

## Schuyler Center’s Next Look at the NYS 2026-27 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) 2026-27 One-House Budget proposals, along with the Executive Budget proposal, would address some of the issues most critical to the health and wellbeing of low-income families and children, and New Yorkers living on the margins. With New York in the fifth year since enacting the Child Poverty Reduction Act, it is time for New York to take bold action to meet its commitment of cutting child poverty in half by 2031. Highlighted below are State budget proposals that have the potential to make tangible improvements in the lives of New York children, families, and marginalized New Yorkers: steps towards universal child care and pre-K, notable cost-of-living-adjustments for human services workers, a statewide permanent Housing Access Voucher program, and proposals to raise revenue to ensure these investments can be sustained, and grow as needed, to set up all the state’s children and communities to thrive. In the coming days, Schuyler Center’s team will be analyzing these proposals closely and working with partners to ensure that the enacted State budget answers the needs of these unprecedented times.

CHILD WELFARE & YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICES			
Executive	Senate	Assembly	Recommendation
<b>\$421.9 million for the Foster Care Block Grant (FCBG), up \$7.6 million from last year’s Enacted Budget</b>	Adds \$263 million for New York City	Accepts Executive proposal	Set aside funds within the FCBG to incentivize the use of the Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program (KinGAP)
<b>\$11.7 million for a 1.7% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for human services workers; last year’s COLA was 2.1%</b>	4% COLA, includes additional programs, i.e. child welfare prevention services	4% COLA	4% COLA for human services workers, including additional eligible programs
<b>\$7.9 million for the Foster Youth College Success Initiative (FYCSI), down \$483,000 from last year’s Enacted Budget</b>	\$10 million for FYCSI	\$9,604,629 for FYCSI	\$10 million to fully fund FYCSI
<b>\$220,500 for the New York State Kinship Navigator, down \$100,000 from last year’s Enacted Budget</b>	Accepts Executive proposal	\$320,500 for the Kinship Navigator	\$320,500 to fully fund the Kinship Navigator

<b>\$25 million to improve the quality of legal representation in Family Court; level funding from last year’s Enacted Budget</b>	\$50 million to improve legal representation in Family Court	\$30 million to improve legal representation in Family Court	\$50 million for early high-quality legal representation (including timely defense) for families involved in Child Protective Services
<b>\$250 million for Raise the Age, level funding from last year’s Enacted Budget</b> <b>No proposal to strengthen Raise the Age funding by establishing the Youth Justice Innovation Fund</b>	\$250 million for Raise the Age; sets aside \$50 million to establish the Youth Justice Innovation Fund	\$350 million for Raise the Age, including \$100 million for New York City	Establish the Youth Justice Innovation Fund with \$50 million set aside within Raise the Age funding

### SUPPORT FOR IMMIGRANT NEW YORKERS

Executive	Senate	Assembly	Recommendation
<b>Transfer approximately \$8 million in funding from the Office of Temporary Disability Assistance to the Office of New Americans to support services for migrant individuals and families, including legal services</b>	Adds \$110.8 million in additional funding for the Office for New Americans to support existing and new emergency legal and social services	Adds \$110.8 million for programs which assist noncitizens, including legal services	Provide \$175 million in funding to support critical legal services for immigrant New Yorkers and pass NY4All to help protect New York’s immigrant children and families

### CHILD POVERTY REDUCTION & AFFORDABILITY FOR FAMILIES

Executive	Senate	Assembly	Recommendation
<b>No new expansions to the Empire State Child Credit</b> <b>The Governor’s State of the State Briefing Book included a proposal for outreach on the expanded child tax credit, specifically proposing to take a “whole-of-government approach” to ensuring that eligible New Yorkers access the full credit, but no funding to support</b> <b>No proposal to allow taxpayers filing with an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN), rather</b>	Does not include expansions to the Empire State Child Credit or funding for outreach on the credit. Does not include proposals to strengthen the state EITC	Does not include expansions to the Empire State Child Credit or funding for outreach on the credit Does not include proposals to strengthen the state EITC	Continue to strengthen the state’s child tax credit by increasing the credit amount to \$1,500 per child per year for children 0-18, indexing the credit to inflation, and continuing to ensure that it is available to families who file with an ITIN number  Fund efforts to ensure that all families eligible for the Empire State Child Credit receive it

