



FY 2023-24 Efficiencies

March 20, 2025

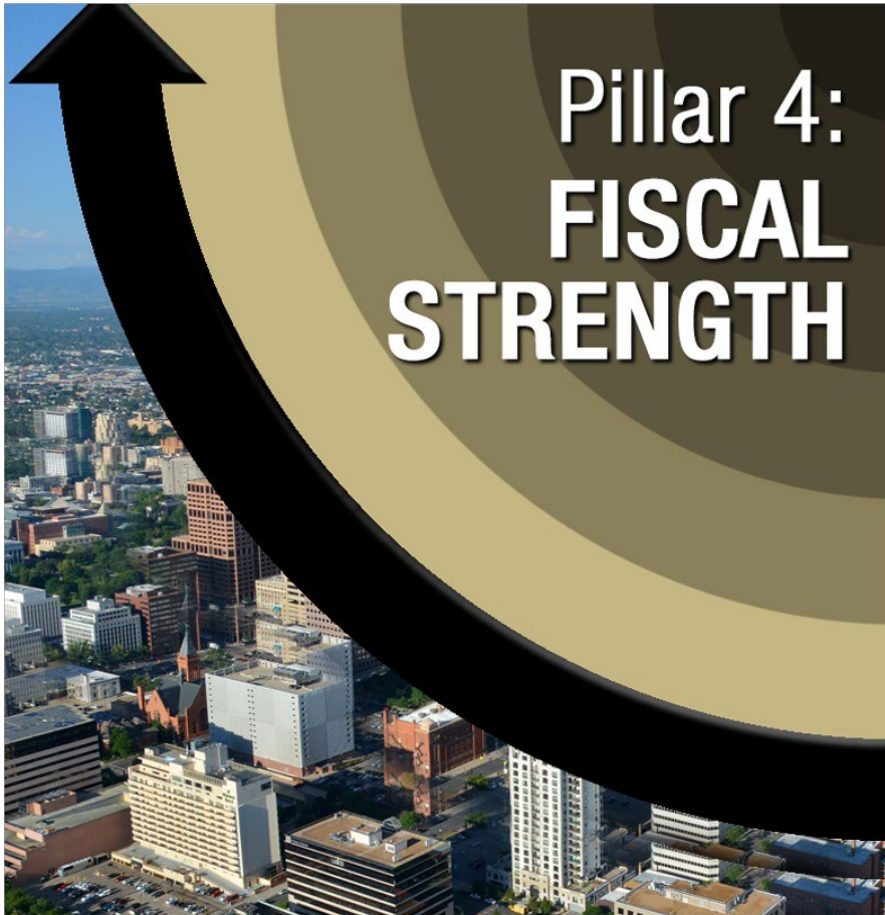
Regent Finance Committee



University of Colorado

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Introduction



The university reports annually on its ongoing efforts to increase efficiency and deliver greater value. These efforts result in savings for students, departments, campuses, and employees.

Efficiency Efforts

Streamline Student Services Access

- Review and update processes and resources to ensure students can easily access services

Cost Savings through Standardization

- Enhance standardized operating procedures and maximize current resources to achieve cost savings

Energy Efficiency Upgrades

- Upgrade building infrastructure, including LED lights, HVAC, freezers, and other equipment, to reduce energy costs

Personnel Savings

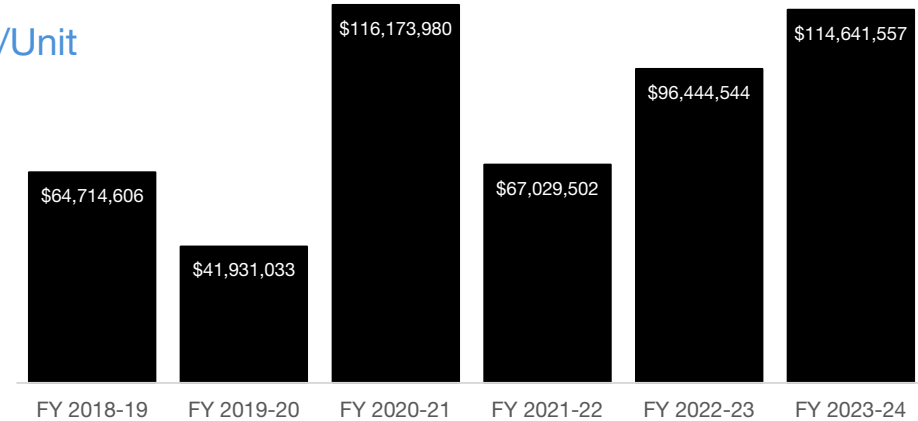
- Realize personnel savings by restructuring and reorganizing administrative areas and implementing new systems

