# CONTINUING OUR MOMENTUM

Annual Resource Planning Process Kick-Off

November 3, 2025



#### University at Buffalo The State University of New York





# Building on UB's Mission and Vision of Excellence

Building on our academic and research excellence, UB will continue to expand our reach and deepen our impact in fulfillment of our status as an AAU public research university, and as **New York State's**flagship university.

### **SUNY Flagship Advocacy**

To compete successfully with our national flagship peers

#### and

to double our research expenditures to fulfill our promise as a SUNY flagship



Current year primary area of opportunity:

#### Capital:

- Flexible Capital Funding
- Critical Maintenance Funding

Research that aligns with NYS priorities and opportunities (e.g., AI and healthcare, education; emerging technologies)

Student success and economic mobility (investments in student experience, health and wellness, living/learning environments)

Policy Reforms: statutory and regulatory relief to create a measure of operational flexibility

## Flagship Investments from NYS Last Year

#### **Recurring Investments**

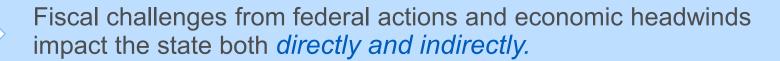
✓ \$16.8M of additional unrestricted state operating support

✓ \$5M for the Department of AI and Society

#### **Capital Investments**

✓ \$50M for the Center for Biofabrication and Imaging

✓ \$17M for the Nursing Simulation Center



# New York State Budget **Outlook**

Budget request for next state fiscal year *should not exceed* the current year's enacted budget, excluding one-time investment requests.

The state will prioritize aligning out-year spending growth with available resources to **minimize** potential reductions.

State agencies charged to *review rules and regulations* that burden individuals, business & non-profits and propose repeal or reform for those which are outdated or obsolete.

# UNIVERSITY PRIORITIES



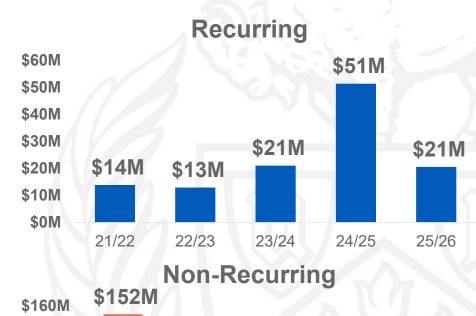
## Summary of Investments by UB Over Past 5 Cycles

5-YEAR TOTAL

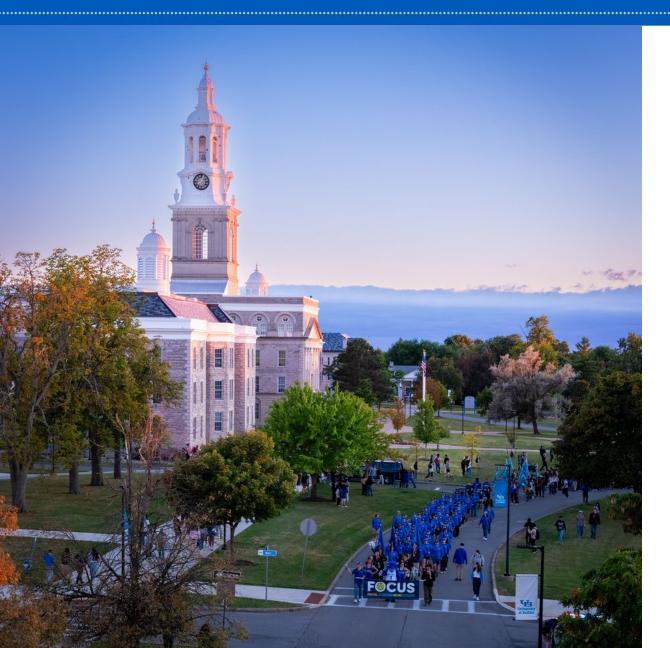
**ANNUAL INVESTMENTS** 

\$119M Recurring

\$534M Non-Recurring







# Investment Priorities 2026-27

- Five years of significant new investments
- Anticipate no new operating investment from NYS
- Priorities for 2026-27:
  - Limited one-time strategic investments with high ROI
  - Stabilize finances across the university
  - Compliance

