

Schuyler Center’s Next Look at the NYS 2024-25 Budget: Senate and Assembly One-House Budget Proposals as They Intersect with Our Policy Priorities

Schuyler Center’s *Next Look* is an initial and targeted assessment of how the New York Senate and Assembly State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2024-25 One-House Budget proposals would address some of the issues most critical to the health and well-being of low-income families and children, and New Yorkers living on the margins. Chief among these issues is child and family poverty. With the 2022 enactment of the Child Poverty Reduction Act, New York has committed to cutting child poverty by 50% in the coming decade with attention to racial equity. Highlighted below are State budget proposals that hold real opportunity to move New York toward fulfilling that commitment, and to concretely improve the lives of New York children, families, and marginalized New Yorkers. In the coming days, Schuyler Center’s team will be analyzing these proposals closely and working with our partners to ensure that the enacted State budget seizes these opportunities to set up all New Yorkers to thrive. For additional detail on many of these proposals, see our *First Look* report, available at <https://scaany.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Schuyler-Center-First-Look-at-2024-25-Executive-Budget.pdf>

CHILD WELFARE

Executive	Senate	Assembly	Recommendation
\$900 million for preventive, protective, independent living, adoption, aftercare services at 62% State share (balance paid by county)	Increases State share to 65%	Increases State share to 65%	Increase State share to 75%
Does not update the child welfare Preventive Services housing subsidy, which currently provides a maximum of \$725/month and ends at age 21 for transition-age youth	No proposal to strengthen the child welfare housing subsidy included	No proposal to strengthen the child welfare housing subsidy included	Strengthen the child welfare housing subsidy with yearly increases calculated based on inflation, and allow young people up to age 24 to access it
\$8.5 million for a 2.5% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for human services workers	Adds \$180 million for an 3.2% human services COLA that would be targeted to non-executive staff	Includes a 3.2% human services COLA that would be targeted to non-executive staff	Support a flexible 3.2% COLA for human services workers

Executive	Senate	Assembly	Recommendation
\$338,750 for Permanency Resource Centers (PRCs), \$220,500 for the statewide Kinship Navigator	\$2.2 million for PRCs and kinship caregiver programs \$220,500 for the NYS Kinship Navigator	\$2.2 million for PRCs and kinship caregiver programs \$320,500 for the NYS Kinship Navigator	\$338,750 million for PRCs \$1.9 million for kinship caregiver programs \$320,500 for the NYS Kinship Navigator
\$7.9 million for the Foster Youth College Success Initiative (FYCSI)	\$8.2 million for FYCSI	\$8.6 million for FYCSI	\$10 million for FYCSI
No proposal to increase salaries and reduce caseloads for Attorneys for Children (AFCs) in Family Court	\$20 million to increase salaries for AFCs	No proposal to increase salaries for AFCs	\$80 million to increase salaries and reduce caseloads for AFCs

CHILD POVERTY REDUCTION AND AFFORDABILITY FOR FAMILIES

Executive	Senate	Assembly	Recommendation
No proposal related to the Empire State Child Credit (ESCC) or State Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)	Creates Working Families Tax Credit, increases per child credit to \$550; removes income phase-in that currently excludes lowest income children. Credit would begin phasing out at incomes above \$75,000 for individuals or \$130,000 for two parent households	Provides a <i>one-time</i> supplemental ESCC, calculated as a percentage of family's current ESCC credit (100% for incomes less than \$10,000; 75% for incomes between \$10-25,000; 50% for incomes between \$25-\$50,000; 25% for incomes greater than or equal to \$50,000)	Support Senate proposal to establish robust, ongoing, refundable tax credit for families with children, eliminating minimum income requirement and phase-in and increasing credit amount to reduce child and family poverty
No proposal related to the State Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)	See above	Expands the State Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to include taxpayers filing with Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN), rather than Social Security Number Adds language to extend eligibility by altering the income phase-out of the NYS EITC for taxpayers with children. This would have the effect of reducing the penalty families face as their income increases.	Support the Assembly proposal so ITIN filers can claim EITC to cut child and family poverty

