

## Education Department, State

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### Mission

The State Education Department (SED) is the administrative agency of the Board of Regents. The Department's primary mission is to raise the knowledge, skill, and opportunity level of all the people in New York.

### Organization and Staffing

The Board of Regents oversees the State Education Department, which was originally established by the Legislature in 1784 and subsequently continued in the State Constitution. The Board of Regents is comprised of 17 members—one for each of the State's 13 judicial districts and four statewide members—who are elected by a joint session of the Legislature for staggered 5-year terms. The Board elects its chair, who holds the title Chancellor, and appoints the Commissioner of Education as the chief administrative officer of the Department. The Department's central operations are located in the Education Building in Albany. The Department also has regional service facilities at various locations throughout the State.

### Budget Highlights

The FY 2021 Executive Budget recommends \$37.8 billion for the State Education Department. The Executive Budget recommends a workforce of 2,692 FTEs for the State Education Department, the same level as the prior year.

Major budget actions include:

- School Aid Increase:** The FY 2021 Executive Budget provides an overall School Aid increase of \$826 million (3.0 percent), with over 80 percent of this year's increase directed to high-need school districts. This includes funding for a \$704 million increase in Foundation Aid, 85 percent of which is directed to high-need school districts; a community schools set-aside increase of \$50 million for the continued transformation of high-need schools into community hubs; \$72 million in reimbursements for expense-based aids; a \$15 million expansion of high-quality prekindergarten for three- and four-year-old children; a \$10 million expansion of Empire State After School grants to high-need districts; and an additional \$6 million for early college high schools.
- More Progressive Foundation Aid:** While New York spends more per pupil than any other state in the country, almost double the national average, longstanding politics, complex funding formulas, and disparities in local wealth and local property taxes have perpetuated an unfortunate reality—higher-need districts receive less total funding per pupil than lower-need districts. To generate greater equity and advance the closure of this education funding gap, and to more progressively distribute State funding to New York's neediest districts, the Executive Budget recommends the consolidation of 10 expense-based aid categories into Foundation Aid starting in the 2020-21 school year. Currently, only 50 percent of these 10 expense-based aids are distributed to high-need districts, compared to more than 70 percent of Foundation Aid. To direct more expense-based aid to high-need districts, the Budget proposes legislation to consolidate these expense-based aids into Foundation Aid so that future funding increases can be more progressively targeted to the State's neediest districts.
- Community Schools:** The Budget continues the Governor's push to transform New York's high-need schools into community schools. Last year's Budget invested \$250 million as a set-aside within Foundation Aid to support the Governor's community schools efforts across the State. This year, the FY 2021 Budget increases the community schools set-aside amount by \$50 million, to a total of \$300 million. This increased funding is targeted to districts with schools in need of comprehensive support and improvement (CSI) due to their academic performance, as well as districts with a large and/or growing population of English language learners. In addition, the Budget expands the number of districts receiving community schools funding to 440 districts—an increase of 200 districts. This ensures all lower-wealth districts across the State can apply community schools funds to a wide-range of activities, including hiring community school coordinators, providing before- and after-school mentoring services, offering summer learning activities, and providing health and dental care services.
- Prekindergarten:** The Budget includes an additional \$15 million investment in prekindergarten to expand high-quality half-day and full-day prekindergarten instruction for over 2,000 three- and four-year-old children in high-need school districts. Preference for these funds will be given to the few remaining high-need school districts currently without a prekindergarten program, and will focus on including students in integrated or community-based settings. The Budget also continues the State's \$5 million investment in the implementation of QUALITYstarsNY, New York's quality rating and improvement system intended to ensure the State's youngest students are enrolled in the highest quality prekindergarten programs possible.