Technology Utilization for Paperless Initiatives

- Utilize technology to advance paperless initiatives and improve processes

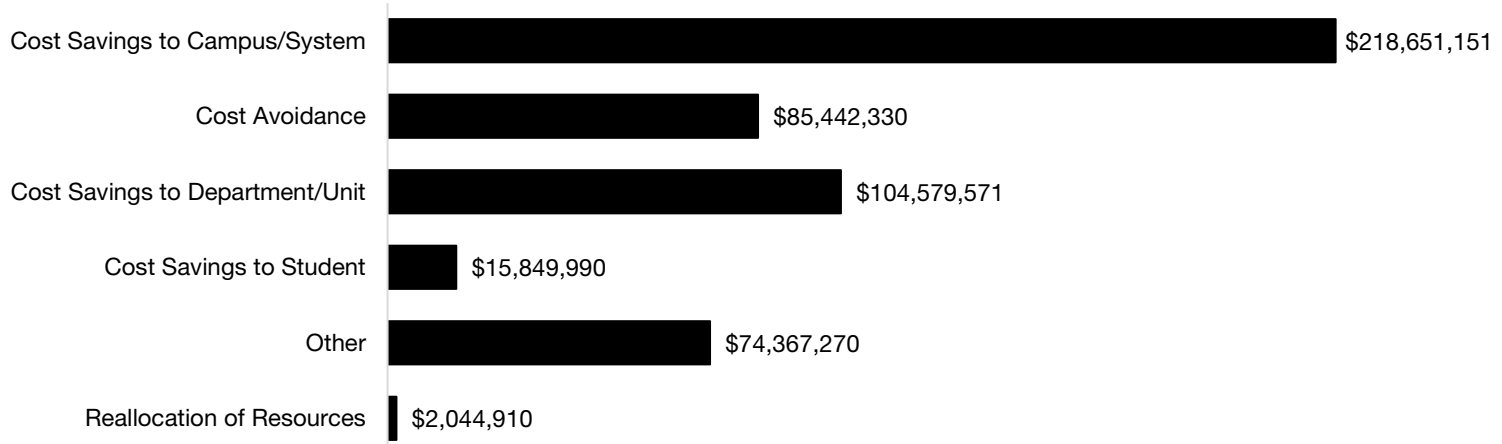
- The university reports annually on its ongoing efforts to increase efficiency and deliver greater value. These efforts result in savings to students, departments, campuses, and employees.

- Cost Savings to Campus/System
- Cost Savings to Department/Unit
- Cost Avoidance
- Cost Savings to Student
- Other
- Reallocation of Resources



