consolidated Fund) ÷ (National Budget)] × 100

About The Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training³

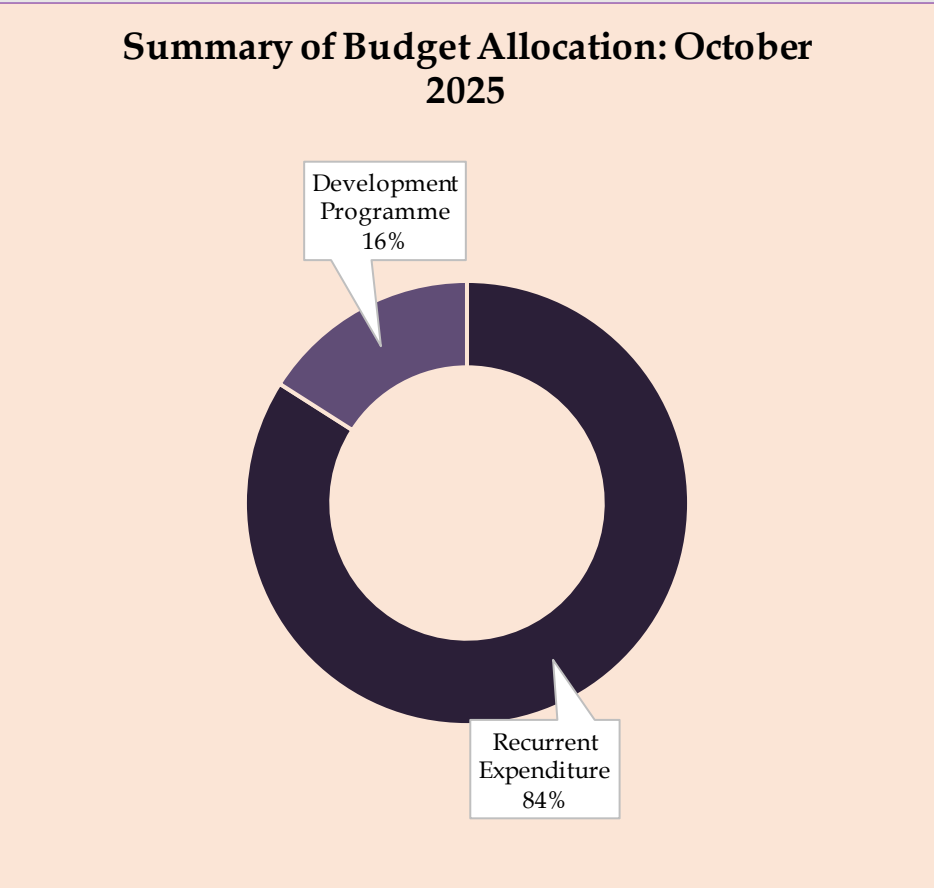
Executive Leadership: Minister: Sen. the Hon. Prof. Prakash Persad		Permanent Secretary: Mr. Kurt Meyer
Mandate: The Ministry is responsible for overseeing and developing the tertiary education sector and national skills training system. The Ministry is responsible for shaping and overseeing the development of the national tertiary education and skills training ecosystem.		
Departments: - Distance Learning - Financial Assistance Studies - Government Assistance for Tuition Education - National Accreditation System - National Apprenticeship System - National Skills Development Programme - Research and Development - Scholarships and Advanced Training - Policy Formulation - Skills Training and Education: - Aviation Sector Training - Health Care Training - National Skills Development - Teacher Training (including Pre-School and Pre-Service Teacher Training) - Technical/Vocational/Education Technology Centres - Tertiary Education - Spanish Language Implementation - Student Revolving Loan Fund	- Teacher Training (including Pre-School and Pre-Service Teacher Training) - Technical/Vocational Education/Training - Technology Centres State Enterprises: <i>Wholly Owned Enterprises:</i> - Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme Limited - National Training Agency <i>Majority Owned Enterprises:</i> - Metal Industries Company Limited - Government Vocational Centre Statutory Boards and Other Bodies - Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago (ACTT) - Board of Industrial Training - National Energy Skills Centre - Trinidad and Tobago Hospitality and Tourism Institute	- University of the West Indies - Open Campus - School of Continuing Studies - University of Trinidad and Tobago - Eastern Caribbean Institute of Agriculture and Forestry (ECIAF) - John S. Donaldson Technical Institute - National Institute of Higher Education (Research, Science and Technology) - San Fernando Technical Institute - Teachers Training Colleges - College of Science, Technology and Applied Arts (COSTATT) - Business Management and Information Technology Division - College of Health Sciences - College of Nursing - General Education Division - Joint Services Staff College - School of Languages

³ Gazette No. 168 of 2026. Accessed on: October 5, 2026. https://www.printery.gov.tt/e-gazette/2026/Gazette/Gazette_No.%20166_of_2026.pdf



Review of Budget 2026 Allocation

Budget Allocation: October 2025



Recurrent Expenditure	\$1,510,274,900
Development Programme	\$287,237,000
Total	\$1,797,511,900

Supplementation of Appropriation for fiscal year 2025⁴

During fiscal year 2026, it was necessary to have a Supplementation of Appropriation of resources to fund urgent and critical Recurrent and Capital Expenditure in areas where insufficient allocation was provided. The source of these additional funds was the Consolidated Fund. The Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training requested and was granted the following supplementations:

HEAD: 72 - MINISTRY OF TERTIARY EDUCATION AND SKILLS TRAINING

Recurrent Expenditure - \$19,800,000

04/006/02: Direct University Services - Current - \$13,000,000

To supplement the provision as a result of the payment of arrears of Salaries owed to academic and senior administrative staff of the University Centre and Global Campus for the period August 1, 2014 to July 31.

06/004/56: Statutory Boards - COSTAAT - \$6,800,000

To supplement the provision to enable payment to contract officers attached to the College of Science, Technology and Applied Arts (COSTAAT) to end of fiscal 2026.

