

FY2026 Expansion Option Request Form – 3 page limit

Budget Request #	1
Budget Request Description	Software subscription base increases
Contact Name:	George Claffey

Itemize Components of Request (add additional rows if needed)	Index to be Funded	Annual Amount Requested	Fringe Benefit (30% for all FT emp, 7.4% - PT lect)	Index for Reallocation	(Reallocation Amount)	Total Annual Request	Additional Comments
	INFO02	15,000				15,000	
	INFO05	20,000				20,000	
10K for drops	BSRV04	30,000				30,000	
	INFO06	52,500				52,500	
	INFO08	20,000				20,000	
	CARD01	1,650				1,650	
Total Annual Cost						139,150	
Start up - one-time cost							
Net Requested Investment						\$139,150	

NOTE: Approved expansions may require documentation of positive impact.

1. Describe the existing proposed program and justify the request in detail (e.g., establish new position include position title, student workers, training).

We are requesting a base budget increase due to the rising costs of existing solutions across all facets. We estimate a 5-8% increase in costs and seek a budget adjustment to align with this rate of inflation. This increase is essential to endure the continued effectiveness and sustainability of our current solutions.

2. A. What are the benefits of implementing/expanding the base budget specifically as it relates to recruitment, retention and/or health and safety?

Maintaining current licenses involves dedicating financial resources to sustain the status quo.

B. What are the consequences if budget expansion is not supported as it relates to recruitment, retention and/or health and safety?

The University would need to make some decisions into which software applications to discontinue.

3. Does this expansion align with the new guiding pillars for the System which are Access, Completion and Talent (ACT)? If so, explain the alignment.

no

FY2026 Expansion Option Request Form – 3 page limit

Budget Request #	1
Budget Request Description	Software subscription base increases
Contact Name:	George Claffey

- 4. Does this program/request overlap or have interrelationships and/or interdependencies with other programs, departments, or divisions? If so, describe. Include feedback from these entities verifying support for the request.**

The Information Technology Committee.

- 5. For the index/indices to be funded, specify whether the funding is for discretionary personal services/operating expenses (DPS/OE) or personal services (PS) (i.e., salaried employees).**

OE

- 6. If this request cannot be funded through reallocation, explain why. If this request can be partially or completely funded through reallocation, please describe.**

Budgets have been stretched with increases in software maintenance over the past few years, since COVID funding expired. Many vendors held their annual increase flat during COVID. Post-COVID we are seeing an increase in maintenance and subscription costs.

- 7. If this initiative is approved does it require any additional space or special technology? If yes, confirm you have consulted with Facilities/IT and describe the need below.**

Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
IT	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

Description:

- 8. Describe connection(s) with the 2030 Strategic Plan, specifying which goal(s) and objective(s) it supports and/or connection with NECHE Standard, identifying applicable standards (e.g. NECHE 5.3).**

Goal 1: 1G. Enhance infrastructure support for academic programs, including state-of-the-art classrooms, laboratories, technology, library facilities, galleries, and performance spaces.

NECHE Standard 7: Institutional Resources

FY2026 Expansion Option Request Form – 3 page limit

Budget Request #	2 and capital equipment request
Budget Request Description	Data Center Infrastructure
Contact Name:	George Claffey/Sean McNickle/Technical Services

Itemize Components of Request (add additional rows if needed)	Index to be Funded	Annual Amount Requested	Fringe Benefit (30% for all FT emp, 7.4% - PT lect)	Index for Reallocation	(Reallocation Amount)	Total Annual Request	Additional Comments
Data Center Infrastructure UPS	BSRV04	8,000				8,000	95,000
Data Center Infrastructure A/C	BSRV04	13,000				13,000	544,000
Total Annual Cost						21,000	
Start up - one-time cost						639,000	
Net Requested Investment						\$660,000	

NOTE: Approved expansions may require documentation of positive impact.

1. Describe the existing proposed program and justify the request in detail (e.g., establish new position include position title, student workers, training).