\$501 million
FY 2018-19 to FY 2023-24

FY 2018-19 to FY 2023-24



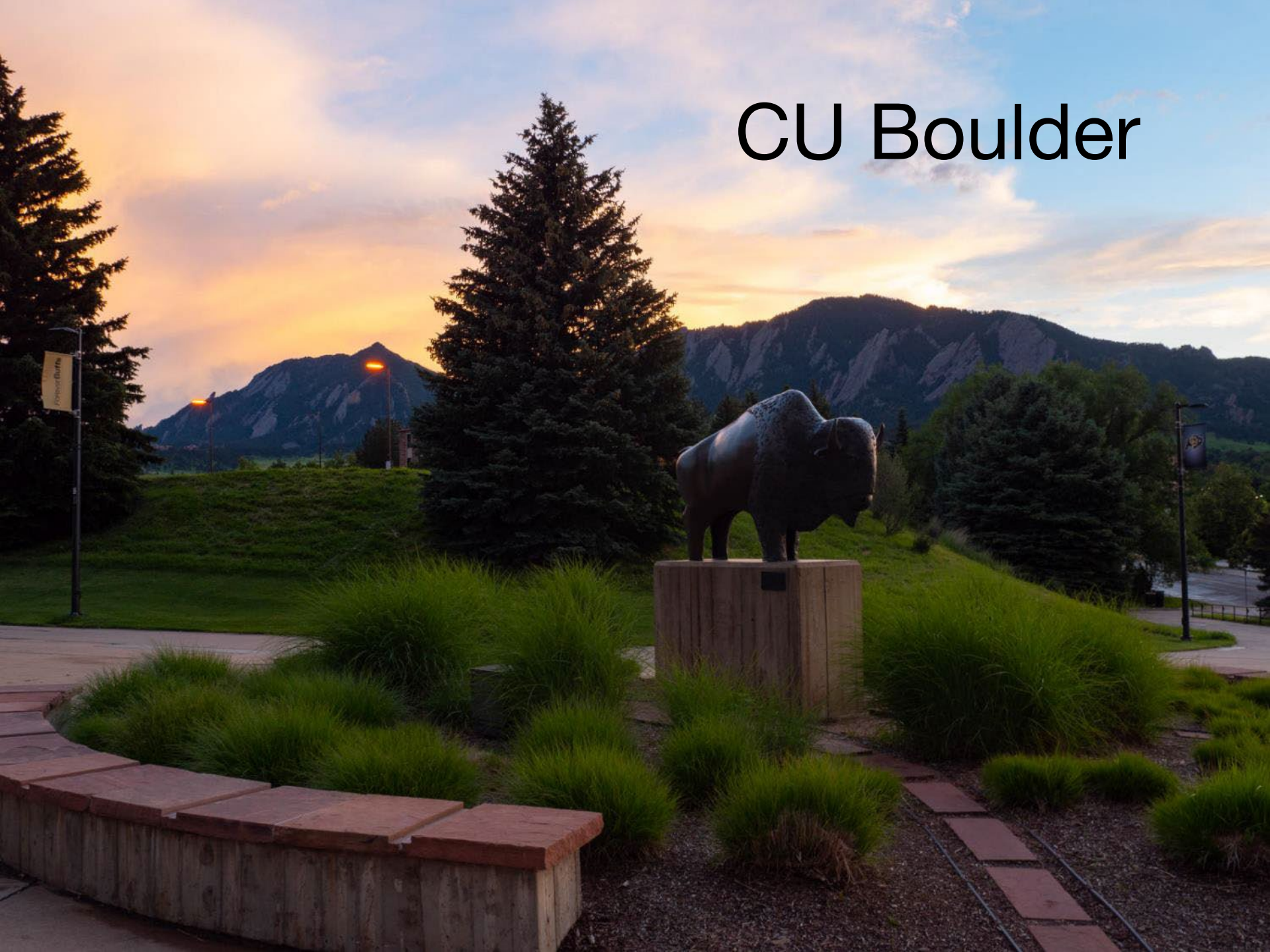
Source: CU System Budget & Finance, Operating Efficiencies Report

FY 2023-24 CU Efficiencies Overview

Efficiency Type	Actions	Estimated Savings
Cost Avoidance	68	\$ 30,812,634
Cost Savings to Campus/ System	99	\$ 57,489,348
Cost Savings to Department/ Unit	210	\$ 16,246,824
Cost Savings to Student	10	\$ 3,436,938
Other	33	\$ 6,467,509
Reallocation of Resources	5	\$ 188,304
TOTAL	425	\$ 114,641,556

Accumulate Savings for Investment	14	\$ 5,932,273
Other	24	\$ 5,288,100
Redirect Savings to Area of Need outside Department/Unit	28	\$ 30,344,956
Redirect Savings to Area of Need within Department/Unit	110	\$ 13,218,422
Reduce Ongoing Costs of Operation	249	\$ 59,857,805
TOTAL	425	\$ 114,641,556

CU Boulder



FY 2023-24 CU Boulder Efficiencies

Efficiency Type	Actions	Estimated Savings
Cost Avoidance	5	\$ 205,087
Cost Savings to Campus/ System	13	\$ 802,791
Cost Savings to Department/ Unit	64	\$ 2,145,795
Cost Savings to Student	3	\$ 72,701
Other	13	\$ 1,643,664
Reallocation of Resources	1	\$ 81,871
TOTAL	100	\$ 4,951,909

Accumulate Savings for Investment	2	\$ 159,428
Other	6	\$ 1,820,528
Redirect Savings to Area of Need outside Department/Unit	3	\$ 75,500
Redirect Savings to Area of Need within Department/Unit	13	\$ 182,567
Reduce Ongoing Costs of Operation	76	\$ 2,713,885
TOTAL	100	\$ 4,951,909

CU Boulder Efficiencies

Students

- University Libraries joined with the Office of Information Technology to buy iClickers at a discount, allowing for students to use them free of charge
 - iClickers are a classroom response system allowing for enhanced engagement between students and instructors
 - \$2,200 estimated annual savings
- Wardenburg Health Center has enabled students with Medicaid to access their services, eliminating the need for out-of-pocket payments or the purchase of Buffcare
 - In FY 2023-24, 93 students with Medicaid would have previously purchased Buffcare at \$500, a savings of \$46,500
 - Will be an ongoing savings depending on utilization going forward