⁴Report of the Standing Finance Committee of the House of Representatives for the Second Session (2026/2027), Thirteenth Parliament on the consideration of proposals for the Supplementary and Variation Appropriation for the fiscal year 2026 June 12, 2026. Accessed: July 02 2026. Available: <https://www.ttparliament.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/p13-s2-H-20260615-SFC-R.pdf>

The Ministry's total allocation as a percentage of the National Budget for the period 2026-2027

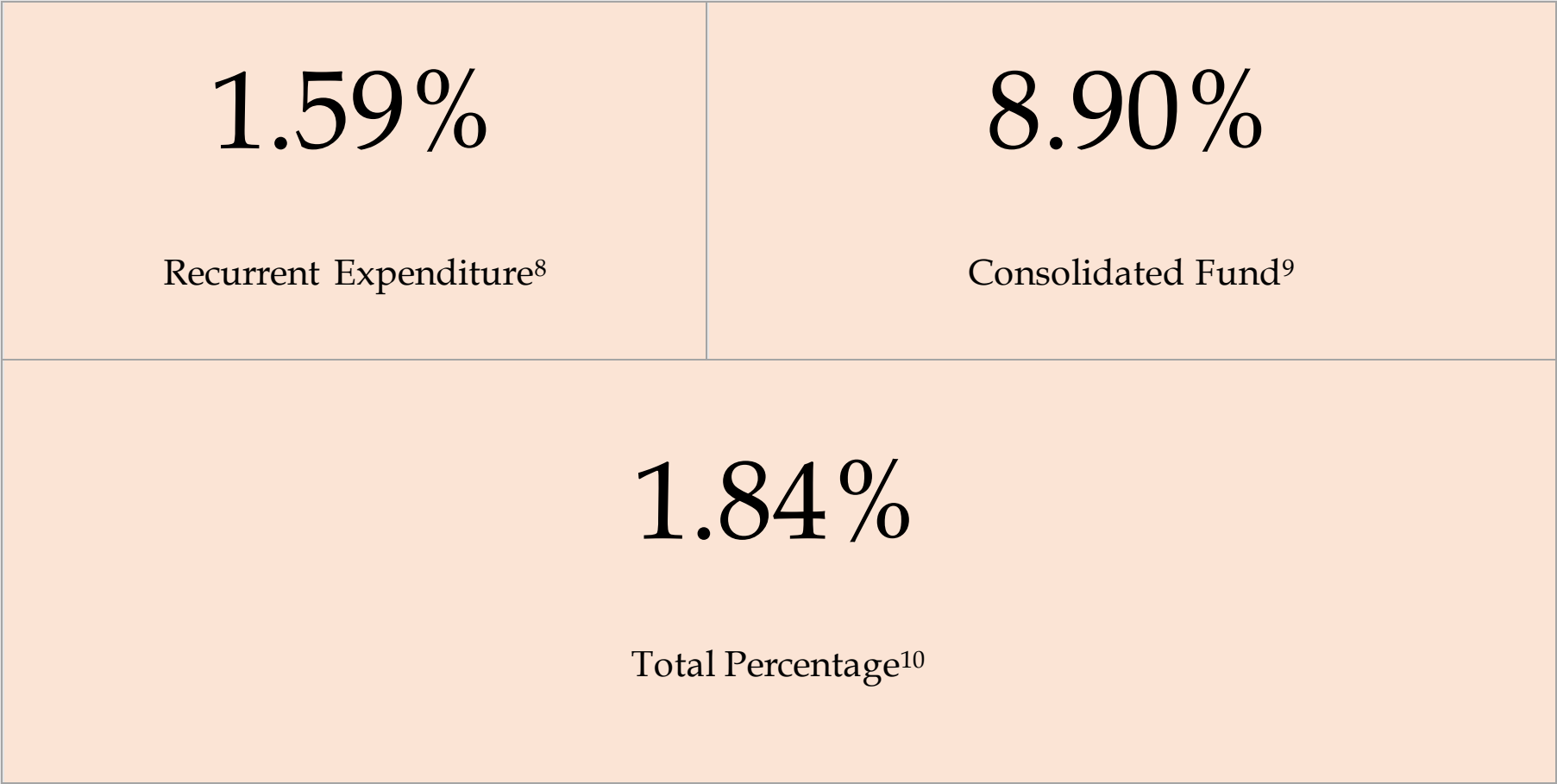
Year ⁵	Total Allocation ⁶	National Budget ⁷	Percentage of National Budget
2026	\$1,774,226,700	\$77,483,134,301	2.31%
2027	\$1,355,249,700	\$73,542,254,357	1.84%

⁵ Estimates were used to calculate the total allocation for the Fiscal Years 2026 (Revised) and 2027.

⁶ Total Allocation for the Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training =Recurrent Expenditure + Consolidated Fund Expenditure

⁷ The National Budget =Recurrent Expenditure + Development Programme Expenditure: Consolidated Fund

The Ministry's Total Allocation as a Percentage of the National Budget by Subhead



⁸ Recurrent Expenditure as a Percentage of Total Recurrent Expenditure = $\left(\frac{\text{Ministry's Recurrent Expenditure}}{\text{Total Recurrent Expenditure}}\right) \times 100$

⁹ Consolidated Fund as a Percentage of Total Consolidated Fund = $\left(\frac{\text{Ministry's Consolidated Fund Allocation}}{\text{Total Consolidated Fund}}\right) \times 100$

¹⁰ Percentage of the National Budget = $\left[\frac{(\text{Ministry's Recurrent Expenditure} + \text{Ministry's Consolidated Fund})}{\text{National Budget}}\right] \times 100$

Where the Ministry spends its money



01 Personnel Expenditure:
\$32,032,300



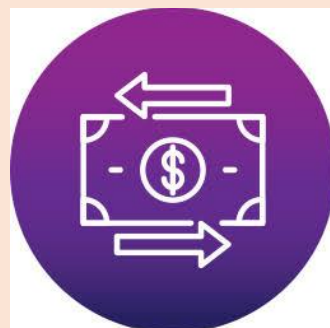
03 Minor Equipment Purchases:
\$70,000



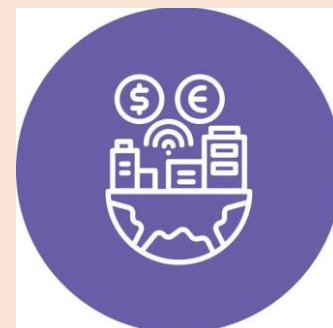
06 Current Transfers to Stat. Brds and
Similar Bodies: **\$114,791,000**



