



Budget Summary

2024 General Session

The Utah Legislature concluded its 2024 General Session with a Budget of \$29.4 billion for fiscal year 2025. The budget includes \$12.9 billion from the sales-taxed backed General Fund and the Income Tax Fund.

Top legislative budget priorities included state fund investments in:

- Tax Relief – \$167.7 million ongoing and \$37.1 million one-time for an income tax rate cut from 4.65 percent to 4.55 percent, \$2.3 million ongoing beginning in 2026 to expand eligibility for the child tax credit from age 3 and under to age 4 and under, \$1 million ongoing and \$22.0 million one-time to continue rural film incentive credits;
- Transportation -- \$330.0 million ongoing and \$775.0 million one-time for infrastructure and transportation projects;
- Public Education -- \$211.7 million to increase the WPU Value by 5.0% to \$4,443 for FY 2025, up from \$4,280 in FY 2024. \$57.0 million for at-risk students and digital teaching tools, \$40.0 million for scholarships, and \$440.0 million in one-time projects from the Public Education Economic Stabilization Account.
- Higher Education -- \$20.0 million for university performance funding, \$7.0 million ongoing and \$5.0 million one-time for technical colleges, \$160.0 million one-time for new building construction;
- Affordable Housing -- \$17.0 million for \$300 million in subsidized loans under the Utah Homes Investment Program, \$3.0 million for Shared Equity Revolving Loan Program, and \$3.0 million for the Law Enforcement First Time Home Buyer Program;
- Homelessness -- \$10.0 million ongoing and \$11.8 million one-time for Statewide Homeless System Support, \$25.0 million one-time for Low-barrier Shelter, \$0.5 million ongoing and \$2 million one-time for Home Courts, and \$2.6 million for mitigation; and
- State Employee compensation -- \$135.0 million ongoing for 3% compensation increases for executive branch and higher education employees, 2% pay for performance increases for executive branch employees, 5% discretionary increases for other branches of government, 0.7% salary enhancement for Tier II employees.

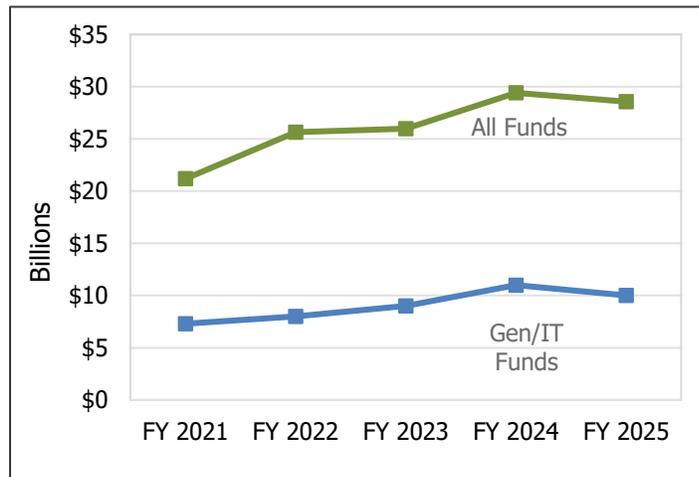


Figure 1: Budget of the State of Utah 2021-2025

As required by the Utah Constitution, Legislators balanced the budget to projections of available revenue.

The remainder of this document lists the most significant budget actions by appropriations subcommittees.



Summaries by Appropriations Subcommittee

Business, Economic Development, and Labor

- Attorneys for Social Media Support -- \$796,800 for attorneys to enforce state regulation and the increased legal work associated with new social media legislation;
- Artificial intelligence lab office -- \$1.0 million one-time to create an A.I. office to explore the use and regulation of A.I. in the marketplace;
- S.B. 149, "Artificial Intelligence Amendments" -- \$1.2 million one-time for additional funding for A.I. policy and policy development;
- State Mandated Insurer Payments -- \$1.2 million ongoing for insurance claims for the diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorder;
- San Juan Hospital Building Replacement Loan" -- \$20.0 million to replace the state's oldest operating hospital building;
- \$12.0 million in Rural Film Incentives authorized;
- S.B. 206 "UServe Service Fellowship Program" -- \$1.3 million ongoing and \$2.0 million one-time for a service program and stipends for participants and staff support;
- S.C.R. 6 "Golden Spike Monument" -- \$2.0 million one-time for a park and visitor's center in Box Elder County;
- Arts and Museums General Operating Grants -- \$2.0 million one-time to restore grant funding in the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity;
- Rural Communities Opportunity Grant -- \$5.25 million one-time in grant money for economic development, workforce training, infrastructure, and other needs in rural areas of the state;
- H.B. 548, "Alcohol Amendments" -- statutory changes for serving alcohol, alcohol licenses, tax and markup on alcohol products, and other related items; and
- "Alcoholic Beverage Services Accounting Transparency Platform" -- \$370,000 ongoing and \$2.7 million one-time for software costs and additional staff to transition the Division to a new accounting system.