#### **Investment Priorities to Advance Goals**

- Investments made will continue a strong focus on academic excellence, improving the student experience and academic success, and making UB a preferred student destination
- Units should consider requesting one-time investments with high impact and financial ROI



Disciplinary
Excellence



Student Success and Experience



Enrollment

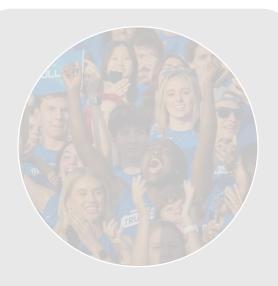
#### Investment Priorities to Advance Goal



Disciplinary Excellence



Student Success and Experience



Enrollment



### Disciplinary Excellence

Research and reputation growth

- Research enhancement with AI
- Fostering successful industrial/ corporate/foundation partnerships for funding
- New centers/institutes in national priority areas
- Specialized equipment

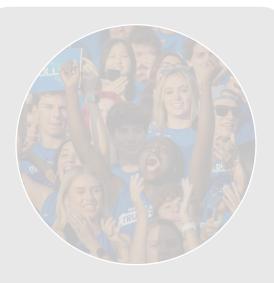
# Investment Priority to Advance Goals



Disciplinary Excellence

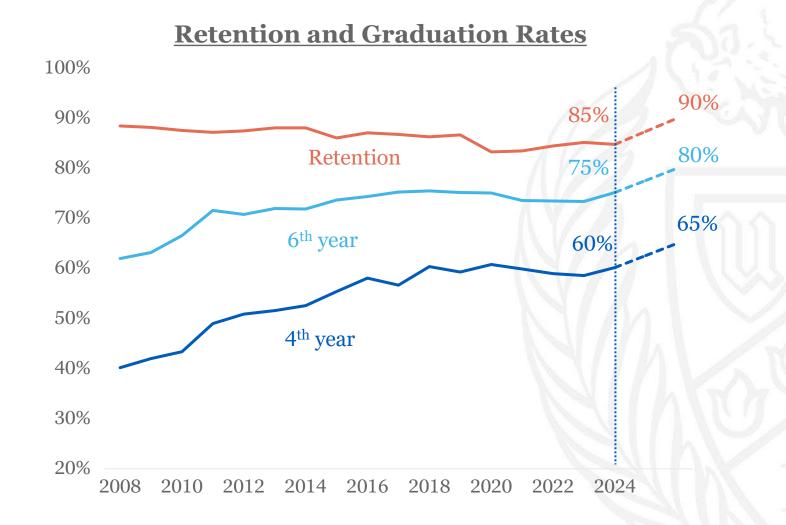


Student Success and Experience



Enrollment

## Undergraduate Retention and Degree Completion



# Student Success and Experience

#### **Goals**

- First-year undergraduate experience
- First-year retention:
  - o **86%** for fall 2026 cohort
  - o 90% long-term goal

#### **Investment Opportunities (one time)**

- AI innovation in student success and experience
- Deeper connections to academic units
- Greater opportunities for experiential learning, externships, career placement
- Stronger connections to the community





