# GENERAL GOVERNMENT

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. \$1.7 billion in funding is included in the Executive Budget.

The **Department of Civil Service (DCS)** 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. \$132.3 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. \$21.4 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. \$73.1 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, administering a public matching funds program for candidates seeking election to NYS public office, and 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. \$142.4 million in funding is included in the Executive Budget.

The Office of Information Technology Services (ITS) provides statewide strategic direction, policy, and centralized products and services related to information technology (IT). ITS operates the statewide data center to support mission-critical

applications for 53 agencies – including 130,000 employee accounts, 100,000 telecommunications devices, 100,000 workstations/laptops, over 20 million resident accounts, and 33 petabytes of data storage. The Executive Budget includes a \$130.7 million ITS Capital Innovation Fund appropriation to fund enterprise technology projects and infrastructure upgrades, designed to increase efficiencies, improve automation, and expand the number of online services and transactions available to residents.

# PROPOSED EXECUTIVE BUDGET ACTIONS

# **Community Commission on Reparations Remedies Funding**

Established in 2023, the New York State Community Commission on Reparations Remedies has been tasked with examining the legacy and lingering effects of slavery in New York State. The goal of the Commission is to provide a report comprised of recommended actions to address the longstanding inequalities that still affect many New Yorkers today. The State is providing \$5 million in funding to the Commission to continue its work in Fiscal Year 2026.

# Justice Infrastructure Project and Civil Legal Services Grants Increase

The Executive Budget includes \$200,000 to continue the development of the Justice Infrastructure Project and \$77.5 million to support grants to non-profits from the Interest on Lawyer Account (IOLA) Fund. The Justice Infrastructure Project aims to create more coordination, efficiency, and consistency among disparate providers of civil legal services in New York, ensuring that when New Yorkers have legal needs, they know whom to contact and the steps to take. The \$77.5 million for civil legal service grants, which provide civil legal services to lower income New Yorkers, is a \$15.5 million increase in IOLA's grantmaking and the first year of a five year grant cycle from FY 2026 through FY 2030.

### **Combat Unlicensed Sale of Cannabis**

The Executive Budget includes \$5 million for the Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) to support 29 new staff in the agency's Enforcement, Compliance, Legal, and Administrative Hearings offices. New staff will be dedicated to OCM's enforcement efforts against illicit cannabis businesses, expanding upon the work of the Governor's multi-agency Illicit Cannabis Enforcement Task Force. This increased investment in enforcement funding will support OCM in building a well-regulated and safe cannabis market in New York State.

# **SLA Staffing and Licensing**

The Executive Budget includes \$4.9 million in additional funding for the State Liquor Authority (SLA) to support increased staffing levels, as well as increased funding to expand and improve the functionality of SLA's online licensing system, resulting in operational efficiencies and improvements that will benefit businesses across the State.

Increased funding will support 28 new FTEs in the agency's Licensing, Wholesale/Manufacturing and Legal Bureaus. Additional licensing staff will assist SLA in reviewing an increasing number of license and permit applications and improve licensing operations and customer service to businesses applying for licenses. New funding will also support SLA's legal and compliance activities related to agency litigation and disciplinary cases, as well oversight of wholesalers/manufacturers.

# **Public Campaign Finance**

The Public Campaign Finance (PCF) program provides public financing to participating candidates seeking election to public office. The program is intended to focus campaign efforts toward soliciting small donations from individual constituents rather than corporate interest groups. As such, the State provides matching funds on the first \$250 of any qualifying donation.

The PCF program was in place for the Primary and General elections held in calendar year 2024 and issued \$35.1 million in matching funds to qualified candidates. This included the issuance of \$9.3 million in matching funds to 71 Primary Election candidates and \$25.8 million in matching funds to 148 General Election candidates. The Executive Budget includes \$100 million to support public matching fund payments.

# Cybersecurity

Several State agencies have a specific role in cybersecurity oversight, including ITS, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES), New York State Police (NYSP) and several others. Nationwide, the volume and severity of cyber threats and attacks on State and Local governments has continued to increase despite expanding awareness and mitigation efforts. The Executive Budget includes new investments to address the growth of the Cyber Risk Remediation Program (CRRP), New York Security Office (NYSOC) and Shared Services program. In the past calendar year, NYSOC has investigated over 47,000 cases of cyber threats. Additionally, CRRP implemented multi-factor authentication on Public Safety portals for both State and local users to increase cybersecurity.