



New York State
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

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Rockefeller Study on Foundation Aid-Update

September 2024
Board of Regents

Rockefeller Tasks and Timeline

Conduct Study



Examine, evaluate, and recommend changes to Foundation Aid

Accept Written Comment



Open Until September 6, 2024

Hold Hearings



Rockefeller held five public hearings, concluding August 14, 2024

Write Report



Submit Report



Report is due to the Governor by December 1, 2024.



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Process for the Regents Budget & Legislative Priorities for 2025-2026

SEPTEMBER 2024

BOARD OF REGENTS
MEETING



Roles: Board of Regents and NYSED

Board of Regents:

- Establishes strategic direction and priorities for USNY
- Policy drives budget and legislative proposals
- Supports Commissioner and the Department

Commissioner / NYSED:

- Develops budget and legislative initiatives based on Department needs and BOR policy
- Develops executive and legislative strategy
- Determines internal resources necessary to carry out responsibilities

Regents Budget and Legislative Priorities Development - Process Overview



September Meeting

Discuss process, roles, and high-level priorities for state supported programs overseen by the Board of Regents, including Foundation Aid



October Meeting

Discuss Department initiatives to advance Board priorities, identify needed data, and gaps in services



November Meeting

Further work with Department staff to refine initiatives



December Meeting

Full Board Considers and approves proposals to be advanced during the upcoming budget cycle and legislative session

Regents Budget & Legislative Proposals - Process

NYSED Process

- September 9: Department collects budget requests internally
- October 7: State Aid Subcommittee discusses priorities and initiatives
- November 4: State Aid Subcommittee considers elements of conceptual proposal and to make refinements
- December 1: Rockefeller study on Foundation Aid is due*
- December 9: Board votes to on final Regents State Aid Proposal



Executive Budget Process

Executive Budget

- October: Mid-year update on financial plan and agency call letters
- Nov. 15th: First estimates for state aid in upcoming year under current law
- December 1: Rockefeller study on Foundation Aid is due
- January: State of the State and Executive Budget proposal



Department advocacy occurs throughout this cycle

Legislative Budget Process

Legislative Budget

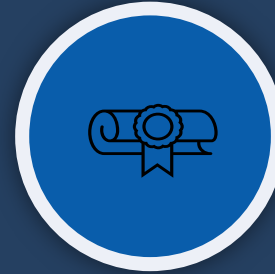
- January: Legislative budget hearings on Executive proposal begin
- Feb. 15th: Updated aid estimates; typically used for Enacted Budget
- Early March: Legislative One-House Budget Bill Proposal
- April 1st: Enacted Budget, release of state aid runs

Department advocacy occurs throughout this cycle

Suggested Areas for Discussion

State Aid Formulas

- Establishing essential priorities and criteria for the state's operating support for public schools
- BOCES Aidable Salary Cap
- Instructional Materials Ads



Portrait of a Graduate

- Learning standards
- Graduation measures
- Developing authentic models to assess attributes

Equitable Access

- Improving Early Learning
- Arts and NYSSA
- Growth Aid
- Juvenile Justice



P-20 Priorities

- Educator pipelines
- Support effective teacher and leader education programs
- Maximize student aid grants

Essential Elements of State Operating Funding

- Treat similar districts similarly
- Comprehensible research-supported rationales for each element
- Adequate funding for articulated specific goals
- Multi-year stability and predictability
- Maximum local spending flexibility
- Manageable reporting and implementation path
- Recognizes and adjusts to changing needs, including state requirements

Other Critical Areas

Cultural Education Funding

- Fee was not changed from 2002-2003 in the Enacted Budget.
- Another year of inflation further reduces the value of the fee.
- Staff and materials costs have gone up, while fee remained the same, means we can hire fewer staff to do the work.

NYSED Capital Needs

- Historic Education Building is having significant water intrusion issues. Roof is leaking and water is also damaging the colonnade and many exterior surfaces of the building.
- Indigenous Nation Schools: Despite progress in recent years, these schools continue to have an array of capital needs.
- State Schools: Additional work needed on these aging campuses as well

Thank you



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