Fiscal Year 2025 Budget as Passed by the House and the Senate
Total State Funds: $36.14 Billion

Note: upon his final consideration, the Governor may line-item veto this budget, but may not add expenditures to it. The legislature may override any line-item veto therein by means of a 2/3 majority the next time they convene.

Statewide
- Increase funds to provide for a 4% cost-of-living-adjustment for state employees not to exceed $3,000.
- Increase funds to provide an additional $3,000 targeted salary enhancement for selected POST certified law enforcement officers.
- Reduce funds to reflect an adjustment in the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) from 65.89% to 66.04%. (DBHDD, DCH/Medicaid LIM, DCH/PeachCare, DCH/GBHCW-GME, DHS/Adoption Services,)
- Reduce funds to reflect an adjustment in the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) from 65.89% to 60.04%. (DCH/Medicaid ABD, DPH/Infant and Child Essential Health Treatment Services)
- Reduce funds to reflect an adjustment in the enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (eFMAP) from 76.12% to 76.23%. (DHS/Dept. Admin, DHS/Out of Home Care)

Judicial Council
- $32,444 Added to annualize one Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) statewide coordinator position for the Council of Accountability Court Judges.
- $0 Added for personnel for one project coordinator position. (Governor sought an $83,807 addition)
- $209,500 Added for Civil Legal Services for families of indigent patients.
- $150,000 Added for two information technology positions and operations to support the juvenile courts case management system.
- $0 Added for Department of Human Services Child Support Services contract to support recruitment and retention needs. (Governor sought a $67,864 addition)

Prosecuting Attorneys
- $1.125 Million Transferred from the Prosecuting Attorney’s Council program for the Prosecuting Attorneys Qualifications Commission program.
- $1 Million Added for a repeat offender and gang case management system.

Juvenile Courts
- $25,000 Added for grants to counties for the Atlantic Judicial Circuit
- $25,000 Added for grants to counties for the Coweta Judicial Circuit
- $218,000 Added for the Juvenile Court Judges’ salary supplement pursuant to the General Appropriations for FY 2023 (HB 911). Senate added this note and the Conference Committee agreed on an additional note: “Beginning in FY 2023, a $6,000 supplement has been paid to juvenile court judges who certified no backlog of cases existed in their courts. There is ambiguity surrounding whether the purpose of this allocation has been followed. A new data system should answer questions concerning case backlogs. Therefore, this $6,000 supplement shall cease on February 1, 2025 for any juvenile court judge who has
not adopted a uniform case management system that at a minimum provides the period of time that a child has been in Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) custody pending permanency.”

State Accounting Office

Budget Direction: Change program name from Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission to State Ethics Commission pursuant to HB 572 (2023 Session).

Dept. of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities

Adult Developmental Disability Services

- **$9.38 Million Added** to annualize the cost of 500 New Options Waiver (NOW) and Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program (COMP) slots for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- **$2.35 Million Added** for 100 additional slots for the New Options Waiver (NOW) and Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program (COMP) for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- **$79.9 Million Recognized agency-wide transfers**: ($4,947,743) from the Adult Forensic Services, Adult Mental Health Services, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, and Departmental Administration (DBHDD) programs to the Adult Developmental Disabilities Services program and increase funds ($74,953,932) to implement the New Option Waiver (NOW) and Comprehensive Supports Option Waiver Program (COMP) provider rate study.
- **$3.2 Million Added** to operationalize the Macon Crisis Stabilization Diagnostic Center for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- **$108,000 Added** for adult autism services.

Adult Forensic Services

- **$3.22 Million Added** to staff and operate a forensic step-down unit to address the statewide waitlist.
- **$2 Million Added** for an additional 30-bed jail-based competency restoration program pilot in Dodge County.
- **$500,000 Added** for the expansion of the Cobb County jail-based restoration program.

Adult Mental Health Services

- **$9.48 Million Added** for a behavioral health crisis center in DBHDD’s Region 1.
- **$11.42 Million Reduced** to reflect decreased demand for core adult mental health services.
- **$3.79 Million Added** to annualize the operations of a behavioral health crisis center in Fulton County.
- **$1.59 Million Added** to annualize the operations of a behavioral health crisis center for the Community Service Board of Middle Georgia in Dublin.
- **$1.22 Million Added** to annualize the operations of a behavioral health crisis center for Serenity Behavioral Health Systems in Augusta.
- **$825,000 Eliminated** (they were one-time funds) to coordinate outreach to address homelessness in the Atlanta area.
- **$26.66 Million Added** to match rate implementation of the Community Behavioral Health Rehabilitation Services (CBHRS) provider rate study for uninsured Georgians and transfer funds ($4,227,287) from the Department of Community Health for Georgians covered by Medicaid.
- **$300,000 Added** to support staffing of the ‘988’ hotline.
- **$0 Added** for the Georgia Housing Voucher program with the direction from the Conference Committee: “Recognize base funds of $25,919,311 for the Georgia Housing Voucher program to support the requirements of the Department of Justice (DOJ) Settlement Agreement and pause increase in funding for Georgia Housing Voucher program awaiting response from the US Department of Justice (DOJ) concerning progress towards substantial compliance with the Olmstead Settlement Agreement.”
- **$200,000 Added** for behavioral health services for Georgians experiencing homelessness in the Atlanta area.
- **$300,000 Added** for behavioral health and support services at a rehousing facility.