#### Investment Priorities to Advance Goals.



Disciplinary Excellence

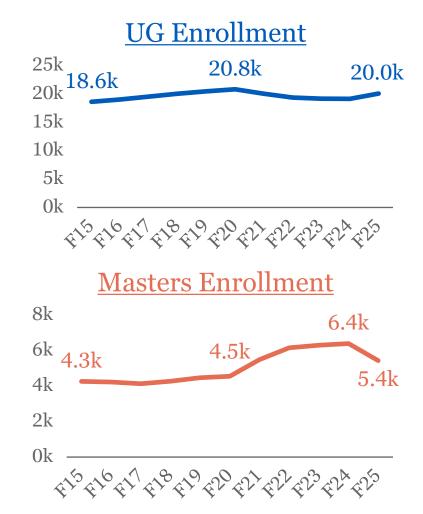


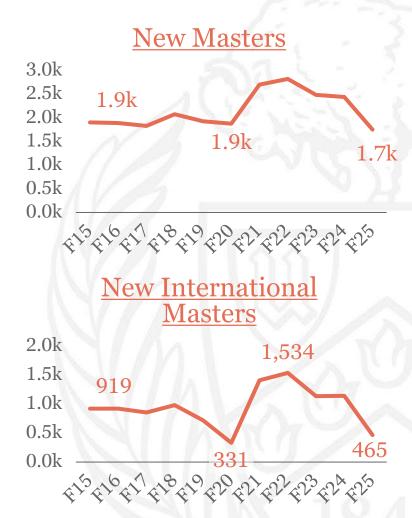
Student Success and Experience



Enrollment

#### **Enrollment Outlook**







#### **Enrollment Plan**

**Undergraduate Target:** 

21,000

**Graduate Target:** 

10,000

#### Student Enrollment

#### **Goals**

• First time **5250** 

• Transfer **1500** 

• Master's **1800** 

• PhD **250** 

Professional **660** 

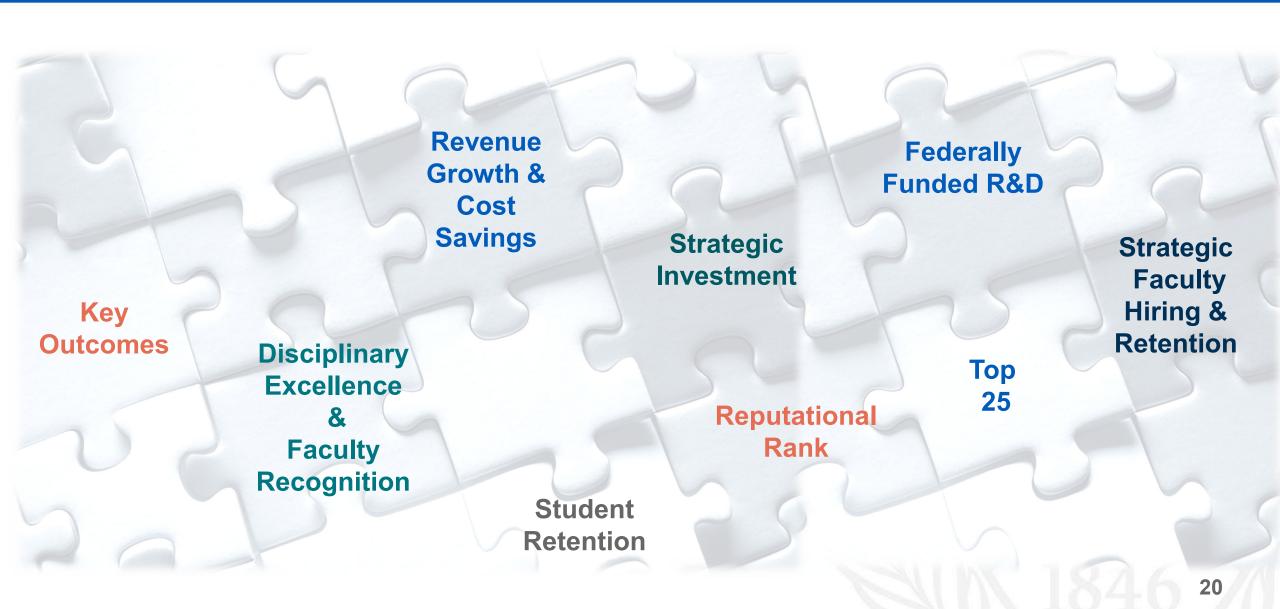
#### **Investment Opportunities (one time)**

- Recruitment of undergraduates
- Recruitment of full-time master's students
- Partnerships between central and units
- AI innovation in enrollment operations