CU Boulder Efficiencies

Space and Infrastructure

- Facilities Management used in-house landscape architects to design and produce construction documentation
 - \$10,000 estimated annual savings
- Real Estate Services offset administrative costs through property management arrangements with outside entities
 - \$353,000 estimated annual savings

Operational

- Budget and Fiscal Planning implemented a budget planning tool
 - The tool automates processes resulting in efficiencies and standardization
 - \$35,000 estimated annual savings
- Environment Health and Safety used in-house services for Radiation Safety and X-ray machines annual maintenance, operations, and certification
 - \$336,000 estimated annual savings

CU Boulder Efficiencies

Leveraging Technology

- Enrollment Management leveraged the capabilities of OnBase software to automate and streamline scholarship check processing
 - Minimized manual work and decreased the volume of customer service inquiries from students about delays in processing their scholarship checks
 - \$10,000 estimated annual savings
- Human Resources transitioned some of its professional development to an on-campus group setting
 - By using a group setting on campus, HR reduced annual costs associated with travel to trainings and conferences
 - \$22,000 estimated annual savings

CU Denver



FY 2023-24 CU Denver Efficiencies

Efficiency Type	Actions	Estimated Savings
Cost Avoidance	16	\$ 333,843
Cost Savings to Campus/ System	2	\$ 64,784
Cost Savings to Department/ Unit	14	\$ 557,497
Other	3	\$ 2,512
Reallocation of Resources	3	\$ 66,433
TOTAL	38	\$ 1,025,068

Other	4	\$ 21,919
Redirect Savings to Area of Need outside Department/Unit	0	\$ 1,259
Redirect Savings to Area of Need within Department/Unit	10	\$ 435,687
Reduce Ongoing Costs of Operation	24	\$ 566,203
TOTAL	38	\$ 1,025,068

CU Denver Efficiencies

Space and Infrastructure

- Maximizing the use of existing resources, minimizing unnecessary expenditures, and improving space utilization
 - Eliminated budget for furniture and repurposed existing items.
 - Converted classroom spaces to multiple/flex-use spaces.
 - Limited work to essential repairs and maintenance.
 - \$35,000 estimated annual savings

CU Denver Efficiencies

Operational

- Reduced printing, eliminated copier contracts, reduced phone lines, and implementation of more efficient standardized operating procedures
 - \$415,000 estimated annual savings*
- Reduction of expenses through researching competing vendors, and utilizing enterprise agreements
 - \$266,000 estimated annual savings
- Personnel savings as a result of restructuring and reorganizing administrative areas, earning certifications to provide services in-house, and eliminating positions through attrition
 - \$418,000 estimated annual savings

*\$215,000 of savings is from consolidated entities, shared with the CU Anschutz campus

CU Denver Efficiencies

Leveraging Technology

- Utilization of technology to further paperless initiatives and process improvements
 - Switched to online forms for Teacher Assistants' applications
 - Routed documents through DocuSign
 - Created Formstack for Purchase Orders/Standing Purchase Orders, saving time for the accounting team
 - Used online servers instead of external storage, saving money and enhancing collaboration.
 - Transitioned donor "thank you" cards to electronic options, saving costs on printing, publication, and mailing
 - Shared Canvas shell for faculty course guidance, saving time.
 - \$86,000 estimated annual savings*

*\$54,000 of savings is from consolidated entities, shared with the CU Anschutz campus

CU Anschutz Medical Campus



FY 2023-24 CU Anschutz Efficiencies

Efficiency Type	Actions	Estimated Savings
Cost Avoidance	22	\$ 2,593,262
Cost Savings to Campus/ System	15	\$ 4,065,373
Cost Savings to Department/ Unit	37	\$ 873,873
Other	9	\$ 138,603
TOTAL	83	\$ 7,671,112

Other	7	\$ 82,416
Redirect Savings to Area of Need outside Department/Unit	4	\$ 240,162
Redirect Savings to Area of Need within Department/Unit	22	\$ 524,147
Reduce Ongoing Costs of Operation	50	\$ 6,824,387
TOTAL	83	\$ 7,671,112

CU Anschutz Efficiencies

Space and Infrastructure

- Energy efficiency measures
 - Xcel Energy rebates for energy savings initiatives and savings from purchasing natural gas directly from suppliers
 - Replacement of inefficient lighting with LED light sources
 - Replacement of -80 degree freezers with more efficient Sterling Freezer units resulting in utility savings
 - Upgraded HVAC units to more energy-efficient equipment and transitioned to more environmentally friendly refrigerant
 - Continued removal of bluegrass on the Anschutz campus, resulting in savings on water, fertilizer, and maintenance costs
 - \$3.1 million estimated annual savings

