



## Governor DeSantis' Recommended FY 2024-25 Budget

Governor DeSantis released his \$114.4 billion recommended FY 24-25 ["Focus on Florida's Future"](#) budget. Highlights include:

### Debt Reduction -

- \$455 million to the Debt Reduction Program

### Reserves -

- \$6.4 billion in unallocated General Revenue
- \$4.8 billion in the Budget Stabilization Fund
- \$1.9 billion in unallocated Trust Funds
- \$1.0 billion in the Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund
- \$2.2 billion in the Reinsurance Assistance and the Florida Optional Reinsurance Assistance Programs
- \$16.3 billion in Total Reserves

### Tax Relief -

Over \$1.1 billion in total tax relief, including:

- \$431 million to lower the costs of homeowner's insurance premiums
  - 1-year exemption on taxes, fees, and assessments for insurance policyholders
  - A permanent insurance premium tax exemption on Flood Insurance Policies
- Over \$475 million for Florida's Sales Tax Holidays, including:
  - 14-week "Freedom Summer" sales tax holiday
  - Two Back-to-School sales tax holidays, one in fall and one in spring
  - Two 14-day Disaster Preparedness sales tax holidays
  - 7-day Tool Time sales tax holiday
- \$170 million in permanent tax relief for small businesses, including:
  - An increase of the Sales Tax Collection Allowance
  - Permanent reduction in corporate income taxes for businesses employing Floridians with unique abilities
- Permanent exemption of sales taxes on over-the-counter pet medications

### Education -

- The budget appropriates \$27.8 billion in total funding for the FEFP, which includes the following increases:
  - \$107 in the Base Student Allocation (BSA)
  - \$200 million, for a total of \$1.2 billion for pay increases to teachers and other instructional personnel
  - \$20 million, for a total of \$180 million for the mental health allocation
  - \$20 million, for a total of \$556 million for student transportation



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- \$1.25 billion for salary increases for teachers and instructional personnel
- \$1.6 billion for early child education
- \$27.8 billion for the K-12 public school system
- \$1.7 billion for the Florida College System
- \$3.7 billion for the State University System
- \$125 million for quality nursing education programs
- \$150 million for SUS and FCS faculty recruitment and retention
- \$10 million to enhance safety measures at all Florida Jewish Day Schools

#### **Environment & Natural Resources -**

- \$745 million for Everglades restoration projects
- \$3 million to remove pythons from the Everglades
- \$330 million for targeted water quality improvements, including:
  - \$135 million for the expanded Water Quality Improvement Grant Program
  - \$100 million for the Indian River Lagoon (IRL) Protection Program
  - \$50 million to accelerate projects to meet nutrient reduction goals
  - \$20 million for critical infrastructure including wastewater and stormwater projects in Biscayne Bay
  - \$25 million for water quality improvements in the Caloosahatchee River watershed
- \$50 million for restoring Florida's springs
- \$55 million for combating harmful algal blooms
- \$80 million for the Alternative Water Supply Grant Program
- \$50 million for State Parks infrastructure improvements
- \$125 million for conserving lands and waterways
- \$157 million for resiliency, including coral reef protection
- \$20 million for citrus industry support

#### **Transportation Infrastructure & Emergency Management -**

- \$15.6 billion for the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)
- \$630 million for the Moving Florida Forward Initiative to address congestion
- \$14.5 billion for the State Transportation Work Program
- \$75 million in grant funding to enhance Florida's supply chain and innovative delivery models
- \$25 million to expand the Truck Parking Improvement Program
- \$1.3 billion in federal funding for disaster preparation, response, recovery and mitigation
  - \$199.9 million in state match for costs relating to disasters
- \$396 million in federal Community Development Block Grant
- \$30 million in improvement projects at state-owned facilities



## **Economic Development -**

- \$100 million for the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund
- \$105 million to continue the vital state marketing under VISIT FLORIDA
- \$175.2 million for the third phase of the State Small Business Credit Initiative
- \$20 million for the Law Enforcement Recruitment Bonus Program
- \$7 million for the Defense Infrastructure Grant Program
- \$5 million for the Florida Defense Support Task Force
- \$3 million for the Military Base Protection Program
- \$25 million for the Rural Infrastructure Fund
- \$100 million for the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (B.E.A.D.) Program
- \$88.1 million for the Small County Outreach Program (SCOP)
- \$26.5 million for the Small County Road Assistance Program (SCRAP)
- \$66.7 million for the County Incentive Grant Program (CIGP)

## **Housing -**

- Nearly \$400 million for affordable housing programs, including:
  - \$89.5 million for the State Apartment Incentive Loan (SAIL) program
  - \$208.6 million for the State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) program
  - \$100 million for the Hometown Heroes Housing program
- \$107 million in recurring funding to make the My Safe Florida Home Grant Program permanent
- \$100 million for additional funding under the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

## **Healthcare -**

- \$232 million in funding for cancer research, including:
  - \$60 million for the Florida Cancer Innovation Fund
- \$127.5 million for the Casey DeSantis Cancer Research Program
- \$447.1 million for Florida KidCare, improved access to obstetric care, and care for seriously ill children and babies
- \$294.6 million in funding to support behavioral health services
- \$153 million from the Opioid Settlement Agreement to continue support for the Office of Opioid Recovery
- \$31.8 million to continue and expand the Coordinated Opioid Recovery (CORE) Network
- \$103.5 million to support those served by the child welfare system, including:
  - \$25 million to continue the modernization of the Florida Safe Families Network (FSFN) system
- \$9.8 million to expand adoption incentives
- \$11.3 million for services for victims of human trafficking
- \$69.2 million for the Alzheimer's Disease Initiative
- \$119 million for the Community Care for the Elderly and the Home Care for the Elderly Programs

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- \$127.4 million to allow additional individuals with unique abilities to be provided necessary services through the Home and Community Based Services Waiver
- \$8.9 million for the State Veterans' Nursing Homes

### **Public Safety -**

- \$10 million for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program
- \$5 million for the Illegal Alien Transport Program
- \$25 million to expand the State Assistance for Fentanyl Eradication (S.A.F.E.)
- Additional funding for correctional facility safety and operations.
- \$14 million for an additional 50 state trooper FTE
- \$9 million for an additional 25 FDACS officers
- \$87.7 million for the Florida Department of Corrections to improve correctional infrastructure
- \$12 million for FDC security equipment
- \$3.5 million and 34 FTE to modernize FDC training
- \$22 million to expand and enhance Florida's Crime Databases
- \$5.1 million and 20 FTE for the State Court System
- \$24 million for Department of Juvenile Justice's Florida Scholars Academy
- \$42 million for the following E911 enhancements:
  - \$13 million for distributions and grant awards to local governments for E911 system maintenance
  - \$18.8 million for distributions to local governments to begin upgrading all 911 public safety answering points
  - \$10 million to continue supporting and improving the Statewide Law Enforcement Radio System (SLERS)
- \$100 million in various state agencies for security intelligence, modernization, training, and resiliency

### **Florida's State Guard and National Guard -**

- \$57 million to support the Florida State Guard
- \$8.2 million for Florida National Guard recruitment and retention
- \$159 million for Camp Blanding training facilities
- \$15 million for repairs and renovations to readiness centers
- \$62 million for the construction, planning, and land acquisition for additional readiness centers and training facilities

### **Florida Retirement System -**

- Increase in pension benefits of retired FRS participants by 3 percent
- Increase in employer contributions by an additional 1 percent of employee salary
- \$1 billion paydown of the Unfunded Actuarial Liability (UAL) for FY 24-25