

CU'S BUDGET TELLS A STORY ABOUT ADMIN'S MISPLACED PRIORITIES



CU SAYS THERE'S NOT ENOUGH MONEY TO PAY A LIVING WAGE



CU Boulder receives **\$119,750** in tuition from a **50 student class**.

The **lecturer teaching that class makes just \$5k** (that's 4% of the tuition paid).

CU'S OWN FINANCIAL REPORTS SHOW THEIR FISCAL POSITION IMPROVING EACH YEAR.

Sources: CU 2025 Lecturer Pay Scale, CU Published Tuition Rates

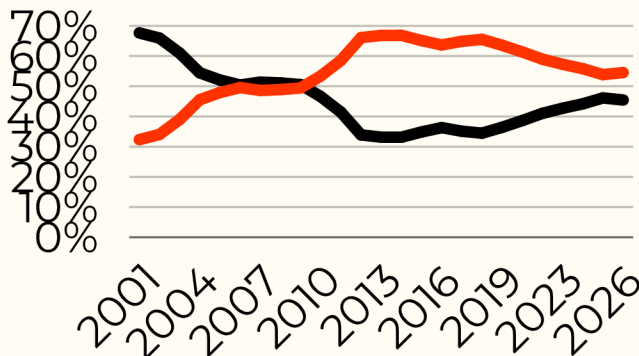
TUITION OUTPACES INFLATION AND WORKER WAGE GROWTH

In the 2026-2027 budget CU plans to:

- Raise tuition by 3-3.5%
- Raise student fees by 3.6% at UCCS and 4.2% at CU Denver
- Cap staff and faculty raises at 1%

WHEN PUBLIC FUNDING SHRINKS, FAMILIES PAY MORE & WORKERS EARN LESS

● State Share (%) ● Tuition Share (%)



Source: <https://www.cu.edu/funding-higher-education-colorado>

LIVING HERE IS MORE EXPENSIVE

National Average Cost of Living



Aurora is 10% more expensive



Colorado Springs is 11% more



Denver is 28% more



Boulder is 30% more



BUT WE MAKE LESS THAN OUR PEERS

At Boulder, Anschutz, and UCCS, faculty **salaries are 4% less than similar roles at peer universities.**

Source: <https://www.cu.edu/doc/fy-2025-cu-fast-factspdf>, Economic Research Institute



SO WHERE IS THE MONEY GOING?

2.5%

the merit pool for most CU workers was only 2.5% in 2025

4%

upper admin salaries increased more than 4% on average

4.2%

cost of living grew 4.2% in the Denver metro area in the last year

Over the last decade, the number of **academic workers at CU increased by 18%**. At the same time, **upper administration increased by 118%**.

Source: CU Salary Data and US Bureau of Labor Statistics (Mountain-Plains)

Source: CU Employee Headcounts over Time

CHOP FROM THE TOP

President.....	\$961,281
Chancellor, Boulder.....	\$884,556
Chancellor, Anschutz	\$880,413
Athletics Director, Boulder.....	\$600,000
Chancellor, Denver.....	\$501,024
Head Athletic Coach, Boulder...	\$500,000
Chancellor, Colorado Springs....	\$485,429
Cost of Living in Boulder.....	\$56,357
CU Grad Worker Stipend.....	<\$25,000

Data from salary CORA database, MIT Living Wage Calculator

HOW MANY GRAD WORKER STIPENDS = COACH PRIME'S SALARY?

COACH PRIME
(\$10 million per year)



...that's over 400
GRAD WORKERS
(<\$25K per year)



HOW DO WE FIX IT?



Chop from the Top Salaries



Reduce Execs - Not Workers



Allow Collective Bargaining



Fund Education & Public Services

CU can afford to pay its workers cost of living raises, keep tuition reasonable, and come to the bargaining table with workers.

A strong, bargaining labor union can effectively advocate for increased state funding.

FULLY FUND PUBLIC EDUCATION.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING, NOW.

JOIN YOUR UNION.

<https://www.ucwcolorado.org/>