Executive	Senate	Assembly	Recommendation
No proposal regarding cash allowance program for low-income parents who are pregnant or parenting infants	Includes \$12 million to establish the Mothers and Infants Lasting Change (MILC) one-year pilot program. MILC would provide a \$1,000 monthly stipend to parents during the last 3 months of pregnancy and the first 9 months of a child's life.	Adds \$200 million to establish the Increasing Nutrition Support for Prenatal and Infant Resiliency (INSPIRE) one-year pilot program. INSPIRE would provide a \$400 monthly stipend to parents during the last three months of pregnancy and the first 12 months of a child's life.	Create a NYS allowance program for parents of infants that provides robust support to families during this critical period in their lives
Allocates \$50 million in unspent TANF Funds for families living in concentrated poverty and specifies \$25 million for Rochester, and \$12.25 million each for Syracuse and Buffalo	Accepts the Executive's proposal	Accepts the Executive's proposal, adds an additional \$50 million for families living in concentrated poverty in other areas of the state	Fund sustained, systemic approaches statewide to help NY reach its goal of reducing child poverty by 50% by 2032
Expand Temporary Disability Insurance (TDI) to more adequately cover paid sick or medical leave for working New Yorkers	Includes a proposal to update New York's TDI program, including updating the benefit amount, ensuring job protection and insurance continuation during leave	Includes a proposal to update New York's TDI program, including updating the benefit amount, ensuring job protection and insurance continuation during leave	Establish strong, expanded temporary disability insurance (TDI) program that supports New York's workforce and families, and includes job protection, insurance continuation, and a robust wage replacement rate
No proposal for Housing Access Voucher Program	\$250 million for the Housing Access Voucher Program	\$250 million for the Housing Access Voucher Program	\$250 million for the Housing Access Voucher Program, (S.568A/A.4021A), a state-level voucher program to provide housing stability to New York families at risk of homelessness
Sustained funding for last year's partial expansion of free school meals statewide; no new funding to establish universal free school meals	Adds \$125 million for universal school meals	Adds \$120 million for universal school meals	Fully fund universal school meals across New York State
No proposal for Supplemental Nutrition Allowance Program (SNAP) minimum benefit	Adds \$50 million to the NYS SNAP Minimum-Benefits program, creating a \$50 per month minimum benefit for SNAP recipients	No proposal for a SNAP minimum benefit	Establish a \$100 monthly minimum SNAP benefit to ensure that eligible New York families receive a benefit that will have a meaningful impact on their household budget

Executive	Senate	Assembly	Recommendation
No proposal for a diaper allowance	Provides \$80 every 3 months per eligible child for the cost of diapers for recipients of public assistance	No proposal for a diaper allowance	Adopt the Senate proposal. With diapers costing an average of \$75 per month per child, a diaper allowance will help families keep their baby healthy and comfortable

CHILD CARE

Executive	Senate	Assembly	Recommendation
<p>Approximately \$1.78 billion in cash for child care assistance (subsidies), up from \$1.032 billion in last year’s budget</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Breakdown</u></p> <p>General Fund: \$995.6 million (\$863 cash amount)</p> <p>CCDF: up to \$550 million (cash amount \$312.2 million)</p> <p>TANF: \$477.2 million (cash amount TBD)</p>	<p>Approximately \$1.78 billion in cash for child care assistance (subsidies)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Breakdown</u></p> <p>General Fund: \$1.083 billion (cash amount TBD)</p> <p>CCDF: up to \$550 million (cash amount \$312.2 million)</p> <p>TANF: \$388.9 million (cash amount TBD)</p>	<p>Approximately \$1.78 billion in cash for child care assistance (subsidies)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Breakdown</u></p> <p>General Fund: \$1.004 billion (cash amount TBD)</p> <p>CCDF: up to \$550 million (cash amount \$312.2 million)</p> <p>TANF: \$413.63 million (cash amount TBD)</p>	<p>Approximately 7% of income-eligible children are receiving assistance. To meet the need for assistance and reduce inequitable barriers to access, New York needs to continue to expand investment in child care assistance.</p>
<p>No proposal to end the state’s practice of tying child care assistance to caretakers’ exact hours of work (decoupling)</p>	<p>Proposes Article VII language to end the state’s practice of tying child care assistance to caretakers’ exact hours of work, and invests additional state funds for subsidies (see above) to cover costs associated with this expansion</p>	<p>Proposes Article VII language to end the state’s practice of tying child care assistance to caretakers’ exact hours of work, and invests additional state funds for subsidies (see above) to cover costs associated with this expansion</p>	<p>Adopt Article VII language to implement decoupling (S.5327A/A.4986A), and direct to counties additional funds to cover costs (estimated at \$70 million)</p>
<p>No proposal to take steps to increase capacity for non-traditional hour care and care for children experiencing homelessness by requiring counties to pay an enhanced reimbursement rate of 15% for non-traditional hour care</p>	<p>Proposes Article VII language to requiring counties to establish a differential payment rate for providing care during non-traditional hours and for children experiencing homelessness that “shall be no less than 10% but no greater than 15%.”</p>	<p>Proposes Article VII language to require counties to establish a differential payment rate for providing care during non-traditional hours and for children experiencing homelessness of 15%.</p>	<p>Adopt the Senate’s proposal requiring counties to establish a differential payment rate for providing care during non-traditional hours and for children experiencing homelessness of 15% and direct to counties additional funds to cover costs (est. \$100 million)</p>

