



Budget Summary

2025 General Session

The Utah Legislature concluded its 2025 General Session with a budget of \$30.8 billion for fiscal year 2026. The budget includes \$12.7 billion from the General and the Income Tax Funds.

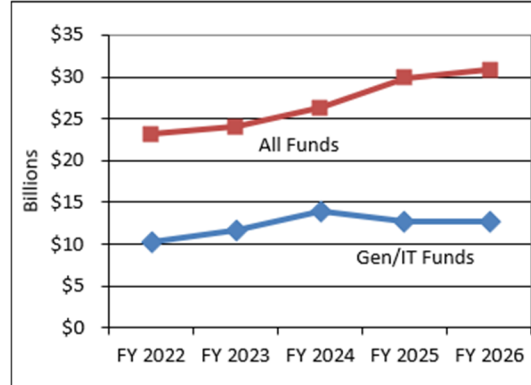


Figure 1: Budget of the State of Utah 2022-2026

Top legislative budget priorities included state fund investments in:

- Tax Relief – \$103.3 million ongoing and \$22.6 million one-time for an income tax rate cut from 4.55 percent to 4.50 percent, \$2.0 million for a new nonrefundable tax credit for child care centers, and \$4.1 million for expansion of the nonrefundable child tax credit; \$24.1 million ongoing and (\$1.3 million) one-time for expansion of the Social Security Benefits Income Tax Credit; and \$16 million ongoing and (\$13 million) one-time for single sales factor apportionment of financial institutions;
- Public Education – \$178.6 million to increase the WPU Value by 4.0% to \$4,674 for FY 2026, up from \$4,494 in FY 2025. \$47.4 million for the Educator Salary Adjustment, \$45.2 million for the Educator Support Professional Bonus, and \$471.6 million in one-time projects from the Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account.
- Higher Education – \$20.0 million ongoing for performance funding, \$4.7 million ongoing and \$5.0 million one-time for technical colleges’ growth and equipment; \$5.5 million ongoing for a St. George Campus of the University of Utah’s Medical School; \$58.5 million ongoing and \$55 million one-time for new building construction;
- Affordable Housing – \$20.0 million for First Time Home Buyer Program and \$2.0 million for Shared Equity Revolving Loan Program;
- Homelessness – \$1.9 million ongoing for a non-congregate family shelter and \$5.5 million to support emergency winter and summer response throughout the state; and
- State Employee Compensation – \$136.8 million ongoing in FY 26 and \$19 million one-time in FY25 for a 2.5% salary increase for state and higher education employees, a 1% pay-for-performance bonus for state employees, and funding for retirement, long-term disability, leave pool, and health benefit rate changes.

As required by the Utah Constitution, legislators balanced the budget to projections of available revenue.

The remainder of this document lists the most significant budget actions by appropriations subcommittees.



Summaries by Appropriations Subcommittee

Criminal Justice

- Prison Operations and Maintenance – \$6.5 million one-time to support the prison with increased costs of operation;
- Attorney General Retention and Capacity – \$4.1 million ongoing for salary enhancements and new attorney positions to defend Utah law in court and manage criminal appeals cases;
- Aero Bureau Operations – \$1.8 million one-time and \$0.25 million ongoing for equipment and operations;
- Prison Overtime Pay – \$2 million one-time for overtime pay to allow for newer employees to complete training;
- Juror, Witness, and Interpreter Program – \$1.5 million ongoing and \$0.45 million one-time to support court trials and processing;
- Highway Patrol Officers – \$1.3 million ongoing to increase the number of troopers on Utah’s highways;
- H.B. 312, “Criminal Justice Amendments” – \$1.7 million ongoing for various adjustments in the criminal code, including jail contracting with counties and pretrial release;
- Fentanyl Interdiction Personnel and Equipment – \$0.83 million ongoing and \$0.95 million one-time to fund units to deploy to interstate corridors to combat the trafficking of fentanyl;
- Southern Utah Elder Abuse and Fraud Initiative – \$0.26 million ongoing from the General Fund and \$0.78 million ongoing from Federal Funds to pursue criminal cases dealing with fraud and abuse of elderly people;
- Recruit and Retain Guardian ad Litem Attorneys – \$1.1 million ongoing to improve retention and staffing levels for the program;
- H.B. 323, “Correctional Drug Enforcement Amendments” – \$0.25 million ongoing and \$50,000 one-time to combat drug trafficking and use within Utah prisons;
- H.B. 87, “Drug Trafficking Amendments” – \$0.16 million ongoing for enhanced penalties for the trafficking of fentanyl; and
- Federal Lands Litigation – \$0.68 million one-time from the General Fund to support litigation efforts.



