

Final Budget Analysis for FY 2021-22 Final Budget

Note on American Rescue Plan Stimulus: The American Rescue Plan makes critical investments to support afterschool, summer, and other expanded learning opportunities through \$2.2 billion in funds to address learning loss. This is about \$629 million provided directly to the state, and \$1.6 billion directly to local school districts. **The final state budget, however, dedicates the entire amount of state funds intended to local districts through additional Learning Loss grants.** The lack of dedicated funds to directly support afterschool community partners is a devastating blow to expanded learning programs, a critical continuum of childcare, and the need to address learning loss for children in New York. The diversion of these state dollars directly to local school districts is gravely concerning for several reasons, including that this allocation leaves no funds to support the vulnerable afterschool system statewide, which has largely been left out of COVID-19 funding. This puts school districts in a difficult position of determining how to distribute all funding for afterschool and summer enrichment, intended to be taken on by the New York State Education Department to strengthen the existing state system for afterschool programs.

Major Funding Streams

Empire State After-School: The final Budget maintains \$55 million in total investments towards the program, the same as last year's budget. The funds provide grants for afterschool programs at a rate of \$1,600 per student. All current rounds of ESAP grants are due to end after the 2021 - 2022 school year, and it is anticipated that a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a new round of ESAP grants will be released during the 2021-22 school year.

Advantage After School: The final state budget includes a \$5 million restoration by the State Legislature for Advantage After School, bringing the total funding to \$33 million, the same as last year's budget. These funds currently provide grants for afterschool programs at a per student rate of \$2,000.

Extended Learning Time: The Executive Proposal includes an appropriation of \$21,590,000 million for the continuation of extended learning time grants to school districts or school districts in collaboration with nonprofit community-based organizations. Proposed funding remains the same as last year's Enacted Budget for ELT.

Extended School Day / School Violence Prevention: Proposed funding is at the same level as last year's Enacted Budget (\$24,344,000). These funds provide grants for afterschool programs at a rate of \$1,600 per student. The RFP for a new round of ESD/SVP grants (July 2021-June 2026) was released in January 2021 and is now closed.

Youth Development Program: The final state budget includes a \$1.5 million restoration by the State Legislature for the Youth Development Program (YDP), bringing the appropriation level to \$15.6 million. This is the same level that YDP was funded at in last year's budget, which remains a \$200,000 reduction from the FY16-17 budget.

Summer Youth Employment: The final budget funding is at \$45,000,000, level funding with last year's Enacted Budget.

New York City SONYC funding (through education aid): The final budget appears to continue the \$190 million included in last year's Enacted Budget. We will provide an update when available.

Community Schools

Community Schools Aid: The Final Budget includes \$250 million in community schools aid to support the transformation of school buildings into community hubs to deliver co-located or school-linked academic, health, mental health, afterschool programs, dual language programs, nutrition, trauma informed support, counseling, legal and/or other services to students and their families, including providing a community school site coordinator,

programs for English language learners, or other costs incurred to maximize students' academic achievement. This is level funding with the FY20-21 Enacted Budget. The minimum district set-aside of \$100,000 is maintained.

Community Schools Regional Technical Assistance Centers: The final budget includes \$1.2 million for the continuation of three Regional Technical Assistance Centers for community schools across New York.

Community Schools Mental Health: The Adopted Budget includes \$250,000 for grants to school districts to allow community schools to expand mental health services.

Child Care

The American Rescue Plan makes game-changing childcare investments in the FY 2021-2022 Budget through a \$2.4B allocation of federal funds. The Enacted Budget takes large steps to expand access to child care subsidies, decrease parent costs for child care, equalize subsidy eligibility requirements throughout the State, and stabilize the childcare infrastructure:

- \$225 million to supplement state and local funding for subsidized child care by raising the eligibility to 200% Federal Poverty Level for 3 years. This is in addition to investments provided through state funds and CCDBG funds for subsidies;
- \$25 million will be made available for Essential Worker Scholarships;
- \$291 million support costs associated with 12-month eligibility determination process;
- \$50 million to support Facilitated Enrollment efforts to existing programs;
- \$192 million to cap co-pays for families, 10% over Federal Poverty Level;
- \$1.2 billion in stabilization grants to childcare providers including school-age – up front as allowed under federal law;
- \$120 million for costs associated with providing up to 24 absences per year for child care providers, for four fiscal years, including 2021
- \$100 million to expand capacity in child care deserts
- \$40 million to support grants for cleaning, personal protective equipment, and other supplies for child care providers;
- \$39 million for the QUALITYstarsNY program and technology improvements to child care systems.

Additional Youth Funding Streams

Runaway and Homeless Youth: The final provides \$4,98 million, same as last year's final budget.

Sexually Exploited Children and Youth: The final budget provides \$2 million in funds. This is an increase of \$500,000 compared to last year's final budget.

Additional Funding

QUALITYstarsNY: The total funding provides \$44 million. This is \$5 million in state funds (same as in last year's Enacted Budget) plus the \$39 million allocated through federal stimulus funds.

CACFP Participation: Funding is at the same level as last year's Enacted Budget at \$250,000. This funding is allocated for the competitive grant to non-profits to increase participation in the Child and Adult Care Food Program among afterschool and early care providers.