

Highlights of Governor Cuomo's Proposed 2015-2016 Executive Budget

QUALITYstarsNY: The 2015-2016 Executive Budget includes \$3.0 million to implement QUALITYstarsNY.

Prekindergarten: The 2014-15 Enacted Budget committed \$1.5 billion over five years to support the phase-in of the first-ever state-funded full-day pre-kindergarten program. The enacted budget included \$340 million for the first year for implementing the Statewide Full-Day Universal Prekindergarten, in which \$300 million was allocated to New York City and \$40 million to the rest of the state. The 2015-2016 Executive Budget continues the funding at \$340 million as part of the second year of funding for implementing the Statewide Full-Day Universal Prekindergarten program. In addition, the budget includes the \$25 million grant for the federal Preschool Expansion program to support quality early care and learning. As part of comprehensive education reforms, the Governor also proposed an additional \$25 million to expand high-quality half-day and full-day Pre-K for 3-year-olds in high need school districts for two years.

After-School Programs: The 2014-2015 Enacted Budget included \$720 million over five years, starting in 2015-16, to expand after-school programs. The 2015-2016 Executive Budget includes \$56.7 million for the expansion.

Child Care Subsidies: The Governor's proposed budget does not include increases for child care subsidies.

Child Care Funding

- **Child Care Development Block Grant (CCBG):** The Executive Budget recommends \$862 million for CCBG, which is comprised of federal, state and local funds:
 - ✓ \$205.7 million in projected federal Child Care Development Funds (CCDF)
 - ✓ \$323 million in federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
 - ✓ \$265 million State General Fund
 - ✓ \$68.3 million Maintenance of Effort

Note: The CCDF appropriation is \$360 million to allow for flexibility in the event the state receives an increase in federal funding. The projected federal fiscal year 2015-2016 grant award is \$303 million.

- **Development Fund (CCDF):** The CCDF funding includes the following:
 - ✓ \$91 million to support program oversight and various initiatives to improve the quality of child care;
 - ✓ \$4 million for CUNY and SUNY to subsidize low-income child care and support quality activities.
 - ✓ \$2.5 million (\$1.8 million state funds and \$0.75 million CCDF funds) for child care programs meeting the special needs of migrant workers.

Child Care Union Agreements: The state reached a new \$44 million agreement with UFT in 2014 and is currently negotiating a new agreement with CSEA to cover a four year period from October 2014 through September 2017. The federal fiscal year 2015-2016 budget includes \$6.5 million for UFT and \$12.4 million for CSEA for professional development and grants to improve the quality of care.

Home Visiting: The Governor's 2015-2016 budget maintains funding for the Nurse-Family Partnership home visitation program at \$3 million and maintains funding for the Healthy Families New York home visiting program at \$23,288,200.

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP): The 2015-2016 Executive Budget includes \$250,000 for a new initiative to increase participation in CACFP.

Education Tax Credit: The 2015-2016 Executive Budget proposes a new Education Tax Credit which will reflect contributions to public education entities, school improvement organizations, local education funds, and educational scholarship organizations. The educational scholarship organizations must provide benefits to pupils at three or more public or nonpublic schools. Corporation franchise and individual taxpayers will receive a nonrefundable credit equal to 75 percent of their authorized contributions, up to a maximum annual credit of \$1 million. The program will be capped at \$100 million in aggregate education tax credits annually. Half of the annual cap will be dedicated to public education entities, school improvement organizations, and local education funds. The other half will be allocated to educational scholarship organizations that provide support to low- and middle-income students hoping to attend a public school outside of their district or a nonpublic school. The establishment of this credit is contingent on passage of the DREAM Act.

Smart Schools Bond Act: In November 2014, the Smart Schools Bond Act Referendum proposed by Governor Cuomo was approved by voters. The Smart Schools Bond Act provides \$2 billion in funding to schools to reimagine our classrooms and provide New York students with the technological resources, skills and safe learning environments necessary to succeed in the evolving 21st century economy. Bond proceeds will fund enhanced education technology in schools, including infrastructure improvements to bring high-speed broadband to schools and their surrounding communities and the purchase of classroom technology for use by students. Additionally, the Smart Schools Bond Act will enable long-term investments in full day pre-kindergarten through the construction of new pre-kindergarten classroom space, the replacement of classroom trailers with permanent classroom space and high-tech school safety programs.

Open-Ended Preventive Funding: Consistent with last year, \$656.1 million in Federal Year 2016 for uncapped, state reimbursement of 62 percent state share and 38 percent local share; and funding continues to support child preventive, protective, aftercare, independent living, adoption services and administration.