02 Goods and Services:
\$26,139,000



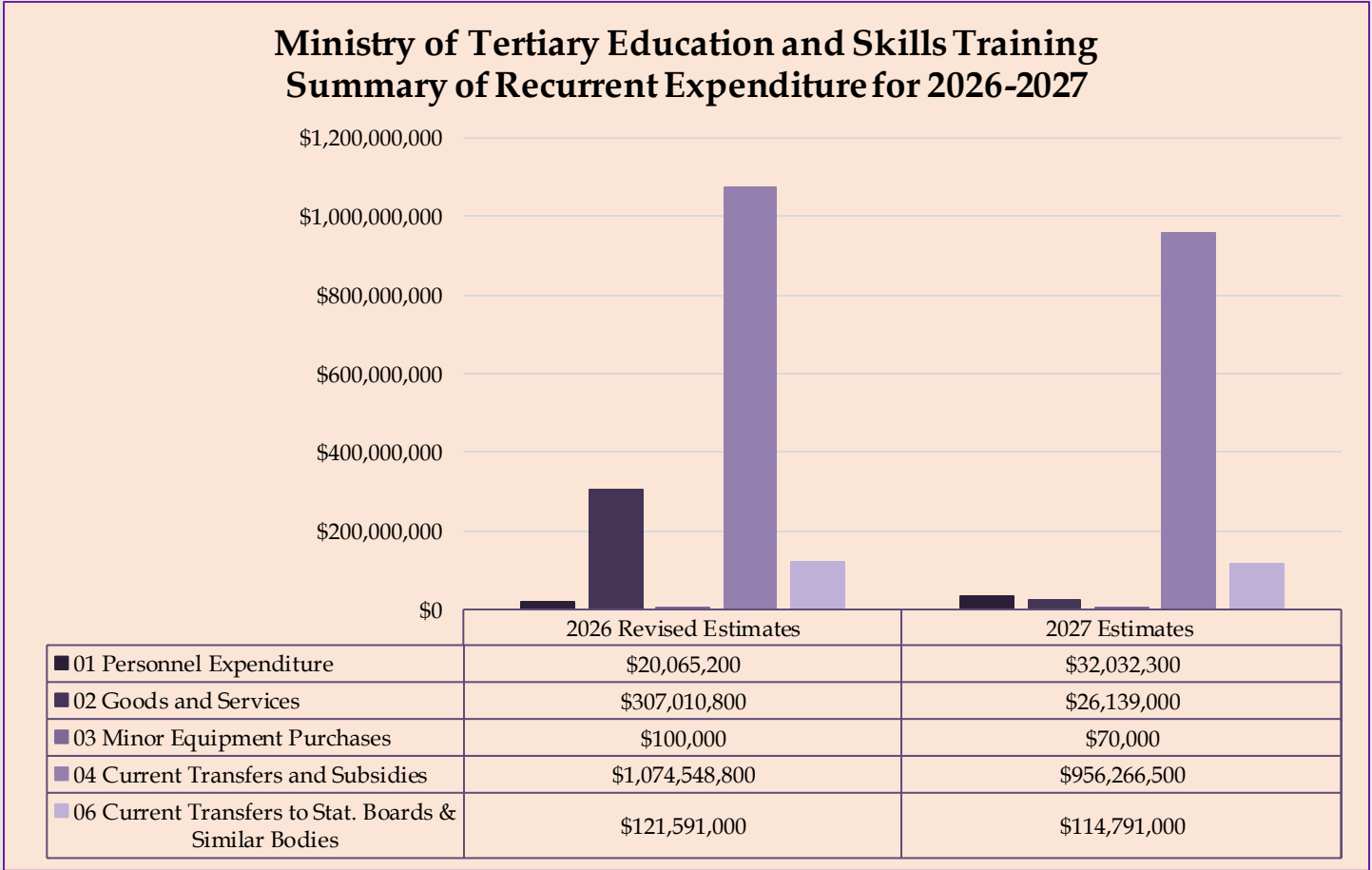
04 Current Transfers and Subsidies:
\$956,266,500



Consolidated Fund (DP):
\$225,950,900

Summary of Recurrent Expenditure for the 2026-2027¹¹

The Graph below illustrates the budget allocation of Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training Recurrent Expenditure for the financial years 2026 and 2027.



Analysis of Summary of Recurrent Expenditure¹²

¹¹ Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure for the Financial Year 2027. Accessed on: October 12, 2026. Available on: <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2026/10/PRINT-VERSION-Recurrent-Expenditure-2027.pdf>

¹² Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure for the Financial Year 2027. Accessed on: October 12, 2026. Available on: <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2026/10/PRINT-VERSION-Recurrent-Expenditure-2027.pdf>

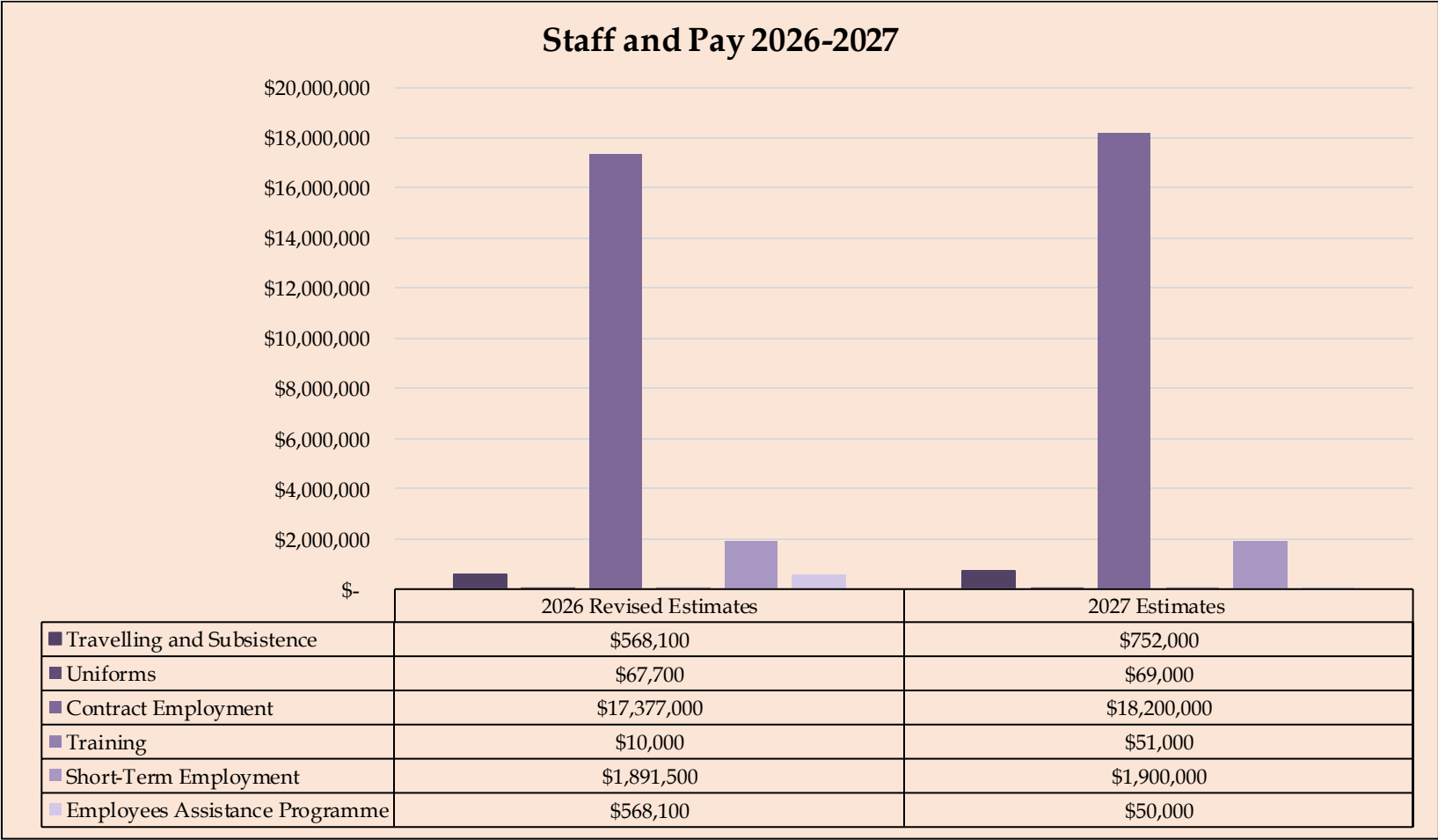
HEAD 72: Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training

Recurrent Expenditure refers to the expenditure, which are incurred in the day-to-day operations of the Ministry for 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 2027 is **\$1,129,298,800**.

