Amended Fiscal Year 2023 Budget

Signed by the Governor

Amended Total: $32.56 Billion

(Increased from the governor’s original FY23 estimate of $30.20 Billion)

Yellow = H&S Conference Committee Agreements

Juvenile Courts

$0 Added for grants to counties for the Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit. (Governor had originally requested $12,500 but it was removed.)

$200,000 Subtracted due to utilization and reporting levels concerning dependency case backlog. (The CC reduced the Senate’s cut by $50,000.)

District Attorneys

$107,065 Transferred to District Attorneys to reflect change in Department of Human Services Child Support Services contract.

GA Technology Authority

$3.5 Million Added to modernize the teacher certification and ethics applications at the Georgia Professional Standards Commission to improve security, efficiency, and customer service.

Dept. of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities

$2.02 Million Added to support private psychiatric contract beds and for the Department to provide a report of total number of private psychiatric beds that exist in the state to the Chairs of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees by June 30, 2023. (Adult Mental Health Services)

$825,000 Added to coordinate outreach to address homelessness in the Atlanta area. (Adult Mental Health Services)

$300,000 Added to support operations personnel for the administration of federal opioid settlement funds. (Departmental Administration)

$650,000 Added to support DBHDD agency operations. (Departmental Administration)

$100,000 Reduced for delayed contract implementation. (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services)

$600,000 Added for one-time gap funding for Georgia psychiatric residential treatment facilities receiving less than $500 per patient per day while under current cost report reimbursement methodology. (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) This gap funding was also recognized in the Dept. of Community Health section of the budget

$100,000 Added for technology infrastructure and environmental adaptations for students enrolled in Inclusive Postsecondary Education (IPSE) programs. (GA Council on Developmental Disabilities)
$0 Added in one-time funds for emergency communication infrastructure needs in South Georgia. (State Community Development Programs) (The House added $750,000 but the Senate removed the funds.)

$166.7 Million Added for the projected cost of large economic development projects receiving Regional Economic Business Assistance.

$35.7 Million Reallocated from the FY 2022 broadband infrastructure grant program carryover ($21,500,000) and FY 2022 Rural Innovation Fund carryover ($14,203,211) to establish the Rural Workforce Housing Fund. (Under Payments to OneGeorgia Authority)

Dept. of Community Health

**Budget Note:** “The Department shall submit a State Plan Amendment (SPA) to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to expand the Express Lane Eligibility program to include Childcare and Parental Services (CAPS), Refugee Cash Assistance, and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC).”

**Budget Note:** “The Department shall change any rules, regulations, or policies necessary to include psychiatric hospitals as an eligible facility type to provide Inpatient Psychiatric Facility Services for persons under the age of 21 years enrolled in Fee-for-Service Medicaid.

$6.5 Million Eliminated to replace the Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS) with the Medicaid Enterprise System Transformation (MEST).

**Budget Note:** “The Department shall change any rules, regulations, or policies necessary to allow Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and Rural Health Centers (RHCs) to provide routine physical exams and preventative care for all Medicaid members.

**Budget Note:** “The Department shall change any rules, regulations, or policies necessary to allow for coverage of blood pressure monitors, incontinence supplies, portable oxygen units, nutritional supplements, and specialized formula for all Medicaid members.”

$25,000 Added for a rural hospital study. (Health Care Access and Improvement)

$184,000 Added to support existing housing with the Area Health Education Centers. (Health Care Access and Improvement)

$1 Million Added to support the psychiatric and internal medicine resident learning and work centers at St. Francis Hospital. (Health Care Access and Improvement) (The House added $778,000 and the Senate increased the amount.)

$250,000 Added to implement and regulate the new licensure category for adult residential mental health programs as established by HB 1069 (2022 Session). (Healthcare Facility Regulation)

Transferred: $29,237,181 in prior year state general funds from the Medicaid: Aged, Blind and Disabled program and $5,006,960 in prior year state general funds from the Low-Income Medicaid program to DHS Departmental Administration. These funds are provided by the 10% increase of the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) for home and community-based services (HCBS) pursuant to Section 9817 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and utilize funds as specified in the spending plan as approved by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). (Under DHS Departmental Administration) In addition this budget recommendation recognizes and plans to use $153,828,763 in prior year ABD Medicaid state funds (also provided by the 10% increase of the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) for HCBS) in the above spending plan.
$505.9 Million Reduced in Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) increase provided by the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) through June 30, 2023. ($276.71 Million in ABD Medicaid, $214.47 Million in LIM and $14.7 Million Reduced in PeachCare)

$227.45 Million Added for Medicaid Enrollment Growth and Utilization as follows:

- $79.56 Million Added for growth in Aged Blind Disabled (ABD) Medicaid based on projected utilization.
- $15.4 Million Added to reflect ABD Medicaid enrollment growth as a result of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) extension.
- $171.25 Million Added to reflect enrollment growth in Low Income Medicaid (LIM) as a result of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) extension.
- $48.18 Million Reduced in LIM based on projected expenditures.
- $11.74 Million Added to reflect enrollment growth in PeachCare for Kids as a result of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) extension.
- $2.32 Million Reduced in PeachCare for Kids based on projected expenditures.

