

Governor's Budget Overview



The Governor's Fiscal Year 2027 Recommended General Fund Operating Budget is \$6,938.3 million, including \$29.0 million in one-time appropriations budgeted within the Office of Management and Budget. This budget includes \$221.2 million in General Fund cash and \$78.9 million in Special Fund cash dedicated to the Recommended Bond and Capital Improvements Act and a recommended \$85.5 million set aside for Grants-in-Aid. In addition to the constitutionally mandated two percent set-aside to remain unappropriated, the Budget Stabilization Fund balance has been maintained at \$469.3 million. Total appropriations represent 98.0 percent of projected General Fund revenues.

Investing in Our Children

- \$187.6 million for public education capital projects including Minor Capital Improvements, and school construction funding for projects in the Appoquinimink, Brandywine, Colonial, Red Clay Consolidated, and New Castle County Vocational Technical school districts.
- \$72.7 million to maintain funding for Mental Health Services for Elementary, Middle, and High School students.
- \$49.5 million for capital projects at Delaware State University, Delaware Technical Community College and the University of Delaware.
- \$25.3 million for Purchase of Care for continued support of families with children.
- \$10.1 million for school safety.
- \$10.0 million for the Delaware State University Stadium project.
- \$9.9 million to fund student unit growth.
- \$9.3 million to maintain the K-12 network infrastructure.
- \$8.0 million to maintain funding for the Literacy Emergency Fund to address Delaware's literacy test scores.
- \$8.0 million to pilot the Delaware Early Childhood Care and Education Alliance to expand high quality early childhood education opportunities statewide.
- \$2.8 million to begin implementation of a new public education funding formula based on the recommendations of the Public Education Funding Commission.

Investing in Our Housing

- \$19.0 million to support affordable housing.
- \$10.0 million for the twelfth year of the statewide Urban Redevelopment initiative. This program provides funding for Downtown Development Districts, designed to promote healthy and vibrant downtowns as critical components of Delaware's economic well-being and quality of life.

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- \$4.0 million for the Strong Neighborhoods Housing Fund, targeted at efforts that support community development and/or transform neighborhoods that are experiencing blight or other forms of stress, including high crime.
- \$1.5 million for Workforce Housing Program to expand housing investments and affordable units for Delawareans and their families.
- \$1.0 million for the Homelessness Response and Stabilization Program.

Investing in Our Healthcare

- \$139.0 million for Medicaid services growth, including funding to support coverage of biomarkers and to increase the rate for Direct Service, Skilled Nursing and Mental Health Providers.
- \$34.2 million to support medical and pharmaceutical services at Department of Correction facilities.
- \$12.6 million for community and residential rehabilitation services.
- \$10.1 million for the state-share of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) administrative costs.
- \$2.0 million for ongoing lead remediation efforts.
- \$1.5 million to improve access to locally grown nutritious foods.
- \$1.5 million for the Health Eligibility & Lifeline Program (HELP) which will assist individuals in maintaining healthcare coverage while getting them back into the workforce.

Investing in Our Workforce

- \$54.6 million for continued efforts towards compensation and pay equity for state employees. This proposal includes two percent salary increases for all state employees, funding for collective bargaining contracts and pay matrix increases for state attorneys.
- \$53.3 million for Year 3 of the Public Education Compensation Committee recommendations.
- \$15.6 million to fund salary steps for Public Education administrators and educators.
- \$1.3 million for funding salary steps for higher education and state agencies.
- \$65.0 million to continue investments toward the reduction of the OPEB Trust Fund liability.
- \$1.5 million in workforce development and apprenticeship programming split among the three vocational technical school districts.
- \$600,000 to expand wage theft enforcement efforts.

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Investing in Safe and Stable Communities

- \$90.6 million to maintain and upgrade state facilities including minor capital improvements and renovations to the Carvel State Office Building, facilities at The Circle in Georgetown and North King Street in Wilmington, the DEMA Facility, DSCYF Campus and addressing statewide deferred maintenance.
- \$60.0 million for the new Forensic Science Building on the Emily P. Bissell campus.
- \$21.8 million to renovate the Leonard L. Williams Justice Center in Wilmington.
- \$11.0 million to maintain and preserve recreational sites, trails and pathways across Delaware.
- \$13.5 million to renovate the old Kent and Sussex County Courthouses.
- \$5.0 million to offset revenue reductions resulting from hardship waivers for fines and fees from defendants least able to pay.
- \$4.5 million to combine Justice of the Peace (JP) Courts 8 Smyrna and 9 Middletown.
- \$2.9 million in the Officer Body Camera Program.
- \$2.6 million in matching funds for statewide library projects.
- \$1.5 million for State Police investigative systems, vehicles, and equipment.

Investing in Our Economy

- \$10.0 million to the Site Readiness Fund to support the development of commercial and industrial sites.
- \$9.8 million for the Riverfront Development Corporation to continue development efforts along the Christina River in Wilmington.
- \$7.5 million for the Strategic Fund to continue support for business retention and expansion through grants and low-interest loans to projects that grow the State's economy in a significant way.
- \$2.5 million for Neighborhood Small Business Lending Pilot to establish revolving loans that provide flexible financing to Delaware-based small businesses located in Downtown Development Districts.
- \$1.5 million for the fourth year of a five-year commitment to the Center for Clinical and Translational Research initiative. Partner institutions (University of Delaware, Christiana Care and Nemours) will develop new methods to translate research discoveries into community health settings and will leverage additional funding from the National Institutes of Health.
- \$1.0 million for the Bioscience Center for Advanced Technology. The Center fosters academic industry research partnerships to support local bioscience businesses and help Delaware recruit, retain and create science-based jobs.
- \$2.0 million for the fourth year of a five-year commitment to support the State's academic and medical institutions. Through collaborations among the public, private

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and academic sectors, the grant continues to support biomedical research, encompassing both basic and translational research.

- \$800,000 for the second year of a five-year commitment for the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research - Research Infrastructure Improvement initiative. The program provides infrastructure to support research and educational programs for Delaware's water and energy challenges and will leverage additional funding from the National Science Foundation.
- \$5.0 million for the fourth year of a five-year commitment to support the transformation of biopharmaceutical manufacturing in the State and around the country. The biopharmaceutical category includes vaccines, cancer drugs and drugs to treat autoimmune diseases, as well as emerging drugs for cell and gene therapies. The institute will provide higher quality and safer medicines, being made available faster than ever before, and create quality jobs for the citizens of Delaware.

Investing in Our Environment

- \$10.0 million for Shoreline and Waterway Management.
- \$8.0 million for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund.
- \$5.7 million for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund.
- \$5.0 million for Resource, Conservation, and Development.
- \$3.8 million for the Cover Crop Program.
- \$1.7 million for the Conservation Cost Share.