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- **Empire State After School Program:** The FY 2021 Budget provides \$10 million to fund a fourth round of Empire State After School awards. These funds will provide an additional 6,250 students with public after school care in high-need communities across the State. Funding will be targeted to school districts with high rates of childhood homelessness and communities vulnerable to gang activity. This expansion will provide more young people with safe environments to engage in sports, music, and other educational programming during after school hours.
- **Early College High Schools:** New York currently has over 90 early college high school programs serving thousands of students in every region of the State. These programs allow students to get a jump start on college by providing opportunities to earn college credit or an associate's degree. To further build upon the success of the existing programs, the Budget commits an additional \$6 million to create at least 10 new early college high school programs. This expansion will target communities with low graduation rates.
- **Syracuse Comprehensive Education and Workforce Training Center:** To meet the emerging science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics demands in Syracuse, the Executive Budget proposes the creation of the State's first regional Comprehensive Education and Workforce Training Center in Central New York. Administered by the Syracuse City School District in partnership with SUNY Empire State College and other local colleges and universities, the Center will provide specialized educational opportunities and state of the art workforce training programs in advanced technologies to students and residents throughout the region. The State will reimburse 98 percent, or \$71.4 million, of the cost to renovate the building that will house the Center. The Syracuse Comprehensive Education and Workforce Training Center is scheduled to open in 2021 and will ultimately serve 1,000 students, as well as residents of the community.
- **Charter Schools:** The FY 2021 Executive Budget increases charter school tuition in alignment with public school spending and provides New York City charter schools with a total per pupil funding increase of 5.3 percent. This will allow charter schools to continue to innovate, recruit high-quality teachers and staff, and provide strong educational options for New York's families and students.
- **Nonpublic Schools:** Approximately 400,000 elementary and secondary students attend more than 1,600 nonpublic schools in New York State. The Executive Budget increases aid by 3 percent, to \$199 million, to reimburse nonpublic schools' costs for State-mandated activities. The Budget also provides \$35 million for science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) instruction, a \$5 million increase. In addition, the Budget continues \$15 million in annual capital funding provided to nonpublic schools for health and safety projects.
- **Reining in Expense-Based Aids:** Since FY 2012, school district spending on non-instructional expenses such as construction and transportation has outpaced inflation. To encourage school districts to control spending and free up additional State resources for more progressive Foundation Aid increases, the FY 2021 Budget advances legislation to cap growth in future Transportation Aid for operating expenses to the greater of inflation or inflation plus district enrollment growth, eliminate a regressive reimbursement aid ratio within Transportation Aid, and propose a new tier of Building Aid for projects approved beginning in the 2020-21 school year.

For more information on this agency's budget recommendations located in the Executive Budget Briefing Book, click on the following link:

### Program Highlights

Under the policy direction of the Board of Regents, operational responsibilities of the State Education Department include administration, regulation and review of numerous education programs. The following provides a description of the major program areas administered by the Department:

#### **School Aid**

School Aid helps support elementary and secondary education for New York pupils enrolled in the 673 major school districts throughout the State. State funding is provided to districts based on statutory aid formulas and through reimbursement of categorical expenses such as prekindergarten programs, education of homeless children, and bilingual education. State funding for schools assists districts in meeting locally defined needs, supports the construction of school facilities, and finances school transportation for nearly three million students statewide.

#### **New York State Prekindergarten**

Under the leadership of Governor Cuomo, the State has more than doubled its annual commitment to prekindergarten from \$385 million to nearly \$850 million. This year, over 128,000 students will be enrolled in the State's publicly-funded prekindergarten programs—75 percent of whom will be served in full-day spots. In addition, the State also provides funding to support the implementation of QUALITYstarsNY—a tiered quality rating and improvement system for early childhood programs across the State—which seeks to improve the quality of early learning childcare facilities by assessing programs and providing continuous support for early childhood professionals. This additional support helps monitor the rigor and quality of the State's

prekindergarten portfolio and helps ensure all children are enrolled in high quality programs.

**Smart Schools Bond Act**

In November 2014, the Smart Schools Bond Act, proposed by Governor Cuomo, was approved by voters. The Smart Schools Bond Act provides \$2 billion in funding for districts to reimagine classrooms and provide New York’s students with the technological resources, skills, and learning environments necessary to succeed in the 21st century. Funding supports enhanced education technologies, including infrastructure improvements, high-speed broadband internet access, and active learning technologies. Additionally, the Smart Schools Bond Act supports the State’s long-term investments in full-day prekindergarten through the construction of new prekindergarten classrooms, the replacement of classroom trailers with permanent classroom spaces, and high-tech school safety programs. To date, over 750 Smart Schools Investment Plans totaling almost \$1.4 billion have been approved by the Smart Schools Review Board.

**Programs for Students with Disabilities**

The State provides a full range of special education services to approximately 500,000 students with disabilities, from ages 3 to 21. Eighty-five percent of these students are school-age students, and the remaining 15 percent are preschool children. Approximately 405,000 school-age students with disabilities are served by public school districts, while roughly 15,000 students require specialized educational settings in private schools, State Supported Schools for the Blind and Deaf, Special Act School Districts, or one of the State-Operated Schools at Rome and Batavia. Preschool special education services, for children ages 3 to 5, are delivered primarily by private providers; however some school districts and BOCES provide these services as well.