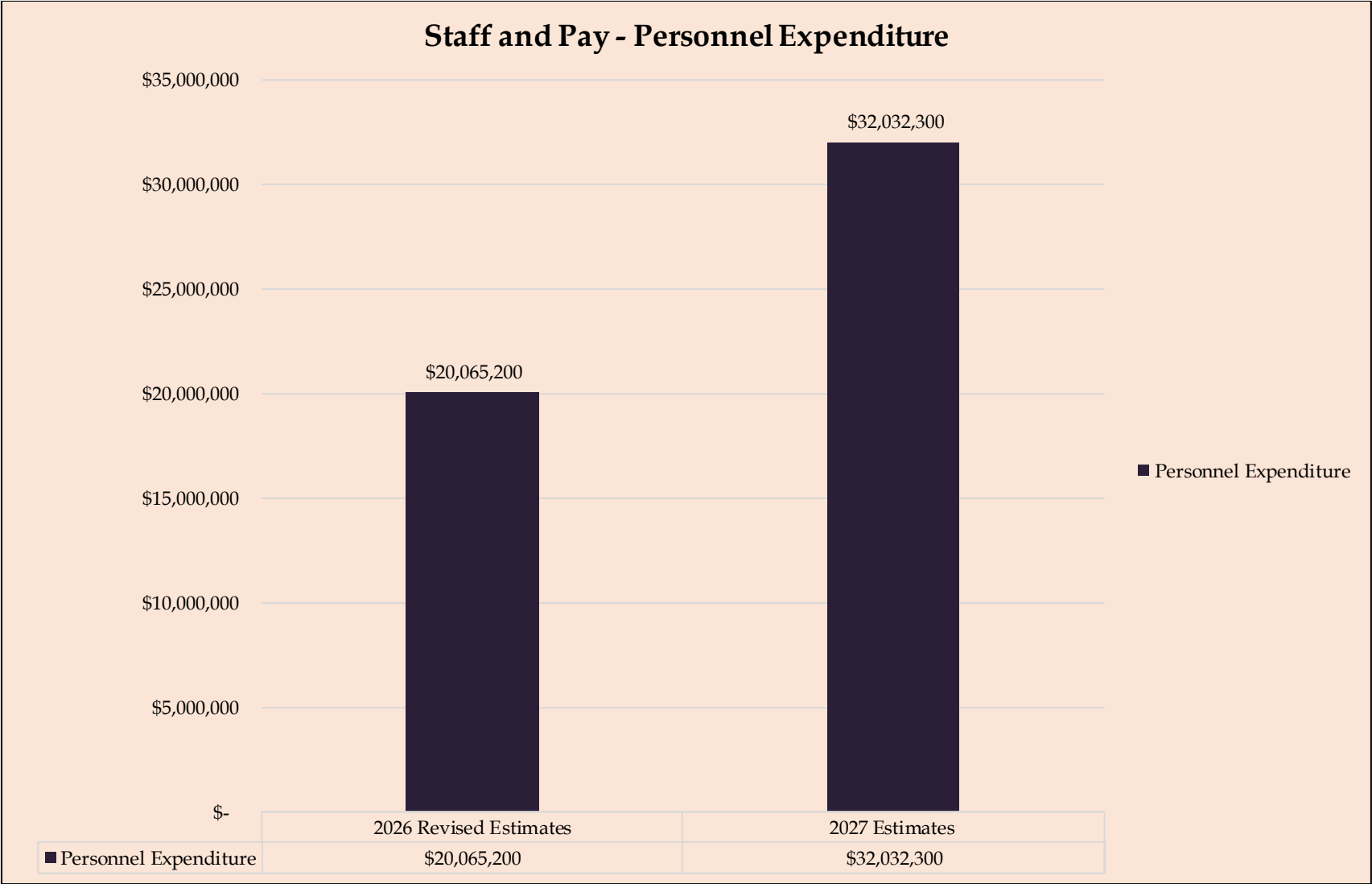
- **Sub-Head 01 – Personnel Expenditure.** Fiscal 2027's Allocation represented **2.84%** of the Total Recurrent Expenditure to the Ministry.
- **Sub-Head 02 - Goods and Services** Fiscal 2027's allocation represented **2.31%** of the Total Recurrent Expenditure to the Ministry.
- **Sub-Head 03 - Minor Equipment Purchases** received the lowest portion of the total allocation for the Ministry. For fiscal 2027 allocation represents less than **1% (0.01%)** of the Total Recurrent Expenditure to the Ministry.
- **Sub-Head 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies.** - Fiscal 2027's allocation represented **84.68%** of the Total Recurrent Expenditure to the Ministry and represents the largest portion of the allocation to this particular Sub-Head.
- **Sub-Head 06 Current Transfers to Stat. Brds. & Similar Bodies** –Fiscal 2027's allocation represented **10.16%** of the Total Recurrent Expenditure to the Ministry.

Staff and Pay

The allocation of staff expenditure for the fiscal year 2027 is \$53,054,300 which represents an increase of approximately 31% from the last fiscal year 2026 (Revised). The following charts provide a breakdown of staff-related expenditure for the period 2026 to 2027¹³.