Child and Adolescent Developmental Disabilities

- **$300,000 Added** to expand enrichment activities, family support, and employment opportunities for children and young adults with developmental disabilities.

Voices for Georgia's Children
$200,000 Added for autism early screening and care training in rural counties.

**Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services**

- **$600,000 Eliminated** (they were one-time funds) for Georgia psychiatric residential treatment facilities receiving less than $500 per patient day while under current cost report reimbursement methodology.
- **$125,000 Added** for operations of the new Gateway child and adolescent crisis stabilization unit in Savannah.
- **$1 Million Added** for the Georgia Apex Program to expand mental health services in schools.

**Sexual Offender Risk Review Board**

- **$532,357 Added** for two new evaluator positions to address the growth of the existing caseload backlog.
- **$2 Million Added** to address sexual offender caseload backlog.
- **Budget Direction**: Change the name of the Sexual Offender Review Board to the Sexual Offender Risk Review Board.

**Dept. of Community Affairs**

- **$1 Million Added** to create the accountable housing initiative.
- **$3.8 Million Added** plus existing funds ($800,000) and transferred funds from State Community Development Programs ($400,000) for the State Housing Trust Fund to improve homelessness services and pursue new federal grant opportunities. (Total Funds: $4,597,416)
- **Use Existing Funds** ($6 Million) for the Rural Workforce Housing Program.

**Dept. of Community Health**

**Departmental Administration**

- **$1.53 Million Added** for 20 positions to monitor, evaluate, and improve Care Management Organization oversight.
- **$1.37 Million Reduced** for savings resulting from the implementation of the Medicaid Enterprise System Transformation Program.
- **Budget Direction**: Evaluate reimbursement parity between all children's hospitals in the state and report findings to House and Senate Appropriations Committees by July 1, 2024.
- **Budget Direction**: The department shall submit a State Plan Amendment (SPA) to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to change and rules, regulations, or policies necessary to allow for reimbursement of long-acting injectable medications used in an inpatient setting to improve the coordination of care and reduce inpatient readmission rates for individuals with serious mental illness.
- **$1.09 Million Transferred** funds from the Medicaid: Aged, Blind and Disabled program to the Departmental Administration (DCH) program to implement a sickle cell managed care pilot program.
- **$200,000 Added** to establish the Comprehensive Health Coverage Commission pursuant to HB 1339 (2024 Session).

**Health Care Access and Improvement**

- **$2 Million Eliminated** (they were one-time funds) for grants up to $1,000,000 for hospitals with graduate medical education programs.
- **$500,000 Eliminated** one-time start-up funding for federally qualified health centers.
- **$750,000 Added** for three federally qualified health center start-up grants for primary care in Union County, behavioral health expansion in Cobb County, and a dental service expansion for multiple counties.
- **$0 Added** for continuous glucose monitors (SB 35, 2024 Session). *(House sought $2.81 Million here but the Senate moved and increased the amount. See below in ABD Medicaid)*
- **$292,000** Recognized existing funds ($409,000) and provide additional funds to sustain existing area health education centers (AHEC) housing across the state.
- **$0 Added** for emergency equipment. *(House sought $250,000)*
- **$0 Added** for rural hospital stabilization grants. *(House sought $2 Million)*
Medicaid - Aged Blind and Disabled

- $21.59 Reduced for growth in Medicaid based on projected utilization. (Governor had recommended an ADDITION of $68.44 Million)
- $137.72 Million Restored to reflect the termination of temporary Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) increase provided by the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) Extension through December 31, 2023.
- $141.59 Million Added for skilled nursing centers to reflect 2022 cost reports.
- Replace $2,541,738 in state general funds with hospital provider fees.
- Replace $201,221 in state general funds with nursing home provider fees.
- $0 State dollars added but instead, transfer state funds ($4,227,287) to the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities and recognize federal funds ($45,509,162) for the implementation of the Community Behavioral Health Rehabilitation Services (CBHRS) provider rate study. (Governor asked for an addition of $4.23 Million for the same purpose.)
- Moved to DBHDD section (see below): Recognize funds for the New Option Waiver (NOW) and Comprehensive Supports Option Waiver Program (COMP) provider rate study in federal funds totaling $155.12 Million.
- $15.96 Million Added for the Georgia Pediatric Program (GAPP).
- $111.46 Million Reduced for Medicaid based on projected utilization.
- $135.04 Million Restored to reflect the termination of temporary Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) increase provided by the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) Extension through December 31, 2023.
- Replace $22,875,637 in state general funds with hospital provider fees.
- Budget Direction: The department shall evaluate and implement a reimbursement policy for the clinically appropriate administration of long-acting injectable medications used in an inpatient setting, to improve the coordination of care and reduce inpatient readmission rates for individuals with serious mental illness.
- $1.18 Million Added to increase reimbursement rates for speech-language pathology, audiology, physical therapy, and occupational therapy providers.
- $220,084 Added to increase the dispensing fee to $11.50 for independent low-volume pharmacies that fill under 65,000 prescriptions per year.
- $3.67 Million Added for adult coverage of dental services.
- $0 Added for emergency medical service (EMS) transport reimbursement to begin at mile 0. (House sought $1.59 Million addition)
- $2.7 Million Added for reimbursement of Occupational Therapy Assistants (OTAs) and Physical Therapy Assistants (PTAs) providing services for Medicaid members receiving Children's Intervention Services (CIS) and Children's Intervention School Services. (CISS).
- $5.61 Million added for continuous glucose monitors (SB35, 2024 Session).
- $1.09 Million Transferred funds from the Medicaid: Aged, Blind and Disabled program to the Departmental Administration (DCH) program to implement a sickle cell managed care pilot program.

