



New York State EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Knowledge > Skill > Opportunity



Summary of the 2016-17 Enacted State Budget

April 18, 2016

School Aid Overview

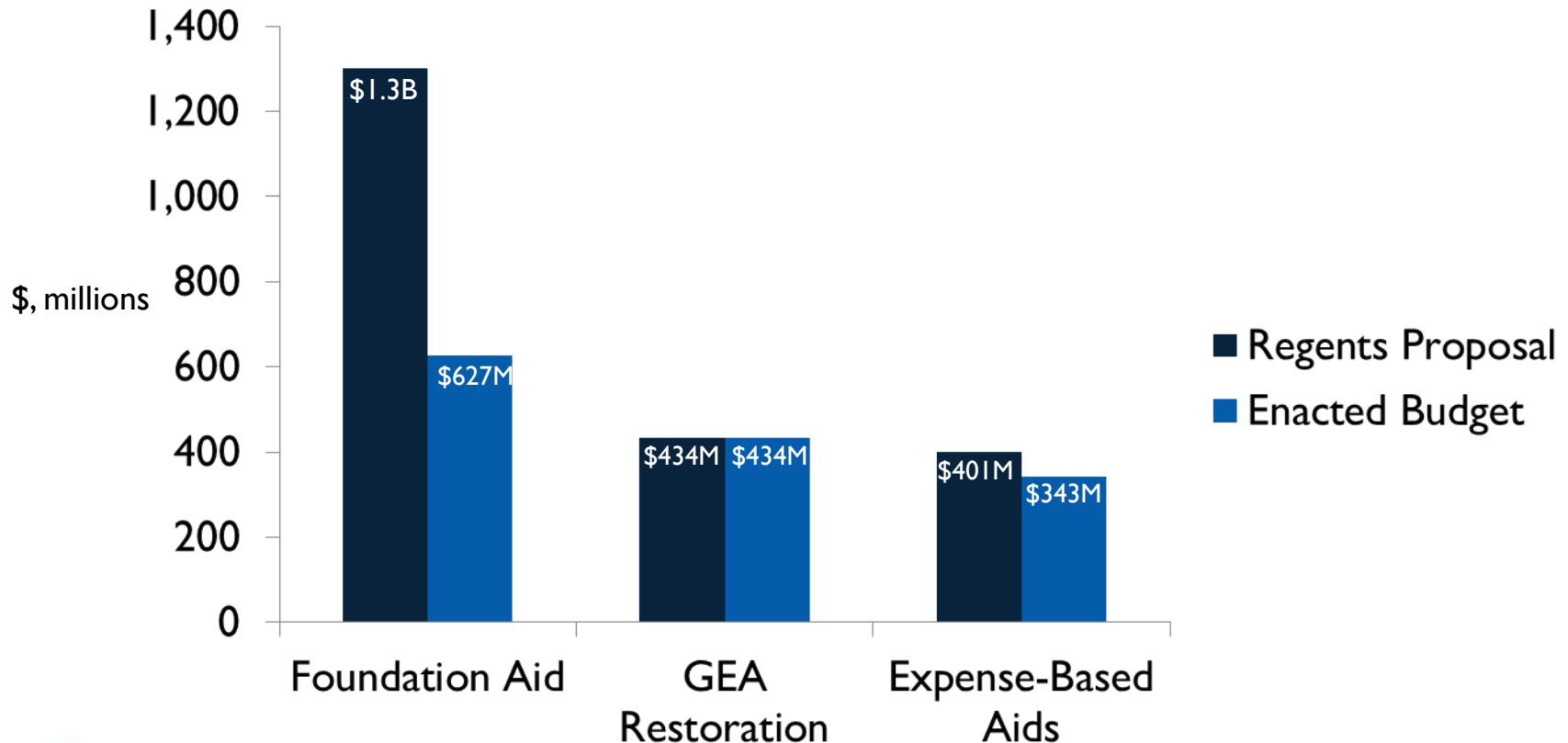
The enacted budget provides a \$1.4 billion, or 6.1%, increase in state aid to school districts for a total of \$24.6 billion.