In 2015, the University moved our primary data center to a room in the Energy Center and installed a high-efficiency rack system called "hot aisle containment." This system is designed to capture the heat from the servers and feed that hot exhaust into the A/C units. The efficiency is realized by only cooling a small footprint of the data center and feeding heat directly into the A/C units. The UPS, control plan, and A/C units are ten years old and require replacement so we can continue to run on a supported platform.

2. A. What are the benefits of implementing/expanding the base budget specifically as it relates to recruitment, retention and/or health and safety?

Maintaining the data center system is crucial as it houses 200 VM servers that support all business divisions on campus, including public safety systems, access control, security, network access and countless other services. Ensuring the reliability and efficiency of this infrastructure is essential for the smooth operation and safety of the entire campus.

B. What are the consequences if budget expansion is not supported as it relates to recruitment, retention and/or health and safety?

FY2026 Expansion Option Request Form – 3 page limit

Budget Request #	2 and capital equipment request
Budget Request Description	Data Center Infrastructure
Contact Name:	George Claffey/Sean McNickle/Technical Services

Failing to maintain the data center means we would be running most of our critical on-campus resources on an unsupported platform, placing our campus at risk of prolonged outages and potentially endangering the safety and operation of the university.

- 3. Does this expansion align with the new guiding pillars for the System which are Access, Completion and Talent (ACT)? If so, explain the alignment.**

NA

- 4. Does this program/request overlap or have interrelationships and/or interdependencies with other programs, departments or divisions? If so, describe. Include feedback from these entities verifying support for the request.**

The data center supports ever department and person on campus.

- 5. For the index/indices to be funded, specify whether the funding is for discretionary personal services/operating expenses (DPS/OE) or personal services (PS) (i.e., salaried employees).**

OE

- 6. If this request cannot be funded through reallocation, explain why. If this request can be partially or completely funded through reallocation, please describe.**

NA

- 7. If this initiative is approved does it require any additional space or special technology? If yes, confirm you have consulted with Facilities/IT and describe the need below.**

Facilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
IT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

Description:

IT and facilities will need to work together during the replacement of the existing equipment.

- 8. Describe connection(s) with the 2030 Strategic Plan, specifying which goal(s) and objective(s) it supports and/or connection with NECHE Standard, identifying applicable standards (e.g. NECHE 5.3).**

FY2026 Expansion Option Request Form – 3 page limit

Budget Request #	3
Budget Request Description	AI Academic Technology Support
Contact Name:	George Claffey/Thom King

Itemize Components of Request (add additional rows if needed)	Index to be Funded	Annual Amount Requested	Fringe Benefit (30.0% for all FT emp, 7.65% - PT)	Index for Reallocation	(Reallocation Amount)	Total Annual Request	Additional Comments
1	AI0001	\$25,000				\$25,000	
2	AI0001	\$53,000				\$53,000	
3	AI0001	\$1800				\$1,800	
4	AI0001	\$15,000				\$15,000	
5	AI0001	\$7,500				\$7,500	
Total Annual Cost						\$102,300	
Start up - one-time cost						\$25,000	
Net Requested Investment						\$127,300	

NOTE: Approved expansions may require documentation of positive impact.

1. Describe the existing proposed program and justify the request in detail (e.g., establish new position include position title, student workers, training).

1. Support AI initiative by providing funding for pilot software, server hardware, and cloud services
2. Support AI initiative by providing funding for two student workers to assist in the maintaining and deploying of software and hardware
3. Cover the expense of telecom resources
4. Provide training to campus and community outreach
5. Provide training to staff who will support the AI hardware and software

2. A. What are the benefits of implementing/expanding the base budget specifically as it relates to recruitment, retention and/or health and safety?

1. AI0001 – AI is a quickly changing field. Without proper funding for software the University risks losing new and continuing students to schools who are willing to invest in this area.
2. AI0001 – AI tools can require significant time to configure properly. Without having the appropriate staffing levels to support the initiative tools may not be configured in a timely manner for classes which can impact student retention.
3. AI0001 – Staff need to be reachable to support the software and hardware. If phones are not provided support may not be available in a timely manner for classes which can impact student retention.
4. AI0001 – With the availability of new tools the campus community needs to know they are available and how to use them. If instructors do not know how to use the technology this could lead to a loss in confidence in their abilities and affect student retention.
5. AI0001 – Those who support the AI technology need training on how to use it and support it.