Medicaid - Low Income

- $111.46 Million Reduced for Medicaid based on projected utilization.
- $135.04 Million Restored to reflect the termination of temporary Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) increase provided by the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) Extension through December 31, 2023.
- Replace $22,875,637 in state general funds with hospital provider fees.
- Budget Direction: The department shall evaluate and implement a reimbursement policy for the clinically appropriate administration of long-acting injectable medications used in an inpatient setting, to improve the coordination of care and reduce inpatient readmission rates for individuals with serious mental illness.
- $3.67 Million Added to increase reimbursement rates for speech-language pathology, audiology, physical therapy, and occupational therapy providers.
- $1.24 Million Added for reimbursement of Occupational Therapy Assistants (OTAs) and Physical Therapy Assistants (PTAs) providing services for Medicaid members receiving Children's Intervention Services (CIS) and Children's Intervention School Services. (CISS).
- $0 Added for reimbursement of Occupational Therapy Assistants (OTAs) and Physical Therapy Assistants (PTAs) providing services for Medicaid members receiving Children's Intervention Services (CIS) and Children's Intervention School Services. (CISS). (House sought $1.24 Million)
- $428,745 Added to increase the dispensing fee to $11.50 for independent low-volume pharmacies that fill under 65,000 prescriptions per year.
- $6.76 Million Added for adult coverage of dental services. (*House sought $5.84 Million*)
- $0 Added for emergency medical service (EMS) transport reimbursement to begin at mile 0. (*House sought $1.81 Million addition*)
- $9.99 Million Added to increase select primary care and OB/GYN codes.
- $327,226 Added for rate increases for select optometric codes.
- $283,995 Added to evaluate and, where appropriate, implement a process to allow reimbursement for blood and biomarker testing when clinically indicated so as to provide enhanced surveillance for inpatient pregnant patients between 23-34 weeks with hypertensive disorder of pregnancy.

**PeachCare for Kids**
- $22.85 Million Added for growth in Medicaid based on projected utilization.
- $624,566 Restored to reflect the termination of temporary Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) increase provided by the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) extension through December 31, 2023.
- $0 Added for reimbursement of Occupational Therapy Assistants (OTAs) and Physical Therapy Assistants (PTAs) providing services for Medicaid members receiving Children's Intervention Services (CIS) and Children's Intervention School Services (CISS). (*House sought $93,500*)

**State Health Benefits Plan**
- *Budget Direction:* Recognize an increase in formula funds ($248,279,937) in the Department of Education, Department of Early Care and Learning, Georgia Military College, and Public Libraries, to reflect an increase in the employer healthcare contribution per-member per month (PMPM) rate for certified school employees and lead and assistant teachers to $1,760, effective July 1, 2024.
- *Budget Direction:* Increase the employer health care contribution per-member per-month (PMPM) to $1,580 for non-certified school employees, effective January 1, 2025, and continue to increase as needed in future fiscal years to match the PMPM for certified school employees to maintain financial stability of the plan.

**GA Board of Healthcare Workforce**
- $100,000 of existing funds used for statewide healthcare specialty assessments to evaluate gaps in healthcare services.

**Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce: Graduate Medical Education**
- $2.01 Million Added for 105 new residency slots in primary care.
- $56,757 Added for a rural public health preventative medicine rotation.
- $50,000 Added one-time start-up funds for the development of a Pediatric Rural Training Track.
- $150,000 Added for year two of the maternal fetal medicine fellowship.
- $750,000 Added for one-time start-up funds for OB/GYN service expansion.
- $0 Added one-time start-up funds for two internal medicine residency programs. (*House sought $550,000, but the Senate suggested using $3.49 Million in existing funds instead.*)
- $150,000 Eliminated in residency start-up funds for Southern Regional Medical Center.
- *Budget Direction:* Utilize existing funds ($3,494,140) for start-up grants for hospitals with graduate medical education programs to support new and expanding residency programs with priority given to existing agreements and rural sites.

**Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce: Mercer School of Medicine Grant**
- $850,055 Added for the fifth year of the seven-year plan for Mercer School of Medicine’s medical school campus in Columbus.
- $1.23 Million Added to increase the class size of Mercer's Accelerated Track.
- $500,000 Added to provide one-time matching funds to recognize private fundraising for scholarships for year four students committed to practicing primary care for five years in rural Georgia.

**Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce: Morehouse School of Medicine Grant**
- $500,000 Added for infant mortality research.
Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce: Physicians for Rural Areas
  o $900,000 Added for additional loan repayment for Dentists in Rural Areas.

Georgia Composite Medical Board
  o $501,715 Added for one-time funding to modernize licensure application software.

Dept. of Community Supervision
  o $1.18 Million Added for 17 community supervision aide positions.
  o $527,905 Added for 7 community coordinator positions. (Governor’s Office of Transition Support and Reentry)

Dept. of Corrections
  o $3.42 Million Added across the agency for operational costs at facilities statewide.
  o $2.55 Million Added to maintain advertising campaign, culture review, and salary funding for CO3 positions
  o $1.23 Million Added to provide additional meals on weekends
  o $71.97 Million Added for physical health and pharmacy service contracts.

Private Prisons
  o $6.96 Million Added to provide 200 temporary additional beds at Coffee and Wheeler facilities to allow for maintenance and repairs at state prisons.

State Prisons
  o $240,427 Added for Technical College System of Georgia vocational education contracts.
  o $1 Million Added for offender call monitoring at facilities, statewide.
  o $331,000 Added for radio communications at facilities, statewide.
  o $17.54 Million Added for capital maintenance and repairs.
  o $1.82 Million Reduced for closing HR recruitment centers in favor of increased advertising.
  o $2.93 Million Reduced for replacing Basic Correctional Officer Training paper books with Chromebooks.
  o $10.79 Million Added for safety, security, and technology initiatives to eliminate contraband and provide quarterly updates to the chairs of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, the House Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee, and the Senate Public Safety Committee.

Transition Centers
  o $10 Million Added for six months of operational cost for the Metro Re-Entry Phase IV to add 400 transition center beds.

Dept. of Defense
  o $123,930 Reduced to reflect lower graduation rates.

Dept. of Early Care and Learning
Child Care Services
  o $9.27 Million Added to raise Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS) reimbursement to improve market rates for childcare providers.

Pre-K Program
  o $1.26 Million Added in formula funds for teacher training and experience.
  o $2.41 Million Added in formula funds to reflect an increase in health insurance employer contribution per-member per-month (PMPM) rate for certified teachers at public Pre-K providers to $1,760 effective July 1, 2024.
  o $24.99 Million Added to adjust the state base salary schedule to increase salaries for certified Pre-K teachers and assistant teachers by $2,500.
  o $9.51 Million Added for year one of a four-year phase in to reduce classroom size from 22 to 20 students to improve instructional quality.
  o $8.97 Million Added to maintain the current number of classrooms in the Summer Transition Program without the implementation of an income eligibility requirement.
$383,311 Added for three Pre-Kindergarten administrative positions.

$17.49 Million Added to increase operating funds for Pre-K programs by increasing startup grants for new Pre-K classrooms from $8,000 to $30,000 per classroom ($1,981,493), providing $15,000 replenishment grants every five years ($11,454,000), and increasing transportation funding from $16.50 per category I student to $80.78 per student for all students ($4,052,718).

$11.5 Million Added to increase operating funds for private providers. [Pre-Kindergarten Program]

$19.43 Million Added for a salary increase for assistant Pre-K teachers to provide parity with K-12 paraprofessionals ($14,752,422) and improve salary parity between Pre-K lead teachers and K-12 teachers by moving to the State Board of Education salary schedule ($4,682,380).

Dept. of Education

Agency-wide

- Increase funds to annualize the $2,000 salary increase in FY2024 and increase funds to adjust the state base salary schedule to increase salaries for certified teachers and certified employees by $2,500 effective September 1, 2024.
- Used formula funds to reflect an increase in health insurance employer contribution per-member per-month (PMPM) rate for certified school employees to $1,760 effective July 1, 2024

Agricultural Education

- $192,000 Added for two young farmer positions in Barrow and Peach counties.

Business and Finance Administration

- $200,000 Added to upgrade the Capital Outlay Program Software (COPS) to integrate public Pre-K classrooms pursuant to SB 233 (2024 Session).

Central Office

- $50,000 Removed (it was one-time funding) for study and host meetings with House and Senate committees and stakeholders concerning Georgia Network for Educational and Therapeutic Support (GNETS) formula funding.
- $100,000 Added for adaptive sports program.

Charter Schools

- $1.7 Million Reduced to align with budget expenditures.
- $2.7 Million Reduced for facilities grants to reflect the full $100,000 for each locally approved charter schools, pursuant to HB 430 (2017 Session)

Communities in Schools

- $1 Million Added to leverage matching grant funds for program expansion.