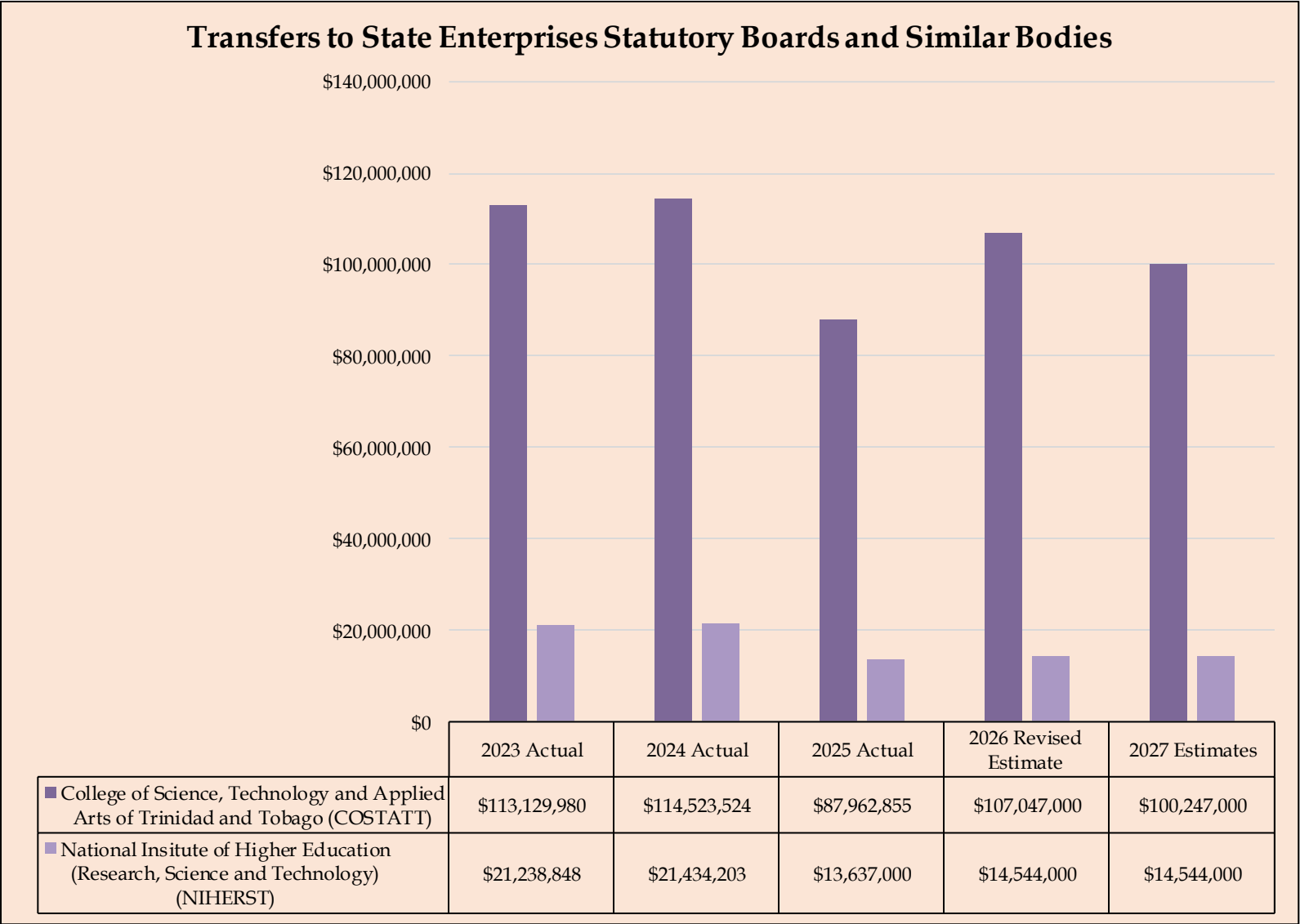
¹³ Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure for the Financial Year 2027. Accessed on: October 12, 2026. Available on: <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2026/10/PRINT-VERSION-Recurrent-Expenditure-2027.pdf>





Current Transfers to State Enterprises, Statutory Boards and Similar Bodies

Overall Current Transfers to State Enterprises, Statutory Boards and Similar Bodies decrease by **\$6,800,000 (5.6%)** from 2026 to 2027. COSTATT decreased by \$6,800,000 and represents 87.3% of the 2027 total while NIHERST is unchanged at \$14,544,000.



Summary of Development Programme Expenditure for the period 2026-2027

Development Programme is capital expenditure aimed at improving and enhancing development in different areas of Trinidad and Tobago which includes; human resources, economic and social development. The allocation to the Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training for development programmes and projects for fiscal year **2027 = \$250,910,900** ¹⁴. Funds will be disbursed directly from the Consolidated Fund. Development Programme decreased by **\$24,960,900 (9.95%)** from 2026 (\$225,950,000).

¹⁴ Draft Estimates of Development Programme for the Financial Year 2027. Accessed on: October 12, 2026. Available on: <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2026/10/PRINT-VERSION-Development-Programme-2027.pdf>



Details of the Consolidated Fund by Item¹⁵



004 Social Infrastructure:

\$157,000,000



005 Multi – Sectoral and Other Services:

\$68,950,000

¹⁵ Draft Estimates of Development Programme for the Financial Year 2027. Accessed on: October 12, 2026. Available on: <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2026/10/PRINT-VERSION-Development-Programme-2027.pdf>

Public Sector Investment Programme 2027¹⁶

Project Name	Planned Activities for 2027
Building of the International Fine Cocoa Centre	An allocation of 0.8 million will be provided for the procurement of specialised equipment for the completed International Fine Cocoa Innovation Centre, which will enhance its capacity to produce a wider variety of products.
Renovation of Chemistry C1 Building and Replacement of Fume Hoods	The sum of \$7 million will be made available to enable payments for the completion Phase I works and to commence Phase II works, which will entail the design of HVAC plumes for the fume hoods, structural reinforcement on the rooftop level as well as supply and installation of HVAC system.
Replacement of HVAC system and Associated Works at UWI Sports and Physical Education Centre	Funding in the amount of \$150,000 will be provided to enable payment for works completed in fiscal 2026 which included the installation of a new HVAC system indoor court area, administrative offices and classroom.
Refurbishment of the Penal/Debe Campus	This is a continuation of refurbishment and restoration works at the UWI South Campus, Debe, with an allocation of \$60 million. The scope of works will entail the completion of the Moot Court, Central Library, Academic Building, the Student Union Building and the Hall of Residence.
The Eastern Caribbean Institute of Agriculture and Forestry (ECIAF)	An allocation of \$2 million will facilitate infrastructure upgrade works, including: installation of high security fencing at internal areas around the farm, as well as west and south of the campus: - fencing of three (3) livestock grazing pastures (payment of the contract balance and retention fees) - installation of night lighting and solar perimeter lighting around the campus

¹⁶ Public Sector Investment Programme 2027. Accessed on: October 12, 2026. Available on: <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2026/10/PSIP-TRINIDAD-2027-DIGITAL-FINAL.pdf>

Project Name	Planned Activities for 2027
	• demolition of overhead concrete pathways and installation of a roof for the • ground walkways (payment of the contract balance and retention fees) • upgrade of the fire alarm system (payment of the contract balance and retention fees).
John S. Donaldson Technical Institute - Improvement of Facilities	A provision of \$1.6 million will be allocated for the following: • upgrade of the campus main electrical supply and distribution system including electrical rewiring works to the North Block • refurbishment of the ceiling, walls and floor of the canteen building • upgrade of the kitchen and bathroom facilities (payment of the contract balance and retention fees) • installation of a stand-alone fire alarm system for each block - (payment of the retention fees).
San Fernando Technical Institute (UTT) - Upgrade of Facilities and Equipment	A budget of \$2.4 million will be provided for the following • upgrade of the fire alarm system (Blocks A to G) • installation of an Ultrapure water purification system for the Chemistry laboratory (payment of the contract balance and retention fees) • establishment of a small-scale Rubber Crumb Facility (payment of retention fee) • procurement of a new fume hood for the Chemistry Lab.
UTT-Point Lisas Campus	the sum of \$0.8 million will be designated to enable payment of the contract balance and retention sum for the upgrading of the roof guttering of the technology building. The replacement of the high voltage transformers will also be undertaken.
Upgrade of the University of Trinidad and Tobago Campuses	with an investment of \$2.5 million, infrastructure improvement works will continue at the Chaguanas Campus, the National Academy of Performing Arts and the Chaguaramas Campus. These works will include the replacement of air-conditioning