**Cultural Education**

Cultural Education programs administered by the State Education Department include support for public broadcasting stations and aid to public libraries and library systems. SED also administers the State’s major cultural institutions located in the Cultural Education Center in Albany, including the State Archives, the State Library and the State Museum. These institutions are responsible for increasing the knowledge and information resources of State and local government, businesses, and individuals.

**Higher Education and Regulation of the Professions**

Higher and professional education programs oversee the quality and availability of post-secondary education programs, and license and regulate over 50 professions. The Office of Higher Education oversees colleges, universities and proprietary schools; is responsible for the certification of teachers and other school professionals; and oversees programs to improve teacher preparation and recruitment. The Office of Professions oversees the preparation, licensure, practice and discipline of more than 50 professions regulated pursuant to Title VIII of the Education Law, including Nursing, Dentistry, Public Accountancy and Engineering.

**Adult Career and Continuing Education Services**

The Office for Adult Career and Continuing Education Services (ACCES) focuses on the education and employment needs of New York State’s adult population by offering a full range of employment and independent living services to persons with disabilities; overseeing the development of adult education programs that support adult literacy, English language instruction, high school equivalency test preparation and other services; and licensing and regulating the non-degree granting proprietary schools in New York State.

**ALL FUNDS  
APPROPRIATIONS  
(dollars)**

Category	Available FY 2020	Appropriations Recommended FY 2021	Change From FY 2020	Reappropriations Recommended FY 2021
State Operations	611,923,000	611,790,000	(133,000)	615,371,328
Aid To Localities	36,655,540,850	37,149,577,850	494,037,000	8,481,226,860
Capital Projects	141,200,000	61,990,000	(79,210,000)	3,938,398,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,408,663,850</b>	<b>37,823,357,850</b>	<b>414,694,000</b>	<b>13,034,996,188</b>

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**ALL FUND TYPES**  
**PROJECTED LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM**  
**FILLED ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS**

Program	FY 2020 Estimated FTEs 03/31/20	FY 2021 Estimated FTEs 03/31/21	FTE Change
Adult Career and Continuing Education Services			
General Fund	12	12	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	707	707	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	27	27	0
Cultural Education			
General Fund	8	8	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	45	45	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	204	204	0
Internal Service Funds	26	26	0
Office of Higher Education and the Professions			
General Fund	43	43	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	4	4	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	365	365	0
Office of Management Services Program			
General Fund	49	49	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	186	186	0
Internal Service Funds	118	118	0
Office of Pre-kindergarten Through Grade 12 Education			
General Fund	167	167	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	529	529	0
School for the Blind			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	117	117	0
School for the Deaf			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	85	85	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,692</b>	<b>2,692</b>	<b>0</b>

**STATE OPERATIONS**  
**ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE**  
**APPROPRIATIONS**  
(dollars)

Fund Type	Available FY 2020	Recommended FY 2021	Change
General Fund	59,737,000	58,737,000	(1,000,000)
Internal Service Funds	33,663,000	33,663,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	375,860,000	364,089,000	(11,771,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	142,663,000	155,301,000	12,638,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>611,923,000</b>	<b>611,790,000</b>	<b>(133,000)</b>

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**STATE OPERATIONS**  
**ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM**  
**APPROPRIATIONS**  
(dollars)

Program	Available FY 2020	Recommended FY 2021	Change
Adult Career and Continuing Education Services			
General Fund	4,206,000	4,206,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	132,393,000	132,393,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	7,781,000	7,781,000	0
Cultural Education			
General Fund	693,000	693,000	0
Internal Service Funds	12,749,000	12,749,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	15,378,000	15,378,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	43,502,000	43,502,000	0
Office of Higher Education and the Professions			
General Fund	8,161,000	8,161,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	2,952,000	2,952,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	58,632,000	58,632,000	0
Office of Management Services Program			
General Fund	8,641,000	8,641,000	0
Internal Service Funds	20,914,000	20,914,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	12,638,000	0	(12,638,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	12,867,000	25,505,000	12,638,000
Office of Pre-kindergarten Through Grade 12 Education			
General Fund	38,036,000	37,036,000	(1,000,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	212,499,000	213,366,000	867,000
Special Revenue Funds - Other	150,000	150,000	0
School for the Blind			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	10,070,000	10,070,000	0
School for the Deaf			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	9,661,000	9,661,000	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>611,923,000</b>	<b>611,790,000</b>	<b>(133,000)</b>