$4.5 Million Added to continue the PeachCare for Kids premium suspension through June 30, 2023.

Budget Note: Increase employer contribution per-member, per-month (PMPM) rate in the State Health Benefits Plan for certified school employees to $1,580 effective January 1, 2023. The Conference Committee landed on $50 Million to be phased in over 2 years.

$3.5 Million Added for grants for nursing program expansions.

The additions of state dollars are as follows:

- $420.25 Million Added for certified school employees under QBE. (GaDOE)
- $498,750 Added for RESAs. The governor asked for $158,912. (GaDOE)
- $1.34 Million of the governor’s ask reduced to $994,170 for GNETS. (Georgia Network for Educational and Therapeutic Support) (GaDOE)
- $2.76 Million Added for Preschool Disability Services certified school employees. This is an increase from the $1.53 Million that the Governor recommended. (GaDOE)
- $305,850 Added for Georgia Military College Preparatory School certified school employees. The governor asked for $125,730. (USG)

Dept. of Corrections

$12.3 Million Added for physical health and pharmacy services contracts.

$20.9 Million Reduced to reflect the closure of Georgia State Prison.

$66.5 Million Added for 33 projects at 19 state prison facilities for emergency repairs ($4,050,000), upgrades to life safety and security systems ($29,955,000 – the House added $5,000,000 to the governor’s ask of $14,955,000 and the Senate increased it), and major maintenance and renovations ($32,490,000).

Georgia Dept. of Early Care and Learning

Budget Note: Utilize existing funds to expand the Summer Transition Program.
$8 Million Added in Lottery dollars to Georgia’s Pre-Kindergarten Program for early reading education.

Georgia Dept. of Education

**Budget Note:** The Department of Education is directed to re-evaluate, in consultation with stakeholders, the Georgia Network for Educational and Therapeutic Support (GNETS) program to provide recommendations to the Office of Planning and Budget, the House Budget and Research Office, and the Senate Budget and Evaluation Office by September 30, 2023.

$5 Million Added for reimbursable grants in the amount of $3,000 each to paraprofessionals who earn certificates through the Georgia Teacher Academy for Preparation and Pedagogy (GaTAPP) program. The governor had asked for $15 Million but the House reduced it. (Non-QBE Formula Grants)

$115.7 Million Added for security grants in the amount of $50,000 per school to local school systems for school security enhancements. The governor had asked for $50,000 grants but the House increased it to $60,000 and the Senate returned the amount to the governor’s recommendation. (Non-QBE Formula Grants)

$143,760 Added for Sparsity Grants to reflect a data correction for Glascock County. **Reduced** from the governor’s ask of $149,643. (Non-QBE Formula Grants)

$0 Million in state dollars Added for incentive grants for Learning Loss. The Conference Committee directed: **Utilize $977,508,409 in 'American Recovery Plan (ARP) Act' funds designated for learning loss.** (The governor’s original ask was $25 Million for learning loss grants to support student achievement and well-being to be distributed to local school systems based on the percentage of students performing below grade level on academic year 2022 standardized tests. (Non-QBE Formula Grants)

$2.5 Million Added for matching funds for school systems to implement character education programming. The House had asked for $1.25 Million and the Senate increased it. (Non-QBE Formula Grants)

$942,638 Eliminated from Local Five Mill Share for four new State Commission Charter Schools and provide hold harmless for the local share of the SHBP rate increase in the midterm adjustment.

$3.71 Million Added for a midterm adjustment to the State Commission Charter School supplement for training and experience. The governor asked for $4.14 Million.

$272,044 Added in formula funds for a midterm adjustment to the charter system grant.

$128.24 Millions Added in formula funds for a midterm adjustment based on enrollment growth.


$7.36 Million Added to reflect growth in the Special Needs Scholarship. The governor asked for $6.36 Million.

$60,564 Added in formula funds for a midterm adjustment to the local charter school grant pursuant to SB 59 (2021 Session).

$3.34 Million Added to purchase equipment for construction industry certification programs, statewide. House asked for $3.34 Million and the Senate reduced the amount. (Technology/Career Education)
Dept. of Human Services (including DFCS)

$4 Million Added for technology improvements and security upgrades for federally-provided benefits and reduce fraud. (DHS Departmental Administration)

$1.97 Million Added for technology improvements and security upgrades to the Integrated Eligibility System in preparation for the Public Health Emergency (PHE) expiration.