Executive	Senate	Assembly	Recommendation
<p><u>Child care workforce</u> The Executive Budget Briefing Book indicates that reprogrammed funds remaining from the third round of stabilization (Child Care Workforce Retention and Recruitment Grant Program) will be distributed as another round of grants for workforce retention</p> <p>No proposal to increase rates paid for family, friend and neighbor care</p>	<p>Adds \$220 million – “[f]or additional services and expenses of the Child Care Worker Retention Grant Program to supplement underutilized federal pandemic funding.” The Senate Resolution indicates that these funds are intended to provide “additional support for the establishment of a permanent Workforce Retention Grant program.”</p> <p>No proposal to increase the rates paid for family, friend and neighbor care.</p>	<p>Adds \$220 million – “to provide bonuses to eligible child care providers”</p> <p>No proposal to increase the rates paid for family, friend and neighbor care</p>	<p>Create a permanent state child care fund to increase child care worker compensation that pays \$12,500 per year to all employees of child care programs</p> <p>Increase rates for family, friend and neighbor care to 75% of the family child care rate and 85% for providers eligible for the enhanced rate</p>
<p>No proposal directing OCFS to utilize a cost estimation model to determine the actual cost to providers of offering high-quality child care to set child care assistance rates</p>	<p>No proposal</p>	<p>Directs OCFS in Article VII to “utilize a cost estimation model to determine the actual cost providers incur when providing child care” in setting subsidy rates for child care assistance; includes \$250,000 to cover costs</p>	<p>Include Article VII language committing NYS to transition to a new provider reimbursement methodology and pay scale by 2025 and invest \$250,000 to cover the costs</p>
<p>No funding for child care ‘Facilitated Enrollment (FE) Programs’ – pilot programs initiated last year to offer child care assistance scholarships to children regardless of immigration status and to episodic workers or for other FE programs</p>	<p>Adds \$5 million for the FE Pilot Program for episodic workers and excluded immigrant children up to 400% FPL – NYC (\$3.6 million increase from FY 2024).</p> <p>Adds \$5 million for the FE Pilot Program for episodic workers and excluded immigrant children up to 400% FPL – Rest of State (\$1 million increase from FY 2024).</p> <p>Adds \$1.25 million for the FE program for families earning up to 85% SMI – New York City</p> <p>Adds \$600,000 for the FE program for families earning up to 85% SMI – Rest of State</p>	<p>Adds \$1.5 million for the FE Pilot Program for episodic workers and excluded immigrant children up to 400% FPL – NYC (\$100,000 more than FY 2024)</p> <p>Adds \$4 million for the FE Pilot Program for episodic workers and excluded immigrant children up to 400% FPL – Rest of State (level funding with FY 2024)</p> <p>Adds \$1.25 million for the FE program for families earning up to 85% SMI – New York City</p> <p>Adds \$600,000 for the FE program for families earning up to 85% SMI – Rest of State</p>	<p>Adopt the Senate proposal to invest \$10 million in the FE pilots for children barred from assistance due to immigration status and episodic workers and reinvest the remaining funds from last year into the pilots</p> <p>Include the other FE funds proposed in both houses in the final budget</p>

Executive	Senate	Assembly	Recommendation
\$5 million for QUALITYstarsNY, level funding; proposes increased differential payment rate for high-quality accredited providers and/or providers who have completed OCFS' Non-Patient Epinephrine Auto-Injector Initiative training	Includes \$5 million for QUALITYstarsNY	Includes \$5 million for QUALITYstarsNY	Include \$5 million for QUALITYstarsNY. We are still studying the Executive proposal
\$5 million to support a pilot of staffed Family Child Care Networks around the state	Accepts Executive proposal	Accepts Executive proposal, and includes language specifying that networks should engage in "recruitment and expansion of providers located in child care deserts"	Adopt the Executive proposal
Up to \$9.7 million for the Infant-Toddler Resource Network, which provides critical training and supports to providers serving our youngest New Yorkers, an increase from last year's \$7 million (increased cash value \$1.7 million)	Accepts Executive proposal	Proposes up to \$12.5 million for infant/toddler resource centers provided that \$4.5 million "shall support the expansion and staffing of mental health consultants for Infant Toddler Resource Centers statewide"	Adopt the Assembly proposal which would allow for the hiring of an additional 16 infant toddler mental health consultants (ITMHCs) and 5 supervisors, which would be a 46% service increase statewide and a 100% increase in NYC
\$4.8 million for the Employer Supported Child Care Pilot Program	Accepts the Executive proposal	Accepts the Executive Proposal	This program was proposed and funded at this level in last year's budget but has not been launched. While business must be a partner in addressing the child care needs of families, treating it as an employee benefit can deepen inequities in access and quality.