NYS DOB | FY2021 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations  
**STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND**  
**SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES**  
**FY 2021 RECOMMENDED**  
(dollars)

Program	Total		Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Adult Career and Continuing Education Services	667,000	0	614,000	0
Cultural Education	388,000	0	388,000	0
Office of Higher Education and the Professions	2,464,000	0	2,445,000	0
Office of Management Services Program	6,389,000	0	6,161,000	0
Office of Pre-kindergarten Through Grade 12 Education	16,601,000	0	14,345,000	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,509,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23,953,000</b>	<b>0</b>

Program	Temporary Service (Nonannual Salaried)		Holiday/Overtime Pay	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Adult Career and Continuing Education Services	53,000	0	0	0
Office of Higher Education and the Professions	18,000	0	1,000	0
Office of Management Services Program	114,000	0	114,000	0
Office of Pre-kindergarten Through Grade 12 Education	2,129,000	0	127,000	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,314,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>242,000</b>	<b>0</b>

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**STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND**  
**SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED**  
**APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES**  
**FY 2021 RECOMMENDED**  
**(dollars)**

Program	Total		Supplies and Materials	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Adult Career and Continuing Education Services	3,539,000	0	33,000	0
Cultural Education	305,000	0	21,000	0
Office of Higher Education and the Professions	5,697,000	0	52,000	0
Office of Management Services Program	2,252,000	0	187,000	0
Office of Pre-kindergarten Through Grade 12 Education	20,435,000	(1,000,000)	83,000	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>32,228,000</b>	<b>(1,000,000)</b>	<b>376,000</b>	<b>0</b>

Program	Travel		Contractual Services	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Adult Career and Continuing Education Services	5,000	0	3,480,000	0
Cultural Education	2,000	0	278,000	0
Office of Higher Education and the Professions	152,000	100,000	5,441,000	(100,000)
Office of Management Services Program	95,000	0	1,314,000	0
Office of Pre-kindergarten Through Grade 12 Education	113,000	0	20,032,000	9,225,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>367,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>30,545,000</b>	<b>9,125,000</b>

Program	Equipment	
	Amount	Change
Adult Career and Continuing Education Services	21,000	0
Cultural Education	4,000	0
Office of Higher Education and the Professions	52,000	0
Office of Management Services Program	656,000	0
Office of Pre-kindergarten Through Grade 12 Education	207,000	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>940,000</b>	<b>0</b>

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Program	Maintenance Undistributed	
	Amount	Change
Office of Pre-kindergarten Through Grade 12 Education	0	(10,225,000)
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(10,225,000)</b>

**STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND  
SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES  
FY 2021 RECOMMENDED  
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Personal Service	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Adult Career and Continuing Education Services	140,174,000	0	65,586,525	0
Cultural Education	71,629,000	0	29,837,000	25,000
Office of Higher Education and the Professions	61,584,000	0	28,364,000	0
Office of Management Services Program	46,419,000	0	22,651,000	0
Office of Pre-kindergarten Through Grade 12 Education	213,516,000	867,000	77,387,000	275,000
School for the Blind	10,070,000	0	5,956,000	0
School for the Deaf	9,661,000	0	5,482,000	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>553,053,000</b>	<b>867,000</b>	<b>235,263,525</b>	<b>300,000</b>

Program	Nonpersonal Service	
	Amount	Change
Adult Career and Continuing Education Services	74,587,475	0
Cultural Education	41,792,000	(25,000)
Office of Higher Education and the Professions	33,220,000	0
Office of Management Services Program	23,768,000	0
Office of Pre-kindergarten Through Grade 12 Education	136,129,000	592,000
School for the Blind	4,114,000	0
School for the Deaf	4,179,000	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>317,789,475</b>	<b>567,000</b>



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**AID TO LOCALITIES**  
**ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE**  
**APPROPRIATIONS**  
(dollars)