Project Name	Planned Activities for 2027
	units, installation of lighting and sound systems and upgrade of the fire alarm systems and roofing:
Establishment of the Aviation Institute - UTT Camden Campus Phase 1	A total of \$0.4 million will be allocated to enable the payment of the contract balance and retention fees for the installation of pigeon proofing in the hangar building
UTT Tamana Campus	The sum of \$50 million will be provided for refurbishment activities at the UTT's Main Campus in Tamana which will include the following: • refurbishment of the chiller and cooling tower system • refurbishment and upgrade of the sewer lift station system corrosion treatment • replacement of mini split air-conditioning systems.
Construction of Hype Administration and O'Meara Centre	This is a new project transferred from the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs (<i>no funds were allocated</i>) supply and installation of modern agri systems (automated aquaphonic system): • upgrade of the Multi-Sector Skills Training (MuST) kitchen (purchase of culinary equipment) • upgrade of classrooms and workshops
Metal Industries Company - Training Subsidy (Legacy)	This is a new project transferred from the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs (<i>no funds were allocated</i>). It involves the payment of stipends and procurement of personal protective equipment for 20 Journeyman in the National Skills Development Programme and 10 Engineers in Training
Upgrade of Technology at Port of Spain, Pointe-a-Pierre, Ste. Madeleine and Laventille	This is a new project transferred from the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs (<i>no funds were allocated</i>). It involves the: • supply and installation of a fume extractor system at the Laventille Centre • security upgrades (remote security camera system and automated gates) at the Pointe-a-Pierre Centre.

Project Name	Planned Activities for 2027
Government Vocational Centre - Construction of New Point Fortin	This is a new project transferred from the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs (<i>no funds were allocated</i>). It involves the: • upgrade of the classrooms and workshops in Buildings 1 and 2, which will include electrical, plumbing, air-conditioning and ceiling works and the installation of doors, windows and flooring • purchase of training equipment for the welding, electrical, plumbing, and automotive workshops
Acquisition of Capital Equipment for Metal Industries Company Limited	• procurement of workshop equipment and specialised training equipment • procurement of an injection moulding machine
Tobago Technology Centre	This is a new project transferred from the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs (<i>no funds were allocated</i>). The project entails: • construction of a parking lot • upgrade of the air-conditioning units • upgrade of the centre (electrical, plumbing, ceiling, flooring and painting works)
Establishment of Skills and Technology Centre in Debe/Penal (MIC)	This is a new project transferred from the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs (<i>no funds were allocated</i>). It involves the: • upgrade of the air-conditioning units • upgrade of the classrooms, workshops, carpark and recreational space • purchase of classroom, workshop and office furniture • purchase of training equipment
Upgrade of the NESC skills and Technology Centre Goldsborough Tobago	This is a new project transferred from the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs (<i>no funds were allocated</i>). It involves the: • construction of a building for the heavy equipment programme • upgrade of the roof in the cafeteria and administrative building

Project Name	Planned Activities for 2027
	• procurement of tools and equipment for the heavy equipment programme, automotive services programme and refrigeration and air conditioning programme
Establishment of a Training Facility - NESC - TI	• construction of the Heavy Equipment Operations Building (Phase II)
Upgrade of NESC - Skills and Technology Centre Ste Madeleine	• upgrade of the tools and equipment for the automotive services programme and the refrigeration and air conditioning programme • upgrade of the student entrance, paving of the car park and drainage works
Upgrade of NESC Technology Centre La Brea	This is a new project transferred from the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs (<i>no funds were allocated</i>). It involves the: • purchase of welding equipment including five (5) multi-process welding units, two (2) plasma cutters and one (1) compressor • upgrade and outfitting of the classroom
Upgrade of Infrastructure and Equipment of the NESC Drilling Academy	This is a new project transferred from the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs (<i>no funds were allocated</i>). It involves the establishment of a mud laboratory.
Upgrade of NESC Skills and Technology Centre - Point Lisas	This is a new project transferred from the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs (<i>no funds were allocated</i>). It involves the: • payment of the retention sum for the upgrade of the student washrooms • procurement of tools and equipment for automotive services, electrical and instrumentation, welding, refrigeration • upgrade and outfitting of the classroom
COSTAATT Campuses Health and Safety Compliance	• upgrade of the HVAC system at the Chaguanas Campus • replacement of the floor finish at the City Campus

Project Name	Planned Activities for 2027
Establishment of a Training Facility - Chaguanas	This is a new project transferred from the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs (<i>no funds were allocated</i>). It involves the payment of retention and variation sums for the construction of the Administration Centre
Upgrading of Facilities (YTEPP Limited)	• completion of the refurbishment of the cafeteria in the Maloney Vocational Training Centre • conduct of groundworks and upgrade of the drainage system at the Waterloo Training Centre • replacement of the deteriorating southern fencing, driveways and pedestrian gates and conduct of groundworks at the Valencia Training Centre
Digitalisation of Tertiary Sector	Modernising the delivery of tertiary education and skills training will continue with the following digital initiatives in fiscal year 2027: • COSTAATT Technology Upgrade - an allocation of \$0.8 million will be provided for the procurement of a Tech hub and virtual desktop infrastructure for the administrative network; • NESC IT Upgrade - a provision of \$0.8 million will advance the upgrade and installation of CCTV systems at the Tobago and Woodford Lodge Campuses including cybersecurity upgrades and hardware acquisition (network switches); • Upgrade to the IT Infrastructure at Youth Training and Employment Partnership Programme (YTEPP) Limited - \$0.7 million will be provided for the procurement of software (Microsoft Fabric Applications) for Phase II of the project and the procurement of ICT equipment including scanners, printers and laptops; • National Training Agency (NTA) ICT Infrastructure Renewal Project - \$0.2 million will be utilised to continue the procurement of ICT equipment; and • MIC-IT ICT Infrastructure and Software Modernization - a provision of \$1.0 million will be allocated for the procurement of the Endpoint Protection and Cybersecurity software.