<b>than Social Security Number, to claim the State Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)</b>			Expand the state EITC to be available to taxpayers filing with an ITIN
<b>Includes \$50 million to continue funding the five-year Housing Access Voucher pilot program, a state-level voucher program to provide housing stability to New York families at risk of homelessness</b>	Adds \$200 million for the Housing Access Voucher Program, for a total of \$250 million	Adds \$200 million for the Housing Access Voucher Program, for a total of \$250 million	Fully fund a statewide permanent Housing Access Voucher Program at \$250 million
<b>Funding to transition New York’s SNAP recipients’ benefits to chip-enabled EBT cards</b>	Adds \$3 million for a compensation fund to reimburse stolen SNAP or cash assistance benefits	Accepts Executive proposal	Fully fund the transition of the state’s SNAP benefits to chip cards to prevent the theft of benefits and replace the benefits stolen from SNAP recipients.
<b>\$72.8 million for the Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program (HPNAP), up \$15 million from last year’s Enacted Budget</b>  <b>\$55 million for the Nourish New York (NNY) program; level funding from last year’s Enacted Budget</b>	\$75 million for HPNAP  \$75 million for Nourish NY	\$75,497,000 for HPNAP  \$75 million for Nourish NY	Fully fund HPNAP and Nourish NY at \$75 million each to bolster New York’s emergency food system.
<b>\$395 million for universal school meals, up \$55 million from last year’s Enacted Budget</b>	\$395 million in funding for universal school meals	\$395 million in funding for universal school meals	Fully fund universal school meals
<b>No proposal to increase cash assistance’s basic allowance</b>	No proposal to increase cash assistance’s basic allowance	No proposal to increase cash assistance’s basic allowance	Act on the recommendation of the Child Poverty Reduction Advisory Council to increase cash assistance’s basic allowance by 100%.

## UNIVERSAL CHILD CARE AND PRE-K

Executive	Senate	Assembly	Recommendation
<p><b><u>Child Care Assistance Program</u></b></p> <p>Approximately <b>\$3.274 billion</b> appropriated for child care assistance (subsidies or CCAP)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Breakdown</u></b></p> <p><b>General Fund:</b> \$2.2 billion  <b>CCDF:</b> up to \$576 million  <b>TANF:</b> \$497.9 million</p> <p>According to the Executive Budget Briefing Book the cash amount is approximately <b>\$3.03 billion</b>, with <b>\$2.4 billion</b> for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2027 base CCAP, <b>\$475 million</b> for FFY 2026 and 2027 for NYC (100% NYC match), and <b>\$155 million</b> for FFY 2026 for counties outside of NYC (only for services provided in FFY 2026, no rollover).</p>	<p><b><u>Child Care Assistance Program</u></b></p> <p>Approximately <b>\$3.274 billion</b> appropriated for CCAP</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Breakdown</u></b></p> <p><b>General Fund:</b> \$2.2 billion  <b>CCDF:</b> up to \$576 million  <b>TANF:</b> \$497.9 million</p> <p><b>Bottom line:</b> Accepts Executive proposal</p>	<p><b><u>Child Care Assistance Program</u></b></p> <p>More than <b>\$3.292 billion</b> allocated for CCAP</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Breakdown</u></b></p> <p><b>General Fund:</b> \$2.385 billion  <b>CCDF:</b> up to \$576 million  <b>TANF:</b> \$331.7 million</p> <p><b>Bottom line:</b>  Adds \$18.7 million to CCAP to cover the costs associated with eliminating the minimum earnings requirement  Adjusts language to omit limiting counties outside of NYC access to the supplemental \$155 million in CCAP funds to cover claims incurred only during FFY 2026.</p>	<p><b><u>Child Care Assistance Program</u></b></p> <p>Add approximately \$1.2 billion to CCAP to ensure communities across the state can clear their CCAP waitlists and meet demand</p> <p>Adopt the Assembly proposal to end the inequitable minimum earning requirement (Article VII language and an additional \$18.7 million).</p> <p>Adopt the Assembly proposal, with adjustments as needed to make supplemental CCAP funds available for counties outside NYC to ensure counties can reopen enrollment without delay (budget language change)</p>
<p><b><u>CCAP: Minimum earnings rule</u></b></p> <p>No proposal ending New York’s rule barring parents/caretakers from accessing CCAP if they earn less – on average – than the minimum wage</p>	<p><b><u>CCAP: Minimum earnings rule</u></b></p> <p>No proposal</p>	<p><b><u>CCAP: Minimum earnings rule</u></b></p> <p>Proposes Article VII language ending the minimum earnings requirement and \$18.7 million in additional CCAP funds to cover associated costs.</p>	<p><b><u>CCAP: Minimum earnings rule</u></b></p> <p>Adopt the Assembly’s Article VII language to end the minimum earnings requirement to ensure the lowest income working families are not excluded from CCAP, Add the Assembly’s \$18.7 million in CCAP funds</p>
<p><b><u>CCAP rate setting</u></b></p> <p>No proposal directing OCFS to conduct a cost estimation model to determine the actual cost to providers of offering high quality child care</p>	<p><b><u>CCAP rate setting</u></b></p> <p>No proposal</p>	<p><b><u>CCAP rate setting</u></b></p> <p>Directs OCFS in Article VII language to “utilize a cost estimation model to determine the actual cost providers incur when providing child care.”</p>	<p><b><u>CCAP rate setting</u></b></p> <p>Require OCFS to use a cost estimation model to set rates and ensure all providers are automatically paid the most up-to-date rate based on the true cost of care.</p>