Curriculum Development

- $0 Added to support evidence-based reading instruction grants to fund two Literacy Coaches per Regional Education Service Agency (RESA) and provide $2,000 supplements to Literacy Support Coordinators and Leads at school districts. *(House sought $6.3 Million but the Senate said to recognize funding in Special Project - Curriculum Development.)*
- $177,000 Added for life sciences industry certification.
- $4.92 Million Transferred in existing funds for AP and PSAT exams from the Testing program to properly align with department administration.
- $319,000 Added for one STEM International Baccalaureate exam to all students and one International Baccalaureate exam for free and reduced-paying lunch students.
- $0 Added for computer science professional development to support SB 108 (2019 Session) but the conference committee directed: “Reflect funds in the Board of Regents University System of Georgia Public Service/Special Funding Initiatives program.” *(House sought $1 Million; Senate halved that and then CC moved it.)*
- $475,000 Added for a supplementary secondary math pilot program.
- $1.5 Million Transferred from the Curriculum Development program to the Non-Quality Basic Education Formula Grants program for Dyslexia Screening pursuant to SB 48 (2019 Session).
- $6.11 Million Added to provide funds to Regional Education Service Agencies (RESAs) for: regional literacy coaches with at least one at each RESA ($4,000,000); supplements for 950 school literacy leads upon the completion of an accredited training model ($1,022,675); and training for local coaches, teachers, and supplemental training for ESOL teachers, prioritizing training to schools identified by the RESA as needing additional literacy intervention ($1,088,625). Regional Education Service Agencies shall provide data to the Department of Education for an annual report to the Office of Planning and Budget and House and Senate budget offices regarding the number of teachers and coaches trained, the type of training completed, and the schools those trained professional’s support. Reports shall be provided annually on August 1, beginning August 1, 2024.)

**Georgia Network for Educational and Therapeutic Support (GNETS)**
- $4.26 Million Reduced in formula funds for enrollment and training and experience decline.

**Non-Quality Basic Education (Non-QBE) Formula Grants**
- $8.5 Million Transferred from the Quality Basic Education program to provide salary supplements of $1,000 to all custodians and adjust amount to reflect current count.
- $1.52 Million Added for Dyslexia Screening pursuant to SB 48 (2019 Session) and universal screening pursuant to HB 538 (2023 Session); recognize that available universal screeners can also screen for dyslexia and thereby require vendors to supply evidence that they assess the same skills required for dyslexia screening at first administration of the screener.
- $389,615 Reduced in formula funds for Residential Treatment Facilities based on attendance.
- $255,709 Added in formula funds for Sparsity Grants based on enrollment data.
- $250,000 Added for a mentorship program to increase teacher retention rates.
- $362,000 Added for one-time grant funds for CPR training and equipment for student health and safety.
- $200,000 Added to provide a supplemental sparsity grant to school districts with fewer than 200 students and one K-12 school.

**Nutrition**
- $6.33 Million Added to align budget with expenditures.
- $3.17 Million Added for the cost of breakfast and lunch for reduce-paying students.
- $2 Million Added in formula funds for school nutrition.
- $1.35 Million Added in formula funds to recognize a 4.1% increase to the salary earnings in the nutrition formula.

**Preschool Disability Services**
- $7.12 Million Added based on formula earnings.

**Pupil Transportation**
- $200 Million Added for pupil transportation to provide additional state support for school districts statewide by reflecting updated bus count and 40% of operational costs.
- $5.01 Million Added in formula funds to recognize a 4.1% increase to the salary earnings in the pupil transportation formula.

**Quality Basic Education Equalization**
- $266.97 Million Added in formula funds for Equalization grants.

**QBE Local Five Mill Share**
- $183.87 Million Reduced for the Local Five Mill Share.

**Quality Basic Education Program**
- $40.19 Million Added for the State Commission Charter School supplement.
- $1.42 Million Reduced in formula funds for differentiated pay for newly certified math and science teachers.
- $6.3 Million Added in formula funds for the Completion Special Schools supplement pursuant to HB 87 (2023 Session).
- $301,659 Added in formula funds for the charter system grant.
- $8.64 Million Transferred to the Non-Quality Basic Education Formula Grants

**Regional Education Service Agencies (RESAs)**
- $396,264 Added for a 4.1% salary increase for certified staff.
School Nurse
- $609,505 Reduced in formula funds for school nurses.
- $1.54 Million Added for a 4.1% salary increase for school nurses.

School Security Grants
- $108.91 Million Added to establish school security grants for safety infrastructure and POST certified personnel.
- $0 Added for safety training for teachers and ability of local school systems to develop school safety plans. (Senate had sought $5 Million)

State Schools
- $263,962 Added in formula funds for training and experience.
- Budget Direction: Utilize existing funds ($2,000,000) for major repairs and renovations.

Technology/Career Education
- $711,000 Reduced to align budget with expenditures.
- $1 Million Added for construction industry certification.
- $0 Added for three heavy equipment simulators at ten schools. (The House sought $1.5 Million, but the Senate reflected the funding in Georgia State Financing and Investment Commission - Capital Projects Fund.)

Testing
- $1.63 Million Added for state mandated testing (This budget line was originally targeted to provide a universal reading screener for all K-3 students pursuant to HB 538 (2023 Session) but the conference committee changed the note.)

Governor’s Office of Student Achievement
- $82,000 Reduced to reflect current state agreements for erasure analysis.
- $250,000 Reduced to align budget with expenditures.
- $0 Added for the Literacy Lab.
- Budget Direction: Utilize existing funds ($500,000) to provide community grants in support of the Georgia Reads Community Partnership.