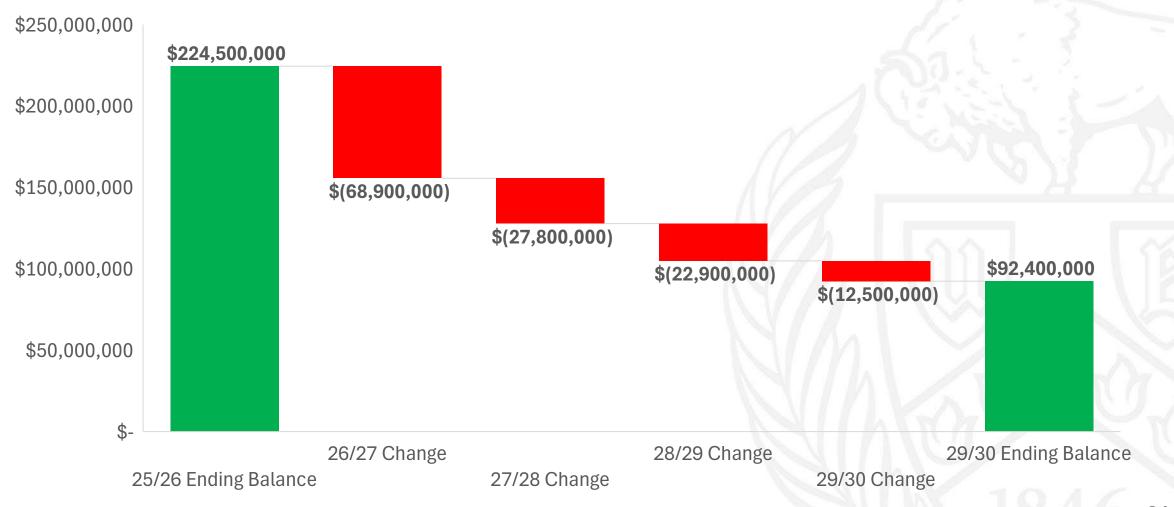


# UB'S FINANCIAL CAPACITY





#### Multi Year Financial Plan



## Undelivered Investments

#### **Funding**

to units is still available through existing commitments

- 28% of approved investments still pending delivery from pre 2025/26 ARPP cycles
- \$27.8M of recurring commitments undelivered
- \$127.3M of non-recurring commitments undelivered

#### **Current Year Cash Balance**



Units' overall cash balances exceed \$356M to begin 25/26

#### **Strategic Spend Down**



IFR, SUTRA & UBF: <u>Intentional effort</u> to spend down growing cash balances in units and all funds centrally.