This includes additional general support for public schools (GSPS) as follows:

- \$434 million Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) full restoration to all districts;
- \$627 million Foundation Aid increase; and
- \$343 million increase in statutorily-based Expense-based aids.

Comparison to Regents State Aid Proposal

- The enacted budget's elimination of the GEA matches the Regents' proposal.
- The increase in Foundation Aid is less than half the amount proposed.



Note: The lower enacted amount for expense-based aids reflects an update in the actual costs claimed by districts, consistent with the Regent's proposal to fully fund those aid categories.

Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA)

The Gap Elimination Adjustment is restored for all districts statewide for 2016-2017.

Despite the display of a “Final GEA Payment” on the state aid runs, all restored funding will be paid throughout the year consistent with the existing payment schedule.

Eligibility for State Aid Increases

The enacted budget **did not** change the statutory requirements that in order for districts to receive their 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 state aid increases, they must have 3012-d evaluation plan approved by the Department by September 1, 2016.

State aid increases for this purpose include the entire increase in GSPS, including all aids such as Foundation Aid, the GEA Restoration, and expense-based aids.

Additional Grants and Allocations

The enacted budget also provides for the following:

- \$22 million in grants to expand prekindergarten for 3-year olds;
- \$3 million for an additional round of Early College High School Grants;
- \$2 million for QUALITYstarsNY, the state's early learning quality rating and improvement system;
- \$1 million CTE Support for ELLs and students with disabilities; and
- \$1 million increase in the Bilingual Education program.

Community Schools

Further, the enacted budget includes \$175 million in support for community schools:

- \$100 million is provided through a setaside within the district's Foundation Aid increase; the amount and districts impacted are the same persistently struggling, struggling, and high need districts as the Governor's Community Schools Aid proposal; and
- \$75 million in grants is provided to struggling and persistently struggling schools pursuant to a plan developed by the Department.

Other Provisions

Settlement Funds

- The enacted budget does not include any of the Regents proposed education-related uses of the state's settlement funds, nor did it include any uses that were education-related.

Statewide Universal Full Day Prekindergarten

- No changes, expansions, or consolidations were made in this program.

Free and Reduced Price Lunch Counts

- The Department is required to research and provide recommendations for counting free- and reduced-price lunch (FRPL) students in state aid formulas for districts participating in the Federal Community Eligibility Program.

Regents Priority Programs

The enacted budget includes funding for the following Regents priority requests:

Program	Requested	Increase Received
Improve Outcomes for Boys and Young Men of Color	\$21 million	\$18 million
Office of Family and Community Engagement (State Operations)	Included above	\$2 million
Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP)	\$2.5 million	\$5.9 million
Science and Technology Entry Program (STEP)	\$2.5 million	\$2.6 million
Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP)	\$4 million	\$2 million
Liberty Partnerships Program (LPP)	\$750,000	\$3.1 million
Early College High Schools	\$3.5 million	\$2.5 million
Public Library Construction	\$4.2 million	\$5 million

Aid to Localities

The Enacted Budget provides increases to the following programs:

Program	Increased Funding
Adult Literacy Education	\$1 million
Aid to Public Libraries	\$4 million
Foster Youth College Success Initiative	\$1.5 million
Math and Science High Schools	\$461,000
Non-Public Schools	\$62.6 million*
Preschool Special Education	\$15 million
Private Schools for the Blind and Deaf	\$2.3 million
Safety Equipment for Non-Public Schools	\$10.5 million

* Includes a \$1.9 million increase for Mandated Services Aid and a \$60.7 million increase for Comprehensive Attendance Policy.