Dept. of Human Services
Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention
- $1 Million Added for child advocacy centers to expand mental health services and forensic interviewing for children who have experienced abuse, neglect, exploitation, and trafficking.

Child Support Services
- $1.1 Million Added for a $3,000 additional salary enhancement for child support workers.
- $111,094 Added for prosecution to support recruitment and retention needs.

Child Welfare Services
- $214,146 Added for the full cost of two community action team pilot programs funded by HB 911 (2022 Session).
- $1.42 Million Transferred funds from Elder Abuse Investigations and Prevention ($590,000) and increase funds ($828,935) for technology upgrades and improvements to the SHINES child welfare case management system to enhance efficiency.
- $4.66 Million Added to provide a $3,000 additional salary enhancement for child protection and placement services caseworkers.
- $1 Million Added for the court appointed special advocates (CASA) to enhance statewide capacity.
- $0 Added for child advocacy centers to expand mental health services and forensic interviewing for children who have experienced abuse, neglect, exploitation, and trafficking.
- $1.5 Million Added to annualize wraparound services pilot. (Additionally, the Senate specified an additional $1.5 Million add from federal Foster Care Title IV-E funds)

Departmental Administration (DHS)
- $1.09 Million Added for rent for a multi-service building in Coweta County.
Federal Eligibility Benefit Services
  o $2.06 Million Added for labor and wage data verification services.
  o $630,057 Added for 23 county customer service staff to provide staff in every customer service center.

Out-of-Home Care Services
  o $8.38 Million Added for a 3% provider rate increase for Child Caring Institutions, Child Placing Agencies, foster parents, and relative caregivers.

Out-of-School Care Services
  o $2.66 Million Eliminated for one-time funding to bridge the education gap.

Residential Child Care Licensing
  o $134,618 Added to establish an application and inspection process for Qualified Residential Treatment Programs.

Family Connection
  o $596,250 Added to increase operational support and each county’s allocation to $60,000.

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency: Vocational Rehabilitation Program
  o $1.5 Million Added for independent living services.

Safe Harbor for Sexually Exploited Children Fund Commission
  o $4.75 Million Added for the full cost of the Gwinnett Commercial Sexual Exploitation Recovery Center funded by HB 19 (2023 Session).
  o $100,000 Added for a psychiatric nurse to support youth survivors of exploitation and trafficking.

Office of the Commissioner of Insurance
  o $20 Million Added for the state reinsurance program.

Georgia Bureau of Investigation
  o $1.33 Million Added for six death investigation specialists, one forensic photographer, one quality manager, one business support analyst supervisor, and one business support analyst in the Medical Examiner’s Office to address increased workload.
  o $307,746 Added to add two criminal intelligence analyst positions to support the Criminal Street Gang Database.
  o $4.87 Million Added for nine special agents, two digital forensic investigators, two criminal intelligence analyst, and one office manager and associated cost for the GBI Gang Task Force in Columbus to combat crime.
  o $1.15 Million Added to provide targeted retention initiatives for 229 crime lab scientists.
  o $680,971 Added for local law enforcement partnerships to combat crime and gang activity.
  o Budget Direction: Develop and report back to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees by September 1, 2024 on a grant program to incentivize the consolidation of resources for policing in communities of less than 50,000 people.

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
  o $4.73 Million Reduced to align budget with expenditures.
  o $1.25 Million Transferred from Criminal Justice Coordinating Council to the Georgia Public Safety Training Center for School Resource Officer and De-escalation training.
  o $2.77 Million Added for personal services and operating expenses to promote the stability of the Georgia Crime Victims Emergency Fund.

Council of Accountability Court Judges
  o $964,892 Added for existing accountability courts to support population growth.
  o $291,901 Added to add one DUI court and one mental health

Family Violence
  o $1 Million Reduced to align budget with expenditures.
$12.7 Million Added for domestic violence shelters for administrative personnel and facility costs related to compliance with state standards; funds will not be allotted until the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council develops not-to-exceed pay scales and not-to-exceed expenditures for facilities.

$2.07 Million Added for sexual assault centers for administrative personnel and facility costs related to compliance with state standards; funds will not be allotted until the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council develops not-to-exceed pay scales and not-to-exceed expenditures for facilities.

$4.38 Million Added for sexual assault nurse examiner (SANE) coordinators and improve access to SANE resources for sexual assault centers.

$895,785 Added for six sexual assault centers ($325,740) and 21 satellite sexual assault centers ($570,045).

### Dept. of Juvenile Justice
- Agency-wide: Increase funds to provide a new benchmark for juvenile correctional officers (JCO1) at $40,040 to create parity with correctional officers.
- $4.34 Million Added to provide an additional $3,000 targeted salary enhancement for selected POST certified law enforcement officers.
- $595,655 Added to adjust the state base salary schedule to increase salaries for certified teachers and certified employees by $2,500 effective September 1, 2024.
- $3.61 Million Reduced to reflect regular operating and contract efficiencies.
- $558,960 Added for a 3% provider rate increase to Child Caring Institutions.

