

Elections, State Board of

Mission

The New York State Board of Elections executes and enforces all laws relating to elections, oversees the conduct of elections as well as the disclosure of campaign financing activities. The Board also strives to promote the full participation of the State's eligible voters and to maintain citizens' confidence in each stage of the process of elections.

The Board is responsible for reviewing the practices of all 62 local boards of elections; facilitating access to the ballot for State offices; approving voting systems for use within the State; maintaining the statewide voter registration database; conducting compliance reviews of campaign financing disclosure reports; training filers; and implementing various Federal voting programs including the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), National Voter Registration Act (NVRA), and the Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act (MOVE).

The Division of Election Law Enforcement is responsible for responding to complaints filed with the State Board and for the enforcement of the provisions of the Election Law.

Organization and Staffing

The State Board of Elections is comprised of four commissioners and is organized into four main business units: Compliance, Enforcement, Election Operations, and the Public Campaign Finance Board. The workforce is comprised of administrative/clerical staff and investigators.

Budget Highlights

The FY 2025 Executive Budget recommends \$158.4 million in all funds appropriations. This is an \$75.6 million increase mainly attributed to Local Assistance spending to provide matching funds for the Public Campaign Finance Program and to reimburse counties for postage costs associated with absentee and early mail voting. The Executive Budget recommends a workforce of 220 FTEs, which is an increase of ten FTEs from the previous fiscal year.

Reappropriations totaling \$93.9 million continue to be available to meet ongoing Federal and State election mandates, including funding for early voting and electronic poll books, federal funding for state and local cybersecurity enhancements, Help America Vote Act funding, and capital funds to build an online/automatic voter registration system and reimburse counties for technology costs critical to the administration of elections.

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

Program Highlights

Compliance

The Compliance Unit, under the supervision of the Joint Counsel's Office, is responsible for the registration and termination of committees, receiving and processing campaign financial disclosure reports, operating a call center for Election Law and filing inquiries, and calculating contribution limits. The Board regularly receives and reviews campaign financial disclosure filings from state and local filers, performs audits of filings, assists campaign treasurers in bringing their filings into compliance and provides statewide training. The Board has also undertaken the redesign and redevelopment of systems used by campaign treasurers to report disclosures for public review. This multi-year project modernizes an outdated system to make campaign finance information easier to disclose and more transparent to the public.

Enforcement

The Board's Division of Election Law Enforcement is tasked with the investigation of complaints alleging violations of Election Law as well as potential violations of campaign finance reporting requirements. Based on the evidence, the Chief Enforcement Counsel decides whether the Division should close the matter, proceed with civil enforcement action, or seek criminal prosecution.

Election Operations

The Board provides oversight and assistance to each county board of elections and the Board of Elections in the City of New York in the facilitation of ballot access efforts by candidates for a variety of public offices and party positions, as well as ensuring compliance with all state and federal laws, regularly monitoring their list maintenance activities to ensure the integrity and accuracy of the voter rolls, and visiting each board on a biannual basis to ensure that proper procedures are in place and are being followed. The Board reviews any

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new voting systems or changes to existing systems for testing and possible certification for use in New York State. The Board is responsible for maintenance of the NYSVoter statewide voter list, required under HAVA, which is securely connected to each county, receives data on new and updated voters and provides information to counties for list maintenance activities.

Public Campaign Finance Board

The Public Campaign Finance Board (PCFB) is responsible for the administration and oversight of a small-donor public match program for candidates campaigning for Statewide and State Legislative office. The PCFB is comprised of seven commissioners, the four existing State Board of Elections commissioners and three additional commissioners appointed by the Governor and Legislative Leaders. PCFB staff are responsible for the oversight of candidate eligibility, conducting post-election audits, reporting on program usage and statistics, providing educational and counseling services to participating candidates and imposing civil penalties for delinquency, mandated by Election Law.