Executive	Senate	Assembly	Recommendation
\$25 million was allocated in last year's budget, to be reflected in FY 2025 and FY 2026 creating a two-year refundable tax credit for employers to create or expand licensed child care programs to provide their employees with child care for 2023 and 2024. Employers can create up to 25 new slots and the credit amount will be based on the number of additional slots created for infants/toddlers ages 0-3. No new funds proposed	No proposal	No proposal	Business child care tax credits have historically been underutilized and ineffective at expanding capacity or increasing child care affordability
Up to \$25 million of the Federal Child Care Development Fund may be used to support Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies	Accepts the Executive proposal	Accepts the Executive proposal	Adopt the Executive proposal

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND WELL-BEING

Executive	Senate	Assembly	Recommendation
Similar levels of funding as the 2023-24 school year: \$1.177 billion for Universal Pre-kindergarten (Pre-K), including \$100 million from last year's Enacted Budget	<p>Adds \$150 million for Universal Pre-kindergarten</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposes to increase the minimum per pupil funding distributed via formula from \$5,400 to \$6,700 per pupil 	<p>Adds \$125 million for Universal Pre-kindergarten which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$62.5 million through the Statewide Universal full day Pre-kindergarten grant, which funds pupils at \$10,000 per pupil; and \$62.5 million used to increase the minimum per pupil funding distributed via formula from \$5,400 to \$7,000 per pupil 	<p>Increase investment in Pre-K to get closer to fulfilling the promise of universal full-day Pre-Kindergarten for all 4-year-olds across New York and move toward providing adequate funding per child (at least \$10,000)</p> <p>Adopt the Senate proposed investment of \$150M; adopt the Assembly proposal to raise rates under the formula to \$7,000 per pupil</p>

Executive	Senate	Assembly	Recommendation
\$100.755 million combined funding for Advantage Afterschool and Empire State Afterschool Programs, a \$12.755 million increase over last year's Enacted Budget	Adds \$5M to afterschool programs to the Executive Proposal for a total of \$105.755M	Adds \$5M to afterschool programs to the Executive Proposal for a total of \$105.755M	Support robust investment in afterschool programs, and streamlined State administration, to meet need and pay the workforce a thriving wage
Maintains funding for: Nurse-Family Partnership at \$3 million; Healthy Families NY at \$37 million; Maternal Infant Community Health Collaboratives at \$1.8 million	Adds \$1.2 million for Nurse-Family Partnership	Adds \$1 million for Nurse-Family Partnership	Accept additional \$1.2 million for Nurse-Family Partnership Add \$500,000 for ParentChild+
Maintains \$250 million for community schools and \$1.2 million for Community Schools Regional Technical Assistance Centers, level funding	Adds \$105 million in categorical funding for community schools, in addition to the \$250 million in existing Foundation Aid funding Also maintains level funding for Community Schools Regional Technical Assistance Centers	Maintains level funding of \$250 million in Foundation Aid funding for community schools, and \$1.2 million for Community Schools Regional Technical Assistance Centers	Invest in separate, categorical funding for community schools, in addition to Foundation Aid funding, which will allow more schools to more fully adopt the community schools model
\$205 million for the Early Intervention program that provides services for very young children with delays and disabilities	Accepts the Executive proposal	Adds \$4 million	Increase rates by 11% for in-person services and implement 4% rate modification for rural and underserved areas

PUBLIC HEALTH, HEALTH COVERAGE, ACCESS AND CARE

Executive	Senate	Assembly	Recommendation
\$7.6 million for continuous Medicaid and Child Health Plus coverage for children from birth to age six	Accepts the Executive proposal	Accepts the Executive proposal; adds language to ensure children can move between Medicaid and Child Health Plus at any time	Support continuous health coverage for young children
\$1.5 million for school-based health for dental services, to increase access to dental care	Rejects increase in school-based health services	Accepts the Executive Budget proposal	Accept Executive Budget proposal

Executive	Senate	Assembly	Recommendation
\$4 million for the Office of Mental Health to support recruitment and retention of licensed mental health clinicians	Accepts the Executive Proposal	Accepts the Executive Proposal	Accept Executive Proposal
Eliminates \$6.5 million in funding for the Enhanced Quality of Adult Living (EQUAL) program	Rejects the Executive Proposal	Rejects The Executive Proposal	Reject the elimination of EQUAL
Eliminating \$100,000 to fund the Coalition for Institutionalized and Aged Disabled (CIAD), which provides advocacy services to residents of adult homes	No funding for CIAD	No funding for CIAD	Fund CIAD fully at \$100,000
Does not propose funding for the Center for Health Workforce Studies (CHWS), which would need \$350,000 to implement the Health Professions Data Law enacted in 2021 but not yet implemented	Does not include funding	Does not include funding	Add \$350,000 to implement the Health Professions Data Law