FY2026 Expansion Option Request Form – 3 page limit

Budget Request #	3
Budget Request Description	AI Academic Technology Support
Contact Name:	George Claffey/Thom King

Without this funding they will lack the needed skills which will impact uptime for the AI tools. Increased downtime can have impacts on recruitment and retention.

B. What are the consequences if budget expansion is not supported as it relates to recruitment, retention and/or health and safety?

Central Connecticut State University made a large investment into the AI space. As an emerging technology there is rapid change and progress. Without funding to support this space and stay up to date with the latest improvement in AI Central risks falling behind which will allow other schools to take the lead. This can impact both recruitment and retention as students would want to go to a school with the latest in AI not the one that has the outdate technology.

- 3. **Does this expansion align with the new guiding pillars for the System which are Access, Completion and Talent (ACT)? If so, explain the alignment.**

- 4. **Does this program/request overlap or have interrelationships and/or interdependencies with other programs, departments or divisions? If so, describe. Include feedback from these entities verifying support for the request.**

This request supports enables IT division to help all the Academic Departments that are using the AI corridor.

- 5. **For the index/indices to be funded, specify whether the funding is for discretionary personnel services/operating expenses (DPS/OE) or personnel services (PS) (i.e., salaried employees).**
 - 1. AI0001 – OE
 - 2. AI0001 – OE
 - 3. AI0001 – DPS
 - 4. AI0001 – OE
 - 5. AI0001 – OE

- 6. **If this request cannot be funded through reallocation, explain why. If this request can be partially or completely funded through reallocation, please describe.**

N/A

- 7. **If this initiative is approved does it require any additional space or special technology? If yes, confirm you have consulted with Facilities/IT and describe the need below.**

FY2026 Expansion Option Request Form – 3 page limit

Budget Request #	3
Budget Request Description	AI Academic Technology Support
Contact Name:	George Claffey/Thom King

Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
IT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

Description:

- 8. Describe connection(s) with the 2030 Strategic Plan, specifying which goal(s) and objective(s) it supports and/or connection with NECHE Standard, identifying applicable standards (e.g. NECHE 5.3).**

FY2026 Expansion Option Request Form – 3 page limit

Budget Request #	4
Budget Request Description	Admin I Trainee (Security Team)
Contact Name:	George Claffey/Sean McNickle/Technical Services

Itemize Components of Request (add additional rows if needed)	Index to be Funded	Annual Amount Requested	Fringe Benefit (30% for all FT emp, 7.4% - PT lect)	Index for Reallocation	(Reallocation Amount)	Total Annual Request	Additional Comments
Admin I Trainee	INFO05	48,500	14,550	INFO05	35,000	28,050	
Total Annual Cost						\$28,050	
Start up - one-time cost							
Net Requested Investment						\$28,050	

NOTE: Approved expansions may require documentation of positive impact.

1. Describe the existing proposed program and justify the request in detail (e.g., establish new position include position title, student workers, training).

The Technical Services group in the IT division is seeking approval for partial funding of a new position. This position will fund an Admin I Trainee who will start in the Security team. Expanding the Security team is crucial to addressing the increasing complexity and volume of cybersecurity threats. By growing the team, we demonstrate that Central understands the increasing dangers to our data and is committed to ensuring compliance with regulations such as FERPA and GLBA, as well as conducting regular audits.

2. A. What are the benefits of implementing/expanding the base budget specifically as it relates to recruitment, retention and/or health and safety?

The position would be part of the Security Team that provides support to the IT division, students, faculty, staff access, and the entire network, and works to protect the data entrusted to Central.

B. What are the consequences if budget expansion is not supported as it relates to recruitment, retention and/or health and safety?