Economic and Community Development

- First Time Homebuyer Program – \$20.0 million one-time to assist with down payments and upfront costs;
- Projects Funded by Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) – \$19.4 million one-time; projects include the following:
 - Non-Congregate Family Shelter – \$6.0 million one-time, to be spent over the next three years;
 - School Readiness Grant Program – \$6.0 million one-time, to be spent over the next three years;
 - Navigation and Financial Planning for Self-Reliance – \$6.0 million one-time, to be spent over the next three years;
 - Statewide Sexual Assault Prevention – \$0.6 million one-time, to be spent over the next three years;
 - Extended Education and Workforce Development Initiative – \$0.5 million one-time; and
 - Upward Economic Mobility program – \$0.3 million one-time;
- Homeless Services Dedicated Funding – \$1.9 million ongoing from the General Fund for operations of a second family shelter in Salt Lake County;
- Homeless Services Emergency Shelter – Winter/Summer – \$5.5 million one-time to support emergency winter and summer response throughout the state;
- Rural Opportunities Grant – \$2.5 million one-time to support rural communities in addressing critical economic development needs;
- Shared Equity Revolving Loan Fund – \$2.0 million one-time from the General Fund to provide access to affordable home ownership through a shared equity model for low- and moderate-income families and individuals;
- Utah Workforce Housing Advocacy (UWHA) – \$1.0 million one-time from the General Fund to advocate for affordable housing for first-time homebuyers and workforce housing;
- Utah Symphony Road Trip 250 – \$0.6 million one-time for a statewide tour providing community engagement and free concerts to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the United States of America;
- America250 – \$0.5 million one-time from the General Fund to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the United States of America statewide;
- One Utah Service Fellowship – \$0.5 million one-time from the General Fund;
- Southeastern Regional Development Agency – \$0.5 million one-time to start a revolving loan fund for land acquisition for the USDA Mutual Self-Help Program;
- Tuacahn Theater Improvements – \$0.5 million one-time to update for critical backstage and lighting improvements; and
- Zion/State Route 9 Regional Shuttle Service – \$0.3 million one-time from the General Fund for a new shuttle service.



Executive Appropriations Committee

- Utah National Guard Retention Bonuses – \$2.0 million one-time from the General Fund to help retain experienced personnel;
- Utah National Guard Tuition Assistance – \$1.5 million one-time to increase recruitment;
- Best Defense Foundation – \$0.25 million ongoing from the General Fund for veteran rehabilitation and wellness;
- Veterans Cemetery Operations – \$0.18 million ongoing from the General Fund for personnel and improvements at the Veterans Cemetery in Bluffdale; and
- Veterans Suicide Prevention Program Coordinator – \$0.13 million ongoing from the General Fund for personnel to support veterans.



General Government

- S.B. 256, "General Government and Appropriations Amendments" – \$5.2 million ongoing set aside to fund the ISF impacts of this year's compensation increase and \$27.0 million ongoing in General Fund savings beginning in fiscal year 2030;
- S.B. 47, "Sales and Use Tax Remittance Amendments" – \$3.2 million ongoing to support small remote businesses by repealing the threshold on the number of transactions requiring a seller to collect and remit sales tax;
- Customer Experience – \$2.75 million one-time from the General Fund to gather citizen feedback across state agencies to use for decision-making, improving public communication, and refining digital experiences;
- Vendor Self-Service System – \$2.5 million one-time to fund the startup costs for a self-service system within the Division of Finance that would allow vendors to update their information directly, improving accuracy and streamlining procurement;
- Verifiable Digital Credentials – \$1.7 million one-time to expand the infrastructure for issuing secure, privacy-focused digital credentials;
- Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution – \$1.4 million one-time to fund the advertising costs for publishing proposed constitutional amendments and submitting proposed amendments to voters;
- Teacher Professional Liability Insurance Premium Support – \$0.8 million ongoing to increase affordability of professional liability insurance premiums for teachers;
- Statewide Financial Accountability – \$0.1 million one-time and \$0.46 million ongoing from the General Fund to fund salary increases across all levels in the Office of the State Auditor; and
- H.B. 452, "Artificial Intelligence Amendments" – \$0.15 million ongoing and \$21,000 one-time from the Commerce Service Account to provide protections for users of mental health chatbots that use artificial intelligence technology.