Fund Type	Available FY 2020	Recommended FY 2021	Change
General Fund	26,148,703,850	27,002,929,850	854,226,000
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	4,590,043,000	4,635,533,000	45,490,000
Special Revenue Funds - Other	5,916,794,000	5,511,115,000	(405,679,000)
<b>Total</b>	<b>36,655,540,850</b>	<b>37,149,577,850</b>	<b>494,037,000</b>

**AID TO LOCALITIES**  
**ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM**  
**APPROPRIATIONS**  
(dollars)

Program	Available FY 2020	Recommended FY 2021	Change
<b>Adult Career and Continuing Education Services</b>			
General Fund	92,951,000	90,951,000	(2,000,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	123,776,000	123,776,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	12,458,000	12,458,000	0
<b>Cultural Education</b>			
General Fund	111,204,000	105,629,000	(5,575,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	5,400,000	5,400,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	8,807,000	8,807,000	0
<b>Office of Higher Education and the Professions</b>			
General Fund	124,569,850	124,569,850	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	5,000,000	5,000,000	0
<b>Office of Management Services Program</b>			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	5,214,000	5,214,000	0
<b>Office of Pre-kindergarten Through Grade 12 Education</b>			
General Fund	25,819,979,000	26,681,780,000	861,801,000
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	4,455,867,000	4,501,357,000	45,490,000
Special Revenue Funds - Other	3,704,320,000	3,485,120,000	(219,200,000)
<b>School Tax Relief</b>			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	2,185,995,000	1,999,516,000	(186,479,000)
<b>Total</b>	<b>36,655,540,850</b>	<b>37,149,577,850</b>	<b>494,037,000</b>

**CAPITAL PROJECTS**  
**ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM**  
**APPROPRIATIONS**  
(dollars)

Comprehensive Construction Program	Available FY 2020	Recommended FY 2021	Change	Reappropriations FY 2021
<b>Administration</b>				
Capital Projects Fund	10,000,000	7,600,000	(2,400,000)	18,877,000
Capital Projects Fund - Authority Bonds	0	0	0	10,220,000
<b>Breakfast After the Bell Equipment Grants</b>				
Capital Projects Fund	0	0	0	2,651,000

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<b>Cultural Education Center</b>				
Capital Projects Fund	0	0	0	5,953,000
Capital Projects Fund - Authority Bonds	0	0	0	13,096,000
<b>Cultural Education Storage Facility</b>				
Cap Proj Fund - Cultural Education Storage Facility	0	0	0	60,000,000
<b>Education Building</b>				
Capital Projects Fund	0	0	0	175,000
<b>Library Construction</b>				
Capital Projects Fund - Library Aid (Auth Bonds)	34,000,000	14,000,000	(20,000,000)	45,839,000
<b>Matching Grants for Safety and Security Projects for At-Risk Facilities</b>				
Capital Projects Fund - Authority Bonds	20,000,000	0	(20,000,000)	20,000,000
<b>Non-Public School Health and Safety Equipment Projects</b>				
Capital Projects Fund	15,000,000	15,000,000	0	44,713,000
<b>Non-Public School Technology Projects</b>				
Capital Projects Fund - Authority Bonds	0	0	0	25,000,000
<b>Office of the Professions Electronic Licensing System</b>				
Misc. Capital Projects	7,200,000	25,390,000	18,190,000	8,223,000
<b>Safety and Security Projects for at Risk Facilities</b>				
Capital Projects Fund - Authority Bonds	25,000,000	0	(25,000,000)	48,807,000
<b>School for the Blind</b>				
Capital Projects Fund	0	0	0	678,000
<b>School for the Deaf</b>				
Capital Projects Fund	0	0	0	138,000
<b>Schools For Native American Reservations</b>				
Capital Projects Fund	0	0	0	2,000
Capital Projects Fund - Authority Bonds	0	0	0	88,000
<b>Smart Schools Bond Act</b>				
Smart Schools Bond Fund	0	0	0	1,886,232,000
<b>Smart Schools Implementation</b>				
Capital Projects Fund – Smart Schools (Bondable)	0	0	0	1,714,071,000
<b>Smart Schools Special Education Projects</b>				
Capital Projects Fund - Authority Bonds	0	0	0	3,635,000
<b>State Supported Schools for the Blind and Deaf</b>				
Capital Projects Fund - Authority Bonds	30,000,000	0	(30,000,000)	30,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>141,200,000</b>	<b>61,990,000</b>	<b>(79,210,000)</b>	<b>3,938,398,000</b>

Note: Most recent estimates as of 01/29/2020