Failing to support this position limits the reach and effectiveness of the Security team.

FY2026 Expansion Option Request Form – 3 page limit

Budget Request #	4
Budget Request Description	Admin I Trainee (Security Team)
Contact Name:	George Claffey/Sean McNickle/Technical Services

3. Does this expansion align with the new guiding pillars for the System which are Access, Completion and Talent (ACT)? If so, explain the alignment.

4. Does this program/request overlap or have interrelationships and/or interdependencies with other programs, departments or divisions? If so, describe. Include feedback from these entities verifying support for the request.

Yes, this position will work with the PD

5. For the index/indices to be funded, specify whether the funding is for discretionary personal services/operating expenses (DPS/OE) or personal services (PS) (i.e., salaried employees).

PS

6. If this request cannot be funded through reallocation, explain why. If this request can be partially or completely funded through reallocation, please describe.

We are able to partially fund this position through reduction in OE budget.

7. If this initiative is approved does it require any additional space or special technology? If yes, confirm you have consulted with Facilities/IT and describe the need below.

Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
IT	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

8. Describe connection(s) with the 2030 Strategic Plan, specifying which goal(s) and objective(s) it supports and/or connection with NECHE Standard, identifying applicable standards (e.g. NECHE 5.3).

FY2026 Expansion Option Request Form – 3 page limit

Budget Request #	5
Budget Request Description	Qualtrics
Contact Name:	George Claffey

Itemize Components of Request (add additional rows if needed)	Index to be Funded	Annual Amount Requested	Fringe Benefit (30% for all FT emp, 7.4% - PT lect)	Index for Reallocation	(Reallocation Amount)	Total Annual Request	Additional Comments
Qualtrics	INFO02	\$10,000				\$10,000	
Total Annual Cost						\$10,000	
Start up - one-time cost							
Net Requested Investment						\$10,000	

NOTE: Approved expansions may require documentation of positive impact.

1. Describe the existing proposed program and justify the request in detail (e.g., establish new position include position title, student workers, training).

The above represents software requests submitted by teaching faculty to the Information Technology Committee who in turn prioritized them and recommended they be considered for funding.

Qualtrics	Psychology	C. Austad J. Protzko	It has important features for research purposes, such as the ability to split groups into two and then randomize, pseudo-randomization, etc. For research in Psychology, Qualtrics is the gold standard. Select survey is not intuitive and does not provide adequate support. Qualtrics is a survey-building tool. It is used by nearly all researchers who conduct human subjects research. In addition, all students who take courses in departments such as psychology, Criminology, Political Science, can learn to use this amazing tool. It can also be used to build surveys for Department and University Assessment Committees, can be used by Deans and Administrators to easily build surveys for the greater CCSU community.
-----------	------------	-----------------------------	--

2. A. What are the benefits of implementing/expanding the base budget specifically as it relates to recruitment, retention and/or health and safety?

FY2026 Expansion Option Request Form – 3 page limit

Budget Request #	5
Budget Request Description	Qualtrics
Contact Name:	George Claffey

n/a

B. What are the consequences if budget expansion is not supported as it relates to recruitment, retention and/or health and safety?

Many software titles are being requested to enhance the learning experience at CCSU. Without these new applications, retention could suffer.

3. Does this expansion align with the new guiding pillars for the System which are Access, Completion and Talent (ACT)? If so, explain the alignment.

No

4. Does this program/request overlap or have interrelationships and/or interdependencies with other programs, departments or divisions? If so, describe. Include feedback from these entities verifying support for the request.

Community Engagement

5. For the index/indices to be funded, specify whether the funding is for discretionary personal services/operating expenses (DPS/OE) or personal services (PS) (i.e., salaried employees).

OE

6. If this request cannot be funded through reallocation, explain why. If this request can be partially or completely funded through reallocation, please describe.

These are additional titles being requested by teaching faculty for instructional purposes.

7. If this initiative is approved does it require any additional space or special technology? If yes, confirm you have consulted with Facilities/IT and describe the need below.

Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
IT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

Description:

FY2026 Expansion Option Request Form – 3 page limit

Budget Request #	5
Budget Request Description	Qualtrics
Contact Name:	George Claffey

IT would need to install the software based on licensing (site license, individual, etc).

8. Describe connection(s) with the 2030 Strategic Plan, specifying which goal(s) and objective(s) it supports and/or connection with NECHE Standard, identifying applicable standards (e.g. NECHE 5.3).

Goal 1: 1G. Enhance infrastructure support for academic programs, including state-of-the-art classrooms, laboratories, technology, library facilities, galleries, and performance spaces.

NECHE standard 4: The Academic Program

NECHE Standard 7: Institutional Resources



Date: December 2, 2024

From: Dr. Beth Merenstein, AVP for Community Engagement and Experiential Learning and Executive Director of the Center for Community Engagement and Social Research
Re: CCECSR contribution to IT for Qualtrics

To Whom it May Concern:

In 2022, the Center for Community Engagement and Social Research officially changed its name (from the Center for Public Policy and Social Research) and mission to better ensure that the Center becomes a driver of community engagement and expanded social research with the objective of expanded student participation in a wide variety of educational opportunities and experiences. Additionally, the increased need and value of community engagement for students, and real-life educational experience, requires a modification in approach.

The Center for Community Engagement and Social Research will continue to archive the papers of Governor O'Neill's administration and create related oral history programs; serve as a resource to policymakers on critical issues facing Connecticut and preserve the legacy of Governor O'Neill. However, the Center is dedicated to serving the needs of students, faculty and the larger community by recognizing its responsibility to contribute to the public good in its role as a Center for Community Engagement. Specifically, the goals of both the Center and the Office of Community Engagement are to support student success in experiential learning opportunities. Towards that goal, we have various initiatives that require funding these efforts, such as the internship stipend program, the faculty cohort program that supports the development of community engagement courses, and the new experiential learning platform, CentralPulse. At this time, we are unable to continue funding the software survey tool, Qualtrics.

Sincerely,
Beth Merenstein
Dr. Beth Merenstein

FY2026 Expansion Option Request Form – 3 page limit

Budget Request #	6
Budget Request Description	SiteImprove add'l modules
Contact Name:	George Claffey/Christine Castonguay

Itemize Components of Request (add additional rows if needed)	Index to be Funded	Annual Amount Requested	Fringe Benefit (30.0% for all FT emp, 7.65% - PT)	Index for Reallocation	(Reallocation Amount)	Total Annual Request	Additional Comments
SiteImprove Add ons- SEO & Analytics		31,250				31,250	
Total Annual Cost						31,250	
Start up - one-time cost						5,000	
Net Requested Investment						\$36,250	

NOTE: Approved expansions may require documentation of positive impact.

1. Describe the existing proposed program and justify the request in detail (e.g., establish new position include position title, student workers, training).

With the launch of the new Central website in August 2023 the Site Improve platform was purchased to ensure the site was ADA compliant. Site Improve offers additional functionality to assist in key word optimization which will improve our content, google ranking and quality traffic to our site. The web analytics functionality will provide detailed tracking on how users navigate the site and evaluate effectiveness of specific marketing tactics.

2. A. What are the benefits of implementing/expanding the base budget specifically as it relates to recruitment, retention and/or health and safety?

Siteimprove is an industry leader in web optimization, accessibility and Seo which is critical to ensuring our website is ADA compliant. IT funds the platform at the cost of \$42,404 annually. We would like to expand the platform to include Organic SEO Keyword tracking and Advanced Marketing Analytics. These two modules will increase the visibility of Central’s website to prospective students and help increase enrollment through indirect or passive channels. The Central website is the university’s top marketing tool with over 7,000 pages of content.