Executive Appropriations Committee

- Utah National Guard Recruitment and Retention -- \$3.4 million one-time to provide bonuses to personnel who choose to join or stay with the National Guard;
- Utah National Guard Tuition Assistance -- \$1.7 million one-time to further improve recruitment by increasing the number of personnel who receive tuition assistance;
- Utah National Guard West Traverse Sentinel Landscape -- \$3.0 million to protect the mission of Camp Williams and surrounding communities by preserving open space surrounding Camp Williams;
- Counselors for Military School Children Expansion -- \$400,000 ongoing to expand counseling service for children in military families in Weber, Ogden, and Tooele school districts;
- Military and Veterans Families Programs Manager -- \$150,000 ongoing for a person to coordinate and run programs for veterans;



Executive Offices and Criminal Justice

- Criminal Appeals Attorneys -- \$450,000 ongoing from the General Fund increase the Attorney General's Office (AGO) capacity to handle criminal appeals more efficiently;
- Corrections Enhanced Compensation - \$15.0 million ongoing and \$6.0 million one-time in addition to other statewide increases (ongoing breakout - \$13.0 million ongoing for targeted compensation and \$2.0 million ongoing to support continuous officer overtime annually via House Bill 271);
- Prison Safety & Risk Mitigation – \$1.4 million ongoing and \$400,000 one-time from the General Fund for addressing safety and risk challenges identified in the latest OLAG audit;
- State Treasurer Investment Amendments (H.B. 572) -- \$18.0 million one-time from the General Fund to create the Utah Homes Investment Program;
- AG Criminal Appeals Attorneys - \$500,000 to expedite appeals cases backlog maxed out our ability to allow judges to grant extensions on criminal cases;
- Judicial Capacity - \$1.4 million ongoing and \$1.6 million one-time for both district court and juvenile court judgeships and related staff including one-time funding for senior judge capacity to better process and accelerate current caseload and backlog;
- Court Interpreter Program - \$0.7 million ongoing and \$1.4 million one-time to address interpreter capacity – addressing the ability to retain, hire and contract for interpreters to better address a critical element of court case processing;
- Guardian ad Litem Attorney Compensation - \$0.5 million ongoing and \$0.6 million one-time to support retaining and recruitment of attorneys who represent children in cases of alleged abuse and neglect;
- Public Safety Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Operations - \$0.2 million ongoing and \$1.7 million one-time to support EMS transition from HHS to DPS and maintain current operations and support rural EMS providers;
- West Davis Corridor UHP Officers - \$0.5 million ongoing and \$0.3 million one-time for Utah Highway patrol coverage of recently opened West Davis Corridor; and
- Public Safety Aero Bureau Operations - \$0.3 million ongoing and \$1.7 million one-time to support a helicopter operations including federal, state, and local search and rescue & law enforcement support; and
- Jail Contracting and Jail Reimbursement - \$3.1 ongoing for Jail Contracting and \$0.4 million ongoing and \$1.0 million one-time to enhance daily rates for both programs including reforming the Jail Reimbursement program via Senate Bill 48.



