

Cabinet approves 2027 budget adjustments; more money for UNACHI

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Summary

On Tuesday 20 October the Cabinet Council approved reallocations within Panama's 2027 national budget, including \$10 million more for the University of Chiriquí (UNACHI) and \$23 million more for the National Assembly, while cutting Meduca's funds.

Details (summary of the article)

La Prensa reports that the Cabinet Council on Tuesday 20 October approved changes to the 2027 national budget, following recommendations from the National Assembly's Budget Committee. Economy and Finance Minister Felipe Chapman said the overall budget does not grow — it stays at just over \$35,111 million — and that resources were simply moved to where they are most needed, such as public works and emergency response. Thirteen central government bodies and 17 decentralised entities gain funds, including \$10 million extra for the Autonomous University of Chiriquí (UNACHI), relevant to Chiriquí students, and \$23 million for the Assembly's operating costs. The Education Ministry (Meduca) loses \$15.4 million, the National Decentralisation Authority \$18.2 million, and debt service is reduced by \$416.6 million. While the Presidency described the changes as \$186.8 million, Cabinet Resolution 116 of 20 October shows a larger figure of \$450.8 million (\$170.3 million operations, \$280.4 million investment). Requests tied to hospital infrastructure damaged by the earthquake will instead be covered through special emergency mechanisms to avoid duplication. The adjustments must now be incorporated into bill 644, the 2027 general state budget.

Original (es)

Estos son los ajustes al presupuesto de 2027; el Gabinete aprueba más fondos para la Asamblea y la Unachi
Cabe recordar que la Comisión de Presupuesto aprobó la semana pasada una resolución en la que pide al MEF reformular el proyecto de presupuesto general del Estado para 2027 e incorporar \$199.1 millones.