Project Name	Planned Activities for 2027
Scholarships Programme	1. Scholarships President's Medal and Non Advanced Level Examinations: Nine (9) beneficiaries - seven (7) continuing scholarships and two (2) new President Medal Scholarships will be awarded: • payment of personal maintenance, book and other allowances, tuition and airfare for students studying abroad 2. National/ Additional Scholarships based on Advanced Level Examinations 422 beneficiaries - 322 continuing scholarships and 100 new scholarships are to be awarded for the following: • payment of personal maintenance, book and other allowances, tuition and airfare for students studying abroad 3. Annual Scholarship and Technical Assistance Programme Three (3) beneficiaries will be awarded under the Programme for the following: • payment of personal maintenance and book allowances, book allowance and other allowances, tuition and airfare for students studying abroad 4. Establishment of Undergraduate Scholarship Scheme for Students with Disabilities Three (3) beneficiaries will be awarded under the Programme for the following: • payment of personal maintenance and book allowances, book allowance and other allowances, tuition
Relocation of Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training	Resources in the amount of \$1 million will be allocated for the relocation of the MTEST, as it requires additional office space for new divisions, expanded staffing, digital infrastructure and specialised service areas. The relocation aims to improve the Ministry's service delivery and efficiency.
Enhancing Information Technology Infrastructure of MTEST	A sum of \$2 million will be allocated for the procurement of ICT equipment and supporting infrastructure to facilitate reliable, secure and modern technology solutions that support the Ministry's operational requirements and service delivery.

Social Sector Investment Programme 2027¹⁷

Programme Name	Planned Activities for 2027
Expanding Access to Tertiary Education and Student Support	Strengthen financial support for tertiary education: The Ministry will continue to expand access to tertiary education through the GATE Programme, the HELP, and the National Scholarship and Bursary Programmes. These initiatives will reduce financial barriers, support equitable participation and promote social mobility, while directing educational investment toward priority areas aligned with national workforce needs. Enhance targeting and alignment of education financing: Greater emphasis will be placed on aligning tuition assistance and financial support with TVET and other priority sectors, ensuring that public investment contributes more directly to workforce development and national economic priorities.
Strengthening Institutional Infrastructure and Learning Environments	Modernise tertiary and training infrastructure: Priority will be given to the rehabilitation and upgrading of universities, technical institutes and vocational training centres, including improvements to classrooms, laboratories, workshops and student facilities. These investments will enhance safety, accessibility and the overall quality of teaching and learning environments. Upgrade training equipment and facilities: Investments in modern laboratory, technical and ICT equipment will support competency-based training and improve exposure to technologies used in contemporary workplaces, strengthening the relevance of education and training programmes.

¹⁷ Social Sector Investment Programme 2027. Accessed on: October 12, 2026. Available on: <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2026/10/SSIP-2027-for-web-1.pdf>

Programme Name	Planned Activities for 2027
Digital Transformation and Administrative Modernisation	Advance digital transformation in tertiary education services: In FY 2027, MTEST will continue the digitisation and modernisation of administrative systems, including enhancements to online platforms such as GATE and related financial-support systems. These improvements will reduce manual processes, strengthen data management and improve service delivery to students and institutions. Strengthen cybersecurity and digital infrastructure: Continued investment in ICT systems, cybersecurity and digital infrastructure is expected to improve institutional resilience, support business continuity and enhance the efficiency of education and training delivery.
Workforce Development, TVET and Employment Readiness	Strengthen alignment between education and labour market needs: The Ministry will continue to expand and enhance TVET and workforce certification initiatives to ensure that graduates possess skills aligned with industry demand and national development priorities. Promote employment readiness and skills development: Through programmes across institutions under its remit, the Ministry will support the development of job-ready graduates by strengthening training quality, certification systems and pathways from education into employment.
Research, Innovation and Policy Development	Expand research and evidence-based policy development: The Ministry will advance research initiatives focused on academic performance, innovation and sectoral development to inform policy and improve educational outcomes. These studies will generate evidence to support targeted interventions, planning and resource allocation. National Qualifications Framework: Continued implementation of the National Qualifications Framework will focus on strengthening the transparency, comparability

Programme Name	Planned Activities for 2027
	and recognition of qualifications across T&T. This initiative will support the alignment of curricula and learning outcomes across academic, professional and TVET pathways through stakeholder engagement, curriculum mapping and institutional capacity-building. It is expected to promote a more coherent and integrated national qualifications system, improve labour market alignment, and facilitate greater mobility and progression for learners within the education and training system
Strengthening Human Capital Development and National Competitiveness	Enhance human capital and innovation capacity: The Ministry's combined investments in education, training, research and institutional strengthening will contribute to the development of a skilled workforce capable of supporting economic diversification, innovation and national competitiveness

Status of Projects Initiated in Financial Year 2026

For the financial year 2026 the following new projects were scheduled for implementation under the Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training and as such require further inquiry on the progress of completion¹⁸:

Projects/Programmes	2026 Revised Estimates	2027 Estimates
CF 005/06/F005 Refurbishment of the Penal / Debe Campus	70,000,000	60,000,000

Status of Projects Initiated in Financial Year 2027

For the financial year 2027, the following new projects are scheduled for implementation under the Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training, and as such require further inquiry¹⁹

Projects/Programmes	2027 Estimates
CF-004-04-J-035 UTT Tamana Campus	\$50,000,000
CF-004-04-J-036 Enhancing the Information Technology Infrastructure of MTEST	\$2,000,000
CF-005-06-F-006 Relocation of the Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training	\$1,000,000

¹⁸ Draft Estimates of Development Programme for the Financial Year 2027. Accessed on: October 12, 2026. Available on: <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2026/10/PRINT-VERSION-Development-Programme-2027.pdf>

¹⁹ Draft Estimates of Development Programme for the Financial Year 2027. Accessed on: October 12, 2026. Available on: <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2026/10/PRINT-VERSION-Development-Programme-2027.pdf>

Term	Definition
Budget	An itemized summary of estimated or intended expenditures for a given period along with proposals for financing them. The budget is the main economic policy tool of the government and indicates how it plans to use public resources to meet policy goals.
Budget Statement	A listing of planned revenue and expenditure for a given period of time.
Consolidated Fund	This fund refers to all revenues (taxes, custom duties and interest) or other monies raised or received by Trinidad and Tobago. Funds appropriated by Parliament and authorized for meeting expenditure for the service of Trinidad and Tobago are taken from the Consolidated Fund.
Departments	Departments refer to governmental organizations not headed by a Minister that deal with a particular area of interest that may cover matters where direct political oversight is inappropriate or unnecessary
Development Programme	Development Programme refers to capital expenditure aimed at improving and enhancing development in different areas of Trinidad and Tobago which includes human resources, economic and social development. The monies used to fund Development Programme expenditure are derived from two sources namely the Consolidated Fund and the Infrastructure Development Fund
Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure	This document provides details at sub-item level for a three-year period of the Recurrent Expenditure Budget for each Head of Expenditure and a Summary of Recurrent Expenditure totals by Head. It also includes a Chart of Accounts and classification of Expenditure Sub-items under the Personnel Expenditure, Goods & Services and Minor Equipment Purchases Sub-Heads.
Draft Estimates of Development Programme	This document provides a summary and details of all projects for the Consolidated Fund covering a three-year period for the Heads of Expenditure of Ministries/Departments and the THA. It also includes a summary and details of projects falling under Head 701 - IDF for the same three-year period.

