

Temporary and Disability Assistance, Office of

Mission

The Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA), working in close collaboration with the Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) and other agencies, helps low-income households achieve economic self-sufficiency through work, job training and the provision of supportive services that help avert dependency on public assistance. OTDA also provides economic assistance to aged and disabled persons who are unable to work.

Organization and Staffing

OTDA's central office is in Albany and has several field offices statewide. These offices provide direct operational support, supervision, and guidance to the State's 58 local social services districts, which include each county and New York City. Social services districts are responsible for directly administering most public assistance programs, including those that serve the homeless and refugees. Agency staff also provide legal and audit support.

Budget Highlights

The FY 2023 Executive Budget recommends \$6.3 billion for the agency. This is a decrease of approximately \$3.5 billion from the FY 2022 budget. The decrease primarily reflects the one-time nature of federal funding for various COVID-19-related assistance programs that are reappropriated in FY 2023.

The FY 2023 Executive Budget recommends a workforce of 1,922 FTEs, an increase of 58 FTEs from FY 2022 workforce levels.

Major budget actions include:

- **Make Changes to the Public Assistance (PA) Program to Address Poverty.** The Executive Budget proposes changes to PA to help alleviate the "benefits cliff" by encouraging increased earnings and allowing more savings while remaining eligible for the program. In addition, the Budget proposes to eliminate the 45-day waiting period for prospective Safety Net Assistance recipients before they can receive program benefits.
- **Continue the Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative (ESSHI).** As part of the new five-year, \$25 billion comprehensive Housing Plan to create and preserve 100,000 affordable homes, including 10,000 homes with support services for vulnerable populations, the Executive Budget provides \$110 million within OTDA for ESSHI to provide ongoing service and operating support for the program. ESSHI is a multi-agency initiative for supportive housing service and operating funding to support units that house individuals or families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and also suffer from one or more disabling conditions including serious mental illness, substance use disorder, HIV/AIDS, and domestic violence, among other factors.
- **Create More Homeless Housing.** The Budget continues funding at \$128 million for HHAP. This investment will create more housing for individuals and families who are homeless and unable to secure adequate housing without special assistance. HHAP is a critical resource in achieving the State's supportive housing development goals, as it funds the capital construction of housing solely targeted to homeless individuals and families that require wrap-around services to remain stably housed.
- **Increase Summer Youth Employment Program.** The Budget increases funding for the Summer Youth Employment Program by \$1.1 million, to \$46.1 million, to ensure that the State can continue to serve approximately 16,700 youths that were employed through the 2021 program.
- **Extend Temporary Operator Authority for Emergency Shelters.** The FY 2023 budget proposes to extend the authority of the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) and the Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) to appoint a temporary shelter operator for emergency shelters. This authority ensures that the State has the authority to take necessary action to address any concerns regarding the health and safety of emergency shelters supported with state funding.

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

Program Highlights

Public Assistance

NYS DOB | FY 2023 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations

New York provides cash assistance to income-eligible individuals and families through the Family Assistance (FA) and Safety Net Assistance (SNA) programs. For income-eligible families with a minor child, ongoing cash assistance provided through the FA program is financed largely with Federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds for up to 60 months, pursuant to federal statute. Families who have exhausted their 60-month time limit on FA, as well as income-eligible single adults and childless couples, can receive such assistance through the SNA program which is financed with State and local dollars. The FY 2023 caseload is estimated at approximately 472,440 recipients.

SSI State Supplement Program

New York's Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program supplements Federal SSI benefits to low-income elderly, blind, and disabled persons. The FY 2023 caseload is estimated at 660,000 recipients.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

SNAP is a federally mandated program that seeks to improve the nutritional level of low-income families and individuals by providing supplemental assistance to purchase food items. In New York, SNAP is directly administered by local social services districts, which are also responsible for administering programs to assist SNAP recipients in gaining the skills necessary to obtain and retain employment through training, education, and supportive services.

Homeless Housing and Assistance Program (HHAP)

HHAP provides grants to not-for-profit corporations and municipalities to expand and improve the supply of permanent, transitional, and emergency housing for homeless persons. HHAP also links its projects to other State and Federal funding sources to deliver appropriate support services to help tenants move towards greater self-sufficiency and economic stability.

Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)

HEAP helps low-income households pay the cost of heating their homes. Eligibility is based on a number of factors, and eligible households may receive one regular benefit per year and emergency benefits, as available. The HEAP program also operates a heating equipment repair and replacement program, a heating equipment clean and tune program, and a cooling program during the summer months. OTDA has received supplemental Federal funding for HEAP to help more households pay heating costs and utility arrears incurred during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Child Support Services

The Child Support Services Program provides assistance with paternity and child support establishment, as well as the collection of child support. In addition, the Center operates an Access and Visitation program, which aids parents in development of successful parenting plans and visitation supervision and enforcement.

ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Category	Available FY 2022	Appropriations Recommended FY 2023	Change From FY 2022	Reappropriations Recommended FY 2023
State Operations	755,818,000	462,299,000	(293,519,000)	408,843,500
Aid To Localities	8,935,607,000	5,715,812,000	(3,219,795,000)	7,271,445,000
Capital Projects	128,000,000	128,000,000	0	331,325,000
Total	9,819,425,000	6,306,111,000	(3,513,314,000)	8,011,613,500

NYS DOB | FY 2023 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations
ALL FUND TYPES
PROJECTED LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM
FILLED ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS

Program	FY 2022 Estimated FTEs 03/31/22	FY 2023 Estimated FTEs 03/31/23	FTE Change
Administration			
General Fund	313	313	0
Child Support Services			
General Fund	16	16	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	37	37	0
Disability Determinations Program			
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	859	859	0
Employment and Income Support			
General Fund	256	256	0
Administrative Hearings			
General Fund	304	304	0
Specialized Services Program			
General Fund	113	113	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	16	16	0
Supported Housing			
Capital Projects Funds - Other	8	8	0
Total	1,922	1,922	0

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

Fund Type	Available FY 2022	Recommended FY 2023	Change
General Fund	195,472,000	168,541,000	(26,931,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	557,846,000	291,258,000	(266,588,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	2,500,000	2,500,000	0
Total	755,818,000	462,299,000	(293,519,000)
Adjustments:			
Transfer(s) From			
Special Pay Bill			
General Fund	(22,164,000)		
Temporary and Disability Assistance, Office of			
General Fund			
(Aid To Localities)	(20,000,000)		
Special Revenue Funds - Federal			
(Aid To Localities)	(251,355,000)		
Appropriated FY 2022	462,299,000		

NYS DOB | FY2023 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations
STATE OPERATIONS
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)

Program	Available FY 2022	Recommended FY 2023	Change
Administration			
General Fund	54,482,063	52,418,000	(2,064,063)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	2,500,000	2,500,000	0
Administrative Hearings			
General Fund	32,867,258	30,446,000	(2,421,258)
Child Support Services			
General Fund	11,026,533	10,877,000	(149,533)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	38,150,365	36,988,000	(1,162,365)
Disability Determinations Program			
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	208,224,706	194,500,000	(13,724,706)
Employment and Income Support			
General Fund	50,286,284	48,654,000	(1,632,284)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	100,124,000	51,075,000	(49,049,000)
Information Technology Program			
General Fund	8,383,000	8,383,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	5,000,000	5,000,000	0
Specialized Services Program			
General Fund	38,426,862	17,763,000	(20,663,862)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	206,346,929	3,695,000	(202,651,929)
Total	755,818,000	462,299,000	(293,519,000)

STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2023 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)

Program	Total		Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	24,883,000	(2,064,063)	24,739,000	(2,047,287)
Administrative Hearings	25,536,000	(2,421,258)	25,136,000	(29,596)
Child Support Services	2,511,000	(149,533)	2,425,000	(149,471)
Employment and Income Support	17,314,000	(1,632,284)	17,054,000	(1,611,733)
Specialized Services Program	15,703,000	(663,862)	15,642,000	(663,862)
Total	85,947,000	(6,931,000)	84,996,000	(4,501,949)

NYS DOB | FY2023 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations

Program	Temporary Service (Nonannual Salaried)		Holiday/Overtime Pay	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	100,000	(10,260)	44,000	(6,516)
Administrative Hearings	0	0	400,000	(2,391,662)
Child Support Services	0	0	86,000	(62)
Employment and Income Support	160,000	0	100,000	(20,551)
Specialized Services Program	0	0	61,000	0
Total	260,000	(10,260)	691,000	(2,418,791)

**STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED
APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2023 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Supplies and Materials	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	27,535,000	0	1,529,000	0
Administrative Hearings	4,910,000	0	355,000	0
Child Support Services	8,366,000	0	201,000	0
Employment and Income Support	31,340,000	0	9,397,000	0
Information Technology Program	8,383,000	0	0	0
Specialized Services Program	2,060,000	(20,000,000)	30,000	0
Total	82,594,000	(20,000,000)	11,512,000	0

Program	Travel		Contractual Services	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	353,000	0	25,388,000	0
Administrative Hearings	250,000	0	4,010,000	0
Child Support Services	100,000	0	8,019,000	0
Employment and Income Support	165,000	0	21,728,000	0
Information Technology Program	0	0	8,383,000	0
Specialized Services Program	185,000	0	1,825,000	(20,000,000)
Total	1,053,000	0	69,353,000	(20,000,000)

NYS DOB | FY2023 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations

Program	Equipment	
	Amount	Change
Administration	265,000	0
Administrative Hearings	295,000	0
Child Support Services	46,000	0
Employment and Income Support	50,000	0
Specialized Services Program	20,000	0
Total	676,000	0

**STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2023 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Personal Service	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	2,500,000	0	0	0
Child Support Services	36,988,000	(1,162,365)	7,000,000	(304,404)
Disability Determinations Program	194,500,000	(13,724,706)	86,500,000	(8,480,003)
Employment and Income Support	51,075,000	(49,049,000)	15,775,000	(1,600,000)
Information Technology Program	5,000,000	0	0	0
Specialized Services Program	3,695,000	(202,651,929)	1,817,000	(190,593)
Total	293,758,000	(266,588,000)	111,092,000	(10,575,000)

Program	Nonpersonal Service	
	Amount	Change
Administration	2,500,000	0
Child Support Services	29,988,000	(857,961)
Disability Determinations Program	108,000,000	(5,244,703)
Employment and Income Support	35,300,000	(47,449,000)
Information Technology Program	5,000,000	0
Specialized Services Program	1,878,000	(202,461,336)
Total	182,666,000	(256,013,000)

NYS DOB | FY 2023 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations
AID TO LOCALITIES
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)

Fund Type	Available FY 2022	Recommended FY 2023	Change
Fiduciary	10,000,000	10,000,000	0
General Fund	1,805,578,000	1,687,237,000	(118,341,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	7,100,129,000	3,998,675,000	(3,101,454,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	19,900,000	19,900,000	0
Total	8,935,607,000	5,715,812,000	(3,219,795,000)
Adjustments:			
Transfer(s) To			
Temporary and Disability Assistance, Office of			
General Fund			
(State Operations)	20,000,000		
Special Revenue Funds - Federal			
(State Operations)	251,355,000		
Appropriated FY 2022	9,206,962,000		

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

Program	Available FY 2022	Recommended FY 2023	Change
Child Support Services			
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	140,000,000	140,000,000	0
Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative			
General Fund	0	110,000,000	110,000,000
Employment and Income Support			
Fiduciary	10,000,000	10,000,000	0
General Fund	1,336,782,000	1,336,641,000	(141,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	4,475,935,000	3,823,175,000	(652,760,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	10,000,000	10,000,000	0
Specialized Services Program			
General Fund	468,796,000	240,596,000	(228,200,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	2,484,194,000	35,500,000	(2,448,694,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	9,900,000	9,900,000	0
Total	8,935,607,000	5,715,812,000	(3,219,795,000)

NYS DOB | FY2023 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations
CAPITAL PROJECTS
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM
APPROPRIATIONS
 (dollars)

Comprehensive Construction Program	Available FY 2022	Recommended FY 2023	Change	Reappropriations FY 2023
Supported Housing Program				
Capital Projects Fund	2,000,000	2,000,000	0	2,631,000
Housing Program Fund	126,000,000	126,000,000	0	328,694,000
Total	128,000,000	128,000,000	0	331,325,000

Note: Most recent estimates as of 05/11/2020