



Local 1000 AFSCME, AFL-CIO

Summary of the 2023-24 Executive Budget Proposal

State Agencies

The proposed budget does not contain any layoffs, facility closures, bed reductions, or service cuts. In addition, the budget contains funding that will allow the state to continue to hire staff in nearly all state agencies this coming fiscal year.

Civil Service Reforms

- Authorize the Department of Civil Service to offer continuous recruitment exams.
- Examine the pay structure within the Civil Service system to ensure positions are competitive with the private sector.
- Create a *Centers for Careers in Government* to connect New Yorkers who are interested in a position in the public sector.
- Conduct a *Public Service Matters* marketing campaign to promote job opportunities in the public sector.
- Increase from 1200 to 1700 the number of 55-B non-competitive class positions available to workers with a physical or mental disability.
- Authorize workers in a 55-B and 55-C position to transfer into the competitive class if they meet the transfer requirements.

State University of New York (SUNY)

State-Operated Campuses

- Allow SUNY colleges to increase their tuition by 3% annually for in-state residents, and 10% for non-state residents.
- Allow SUNY University Centers (Albany, Buffalo, Stony Brook, and Binghamton) to increase their tuition annually by 6%.
- \$60 million in new general operating support.
- \$84 million to pay for SUNY employee fringe benefits.

Community Colleges

- Maintains existing funding levels.

SUNY Hospitals

- Increase of \$72 million (for a total of \$106 million) in funding for the three SUNY hospitals to pay for disproportionate share (DSH) care.

Office of Mental Health

Increase state-operated inpatient mental health treatment beds by 150.

- 100 will be in New York City.

Office for People with Developmental Disabilities

\$12 million in funding to develop additional *Intensive Treatment Opportunity* capacity at the former Finger Lakes Developmental Center campus.

Office for Children and Family Services

- Permanently authorizes the *Close to Home* program, which allows youths who would normally be placed in an OCFS residential facility to remain near their homes.
- \$16 million for capital investments in OCFS youth facilities.

Unified Court System

\$2.2 billion in funding, an increase of \$55 million.

Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP)

- \$200 million in new capital funding for park projects.
- Increase of 237 FTEs

Department of Transportation (DOT)

Elevates the crime of assaulting a highway worker to a Class D felony.

Department of Motor Vehicles

- Elevates the crime of assaulting a motor vehicle license examiner to a Class D felony.
- Standardize the amount of fees retained by county clerks to 10.75% of both in-person and internet-based DMV transactions.

Other Issues of Note

- *Wadsworth Laboratories* - \$967 million to complete consolidation of five unconnected sites to one site on the Harriman Campus in Albany by 2030.
- *Olympic Regional Development Authority* - \$93 million in funding for new capital projects.
- *State Fair* - \$14 million for maintenance and improvements.

Local Governments

General Funding Issues

- \$714.7 million in Aid and Incentives to Municipalities, the same as last year's level.
- Permanently authorize counties to impose additional rates of sales taxes (either 1% or their current additional rate) without having to ask the legislature for the authorization.
- Proposes the closure of the Catskill Region Off Track Betting corporation, potentially resulting in the loss of some revenue for local governments in CSEA Regions 3 and 5.
- \$15 million in additional state aid for the City of Albany.

Local Social Services Districts

\$26 million for counties to use on protective and preventative service programs.

Probation

- Funding held at FY2023 levels.
- \$5 million increase in funding for payments to government and not-for-profit programs providing pretrial services, including screening, assessments, and supervision.

Roads and Bridges

- Funding for local road and bridge projects are funded at FY2023 levels:
 - \$538 million in CHIPS funding.
 - \$40 million in Marchiselli funding.
 - \$100 million for extreme winter recovery funds.
 - \$100 million for capital projects related to highways, bridges, railroad crossings, and other transportation facilities.

Other Issues

Authorize Suffolk County to consolidate all sewer districts into one county-wide district.

Education

PreK-12

- \$34.5 billion in school aid – a 10% increase over last year's level.
- Keep the current statewide cap of 460 charter schools but eliminate the cap that each region of the state has. This could result in 85 additional slots for new charter schools across the state.
- Allow slots currently held by dormant charter schools to be reissued to new charter schools.
- Extends for 1 year the ability of public sector retirees to work for a school district without losing a portion of their pension.

Libraries

\$3.5 million reduction in aid for public libraries.

Healthcare

Hospitals & Nursing Homes

5% Medicaid rate increase.

Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center

State subsidy level of \$55.4 million, the same as last year's level.

- \$51 million in capital funding, a decrease of \$6 million

Child Care

- \$389 million to be used as a workforce retention grant program. We are awaiting additional details on this program.
- Require counties to reimburse providers for 80 absences per year, an increase from 24.
- Increase subsidy eligibility to 85% of the state's median income.
- Cap the family co-pay for subsidized childcare to 1% of income.
- Creation of a centralized childcare application to apply for a childcare subsidy.

Other Issues

Minimum Wage

Indexes the minimum wage to increase annually by the lesser of 3% or the Consumer Price Index.

The increase would not happen if any of the following take place:

- Inflation is negative; or
- Unemployment increases by .05% or more over a one-year period; or
- Decrease in overall non-farm employment.

Not-For-Profit Providers

2.5% COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) for workers in not-for-profit human services programs.

Criminal Justice Reform

Restore judicial discretion for setting bail by removing the least restrictive means standard.

Housing

Proposes the creation of 800,000 new housing units over the next 10 years.

Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA)

- Require that a minimum of 80% of fees for a license for a new casino be directed to the MTA. If the casino is in New York City, 100% of the licensing fee will go to the MTA.
- \$300 million in one-time state aid to support MTA operating revenues.

Other

Authorizes local governments to provide a nominal payment to volunteer firefighters.

Revenue

- No increase in income taxes.
- Increases the Metropolitan Commuter Transportation Mobility Tax Rate for employers, including public employers, with payrolls of more than \$1.75 million annually from .34% to .50%.
 - This increase will generate \$800 million in additional revenue annually.
 - This tax only applies to employers located in the MTA zone (lower Hudson Valley, New York City, and Long Island).
- \$1 per pack increase in cigarette taxes.