Aid to Localities

The Enacted Budget additional investments in:

Program	Increased Funding
Full and Half Day Pre-K Programs for 3 Year Olds	\$22 million
Career and Technical Education (CTE)	\$1 million
Chapter 853, 4410, 4201 and Special Act schools/providers to Support the Minimum Wage Increase	\$1.1 million
Advanced Placement Fee for Economically Disadvantaged Students	\$500,000
Teen Health Fund	\$120,000

State Operations

The enacted budget provides new operations funding as follows:

- \$2 million to establish an Office of Family and Community Engagement pursuant to the Initiative to Improve Outcomes for Boys and Young Men of Color
- \$2 million to re-establish an Office of Religious and Independent Schools
- \$1 million for Teacher and Principal Professional Development
- \$225,000 to continue the appointment of monitors in East Ramapo

In addition, the enacted budget:

- Continues funding of the \$8.4 million for assessment and \$800,000 for the Office of Facilities
- Eliminates \$1 million for implementation of the new educator evaluation system
- Includes a \$550,000 appropriation for the Interstate Reciprocity for Postsecondary Distance Education Account
- Does not include requested additional spending authority needed to proceed with the Office of Professions E-Licensing system

Regents Budget Requests

The enacted budget does not include the following Regents funding requests:

Program	Request
Enhancing the Achievement of English Language Learners	\$10 million
Improving Assessments for Students with Disabilities	\$2.9 million
Building Oversight and Support Capacity at SED	5% set-aside
State Aid Modeling	\$2 million
Erasure Analysis of Test Results	\$500,000
Bridge to College and Careers Pilot Program	\$10 million
Facilities Planning System	\$4 million

Policy Changes Within the Budget (P-12 Education)

The enacted budget included the following policy initiatives:

School Safety:

- Enacts a Regents legislative priority to authorize the Department to administratively provide a waiver to a school district that fails to meet the 180-day school year requirement due to school closure in an emergency situation after a credible threat to student safety as reasonably determined by a lead school official.
- 4 of the currently required 12 fire drills each year are substituted with lockdown drills, requires safety plans to include procedures for responding to students making threats against themselves (including suicide), requires schools to certify to the Commissioner that all staff have undergone annual training on the emergency response plan (including components on violence prevention and mental health), and allows for continued student participation on the district wide school safety team under certain circumstances.

QUALITYstarsNY:

- Requires the Department, the Office of Children and Family Services, and the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to recommend pre-kindergarten programs receiving state funds that are identified as needing extraordinary quality support to voluntarily participate in QUALITYstars.

Policy Changes Within the Budget (Higher Education)

The enacted budget included the following policy initiatives:

Financial Aid:

- Allows dependent students to use their parents or independent students to use their income tax returns from two years ago (rather than the previous year) to calculate state financial aid assistance.
- Extends the payment of tuition (up to the tuition level charged at SUNY) for active members of the NY Army National Guard, Air National Guard and Naval Militia who are enrolled at least part-time at a two or four-year college or university in NYS for 5 years.
- Permanently extends the Social Worker Loan Forgiveness Program, the NYS Faculty Loan Forgiveness Incentive Program, the Patricia K. Magee Nursing Faculty Scholarship Programs, and the Regents Physician Loan Forgiveness Program (administered by the Department).

Private College Reporting Requirement:

- The enacted budget requires all private degree granting institutions of higher education, starting on August 15, 2016 and thereafter, to report to the Chairs of Senate and Assembly Higher Education Committees on information such as tuition trends, enrollment trends, endowment levels, average financial aid packages and graduation rates.

Policy Changes Within the Budget (Professions)

The enacted budget included the following policy initiatives:

- Extends the exemption, for two years, from psychology, social work, mental health counseling, marriage and family therapy, creative arts therapy and psychoanalysis licensure for individuals working in certain programs regulated, operated, funded or approved by the Office of Mental Health, Office for People with Developmental Disabilities, the Office for Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services, the Department of Health, the State Office for the Aging, the Office of Children and Family Services, the Department of Corrections and Community Services, the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, local governmental units or social services districts.
- Expands the use of alternative project delivery methods, including for certain development projects.
- Exempts practitioners that certify to the Department of Health that he or she will not issue more than 25 prescriptions (controlled and non-controlled) over the succeeding 12-month period from electronic prescribing requirements.



Thank You.