Higher Education

- Civic Thought and Leadership Initiative -- \$1.5 million one-time from the Income Tax Fund to Utah Valley University to conduct research and events commemorating the 250th anniversary of the United States;
- Educating High-Temperature Materials Engineers for Hypersonics -- \$1,450,000 one-time from the Income Tax Fund for a joint initiative at Weber State University and Utah State University to develop engineering programs for extreme environment materials development;
- H.B. 261, "Equal Opportunity Initiatives" -- \$440,000 ongoing, and \$250,000 one-time from the Income Tax Fund to review Student Success initiatives and offices at the institutions of higher education;
- Higher Education Application Fee Waiver -- \$2,706,500 one-time in FY 2024 from the Income Tax Fund as a one-time bridge from institutions of higher education eliminating application fees;
- Higher Education General Reductions -- (\$20,728,200) ongoing from the Income Tax Fund back filled one-time in FY 2025 for a 1.5% reduction at universities, and a 0.5% reduction at technical and community colleges and the Board of Higher Education;
- Life Sciences Workforce Initiatives -- \$2.0 million ongoing and \$2.0 million one-time from the Income Tax Fund to Talent Ready Utah to develop a grant program with higher education institutions to develop additional programs in the life sciences;
- Northstar Enterprise System -- \$1.5 million one-time in FY 2024 to the Board of Higher Education to redevelop the Northstar Enterprise System utilized by technical colleges;
- S.B. 192, "Higher Education Amendments" -- \$20.0 million ongoing from the Income Tax Fund for performance funding at the 16 institutions of higher education;
- Statewide Energy and Education & Workforce Initiative -- \$2.1 million ongoing and \$450,000 one-time from the Income Tax Fund to Utah State University to develop a rural-focused energy engineering program;
- Talent Ready Connections -- \$1.0 million one-time from the Income Tax Fund to distribute grants to the higher education institutions for apprenticeship programs;
- Technical Colleges Equipment -- \$5.0 million one-time to the technical colleges to purchase needed educational equipment;
- Technical Colleges Growth -- \$6.6 million ongoing from the Income Tax Fund for enrollment growth at Davis, Ogden-Weber, Mountainland, Southwest, and Dixie Technical Colleges;
- USHE Commercialization Shared Service -- \$500,000 ongoing and \$1.75 million one-time from the Income Tax Fund to Talent Ready Utah to develop for the Utah Innovation Lab;
- USHE Marine Sciences Laboratory Partnership -- \$1.5 million one-time from the Income Tax Fund to the Board of Higher Education for research space at the Loveland Living Planet Aquarium; and
- Utah Forest Restoration Institute -- \$765,000 ongoing and \$55,000 one-time from the Income Tax Fund to Utah State University to create a Forest Restoration Institute.



Infrastructure and General Government

- Property Insurance Premium -- \$32.3 million one-time addresses the property premium shortfall for the Division of Risk Management;
- Education Software -- \$4.0 million to UETN for licensing Utah's Online Library and Creative Content/Media Development, Production and Editing Suite for K-12;
- H.B. 491, Data Privacy Amendments -- \$258,000 one-time and \$1,535,600 ongoing for a new Office of Data Privacy;
- Additional Staff for Division of Finance -- \$2.2 million ongoing to help with staff retention in the division;
- Huntsman Cancer Institute's Vineyard Cancer Research and Academic Building -- \$662,700 ongoing and \$75.0 million one-time;
- Snow College's Social Science Classroom & Lab Building -- \$455,100 ongoing and \$18,969,400 one-time;
- Ogden-Weber Technical College's Pathway Building -- \$630,000 ongoing and \$64,230,100 one-time;
- Salt Lake Veteran's Home Construction -- \$10.0 million one-time;
- Infrastructure (Transportation Projects) -- \$330.0 million ongoing and \$775.0 million one-time; and
- Point of the Mountain Transit Stop (TTIF) -- \$50.0 million one-time.

Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environmental Quality

- Wildlife Resources Land Purchase (Morgan County Property) -- \$8.5 million one-time from the General Fund, \$5.0 million one-time from the Wildlife Resource Restricted, and \$5.0 million one-time from the State Park Fees Restricted Account;
- Endangered Species Listing Prevention & Recovery -- \$2.0 million for the Species Protection Restricted Account;
- Cove-East Fork Virgin River Watershed Project -- \$9.0 million one-time from the General Fund for Kane County Water District and Washington County Water Conservancy District to construct a reservoir;
- Great Salt Lake Investments -- \$10.0 million one-time from the Sovereign Lands Management Account for water leasing and other strategies to restore the Great Salt Lake;
- Ogden Canyon Water Line -- \$5.0 million one-time from the American Rescue Plan Act to replace a water transmission line in Ogden Canyon;
- Water Rights Data Management Improvements -- \$3.0 million one-time from the General Fund to improve water use data records and accessibility;
- LeRay McAllister Working and Ranch Fund -- \$1.0 million one-time from the General Fund for conservation easements;
- Great Salt Lake Watershed Measurement Infrastructure -- \$1.0 million one-time and \$1.0 million ongoing for stream gauges and diversion measurement infrastructure to benefit the Great Salt Lake;



- Fairpark Security and Maintenance -- \$1.0 million ongoing to the State Fair Park Authority for security and maintenance; and
- Utah Energy Act Amendments -- \$665,000 ongoing from the General Fund to hire legal counsel, a lobbyist, a researcher, and pay for ongoing software and staff expenses to implement the provisions of H.B. 48.

