

## Indigent Legal Services, Office of

### Mission

The Office of Indigent Legal Services and the associated Indigent Legal Services Board are responsible for examining, overseeing, and improving the quality of New York's county-based system of providing legal representation to people who are unable to afford an attorney.

### Organization and Staffing

The Office and nine-member Indigent Legal Services Board were created in 2010 to assist county governments in providing counsel to those persons who are legally entitled to counsel, but cannot afford to hire an attorney. The Board is appointed by the Governor and chaired by the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals. The Board is responsible for nominating a Director to run the day-to-day operations of the Office.

### Budget Highlights

The FY 2025 Executive Budget recommends \$459.46 million All Funds support for the Office of Indigent Legal Services, and a workforce level of 35 FTEs, an increase of 3 FTEs from the previous year.

### Program Highlights

#### *Indigent Legal Services Program*

The Office is responsible for the distribution of State funds appropriated to the counties from the State's Indigent Legal Services Fund. The State established this dedicated Fund in 2003 to assist localities in meeting the duty to provide legal representation to persons unable to afford counsel. The Office distributes these funds to improve the quality of indigent legal services provided by the counties.

#### *Hurrell-Harring Settlement Program*

The Office is responsible for implementing the terms of the Hurrell-Harring Settlement (HHS), in which the State will provide counsel at arraignment, establish caseload standards and eligibility criteria, and improve the quality of defense in the following five counties: Onondaga, Ontario, Schuyler, Suffolk, and Washington.

#### *Hurrell-Harring Settlement (HHS) Statewide Implementation*

The Office is tasked with the statewide implementation of counsel at arraignment, Caseload Standards for providers of indigent legal services, and quality improvement initiatives in a manner similar to the plans implemented by the Hurrell-Harring Settlement.

### ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

<u>Category</u>	Available FY 2024	Appropriations Recommended FY 2025	Change From FY 2024	Reappropriations Recommended FY 2025
State Operations	7,605,463	7,995,000	389,537	0
Aid To Localities	461,310,000	451,470,000	(9,840,000)	1,279,719,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>468,915,463</b>	<b>459,465,000</b>	<b>(9,450,463)</b>	<b>1,279,719,000</b>

**ALL FUND TYPES**

**PROJECTED LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM**

**FILLED ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS**

<b>Program</b>	<b>FY 2024 Estimated FTEs 03/31/24</b>	<b>FY 2025 Estimated FTEs 03/31/25</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
Indigent Legal Services Program			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	19	22	3
HHS Statewide Implementation			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	6	6	0
Hurrell-Harring Settlement			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	7	7	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>3</b>

**STATE OPERATIONS**

**ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE**

**APPROPRIATIONS**

(dollars)

<b>Fund Type</b>	<b>Available FY 2024</b>	<b>Recommended FY 2025</b>	<b>Change</b>
Special Revenue Funds - Other	7,605,463	7,995,000	389,537
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,605,463</b>	<b>7,995,000</b>	<b>389,537</b>
Adjustments:			
Transfer(s) From			
Special Pay Bill			
General Fund	(355,463)		
<b>Appropriated FY 2024</b>	<b>7,250,000</b>		

**STATE OPERATIONS**

**ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM**

**APPROPRIATIONS**

(dollars)

<b>Program</b>	<b>Available FY 2024</b>	<b>Recommended FY 2025</b>	<b>Change</b>
HHS Statewide Implementation			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	1,624,343	1,618,000	(6,343)
Hurrell-Harring Settlement			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	1,534,005	1,512,000	(22,005)
Indigent Legal Services Program			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	4,447,115	4,865,000	417,885
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,605,463</b>	<b>7,995,000</b>	<b>389,537</b>

NYS DOB | FY 2025 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations  
**STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND**  
**SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES**  
**FY 2025 RECOMMENDED**  
**(dollars)**

Program	Total		Personal Service	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
HHS Statewide Implementation	1,618,000	(6,343)	867,000	2,389
Hurrell-Harring Settlement	1,512,000	(22,005)	803,000	(7,730)
Indigent Legal Services Program	4,865,000	417,885	2,641,000	268,553
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,995,000</b>	<b>389,537</b>	<b>4,311,000</b>	<b>263,212</b>

Program	Nonpersonal Service	
	Amount	Change
HHS Statewide Implementation	751,000	(8,732)
Hurrell-Harring Settlement	709,000	(14,275)
Indigent Legal Services Program	2,224,000	149,332
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,684,000</b>	<b>126,325</b>

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

Fund Type	Available FY 2024	Recommended FY 2025	Change
General Fund	102,000,000	92,000,000	(10,000,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	359,310,000	359,470,000	160,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>461,310,000</b>	<b>451,470,000</b>	<b>(9,840,000)</b>

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

Program	Available FY 2024	Recommended FY 2025	Change
<b>ASSIGNED COUNSEL PROGRAM</b>			
General Fund	92,000,000	92,000,000	0
<b>Article 18-B Family Court Representation</b>			
General Fund	10,000,000	0	(10,000,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	4,500,000	4,500,000	0
<b>HHS Statewide Implementation</b>			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	250,000,000	250,000,000	0
<b>Hurrell-Harring Settlement</b>			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	23,810,000	23,970,000	160,000
<b>Indigent Legal Services Program</b>			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	81,000,000	81,000,000	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>461,310,000</b>	<b>451,470,000</b>	<b>(9,840,000)</b>