When comparing the cost of the Siteimprove SEO tool to competitors, the platform is much more affordable. For comparison, Brightedge—another leader in website SEO software—costs \$72,000 per year. The Marketing Analytics tool will be able to provide insight into the effectiveness of the paid marketing campaigns and inform us on where we can focus on making improvements. Additionally, because the analytic data is geared towards marketing, it will be

FY2026 Expansion Option Request Form – 3 page limit

Budget Request #	6
Budget Request Description	SiteImprove add'l modules
Contact Name:	George Claffey/Christine Castonguay

easier to pull meaningful and actionable data from the platform vs Google’s GA4 platform, which we are currently using.

B. What are the consequences if budget expansion is not supported as it relates to recruitment, retention and/or health and safety?

We are not currently optimizing to the full potential of the website. The university website is the largest marketing tool and is the call to action on all materials. It is critical to manage the 7,000 pages of content to support enrollment goals and student retention.

3. Does this expansion align with the new guiding pillars for the System which are Access, Completion and Talent (ACT)? If so, explain the alignment.

The increased functionality to Site Improve aligns with the Access Pillar of ACT. Site Improve provides the capability to effectively market to prospective students, ensures relevant content matches and insight into website activity and usability.

4. Does this program/request overlap or have interrelationships and/or interdependencies with other programs, departments or divisions? If so, describe. Include feedback from these entities verifying support for the request.

IT ensures the site is ADA compliant with the Site Improve platform.
The marketing department manages the tool, website and marketing plan.

5. For the index/indices to be funded, specify whether the funding is for discretionary personnel services/operating expenses (DPS/OE) or personnel services (PS) (i.e., salaried employees).

OE

6. If this request cannot be funded through reallocation, explain why. If this request can be partially or completely funded through reallocation, please describe.

7. If this initiative is approved, does it require any additional space or special technology? If yes, confirm you have consulted with Facilities/IT and describe the need below.

FY2026 Expansion Option Request Form – 3 page limit

Budget Request #	6
Budget Request Description	SiteImprove add'l modules
Contact Name:	George Claffey/Christine Castonguay

Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
IT	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

Description:

- 8. Describe connection(s) with the 2030 Strategic Plan, specifying which goal(s) and objective(s) it supports and/or connection with NECHE Standard, identifying applicable standards (e.g. NECHE 5.3).**

This request connects to Goal 2 – Increasing Access to higher education and ensuring student success, Objective #1 Develop a culture of accessibility as it relates to the ability to develop innovative marketing strategies to attract new and diverse incoming student populations.

FY2026 Expansion Option Request Form – 3 page limit

Budget Request #	7-12
Budget Request Description	ITC Software Requests
Contact Name:	George Claffey/Tina Rivera

Itemize Components of Request (add additional rows if needed)	Index to be Funded	Annual Amount Requested	Fringe Benefit (30.0% for all FT emp, 7.65% - PT)	Index for Reallocation	(Reallocation Amount)	Total Annual Request	Additional Comments
Cloud Servers	INFO02	\$1,500				\$1,500	
Virtual Speech	INFO02	\$6,500				\$6,500	
Sketchup Pro 2024 and Layout	INFO02	\$1,200				\$1,200	
Zap Works Designer	INFO02	\$410				\$410	
Feedback Fruits	INFO02	\$74,903				\$74,903	
Pathway U	INFO02	\$4,500				\$4,500	
Total Annual Cost						\$89,013	
Start up - one-time cost							
Net Requested Investment						\$89,013	

NOTE: Approved expansions may require documentation of positive impact.

1. Describe the existing proposed program and justify the request in detail (e.g., establish new position include position title, student workers, training).

The above represents software requests submitted by teaching faculty to the Information Technology Committee who in turn prioritized them and recommended they be considered for funding.