$662,433 Added for 80 additional Medicaid eligibility caseworkers to process Medicaid redetermination cases due to the Public Health Emergency (PHE) expiration.

$5.77 Million Added for a management consultant to oversee and ensure quality assurance for Medicaid redeterminations due to the Public Health Emergency (PHE) expiration.

$10 Million Added for alternative housing options for youth with complex needs (Senate doubled the House’s addition).

$500,000 Reduced for non-programmatic expenditures in the Out-of-School Care Services.

$100,000 Added for support for grandparent-led families.

Employees’ Retirement System of Georgia

$26.75 Million Added a one-time benefit adjustment to retired state employees.

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

$8 Million Added for the Georgia Crime Victims Emergency Fund. (The Senate doubled the House’s addition.)

$2.4 Million Added to upgrade security at domestic violence shelters.

$4.08 Million Added in one-time funds for domestic violence shelters to off-set loss of federal funds.

Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency, Georgia

$0 Added for statewide deployment of gang case-related analytics and repeat offender solutions. (The Senate had asked for $1.5 Million.)

Office of the Commissioner of Insurance

$92 Million Added for the state reinsurance program.

Dept. of Natural Resources

$4.2 Million Added to the DNR Law Enforcement Division for equipment and installation associated with a new statewide public safety radio network to achieve statewide interoperability.
Georgia Building Authority

*Budget Note:* “Utilize existing funds to complete system wide assessments at Georgia Department of Corrections ($4,350,000) and Department of Juvenile Justice ($3,925,000).”

Dept. of Public Health

*$3.47 Million Reduced* for non-utilization of funding for Georgia Coordinating Center. This is in response to a House Budget Note: The Georgia Coordinating Center should utilize existing funds to procure a HIPAA-secure multimodal software communication and patient logistics platform to provide multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional all-hazards response for emergency rooms and other critical care services statewide. (The Senate previously sought a larger reduction.)

*$1.7 Million Reduced* in one-time funds provided by the General Assembly for infrastructure and support disregarded and redirected to general grant-in-aid.

Dept. of Public Safety

*$30.38 Million Added* for equipment, installation, and training associated with a new statewide public safety radio network to achieve statewide interoperability.

*$128,815 Reduced* for driver's education and training in accordance with FY 2022 Joshua's Law collections.

University System of Georgia

*$3 Million Added* for one-time funding for the replacement of cabins at Rock Eagle 4-H Center. (The Senate had asked for $5 Million.)

*$105 Million Added* to implement a state-of-the-art electronic medical records system to support medical education and training at the Medical College of Georgia.

*$2.58 Million Reduced* ("adjusted") in formula funds for enrollment growth to reflect corrected credit hour data for Georgia Institute of Technology.

*$540,159 Transferred* for the Fort Valley State University land-grant match requirements to the Teaching Program (the funds were transferred from Agricultural Experiment Station ($378,752) and from Cooperative Extension Service ($161,407)).

Dept. of Revenue

*$950 Million Added* one-time funds for the Homeowner Tax Relief Grant (HTRG) program to allow for the maximum exemption on the assessed home value as authorized in the Georgia Constitution Article VII, Section IIA for each qualifying homestead for the tax year beginning January 1, 2023. The Governor had asked for $1.1 Billion.

Georgia Student Finance Commission

*$1.62 Million Reduced* for administrative costs associated with service cancelable loan programs and utilize existing funds to implement loan repayment programs for mental health professionals.
$1.7 Million Reduced funds associated with the Leo Scholarship Grant Service Cancelable Loans (HB 1319 of the 2022 Session, which was not enacted into law).

$405,716 Added to support commission operations and student access to financial aid programs, including the implementation of the College Completion Grants program, HOPE High School Equivalency Exam program, additional HOPE Career Grant program areas, and the Behavioral Health Service Cancelable Loan program as established in HB 1013 (2022 Session).

$6.6 Million Reduced for Dual Enrollment based on projections (House reduced by $4 Million and Senate reduced further).

$8 Million Reduced from Hope Grants for projected expenditures.

$3.5 Million Reduced in Tuition Equalization Grants based on updated projections and utilize reserves to increase award amount from $900 to $950 per year, effective July 1, 2023.

**Technical College System of Georgia**

$56.25 Million Added for various allocations regarding Quick Start Training Centers to support the electric vehicle industry. The governor had asked for $129.4 Million.

$0 Million Added to purchase equipment for construction industry certification programs, statewide. (The Senate had asked for $1.7 Million.)

$1.5 Million Added for additional shared instruction space for technical education.

$19.9 Million Added for design and construction of the Georgia Industrial Robotics Training Center at Ogeechee Technical College at Statesboro.

$8 Million for technical education equipment refresh, statewide.

**Dept. of Veterans Services**

$750,000 Added for a military families' mental health clinic.