

People with Developmental Disabilities, Office for

Mission

The mission of the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) is to help individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities live richer lives. OPWDD's vision is to ensure that individuals enjoy meaningful relationships with family, friends, and others; experience personal health and growth; live in homes of their choice; and fully participate in their communities.

Organization and Staffing

OPWDD has a Central Office in Albany, which oversees State and Local programs. OPWDD has six State Operations offices, which are responsible for State-delivered programs and services. OPWDD also staffs five Regional Offices that oversee the provision of community-based services delivered by not-for-profit providers. The Executive Budget recommends a workforce of 19,115 FTEs for OPWDD, reflecting a 173 FTE increase for the FY 2024 Intensive Treatment Opportunity (ITO) proposal.

Budget Highlights

The FY 2025 Executive Budget recommends approximately \$7.6 billion in All Funds appropriations, including \$5.1 billion for Aid to Localities, \$2.4 billion for State Operations and \$139.4 million for Capital Projects, which represents an increase of \$161.7 million from FY 2024. The year-to-year increase is primarily due to the inclusion of a 1.5 percent cost of living adjustment (COLA) and the continued investment in new service opportunities.

OPWDD will utilize this funding to support a comprehensive system of care that serves nearly 135,000 New Yorkers and their families. These resources will continue to support OPWDD's person-centered model, which delivers services through a network of State-operated and not-for-profit (NFP)-operated settings.

The Budget honors the State's pledge to support individuals with developmental disabilities in the most appropriate community-based settings. Specifically, the Executive Budget will:

- **Support Access to Employment.** The Executive Budget will include a \$6.7 million investment to support New York's commitment to becoming an Employment First State as it pertains to people with disabilities. This effort will offer New Yorkers with disabilities employment opportunities first before recommending alternative supports and services, through a multi-agency collaboration led by OPWDD.
- **Support Access to More Independent Living Settings.** The Executive Budget includes legislation that would allow greater flexibility for the performance of certain nursing tasks by unlicensed employees of providers certified by OPWDD in non-certified community-based settings, such as a person's private home or apartment. This would allow more people with developmental disabilities to remain in or transition to more independent settings, decreasing the reliance on certified residential settings, like group homes or intermediate care facilities (known as ICFs).
- **Commit an Additional \$15 Million to Develop Housing.** The FY 2025 Executive Budget continues to expand independent living opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Since FY 2016, the State has invested \$125 million in capital resources to develop safe and accessible residential opportunities, and the Executive Budget raises this investment to a total of \$140 million. These funds are distinct from, and in addition to, resources that are available from the five-year, \$25 billion affordable and supportive housing plan, which is also helping support the development of residential opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- **Invest in New Service Opportunities.** The Executive Budget invests new State resources (\$30 million in FY 2025, \$60 million annualized) to fund OPWDD priority program reforms and new services opportunities that enable individuals to receive the services they need. This includes individuals who are entering the OPWDD service system for the first time and seeking access to services, and individuals already receiving services, but whose needs have changed. These State funds leverage federal resources for a gross increase of \$120 million annually.
- **Expand Special Olympics NY (SONY).** The Executive Budget includes a \$1 million annual funding increase to SONY in FY 2025. SONY provides not only inclusive sports training, skill building, and competition, it also offers free health screenings and health education to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- **Olmstead Plan.** The FY 2025 Executive Budget includes \$250 thousand for New York's Most Integrated Setting Coordinating Council (MISCC) to issue an Olmstead Plan. This will ensure that people with disabilities receive services in the most integrated setting appropriate to their needs. Under the Office of

NYS DOB | FY 2025 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations

the Chief Disability Officer and the new Olmstead Director, this plan will include people with physical, sensory, developmental, and/or intellectual, mental, and behavioral disabilities.

For more information on this agency's budget recommendations located in the Executive Budget Briefing Book, click on the following link:

<https://www.budget.ny.gov/pubs/archive/fy24/ex/book/briefingbook.pdf>

For more information on this agency's budget recommendations located in the Executive Budget Briefing Book, click on the following link:

Program Highlights

- **Residential Services.** Residential programs are licensed by OPWDD to provide varying levels of housing and related services, and are operated by OPWDD or not-for-profit agencies. Residential services include, but are not limited to: adaptive skill development; assistance with activities of daily living; community inclusion and relationship building; training and support for independence in travel; adult educational supports; and development of social, leisure, self-advocacy, informed choice, and appropriate behavioral skills.
- **Day Programs.** Day programs include: day habilitation, community habilitation, and employment type services, each focused on giving participants the personal, social and vocational supports needed to live in their community. Programming varies depending upon each person's unique needs and interests. These services aim to assist individuals to acquire, retain or improve their self-help, socialization and adaptive skills; including communication, travel and other areas of adult education.
- **Clinic Services.** Clinic Services include: physical therapy, occupational therapy, psychology, speech and language pathology, medical/dental services, and health care services. These services assist individuals with developmental disabilities in maintaining the effectiveness of the treatment, enabling the individual to remain in his/her current residential setting, and enhancing the individual's quality of life.
- **All Other Services.** These include a variety of different service options for individuals and families, such as Self-Direction, respite, care coordination, and family counseling.

ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Category	Available FY 2024	Appropriations Recommended FY 2025	Change From FY 2024	Reappropriations Recommended FY 2025
State Operations	2,356,875,000	2,361,225,000	4,350,000	2,756,000
Aid To Localities	4,993,192,000	5,130,574,000	137,382,000	3,100,660,000
Capital Projects	119,450,000	139,426,000	19,976,000	523,882,000
Total	7,469,517,000	7,631,225,000	161,708,000	3,627,298,000

ALL FUND TYPES PROJECTED LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM FILLED ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS

Program	FY 2024 Estimated FTEs 03/31/24	FY 2025 Estimated FTEs 03/31/25	FTE Change
Central Coordination and Support			
General Fund	1,178	1,178	0
Community Services			
General Fund	15,198	15,198	0
Capital Projects Funds - Other	385	385	0
Institutional Services			
General Fund	2,087	2,260	173
Research in Developmental Disabilities			
General Fund	94	94	0

Total	18,942	19,115	173
--------------	---------------	---------------	------------

**STATE OPERATIONS
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)**

Fund Type	Available FY 2024	Recommended FY 2025	Change
Enterprise Funds	2,657,000	2,657,000	0
General Fund	2,352,346,000	2,356,696,000	4,350,000
Internal Service Funds	348,000	348,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	751,000	751,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	773,000	773,000	0
Total	2,356,875,000	2,361,225,000	4,350,000

**STATE OPERATIONS
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)**

Program	Available FY 2024	Recommended FY 2025	Change
Central Coordination and Support			
General Fund	139,812,000	140,262,000	450,000
Internal Service Funds	348,000	348,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	751,000	751,000	0
Community Services			
General Fund	1,707,307,000	1,707,307,000	0
Institutional Services			
Enterprise Funds	2,657,000	2,657,000	0
General Fund	475,582,000	479,482,000	3,900,000
Special Revenue Funds - Other	502,000	502,000	0
Research in Developmental Disabilities			
General Fund	29,645,000	29,645,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	271,000	271,000	0
Total	2,356,875,000	2,361,225,000	4,350,000

**STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2025 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Central Coordination and Support	83,519,000	200,000	82,865,000	200,000
Community Services	1,510,654,000	0	1,368,863,000	0
Institutional Services	363,000,000	3,900,000	347,604,000	3,900,000

NYS DOB | FY 2025 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations

Research in Developmental Disabilities	26,492,000	0	26,151,000	0
Total	1,983,665,000	4,100,000	1,825,483,000	4,100,000

Program	Temporary Service (Nonannual Salaried)		Holiday/Overtime Pay	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Central Coordination and Support	489,000	0	165,000	0
Community Services	1,792,000	0	139,999,000	0
Institutional Services	1,061,000	0	14,335,000	0
Research in Developmental Disabilities	0	0	341,000	0
Total	3,342,000	0	154,840,000	0

**STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED
APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2025 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Supplies and Materials	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Central Coordination and Support	56,743,000	250,000	2,072,000	0
Community Services	196,653,000	0	77,040,000	0
Institutional Services	116,482,000	0	69,865,000	0
Research in Developmental Disabilities	3,153,000	0	1,333,000	0
Total	373,031,000	250,000	150,310,000	0

Program	Travel		Contractual Services	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Central Coordination and Support	2,268,000	0	48,445,000	250,000
Community Services	5,656,000	0	89,295,000	0
Institutional Services	1,694,000	0	32,757,000	0
Research in Developmental Disabilities	6,000	0	1,651,000	0
Total	9,624,000	0	172,148,000	250,000

Program	Equipment	
	Amount	Change
Central Coordination and Support	3,958,000	0
Community Services	24,662,000	0
Institutional Services	12,166,000	0
Research in Developmental Disabilities	163,000	0
Total	40,949,000	0

**STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2025 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Personal Service	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Central Coordination and Support	1,099,000	0	0	0
Institutional Services	3,159,000	0	383,000	0
Research in Developmental Disabilities	271,000	0	0	0
Total	4,529,000	0	383,000	0

Program	Nonpersonal Service	
	Amount	Change
Central Coordination and Support	1,099,000	0
Institutional Services	2,776,000	0
Research in Developmental Disabilities	271,000	0
Total	4,146,000	0

**AID TO LOCALITIES
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)**

Fund Type	Available FY 2024	Recommended FY 2025	Change
General Fund	4,993,192,000	5,130,574,000	137,382,000
Total	4,993,192,000	5,130,574,000	137,382,000

**AID TO LOCALITIES
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)**

Program	Available FY 2024	Recommended FY 2025	Change
Community Services			
General Fund	4,993,192,000	5,130,574,000	137,382,000
Total	4,993,192,000	5,130,574,000	137,382,000

NYS DOB | FY 2025 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations
CAPITAL PROJECTS
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)

Comprehensive Construction Program	Available FY 2024	Recommended FY 2025	Change	Reappropriations FY 2025
Community and Institutional Services Program				
Capital Projects Fund	41,600,000	41,600,000	0	55,034,000
MH Capital Improvements - Authority Bonds	20,850,000	32,826,000	11,976,000	98,050,000
Design and Construction Supervision				
Capital Projects Fund	6,000,000	6,000,000	0	35,734,000
MH Capital Improvements - Authority Bonds	7,000,000	7,000,000	0	13,044,000
Facilities Maintenance and Operations				
Capital Projects Fund	44,000,000	52,000,000	8,000,000	27,603,000
Institutional Services Program				
Capital Projects Fund	0	0	0	1,623,000
MH Capital Improvements - Authority Bonds	0	0	0	84,988,000
Non-Bondable Projects				
Capital Projects Fund	0	0	0	954,000
State-Operated Community Services Program				
Capital Projects Fund	0	0	0	4,259,000
MH Capital Improvements - Authority Bonds	0	0	0	90,605,000
Voluntary-Operated Community Facilities				
Capital Projects Fund	0	0	0	22,598,000
MH Capital Improvements - Authority Bonds	0	0	0	89,390,000
Total	119,450,000	139,426,000	19,976,000	523,882,000

Note: Most recent estimates as of 01/16/2024