### Secure Confinement (Youth Detention Centers – YDCs)
- $0 Added for mobile tablets for a new pilot electronic grievance system in one Department of Juvenile Justice Secure Commitment (YDC) and one Secure Detention (RYDC) facility. (Governor recommended a $3,000 addition)
- $600,000 Added for the creation of new mobile labs at three Secure Commitment (YDC) facilities through the Technical College System of Georgia.
- $148,282 Added for new body cameras.
- $4.8 Million Added for capital maintenance and repairs.

### Secure Confinement (Residential Youth Detention Centers – RYDCs)
- $427,346 Added for body cameras.
- $0 Added for mobile tablets for a new pilot electronic grievance system in one Department of Juvenile Justice Secure Commitment (YDC) and one Secure Detention (RYDC) facility. (Governor recommended a $3,000 addition)
- $9.81 Million Added for capital maintenance and repairs.

### Dept. of Law
- $822,411 Added to expand the Gang Prosecution Unit to Columbus, Macon, and Middle Judicial Circuit.

### Dept. of Public Health

#### Adolescent and Adult Health Promotion
- $908,522 Added to expand the visiting hematologist program.
- $796,000 Added for outreach and breast cancer screening services.
- **Budget Direction:** Utilize $350,000 in existing funds for feminine hygiene products for low-income clients at community organizations.

#### Epidemiology
- $765,528 Added for the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program to monitor the prescribing and dispensing of controlled substances.
- $130,000 Added for the Georgia Poison Center.

#### Infant and Child Essential Health Treatment Services
- $1.07 Million Added: Utilize existing funds ($685,903) and increase funds to expand the pilot to provide home visiting in at-risk and underserved rural communities during pregnancy and early childhood to
improve birth outcomes, reduce preterm deliveries, and decrease infant and maternal mortality. (Total Funds: $1,752,000)

- **Budget Direction:** Utilize existing funds ($118,939) for one epidemiologist position for surveillance and data analysis for the Low THC Oil Registry Program
- **$775,996 Added** to increase reimbursement rates for speech-language pathology, audiology, physical therapy, and occupational therapy providers in the Babies Can’t Wait program.

**Infant and Child Health Promotion**
- **$978,639 Added** for newborn screening to include two additional disorders that have been approved by the Georgia Newborn Screening Advisory Committee.

**Infectious Disease Control**
- **$150,611 Added** for one congenital syphilis and HIV case manager position to link cases identified during pregnancy and delivery to testing and treatment resources.

**Infections and Environmental Hazard Control**
- **$235,074 Eliminated** (they were one-time funds) for lead inspection start-up costs and testing machines.

**Georgia Trauma Care Network Commission**
- **$4 Million Added** to initiate a multi-year plan to stabilize the trauma network and recognize return on investment of $22.60 per dollar invested.
- **$2.06 Million Added** pursuant to passage of **SB 515** (2024 Session) regarding an ambulance pilot program.

**University System of Georgia Board of Regents**

**Public Libraries**
- **$141,350 Added** for the public libraries’ formula based on an increase in the state population.

**Public Service/Special Funding Initiatives**
- **$1.45 Million Added** for legal clinics to increase law student exposure and involvement in public defender and prosecuting attorney work.
- **$1.5 Million Added** to establish the David Ralston Center for Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities at the University of Georgia to build the workforce of professionals and provide a clearinghouse for research.

**Teaching**
- **$2.92 Million Added** to reflect a 0.8% decrease in enrollment with an increase in higher cost program areas ($2,256,373) and 0.2% increase in square footage ($658,999).
- **$66 Million Restored** FY 2024 formula funds for Teaching.
- **$4.69 Million Added** for Medical College of Georgia expansion at Georgia Southern University’s Armstrong campus.

**Payments to Georgia Military College Preparatory School**
- **$148,613 Added** for enrollment, training, and experience.
- **$45,000 Added** for a school security grant.

**Secretary of State**

**Investigations**
- **$405,434 Added** for four criminal investigators due to increased volume of elections and licensing board investigations.

**Professional Licensing Boards**
- **$1.5 Million Added** for personnel for 11 licensing technicians, one process improvement analyst, one licensing and renewal assistant, two IT positions, one administrative assistant, and one business analyst, as well as related equipment and hourly temporary employees to address backlogs while onboarding new employees and maintain standard office operating procedures and coverage to meet customer needs.
Georgia Student Finance Commission

**Adult Learner High-Demand Field Scholarship**
- **$0 Added** to establish an adult learner scholarship program assisting Georgia residents of two years or more to complete their bachelor’s degree in a high-demand field utilizing competency-based learning models or other such models designed to meet the needs of the working adult learner. *(House sought $500,000)*

**College Completion Grants**
- **$2 Million Reduced** for College Completion Grants.

**Inclusive Postsecondary Education (IPSE) Grant**
- **$1.64 Million Added** to meet projected need.

**Dual Enrollment**
- **$15.09 Million Added** to meet projected enrollment.

**HERO Scholarship**
- **$300,000 Reduced** funds and utilize surplus funds to meet the projected need.

**HOPE Grant**
- **$20.73 Million Reduced** to reflect expected program expenditure.
- **$16.7 Million Transferred** from the HOPE Scholarships - Public Schools program to the HOPE Grant program.