Item	Software Title	Requesting Department	Requestor	Description
1	Budget for cloud use for CS classes	Computer Science	C. Williams	Several CS department classes require students to run virtual machines and software that are cloud hosted. This budget is for the cloud hosting associated with those classroom needs. This request is being made in relation to CS classes
2	Virtual Speech	Management & Organization / XR Lab	D. Harris	Virtual Speech provides training in speaking in a wide variety of settings as well as soft skill training. It provides experiential learning and AI assisted feedback, giving students consistent, real-time coaching not typically feasible in classroom settings. It is used across multiple disciplines (it is the most widely used software in the xR Lab) and its use has grown steadily as others become aware of its potential.
3	SketchUp Pro 2024 (desktop version) and Layout	Manufacturing & Construction Management	N. Lee	In construction management, SketchUp is important for visualizing designs in 3D, improving communication with stakeholders, and ensuring accurate, scaled models for planning. It allows for quick revisions, helping managers detect issues early, reducing errors. SketchUp's integration with BIM tools supports data-rich models for efficient project management and coordination.

FY2026 Expansion Option Request Form – 3 page limit

Budget Request #	7-12
Budget Request Description	ITC Software Requests
Contact Name:	George Claffey/Tina Rivera

4	Zap Works Designer	Art & Design (Design - Graphic/Information)	W. Wang	Zap Work Designer is an essential program used in Des 425 and also Des 222 to develop students' adaptive design skills that are highly needed in the industry and sought after at job market.
5.	Feedback Fruits	IDTRC	J. Nicoletti	Competency-based education (CBE) is gaining traction in higher education. According to the C-RAC, competencies are assessed based on students' abilities rather than just their knowledge. CBE allows flexible pacing and supports workforce development. FeedbackFruits enables innovative pedagogical approaches like collaboration and CBE. A meta-analysis of 225 studies found that students in science, engineering, and math performed better and were less likely to fail with active learning methods compared to traditional teaching. A systematic review and meta-analysis showed these benefits were greater for low-income and underrepresented minority students. These learning opportunities align with CCSU's Strategic Plan 2030, preparing graduates for diverse professional environments. Instructors can use FeedbackFruits to foster an inclusive culture that values respectful idea exchange. The Group Member Evaluation tool lets students assess peers based on instructor-set criteria, promoting growth and accountability. We are currently in a pilot-phase of the software. Thus, this can be limiting to the adoption numbers.
6	Pathway U	CLASS Dean / Career Development Office	C. Bragg	This software platform is extremely engaging compared to what is currently being used in the Career Development office, and is scientifically validated. The engaging nature of platform, the validity of the assessment tools, the customizable progress pathway and the coaching reports make this an essential tool for career readiness across the university.

2. A. What are the benefits of implementing/expanding the base budget specifically as it relates to recruitment, retention and/or health and safety?

n/a

B. What are the consequences if budget expansion is not supported as it relates to recruitment, retention and/or health and safety?

Many software titles are being requested to enhance the learning experience at CCSU. Without these new applications, retention could suffer.

3. Does this expansion align with the new guiding pillars for the System which are Access, Completion and Talent (ACT)? If so, explain the alignment.

No

FY2026 Expansion Option Request Form – 3 page limit

Budget Request #	7-12
Budget Request Description	ITC Software Requests
Contact Name:	George Claffey/Tina Rivera

4. Does this program/request overlap or have interrelationships and/or interdependencies with other programs, departments or divisions? If so, describe. Include feedback from these entities verifying support for the request.

The Information Technology Committee

5. For the index/indices to be funded, specify whether the funding is for discretionary personnel services/operating expenses (DPS/OE) or personnel services (PS) (i.e., salaried employees).

OE

6. If this request cannot be funded through reallocation, explain why. If this request can be partially or completely funded through reallocation, please describe.

These are additional titles being requested by teaching faculty for instructional purposes.

7. If this initiative is approved does it require any additional space or special technology? If yes, confirm you have consulted with Facilities/IT and describe the need below.

Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
IT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

Description:

IT would need to install the software based on licensing (site license, individual, etc).

8. Describe connection(s) with the 2030 Strategic Plan, specifying which goal(s) and objective(s) it supports and/or connection with NECHE Standard, identifying applicable standards (e.g. NECHE 5.3).

Goal 1: 1G. Enhance infrastructure support for academic programs, including state-of-the-art classrooms, laboratories, technology, library facilities, galleries, and performance spaces.

NECHE standard 4: The Academic Program

NECHE Standard 7: Institutional Resources