

FY 2022 Public School Support Program Budget Highlights

For FY 2022, The Public Schools Program Appropriation includes an additional \$74,615,000 in new General Funds when compared to the FY 2021 Original Appropriation, which equates to a 3.8% increase. From all funds (General, dedicated, and federal), there is an additional \$767,736,100 or a 32.8% increase. The **FY 2022** appropriation includes the following items:

- \$85,865,900 in new nondiscretionary adjustments:
 - Added \$44,906,800 for statutory-based Career Ladder growth
 - Increased discretionary funding by 2.27% or \$19,963,400
 - An increase of \$655 per support unit
 - Added \$9,700,000 for advanced opportunities bringing the total to \$29,700,000
- Full restoration of the 5% Board of Examiner’s reductions
- Provided \$696,908,300 in COVID-19 Relief Funds
 - Including full funding for ESSER II and ESSER III
- Provided \$20,000,000 to address learning loss related to the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Increased salaries for administrators and classified staff by 2%
- Increased health insurance funding for schools by 5.17% or \$10,575,100
- Shifted all requested reductions to federal COVID-19 relief funds
- Provided an additional \$1,000,000 in professional development for teachers

Language in the appropriation bills will allow the Legislature to better understand learning loss as a result of COVID-19; conduct an audit of the pupil transportation program funding formula; continue to evaluate contracts related to public schools, and support schools with continued professional development resources and content and curriculum materials.

For FY 2021, The Legislature approved additional adjustments for schools:

- Appropriated \$104 million in the current year from COVID-19 Relief Funds
- JFAC enhanced the Governor’s recommendation and appropriated COVID-19 Relief Funds for additional subjects beyond K-4 literacy learning loss (as recommended by the Governor) to also include all subjects impacted by the pandemic.
- Working collaboratively with education stakeholders, including the Board of Education, Department of Education and Governor’s staff - JFAC was able to ensure schools will be reimbursed in a timely manner (weekly) for federal COVID-19 Relief Fund reimbursement.
- Ensured learning loss from COVID-19 was addressed with adequate starter funds

Public Schools Appropriation Bills:

Administrators (H353); Teachers (H385); Operations (H355 & H386); Children’s Programs (H356, H388, & H398); Facilities (H357); Central Services (H358); and Educational Services for the Deaf and Blind (H359).