



**Local 1000 AFSCME, AFL-CIO**

**Summary of the  
FY 2024-2025  
Executive Budget Proposal**

The Governor has proposed a \$233 billion state budget for fiscal year 2024-2025. The budget closes a \$4.3 billion deficit without raising taxes. While we oppose the proposal to close up to five state correctional facilities, we are supportive of investments in state operated services, including new inpatient beds operated by the Office of Mental Health, and new policies to encourage the recruitment and retention of the public sector workforce.

As we review additional details of the budget, we will update this document as needed.

## **State Agencies**

The executive budget proposes to eliminate the salary withholding program for state employees. Currently, state employees have one day of pay withheld in each of their first five pay periods of employment. These provisions will apply to state employees hired on or after July 1, 2024.

### Civil Service Reforms

The executive budget:

- Expands the NY HELP Program to all open-competitive titles, allowing provisional employees to ascend to permanent roles without taking an exam. This is a temporary program and only currently applies to the state.
- Requires the Department of Civil Service to review all jobs with college degree requirements to see if education requirements can be substituted for work experience.

### Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS)

The executive budget:

- Authorizes closure of up to 5 DOCCS facilities, provided the Governor gives a 90-day notice before closure. Current law requires a 1-year notice prior to closing a DOCCS facility.

### State University of New York (SUNY)

The executive budget:

- Provides \$100 million in new funding for state-operated campuses and statutory colleges, including \$36 million for fringe benefits and \$54 million for general operating expenses.
- Provides \$1.2 billion in new capital funding, including \$650 million for state-operated campuses, \$100 million for campus-funded projects, \$75 million for dormitory-related projects, and \$210 million to support staff who are responsible for the maintenance, preservation, and operation of SUNY facilities.

### Office of Mental Health (OMH)

The executive budget:

- Creates 125 new state-operated inpatient beds, which include:
  - 15 beds in children and youth facilities
  - 85 beds in adult facilities
  - 25 beds in forensic facilities
- The creation of 75 “Transition to Home” beds, 25 of which will be state operated.
- The budget includes funding an additional 273 Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs), including 264 new FTEs at OMH facilities across the state.

### Unified Court System

The executive budget provides \$2.78 billion in total funding for the judiciary, an increase of \$196 million from last year.

### Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

The executive budget:

- Proposes an increase of \$309 million from last year, which includes \$150 million in grant funding for the renovation or construction of public swimming pools across throughout the state.
- Provides \$300 million in new capital funding, which includes \$200 million to restore and repair parks and historic sites and \$100 million for the celebration of the New York State Parks’ Centennial.

### Department of Agriculture

The executive budget includes \$14 million in capital funding to support on-going improvements to the New York State Fairgrounds.

### Olympic Regional Development Authority

The executive budget proposes \$96.6 million for the Olympic Regional Development Authority, including \$70 million in new capital funding and \$12.5 million for maintenance of Olympic and ski facilities, including the Belleayre Mountain Ski Center.

### Other Issues of Note

The executive budget proposes to move the Office of Renewable Energy Siting from the Department of State to the Public Service Commission. All employees will transfer without further examination.

## **Local Governments**

### Funding

The executive budget:

- Provides general state aid for local governments at the same funding level as last year.
- Subjects all vacation rentals, like those found on Airbnb and Vrbo, to state and local sales taxes and the NYC Convention Center hotel fee. This would treat these vacation rentals the same as hotels under law, generating about \$2.5 million in new revenue to the state and \$17.6 million to local governments.
- Provides \$15 million to municipalities to purchase equipment needed to respond to emergency weather events.
- Provides \$135 million for new County Partnership Grants to support public safety and infrastructure investments.
- Provides \$3.8 million for grants to improve flood resiliency.

### Roads and Bridges

The executive budget:

- Provides \$577.8 million in funding for the Consolidated Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) and the Marchiselli Program, which is the same amount as last year. These programs help fund local road projects.
- Includes \$200 million for the Pave Our Potholes (POP) Program, which provides fundings to assist municipalities with the rehabilitation and reconstruction of local highways and roads. This is double the appropriation from last year.
- Provides \$200 million for the BRIDGE NY Program, which funds local bridge projects across the state.
- Provides \$100 million for Extreme Winter Recovery and Touring Route programs.
- Provides \$323 million for upstate transit programs such as the NFTA, a 5.4% increase from last year.

### Community Colleges

The executive budget:

- Maintains community college funding at 100% of prior year funding. Without a funding floor, SUNY's community colleges would lose \$83 million in formula aid due to enrollment declines.
- Provides \$138 million in new capital funding for community college projects.

### EMS

The executive budget designates medical emergency response and emergency medical dispatch as “essential services,” meaning that every county must ensure that EMS services are available to residents.

## Education

### K-12

The executive budget:

- Increases funding for K-12 schools by \$825 million, to a total of \$35.3 billion. This includes an increase of \$507 million in Foundation Aid.
- Removes the state’s “hold harmless” provision, which means that districts may receive less in state aid than they did in the previous school year.

### Libraries

The executive budget:

- Provides \$102.1 million in library aid, which is a \$2.5 million increase from last year.
- Provides \$34 million in funding for the Library Construction Fund, which supports capital projects at libraries across the state.

## Healthcare

### Medicaid

The budget proposes an increase of approximately \$3 billion in Medicaid spending from FY 2024 levels.

### Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center

The executive budget proposes \$55.4 million in general assistance and \$51.3 million for capital expenses at the Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, the same as last year’s level.

## Childcare

The executive budget:

- Proposes \$1.8 billion towards childcare assistance, which will fund childcare subsidies for incomes up to 85% of the state median income.
- Appropriates \$280 million in unused federal funds for the workforce retention program. This program was previously implemented and grants providers payments for staff recruitment, sign on bonuses, payroll tax assistance, and other expenses.

- Proposes an increase in payments to providers that are accredited by a nationally recognized childcare organization, participate in a New York's Quality Rating and Improvement System, or have completed training and are an active participant in the OCFS Non-Patient Epinephrine Auto-Injector Initiative.
- Provides \$5 million for expanded operational support to family and group family childcare providers.

## Retirees

The executive budget will eliminate the Income Related Medicare Adjustment Amount (IRMAA) reimbursement currently provided by NYSHIP-participating employers to impacted retirees. IRMAA is imposed on retirees with an annual income of \$103,000 or higher (\$206,000 or higher for joint filers) and the costs range from \$70 to \$419 per month.

## Other Proposals of Note

The executive budget:

- Includes a 1.5% wage COLA for human service workers in not-for-profits.
- Repeals COVID-19 sick leave time on July 31, 2024
- Increases the Temporary Disability Insurance (TDI) benefit from \$170 per week to 67% of the recipient's average weekly wage. The maximum benefit will be capped at 67% of the Statewide Average Weekly Wage. This will be phased in over 5 years.
- Provides 40 hours of Paid Family Leave for prenatal doctor appointments. This is only applicable if you are entitled to Paid Family Leave.
- Proposes a 20-minute paid break for mothers to express breast milk while at work. This only applies to private sector employees.
- Provides \$100 million for the Public Campaign Finance Program to finance matching funds on the first \$250 of any qualifying donation.
- Provides \$500 million, pulled from the state reserve fund, to help offset costs associated with the migrant crisis.