**ALL FUNDS
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)**

<u>Category</u>	Available FY 2024	Appropriations Recommended FY 2025	Change From FY 2024	Reappropriations Recommended FY 2025
State Operations	38,797,000	31,031,000	(7,766,000)	31,093,000
Aid To Localities	29,000,000	112,700,000	83,700,000	21,102,000
Capital Projects	15,000,000	14,700,000	(300,000)	41,671,000
Total	82,797,000	158,431,000	75,634,000	93,866,000

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

<u>Program</u>	FY 2024 Estimated FTEs 03/31/24	FY 2025 Estimated FTEs 03/31/25	FTE Change
Regulation of Elections			
General Fund	64	74	10
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	11	11	0
Election Enforcement			
General Fund	17	17	0
Public Campaign Finance Board			
General Fund	118	118	0
Total	210	220	10

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

<u>Fund Type</u>	Available FY 2024	Recommended FY 2025	Change
General Fund	26,672,000	28,100,000	1,428,000
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	12,000,000	806,000	(11,194,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	125,000	2,125,000	2,000,000
Total	38,797,000	31,031,000	(7,766,000)

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

Program	Available FY 2024	Recommended FY 2025	Change
Election Enforcement			
General Fund	5,283,000	5,470,000	187,000
Special Revenue Funds - Other	125,000	125,000	0
Public Campaign Finance Board			
General Fund	14,548,000	14,548,000	0
Regulation of Elections			
General Fund	6,841,000	8,082,000	1,241,000
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	12,000,000	806,000	(11,194,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	0	2,000,000	2,000,000
Total	38,797,000	31,031,000	(7,766,000)

STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2025 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)

Program	Total		Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Election Enforcement	3,616,000	187,000	3,616,000	187,000
Public Campaign Finance Board	8,397,000	0	8,353,000	0
Regulation of Elections	5,718,000	807,000	5,669,000	807,000
Total	17,731,000	994,000	17,638,000	994,000

Program	Temporary Service (Nonannual Salaried)		Holiday/Overtime Pay	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Public Campaign Finance Board	40,000	0	4,000	0
Regulation of Elections	45,000	0	4,000	0
Total	85,000	0	8,000	0

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STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED
APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2025 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)

Program	Total		Supplies and Materials	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Election Enforcement	1,854,000	0	0	0
Public Campaign Finance Board	6,151,000	0	145,000	0
Regulation of Elections	2,364,000	434,000	150,000	22,000
Total	10,369,000	434,000	295,000	22,000

Program	Travel		Contractual Services	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Election Enforcement	0	0	1,854,000	0
Public Campaign Finance Board	29,000	0	5,724,000	0
Regulation of Elections	40,000	14,000	2,074,000	375,000
Total	69,000	14,000	9,652,000	375,000

Program	Equipment	
	Amount	Change
Public Campaign Finance Board	253,000	0
Regulation of Elections	100,000	23,000
Total	353,000	23,000

STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2025 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)

Program	Total		Nonpersonal Service	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Election Enforcement	125,000	0	125,000	0
Regulation of Elections	2,806,000	(9,194,000)	2,806,000	(9,194,000)
Total	2,931,000	(9,194,000)	2,931,000	(9,194,000)

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

Fund Type	Available FY 2024	Recommended FY 2025	Change
General Fund	4,000,000	7,700,000	3,700,000
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	0	5,000,000	5,000,000
Special Revenue Funds - Other	25,000,000	100,000,000	75,000,000
Total	29,000,000	112,700,000	83,700,000

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

Program	Available FY 2024	Recommended FY 2025	Change
Public Campaign Finance Board			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	25,000,000	100,000,000	75,000,000
Regulation of Elections			
General Fund	4,000,000	7,700,000	3,700,000
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	0	5,000,000	5,000,000
Total	29,000,000	112,700,000	83,700,000

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

Comprehensive Construction Program	Available FY 2024	Recommended FY 2025	Change	Reappropriations FY 2025
Program Improvement or Change				
Capital Projects Fund - Authority Bonds	15,000,000	14,700,000	(300,000)	41,671,000
Total	15,000,000	14,700,000	(300,000)	41,671,000

Note: Most recent estimates as of 01/16/2024