**HOPE High School Equivalency Exam**
- **$845,510 Reduced** to reflect expected program expenditure.

**HOPE Scholarships – Private Schools**
- **$16.44 Million Reduced** to reflect expected program expenditures at a HOPE Private Award rate at $2,496 and a HOPE Zell Private Award rate at $2,985.

**HOPE Scholarships – Public Schools**
- **$11.36 Million Reduced** to reflect expected program expenditures at a 100% factor rate.

**Low Interest Loans**
- **Budget Direction:** Reduce funds and eliminate program to reflect cessation of further loan originations.

**Service Cancelable Loans**
- **Budget Direction:** Recognize existing funds ($3,200,000) to provide up to $20,000 maximum loan repayments across five years of service to support recruitment and retention of public law enforcement officers.

**Technical College System of Georgia**

**Adult Education**
- **$0 Added** at this moment for the Workforce EXCELerator pilot program, pending final passage of SB 112 (2024 Session). *(Governor sought $5 Million, the House sought $650,000, then the Senate sought $1.35 Million, but the conference committee decided to wait on the legislation passage)*

**Quick Start**
- **$46 Million Reduced** (they were one-time funds) for construction to complete Rivian training center.
- **$4.75 Million Added** to meet existing training obligations.

**Technical Education**
- **$9.43 Million Added** to reflect a 3.0% increase in enrollment ($8,988,608) and 0.7% increase in square footage ($444,954).
- **$1.1 Million Reduced** to align budget with expenditures.
- **Budget Direction:** In conjunction with the Office of Planning and Budget and House and Senate budget offices, the Technical College System of Georgia shall conduct a review of the current formula rates and program expense for the Technical Education program to ensure that the funding formula considers costs and rewards graduation and in-field job placement.

**Technical Education: High-Cost Programs - Special Project**
- **$7.42 Million Added** to provide increased credit hour earnings for aviation, commercial truck driving, and nursing program areas to reflect the high-cost nature of providing these programs.
**Workforce Development**
- $322,000 Added for two new positions to provide regionally based consultation and technical assistance to healthcare partners across the state.
- $150,000 Added to support Public Service Apprenticeships pursuant to passage of SB 497 (2024 Session).

**Georgia State Financing and Investment Commission – Capital Projects Fund**

**Dept. of Education**
- $25.47 Million Added for Low Wealth for local school construction.
- $21.19 Million Added for Additional Low Wealth for local school construction.
- $181.76 Million Added for Regular for local school construction.
- $6.91 Million Added for Regular Advance for local school construction.
- $10.32 Million Added for Purchase vocational and agriculture education equipment.
- $7.08 Million Added for Major repairs and renovations for state schools.
- $20 Million Added for Purchase school buses.
- $5 Million Added for one-time funding for construction of the Middle Georgia STEM Academy, Houston County.

**Dept. of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities**
- $8.75 Million Added Hospital Campus Urgent and Significant Needs Prioritized According to the GSFIC Campus Survey
- $500,000 Added for planning, design, and land acquisition for a new behavioral health crisis center in North Metropolitan Atlanta.

**GA Bureau of Investigation**
- $40.1 Million Added for construction of Medical Examiner Annex Addition, Decatur, DeKalb County.

**Dept. of Juvenile Justice**
- $1.8 Million Added for additional design fees for a 56-bed facility expansion, Macon, Bibb County.
- $1.8 Million Added for additional design fees for a 48-bed facility expansion, Milledgeville, Baldwin County.
- $52 Million Added for construction of 48-bed facility expansion, Milledgeville, Baldwin County.
- $2.3 Million Added for major repair and renovation.
- $3.8 Million Added for Land acquisition and design for new 56-bed facility, Gwinnett County.

**Georgia Environmental Finance Authority:**
- $15 Million Added for the state match for the federal Clean Water and Drinking Water Revolving Loan Programs.

**University System of Georgia Board of Regents-Public Libraries**
- $3 Million Added for one-time funding for major repairs and renovations, statewide.
- $900,000 Added for one-time funding for renovation of Douglas-Coffee County Library, Satilla Regional Library System, Douglas, Coffee County.
- $900,000 Added for one-time funding for renovation of the Cedartown Library, Sara Hightower Library System, Cedartown, Polk County.
- $0 Added for one-time funding for renovation of the Dawson County Public Library, Chestatee Regional Library System, Dawsonville, Dawson County. *(House sought $302,000, Senate sought $250,00, Conference committee zeroed it out.)*
- $900,000 Added for one-time funding for renovation of Westtown Library, Dougherty County Library System, Albany, Dougherty County.
- $2 Million Added for one-time funding for Technology Grants to Public Libraries, statewide.
- $900,000 Added for one-time funding for renovation of Appleby Branch Library, Augusta-Richmond County Public Library System, Augusta, Richmond County.
- $1.11 Million Added for one-time funding for construction of Morgan County Library, Azalea Regional Library System, Madison, Morgan County.
- $3 Million Added for one-time funding for construction of Cleveland-White County Public Library, Northeast Georgia Regional Library System, Cleveland, White County