



GENERAL GOVERNMENT



OFFICES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Among the agencies responsible for ensuring that New York State government is operating effectively are:

The Office of General Services (OGS) is responsible for a wide array of State support services including managing and leasing properties, designing, building, and maintaining State facilities, and establishing contracts for goods, services, and technology. \$1.3 billion in funding is included in the Executive Budget.

The Department of Civil Service is responsible for providing human resource management services to the State and local governments, assisting State agencies with workforce recruitment, administering exams, overseeing job classifications, and administering employee benefits. \$84.8 million in funding is included in the Executive Budget.

The Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) operates under the direction of the State Liquor Authority (SLA). ABC/SLA is responsible for regulating and issuing licenses for the manufacture, sale, and distribution of alcoholic beverages within the State. \$16.2 million in funding is included in the Executive Budget.

The Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) is responsible for developing a comprehensive regulatory structure to monitor and control the cultivation, processing, manufacturing, distribution, transportation, and sale of cannabis in New York State. \$67 million in funding is included in the Executive Budget.

The State Board of Elections (SBOE) is responsible for executing and enforcing all laws related to elections, overseeing the conduct of elections and the disclosure of campaign finance activities. SBOE is also responsible for reviewing the practices of all local boards of elections, facilitating ballots for State offices, approving the voting systems, maintaining the Statewide voter registration database, and implementing various federal programs. \$67.8 million in funding is included in the Executive Budget.

PROPOSED EXECUTIVE BUDGET ACTIONS

Resiliency & Sustainability Consultants

As part of the Leading by Example initiative set forth in Executive Order 22, New York State is currently engaged in efforts to reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions and develop new sustainable and resilient policies and practices that meet the high standards of the State. The Office of General Services (OGS) has been tasked with developing a methodology and process for collecting relevant data to build a comprehensive GHG report for agencies' assets and reporting.

To accomplish these goals, it is crucial that State agencies are able to build the capacity to develop effective policies and reporting. The State will create effective communication materials related to sustainability to develop guidance for both public and private entities. OGS will invest \$480,000 to retain advisory services for expert level staff augmentation to assist with the development of GHG metrics, reporting, and communication materials. This will be a large undertaking for the State and involves complex issues that require specific knowledge and expertise to create effective reports, policies, and more.

Modernizing State Office Buildings

To ensure that our workforce has the necessary tools and workspaces, the State will undergo a study and pilot to modernize office buildings owned and leased by OGS. The project will establish criteria for the reconfiguration of spaces for a hybrid workforce that promotes the culture of the tenant agency and the health and satisfaction of New York State employees. The State is dedicating \$4.5 million towards a study of current office spaces and necessary technology upgrades.

Centers for Careers in Government

The Executive Budget provides approximately \$2.0 million for the Department of Civil Service (DCS) to create new Centers for Careers in Government. The Centers strategically meet New Yorkers where they are by locating within existing Department of Labor Career Centers. The Centers allow the State to proactively work with agencies, community organizations, and institutions of higher learning to make State employment more accessible.

\$2 MILLION TO CREATE NEW CENTERS FOR CAREERS IN GOVERNMENT



Continuous Recruitment

The Executive Budget includes \$7.8 million in FY 2024 for DCS to expand continuous recruitment to meet the changing demands of State agencies. Continuous recruitment examinations held via a hybrid of online training and experience exams, online multiple-choice exams, and in State operated computer-based testing centers, will support the DCS examination modernization efforts. This hybrid model is progressive and allows agencies and municipalities the ability to recruit for positions in real time.

Public Service Matters Campaign

DCS will launch a widespread public outreach campaign to reach the next generation of State government leaders. The Executive Budget provides \$2.3 million to create and air this campaign in multiple languages to reach a broader, more diverse audience and to strengthen outreach on difficult-to-fill and high-need State titles.

Modernize Civil Service Pay Structure

The current civil service model leveraged by the State dates back to the 1950s. The Executive Budget includes \$2.2 million to develop a job evaluation system that will review the statewide civil service structure for all job titles to ensure they meet the needs of employers, align with the current job market, consider title pay equity, and level the playing field with the private sector.

Expand Nurses For Our Future

The Executive Budget expands the investment for The Nurses For Our Future Scholarship Program. This increase will strengthen the State's commitment to

continuously grow the New York State Health Care Workforce by addressing the critical nursing shortage facing our health care sector and state agencies.

Expand Opportunities for Individuals with Disabilities

The Executive Budget increases the number of titles designated for individuals with physical or intellectual disabilities from 1,200 to 1,700. Further, the measure has been enhanced to make it easier for individuals in those positions, or for those who are in positions designated for veterans with disabilities, to transfer into competitive positions in the civil service system.

Implementing New York's Cannabis Industry

As Governor Hochul prioritized getting New York's cannabis industry up and running, the Cannabis Control Board (CCB) responded swiftly and held their first meeting in October 2021. Since that time, the CCB, as well as the Office of Cannabis Management (OCM), have been creating and implementing a comprehensive regulatory framework for New York's cannabis industry, including the production, licensing, packaging, marketing, and sale of cannabis products. The first retail sales were made on December 29, 2022, and OCM anticipates the further ramp-up of sales throughout 2023.

Public Campaign Finance

The Public Campaign Finance (PCF) program effective November 9, 2022, establishes public financing to encourage candidates for public office to focus campaign efforts toward soliciting small donations from individual constituents rather than corporate interest groups. The Executive Budget commits \$25 million to funding the State's matching portion. Additionally, the Executive Budget provides \$4 million in additional funding for the State Board of Elections to hire additional PCF implementation and compliance staff.

E-procurement

The FY24 Executive Budget provides \$15M in new funding to support modernizing the State's paper-based procurement process by transitioning it to an electronic procurement system. Additionally, the State is proposing to expand the use of electronic submission and signature in the procurement process to facilitate a more cohesive and streamlined process.