Public Education

- H.B. 1, Student Enrollment Growth – Net Cost of \$9.1 million one-time and \$28.1 million ongoing. Enrollment is estimated to decline in Fall 2024, going from 673,773 in Fall 2023 to a projected total of 669,881, down 3,892 students or (0.58%). The start of a long-term projected decline in fall enrollment;
- Inflationary Adjustment to the Weighted Pupil Unit (WPU) Value -- \$211.7 million to increase the WPU Value by 5.0% to \$4,443 for FY 2025, up from \$4,280 in FY 2024.
- S.B. 2, At-Risk WPU Add-on Program -- \$27.9 million ongoing Internal Budget Reallocation to Increase Student-Based Formula Weightings;
- S.B. 2, K-12 School Property Insurance. \$101.2 million one-time – Avoids an anticipated 60% increase in insurance premiums for public schools;
- Educator Professional Time -- \$74.0 million one-time. Supports paid professional time up to 32 Hours for every educator;
- Utah Fits All Scholarships -- \$40.0 million ongoing. Scholarship fund that serves parents and children who want increased school choice;
- Small/Rural District Capital Needs -- \$30.0 million one-time. Supports capital development (construction of new schools, additions, renovations) projects in small/rural school districts;
- H.B. 84, School Safety -- \$100.0 million one-time and \$2.1 million ongoing (with an additional \$2.1 million ongoing in Public Safety). Aims to improve school safety and security by implementing various measures, procedures, and introduces the school guardian program;
- H.B. 105, Teacher Supplies and Materials Increase -- \$8.4 million one-time. Provides additional funding for elementary and secondary classroom teachers for out-of-pocket expenditures on classroom supplies and materials;
- H.B. 221, Stipends for Future Educators -- \$8.4 million one-time. Creates a stipend program for student teachers to receive payment for their student teaching time;
- S.B. 173, Excellence in Education and Leadership -- \$150 million one-time creates programs to enhance teacher salary supplement opportunities; and
- H.B. 415, School Fees Amendments -- \$35.5 million one-time. Enacts provisions related to elementary and secondary school fees beginning in FY 2026.



Social Services

- Behavioral Health Internships for Social Services Agencies -- \$2.3 million one-time from the General Fund;
- Bereaved Youth Resources -- \$400,000 one-time from the General Fund;
- Foster Children Family Finding Pilot -- \$800,000 one-time from the General Fund;
- GRANDfamilies Kinship Care -- \$750,000 one-time from the General Fund;
- Grants for Adoption of Hard-to-Place Kids -- \$1.0 million one-time from the General Fund;
- H.B. 38, Psychotropic Medication Oversight Pilot Program Amendments -- \$2.6 million ongoing and \$42,600 one-time from the General Fund;
- H.B. 421, Homeless and Vulnerable Populations Amendments -- \$488,800 ongoing and \$2.0 million one-time from the General Fund for the HOME court program;
- Homeless Shelter Cities Mitigation -- \$2.5 million ongoing from the General Fund to help cities address impacts of shelters;
- Law Enforcement First Time Home Buyers -- \$3.0 million one-time from the General Fund to assist members of law enforcement who are purchasing a home for the first time;
- Low Barrier Shelter -- \$25.0 million from the General Fund to help establish low-barrier shelters;
- Medicaid Rate Parity for DCFS & JJYS Rates -- \$4.1 million ongoing from the General Fund;
- Neighborhood House -- \$3.0 million one-time from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funding to be spent over three years;
- NewGen: Youth Homelessness Solutions and Preventions -- \$1.75 million one-time from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funding to be spent over three years;
- Nursing Home Medicaid Rate Increase -- \$1.0 million ongoing from the General Fund to raise reimbursement for nursing homes serving around 4,000 Medicaid clients;
- Placement & Services for DCFS & JJYS High Acuity Clients -- \$6.2 million ongoing and \$2.4 million one-time from the General Fund;
- Shared Equity Revolving Loan Fund -- \$3.0 million one-time from the General Fund;
- Statewide Homeless Systems Support -- \$10.0 million ongoing and \$11.8 million one-time from the General Fund to support services to address homelessness within the state;
- Summer Meals for K-12 Students -- \$1.1 million from the General Fund for implementation and administration of a summer food program;
- Waiting List -- \$5.0 million ongoing from the General Fund to provide services for individuals with disabilities waiting for services; and
- Youth Aging Out of DCFS & JJYS -- \$10.4 million ongoing from the General Fund for providing services for youth with disabilities transitioning from the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) or the Division of Juvenile Justice and Youth Services (JJYS) to DSPD.