# 1<sup>st</sup> Decrease of <u>University Wide</u> Total Cash Balances Since before 2015



Cash balances decreased by **over \$90M** year over year

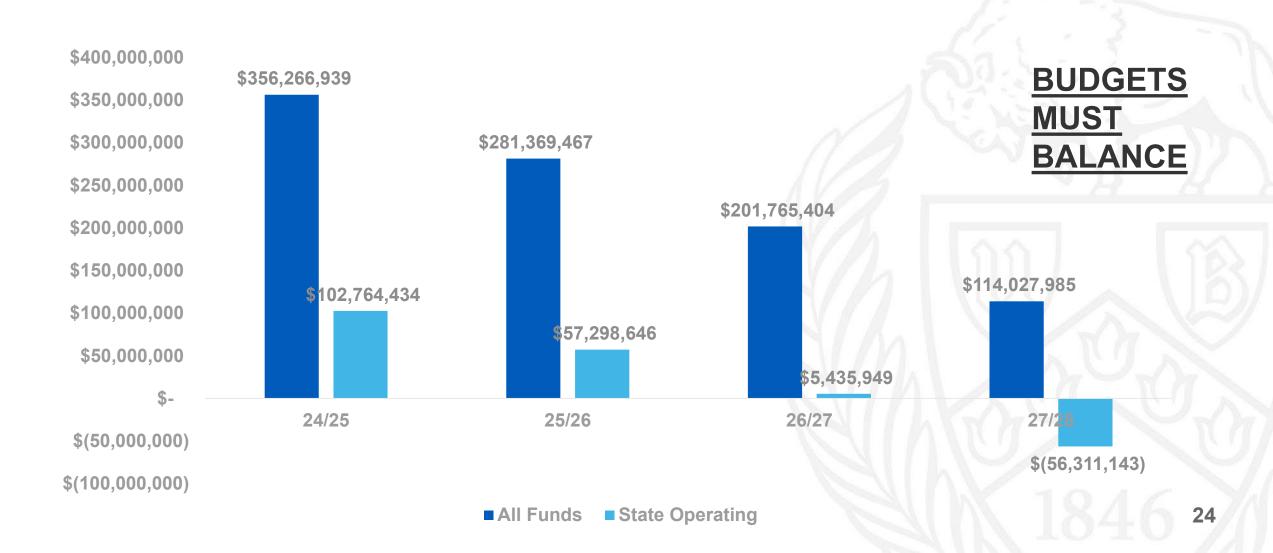
#### **Financial Stability**





Continue to leverage cash balances to help us achieve our goals while <u>maintaining a sustainable</u> <u>long-term financial outlook.</u>

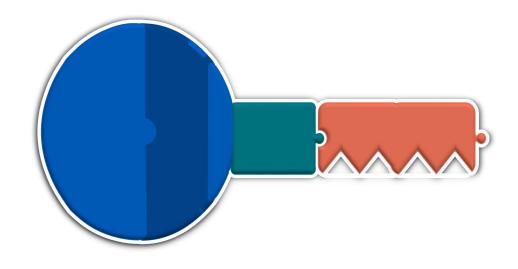
#### **Cumulative Unit Cash Balances**



#### VP/Decanal Unit UPlan Submissions

5 of 21	Units in <u>All Funds deficit</u> by 2027/28
13 of 21	Units with <u>at least one fund</u> source in deficit by 2027/28
11 of 21	Units in deficit or below all funds reserve target by 2027/28
16 of 21	Units <u>in deficit or below</u> <u>reserve target in at least 1</u> <u>funding source</u> by 2027/28

#### Key Considerations for Budget Alignment



Optimize
Instructional
Capacity

Practice
Strategic Hiring
and Position
Management

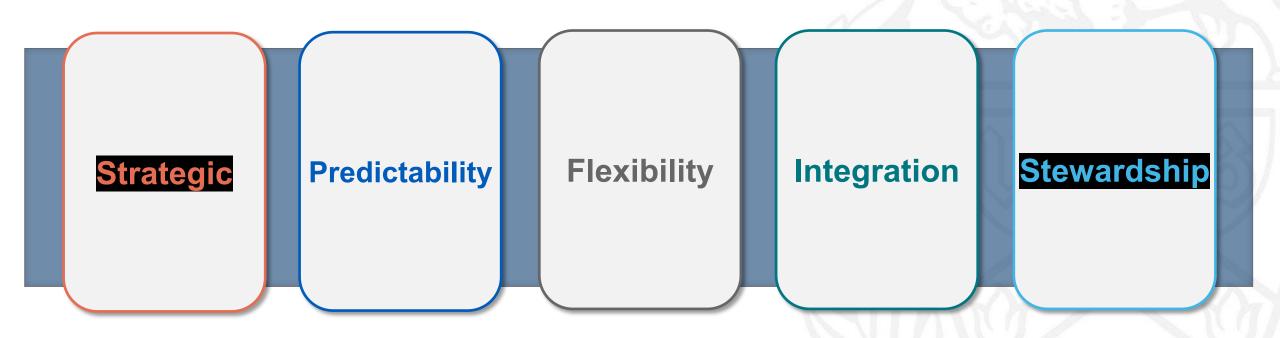
Leverage
Technology for
Efficiency
and
Innovation

Modernize and Streamline Business Processes

# PLANNING GUIDANCE



# **Budget Model: Guiding Principles**



# UB Financial Planning Assumptions 2026/27

Area	Assumption
Enrollment	Undergraduate enrollment to 21k, international masters continues to decrease
Tuition and Fees	Rates continue to be flat; UG tuition revenue target pause has ended
Negotiated Salary Increases	Units should continue to plan to fund salary increases
Balance Budgets	Units must maintain a balanced budget across each major funding source