<p><b><u>Early childhood workforce</u></b>  <b>No proposal to provide compensation supplements, bonuses or any investment in the child care workforce</b></p>	<p><b><u>Early childhood workforce</u></b>  Proposes \$500 million “for services and expenses of the Child Care Worker Retention Grant Program.”</p>	<p><b><u>Early childhood workforce</u></b>  No proposal</p>	<p><b><u>Early childhood workforce</u></b>  Include at least \$500 million for a “permanent child care workforce pay equity fund” (S.5533/A.492-A)</p>
<p><b><u>Universal child care projects</u></b>  <b>\$73 million “for services and expenses of a contractual-based child care program to serve two-year-olds” (2-K) in NYC</b>  <b>\$66 million “for services and expenses of Dutchess County, Monroe County, and Broome County for pilot projects to provide child care services to children aged zero to three,” with the state reimbursing no more than 90% of the pilot projects outside of NYC</b></p>	<p><b><u>Universal child care projects</u></b>  Accepts Executive proposal for 2-K in NYC  Accepts Executive proposal of \$66 million for universal child care pilots for children aged zero to 3 in Dutchess, Monroe and Broome Counties with 10% match from counties  Adds \$34 million for additional pilot projects for children aged zero to 3, with plans to be submitted to the Legislature</p>	<p><b><u>Universal child care projects</u></b>  Accepts Executive proposal for 2-K in NYC  Accepts Executive proposal of \$66 million for universal child care pilots for children aged zero to 3 in Dutchess, Monroe and Broome counties with 10% match from counties</p>	<p><b><u>Universal child care projects</u></b>  Adopt the Executive Budget proposals for 2-K and universal child care pilots in Dutchess, Monroe and Broome Counties along with the Senate proposal to add \$34 million for additional pilot projects  The projects should be administered like Pre-K: available to all, with minimal enrollment requirements, and all modalities of care—including center and home-based child care providers—must be able to participate in these models</p>
<p><b><u>Facilitated enrollment</u></b>  <b>No funding for child care Facilitated Enrollment (FE) Programs’ pilot programs to offer child care assistance scholarships to children regardless of immigration status, to episodic workers, and to other FE programs</b></p>	<p><b><u>Facilitated enrollment</u></b>  Proposes \$10 million for the FE Pilot Program for episodic workers and excluded immigrant children up to 400% FPL (\$5 million for NYC and \$5 million for Rest of State) – level funding with last year’s Enacted Budget.</p>	<p><b><u>Facilitated enrollment</u></b>  Proposes \$10 million for the FE Pilot Program for episodic workers and excluded immigrant children up to 400% FPL (\$5 million for NYC and \$5 million for Rest of State) – level funding with last year’s Enacted Budget.</p>	<p><b><u>Facilitated enrollment</u></b>  Include \$10 million for the FE pilots for children barred from assistance due to immigration status and episodic workers and reinvest any remaining funds from last year into the pilots.</p>
<p><b><u>Universal child care/Pre-K coordination</u></b>  <b>\$1.5 million to create a new “Office of Child Care and Early Education”</b>  <b>\$35 million for the Office of Children and Family Services to enhance child care agency operations including by supporting an additional 54 full-time employees for FY 2027</b></p>	<p><b><u>Universal child care/Pre-K coordination</u></b>  Accepts Executive proposals</p>	<p><b><u>Universal child care/Pre-K coordination</u></b>  Accepts Executive proposals</p>	<p><b><u>Universal child care/Pre-K coordination</u></b>  An effective, equitable rollout of universal child care and Pre-K will require intentional, thoughtful coordination of early childhood systems and agency staffing at appropriate levels to implement this transformation.</p>