Term	Definition
Draft Estimates of the Revenue and Expenditure of the Statutory Boards and Similar Bodies and of the Tobago House of Assembly	This document provides details of the Budget (Revenue/Income and Expenditure) at sub-item level for all Statutory Boards and other Similar Agencies and the Tobago House of Assembly (THA). It also includes a Chart of Accounts and classification of Expenditure Sub-items under the Personnel Expenditure, Goods and Services and Minor Equipment Purchases Sub Heads.
Expenditure	Spending to fulfill a government obligation, generally by issuing a cheque or disbursing cash. Expenditure is sometimes distinguished between capital and current. Capital expenditures are investments in physical assets, such as roads and buildings that can be used for a number of years. Current expenditures reflect spending on wages, benefit payments, and other goods or services that are consumed immediately.
Head of Expenditure	This refers to all Ministries / Departments or State Agencies that make up the Schedule to the Appropriation Bill.
Infrastructure Development Fund (IDF)	This fund refers to the mechanism used, in the main, to finance capital projects being implemented by existing and newly established special-purpose state entities to execute projects assigned to them by ministries, the Tobago House of Assembly and other state agencies. Importantly, monies utilized from this Fund must be approved by of the Parliament.
Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP)	The Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) is a strategic investment management tool used by the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to transform its vision and policies into tangible programmes and projects. The PSIP is aligned to the Policy Framework of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago. This Framework articulates the Government's strategic vision to create a nation where families thrive, young people succeed, and communities grow stronger through responsible governance and

Term	Definition
	forward-thinking policies. This vision is to be achieved through socio-economic transformation driven by strategic diversification, targeted investments, technological advancements, innovation, safer communities, sustainable employment opportunities, and robust public-private sector collaboration. In accordance with the Policy Framework of the Government of Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, the planned programme of works will focus on advancing programmes and projects in the following priority sectors: • Agriculture and Food Security; • Artificial Intelligence, Digital Transformation, New Media, and Social Media; • Ease of Doing Business; • Economic Diversification; • Education Policy Direction; • Government Efficiency; • Healthcare Reform; • Crime and Justice Reform; • Housing; • Regenerative Economy; • Sports Development; • Tourism Growth; • Transport; • Youth Development; and • Workers Agenda.
Recurrent Expenditure	Recurrent expenditure refers to all payments other than for capital assets. Recurrent Expenditure for Trinidad and Tobago is broken down into the following subheads: Personnel Expenditure includes salaries of employees in the Public Service; Goods and Services includes office supplies, contract employment, maintenance of vehicles etc.; Minor Equipment Purchases includes wireless equipment, cell phones, vacuum cleaners, etc.; Current Transfers and Subsidies includes allocations to non-profit institutions, regional organizations, state enterprises, etc.; and Current Transfers to Statutory Boards and Similar Bodies includes allocations to the Tobago House of Assembly, statutory boards and all local government bodies.
Social Sector Investment Programme (SSIP)	The Social Sector Investment Programme (SSIP) delivers a people-first, systems-strong agenda, protecting vulnerable incomes, unlocking human capital, speeding healthcare throughput, building safe and resilient communities, and tightening value-for-money across the social sector. The SSIP is anchored in the Government's vision to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals through its programmes and projects. The SSIP is guided by the Government's National Policy Framework.

Term	Definition
Statutory Authority	"Statutory Authority" means a local authority and any commission, board, committee, council or body (whether corporate or unincorporated) established by or under an Act other than the Companies Act declared by the President under section 3 to be subject to the provisions of this Act.
State Enterprises' Investment Programme (SEIP)	The State Enterprises' Investment Programme (SEIP) focuses on capital infrastructure projects undertaken by State Enterprises and Statutory Authorities in the following areas: energy, electricity, transport, tourism, communication, education and training, community, housing, health, public order and safety and public administration. The SEIP is financed through internally generated funds and loans serviced by either the Agencies or Government.

General Useful Information

Documents	Web Link
Parliament Website	https:// www.ttparliament.org/
Parliament Youtube Channel	https:// www.youtube.com/ channel/UCDvTAc3t8yEAlIM-Ck49lg
Budget Statement 2027	https:// www.finance.gov.tt/ publications/ national-budget/ budget-statements/
Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure for the Financial Year 2027.	https:// www.finance.gov.tt/ wp-content/ uploads/ 2026/ 10/ PRINT-VERSION-Recurrent-Expenditure-2027.pdf
Draft Estimates of Development Programme for the Financial Year 2027.	https:// www.finance.gov.tt/ wp-content/ uploads/ 2026/ 10/ PRINT-VERSION-Development-Programme-2027.pdf
Draft Estimates of the Revenue and Expenditure of the Statutory Boards and Similar Bodies and the Tobago House of Assembly for Financial Year 2027.	https:// www.finance.gov.tt/ wp-content/ uploads/ 2026/ 10/ PRINT-VERSION-Statutory-Board-2027.pdf
Public Sector Investment Programme 2027.	https:// www.finance.gov.tt/ wp-content/ uploads/ 2026/ 10/ PSIP-TRINIDAD-2027-DIGITAL-FINAL.pdf
Social Sector Investment Programme 2027.	https:// www.finance.gov.tt/ wp-content/ uploads/ 2026/ 10/ SSIP-2027-for-web-1.pdf
State Enterprises Investment Programme 2027.	https:// www.finance.gov.tt/ state-enterprise-investment-programme-2027/

HEAD 72: Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training

Public Sector Investment Programme Tobago 2027.	https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2026/10/PSIP-TOBAGO-2027-DIGITAL-FINAL.pdf
Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure for the Financial Year 2026.	https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Estimates-of-Recurrent-Expenditure-2026.pdf
Estimates of Development Programme for the Financial Year 2026.	https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Estimates-of-Development-Programme-2026.pdf
Estimates of the Revenue and Expenditure of the Statutory Boards and Similar Bodies and the Tobago House of Assembly for Financial Year 2026.	https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Estimates-of-the-Revenue-and-Expenditure-of-the-Statutory-Boards-and-Similar-Bodies-and-of-the-Tobago-House-of-Assembly-2026.pdf
Public Sector Investment Programme 2026.	https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/PSIP-Trinidad2025-Final-Digital.pdf
Social Sector Investment Programme 2026.	https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/SSIP-2026.pdf
State Enterprises Investment Programme 2026.	https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/SEIP-2026-for-web.pdf
Public Sector Investment Programme Tobago 2026.	https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2026/10/PSIP-TOBAGO-2027-DIGITAL-FINAL.pdf
Auditor General Report	https://auditorgeneral.gov.tt/sites/default/files/Auditor%20General%27s%20Report%202025.pdf