CU Anschutz Efficiencies

Operational

- Cost savings resulting from elimination of some phones and copier contracts and investments in programs to retain students and employees
 - \$2.7 million estimated annual savings*
- Reduction of expenses through cross-campus collaborations, researching competing vendors, and negotiating pricing agreements
 - \$186,000 estimated annual savings
- Personnel and operating savings from consolidating functions, reorganizing teams and cross-training in administrative areas
 - \$860,000 estimated annual savings

*\$215,000 of savings is from consolidated entities, shared with the CU Denver campus

CU Anschutz Efficiencies

Leverage Technology

- Utilization of technology to further paperless initiatives and process improvements
 - Implemented Smartsheet, Formstack and Power Automate technologies to replace manual and paper processes in academic and administrative areas
 - Implemented PowerBI dashboards to provide efficient access to clinical operation and billing activity data, facilitating quicker decision making and time savings
 - Migrated tech transfer software to a new vendor hosted system, with automations, integrations and reporting to enhance commercialization support
 - \$827,000 estimated annual savings*

*\$54,000 of savings is from consolidated entities, shared with the CU Denver campus

UCCS



FY 2023-24 UCCS Efficiencies

Efficiency Type	Actions	Estimated Savings
Cost Avoidance	9	\$ 197,300
Cost Savings to Campus/System	14	\$ 2,069,475
Cost Savings to Department/ Unit	35	\$ 403,492
Cost Savings to Student	7	\$ 3,364,237
Other	1	\$ 50,000
Reallocation of Resources	1	\$ 40,000
TOTAL	67	\$ 6,124,504

Accumulate Savings for Investment	3	\$ 1,132,615
Other	7	\$ 3,363,237
Redirect Savings to Area of Need outside Department/Unit	2	\$ 11,160
Redirect Savings to Area of Need within Department/Unit	32	\$ 177,815
Reduce Ongoing Costs of Operation	23	\$ 1,439,677
TOTAL	67	\$ 6,124,504

UCCS Efficiencies

Students

- Textbook Affordability and Access Program (TAAP) provides students easy and affordable access to their textbooks by the first day of class
 - \$3.23 million estimated annual savings

Space and Infrastructure

- Campus HVAC System
 - Optimized building scheduling and sequences to reduce campus utility costs
 - \$560,000 estimated annual savings
- Energy and Sustainability metric reporting is now completed by staff
 - \$48,000 estimated annual savings

UCCS Efficiencies

Operational

- Human Resources streamlined the personnel search models
 - Shortening job posting durations and administrative efforts, which reduced the average time-to-fill by 52%, minimizing candidate loss, improved hiring
 - \$260,000 estimated annual cost savings
- Personnel and operating savings from consolidating functions and reorganizing teams
 - \$139,000 estimated annual savings
- Cost savings resulting from transitioning from physical phones to Teams phones
 - \$26,000 estimated annual savings

UCCS Efficiencies

Leveraging Technology

- Office of Research Integrity implemented an online processing application that will automate manual tasks for the Institutional Review Board (IRB) application and back-office system
 - \$15,000 estimated annual savings

System Administration



FY 2023-24 System Administration Efficiencies

Efficiency Type	Actions	Estimated Savings
Cost Avoidance	15	\$ 27,483,142
Cost Savings to Campus/ System	55	\$ 50,486,925
Cost Savings to Department/ Unit	60	\$ 12,266,167
Other	7	\$ 4,632,730
TOTAL	137	\$ 94,868,963

Accumulate Savings for Investment	9	\$ 4,640,230
Redirect Savings to Area of Need outside Department/Unit	19	\$ 30,016,875
Redirect Savings to Area of Need within Department/Unit	33	\$ 11,898,206
Reduce Ongoing Costs of Operation	76	\$ 48,313,653
TOTAL	137	\$ 94,868,963

System Administration Efficiencies

- Risk Management - Total Property/Casualty/Workers' Compensation Self-Insurance Program Recovery Savings
 - \$9.2 million estimated annual savings
- Treasury – Refinanced existing bonds, refunded bonds and commercial paper, and other debt savings
 - \$29.6 million estimated annual savings
- University Controller – Investigated, pursued, and received an abatement of tax penalties for campuses
 - \$242,000 estimated one-time savings
- CU Health Plan – Moved mail order and specialty pharmacy to CVS
 - \$12.5 million estimated savings
- PSC – Implemented a streamlined procurement solution for purchases with strategic suppliers
 - \$969,000 estimated annual savings