<p><b>Pre-K and 3-K</b></p> <p><b>\$561 million increase for universal Pre-K aid and 3-K expansions for the 2026-27 school year, with \$205 million of the new funds to support universal access to 3-K in New York City, bringing total proposed Pre-K investment to \$1.63 billion</b></p> <p><b>Proposes raising rates for all school districts to \$10,000 per child or their selected Foundation Aid per pupil amount, whichever is higher</b></p> <p><b>Includes statutory language requiring all districts to provide full-day Pre-K to all 4-year-olds who are enrolled by the 2028-29 school year</b></p>	<p><b>Pre-K and 3-K</b></p> <p>Accepts Executive proposals</p> <p>Proposes to provide transportation for Pre-K students</p>	<p><b>Pre-K and 3-K</b></p> <p>Accepts Executive proposals</p> <p>Adds \$20.9 million to extend the Governor’s rate increase proposal to 3-K programs across the state</p>	<p><b>Pre-K and 3-K</b></p> <p>Adopt the Executive proposals, the Assembly proposal to extend the Governor’s proposed rate increase to existing 3-K programs across the state, and the Senate proposal to include transportation for Pre-K students</p> <p>Ensure expansions of Pre-K, 3-K, along with 2-K in NYC, fully integrate center and home-based child care programs to guard against unintentionally destabilizing child care programs and/or contribute to the loss of already scarce infant and toddler seats</p>
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**AFTERSCHOOL, EARLY INTERVENTION, AND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**

Executive	Senate	Assembly	Recommendation
<p><b>\$116.06 million for the Learning and Enrichment Afterschool Program Supports (LEAPS), previously known as Advantage Afterschool and Empire State Afterschool Programs, up \$3.66 million from last year’s Enacted Budget</b></p>	<p>Accepts Executive proposal</p> <p>Adds \$30 million to expand LEAPS</p> <p>Adds language to ensure eligible-but-unfunded LEAPS applicants from previous RFP (request for grant proposals) receive funding, with priority given to programs in high-needs areas</p>	<p>Accepts Executive proposal</p> <p>Adds \$100 million for afterschool programs in high need districts serving youth up to age 18</p>	<p>Add additional funding for afterschool to help restore the loss of 48,000 LEAPS slots in recent years</p>
<p><b>\$205 million for the Early Intervention (EI) program that provides services for very young children with delays and disabilities, level funding from last year’s Enacted Budget</b></p> <p><b>No proposal to fund a comprehensive review of New York’s EI program</b></p>	<p>Adds \$13 million for a rate increase</p>	<p>Adds \$11.5 million for a rate increase</p>	<p>Fulfill the promise made to providers and families by implementing the 5% rate increase promised in the FY2025 State Budget, and add an 8% rate increase for all Early Intervention services to help ensure more children receive the timely services they need</p>

<p><b>\$250 million for community schools, level funding from last year’s Enacted Budget</b></p> <p><b>\$1.2 million for Community Schools Regional Technical Assistance Centers, level funding from last year’s Enacted Budget</b></p>	<p>Adds \$105 million in categorical funding for community schools</p> <p>Accepts Executive proposal</p>	<p>Accepts Executive proposal for community schools and Regional Technical Assistance Centers</p>	<p>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</p>
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**PUBLIC HEALTH, HEALTH COVERAGE, ACCESS AND CARE**

<b>Executive</b>	<b>Senate</b>	<b>Assembly</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
<p><b>\$3 million for Nurse-Family Partnership, down \$1.2 million from last year’s Enacted Budget</b></p> <p><b>\$26 million for Healthy Families NY, similar to last year’s Executive and Enacted budget</b></p> <p><b>\$1.8 million for the Universal Prenatal/ Postpartum Home Visiting program which funds the Maternal Infant Community Health Collaboratives, level funding</b></p>	<p>No additional funding for Nurse-Family Partnership</p> <p>Accepts Executive proposal</p> <p>Accepts Executive proposal</p>	<p>Adds \$1 million for Nurse-Family Partnership</p> <p>Accepts Executive proposal</p> <p>Accepts Executive proposal</p>	<p>\$5 million for Nurse-Family Partnership</p> <p>Adopt proposal for Healthy Families NY; add \$500,000 for ParentChild+</p>
<p><b>No additional funding for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)</b></p>	<p>Includes an additional \$15 million for WIC</p>	<p>No additional funding for WIC</p>	<p>Add \$30 million in state funding for WIC, to help local programs meet increased need and serve more children and families</p>
<p><b>Repeals continuous eligibility in Medicaid and Child Health Plus from birth to age six. Continuous coverage would end July 1, 2026</b></p>	<p>Rejects Executive proposal</p>	<p>Rejects Executive proposal</p>	<p>The Federal government is ending multi-year continuous coverage, but New York State should continue this provision as long as federal funding is available</p>
<p><b>\$2.5 million for the Community Health Advocates (CHA) program, down \$1.7 million from last year’s Enacted Budget</b></p>	<p>Adds \$1.5 million</p>	<p>No additional funding</p>	<p>\$7 million for CHA</p>
<p><b>Eliminates all \$6.5 million in funding for the Enhanced Quality of Adult Living</b></p>	<p>Restores \$6.5 million</p>	<p>Restores \$6.5 million</p>	<p>\$6.5 million for EQUAL. Adult home residents are low-income adults,</p>

<b>(EQUAL) program, which provides adult home resident councils with a small amount of funding to improve the quality of life in the home</b>			most covered by Medicaid, many elderly and/or experiencing mental health challenges or other conditions that make independent living difficult without support. These circumstances leave them particularly exposed to abuse, neglect, and very difficult living conditions. EQUAL allows residents the ability to make small, but meaningful quality of life improvements
<b>Eliminates all \$175,000 in funding for the Coalition for Institutionalized and Aged Disabled (CIAD), which provides advocacy services to residents of adult homes</b>	No funding for CIAD	\$75,000 for CIAD	\$175,000 for CIAD, which provides critical advocacy services to residents of adult homes who often face mental health and other challenges that make them vulnerable to abuse and neglect

## REVENUE RAISERS TO SUPPORT SUSTAINED FUNDING FOR ESSENTIAL PROGRAMS

Executive	Senate	Assembly	Recommendation
<b>Extends the current 7.25 percent business income tax rate for filers with a business income base over \$5 million three years, through tax year 2029</b>	Includes language increasing the personal income tax rates by 0.5 percent for the two top brackets.  Temporary Corporate Tax Increase: Modifies the Executive proposal by including language to temporarily increase, for three years, the tax rate for businesses with over \$5 million in income to nine percent	Includes language providing an approximately 1% tax cut for taxpayers with incomes below \$323,200, and to increase personal income tax rates for those with incomes above \$5 million.  Temporary Corporate Tax Increase: Modifies the Executive proposal by increasing the rate to 9.25 percent for businesses with an income base over \$10 million three years, through tax year 2029	Protecting New York families and communities from the impacts of federal cuts to safety net, health, and other essential programs, and achieving meaningful expansion to child and family policies and programs, including cutting child poverty in half by 2031, will require sustained, reliable, and increasing public investments