Higher Education

- Performance Funding – \$20.0 million ongoing from the Income Tax Fund for institutions that met their performance funding metrics. Of this, \$9.7 million was earned by institutions and the remaining swept one-time for other priorities;
- Spencer Fox Eccles School of Medicine in St. George – \$5.5 million ongoing from the Income Tax Fund for the University of Utah to create a medical school campus in St. George;
- Higher Education Technical College Enrollment Changes – \$4.7 million ongoing from the Income Tax Fund for the four technical colleges that experienced significant growth in the past year. This breaks down as follows:
 - Davis Technical College – \$1.5 million;
 - Ogden–Weber Technical College – \$1.3 million;
 - Dixie Technical College – \$1.1 million; and
 - Bridgerland Technical College – \$0.9 million;
- Talent Ready Utah Engineering and Computer Science Initiative – \$4.0 million ongoing from the Income Tax Fund to expand the Engineering and Computer Science Initiative to serve an additional 500 students;
- H.B. 65, “Firefighter Cancer Amendments” – \$3.7 million ongoing from the General Fund to provide cancer screenings to firefighters;
- Cybersecurity Software and Tools – \$3.0 million one-time from the Income Tax Fund to renew cybersecurity licenses and pursue a shared-services solution for cybersecurity;
- Technical College Equipment – \$5.0 million one-time for technical colleges to replace, expand, and upgrade equipment used in technical education;
- Vineyard Cancer Screening Resources – \$1.1 million one-time from the Tobacco Settlement Fund for equipment in the new Huntsman Cancer Institute Campus in Vineyard;
- Odometry Lab – \$1.0 million one-time and \$0.5 million ongoing from the Income Tax Fund to develop an odometry lab at the University of Utah;
- H.B. 260, “First Credential Program” – \$1.0 million one-time from the Income Tax Fund to convert and expand the PRIME Program into the First Credential Program;
- Higher Education Digital Credentials, Pathways and Program Mapping – \$1.0 million one-time from the Income Tax Fund to develop a software tool for high school students to map potential higher education pathways;
- Workforce Alignment and Accelerated Nursing Degree – \$1.0 million one-time from the Income Tax Fund for Southern Utah University and Southwest Technical College to pilot an accelerated nursing degree program; and
- S.B. 334, “Center for Civic Excellence at Utah State University” – \$0.6 million ongoing from the Income Tax Fund for Utah State University to establish and run the Center for Civic Excellence.



Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environmental Quality

- School Trust Land Investment – \$50.0 million one-time from the Public Education Economic Stabilization Account and \$12.0 million ongoing from the Wildlife Resources Restricted Account to purchase Trust Lands from the School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration for the Department of Natural Resources;
- H.B. 456, “Transient Room Tax Amendments” – \$7.8 million ongoing from the Outdoor Recreation Mitigation Grant Fund for grants to counties to pay for tourist-related emergency and safety costs, to include items such as waste management and road repairs in certain circumstances;
- Sovereign Lands Wetland Enhancement and Infrastructure Analysis – \$1.0 million ongoing from the Sovereign Lands Management Account for infrastructure improvements that demonstrate water savings, mitigate or suppress dust, and enhance wetlands and improve habitat on the Great Salt Lake;
- H.B. 501, “Law Enforcement Salary Amendments” – \$0.5 million ongoing from the General Fund, and \$1.5 million ongoing from various restricted accounts to increase the pay for Law Enforcement staff in the Department of Natural Resources;
- Operation Gigawatt – Nuclear – \$10.0 million one-time from the General Fund for nuclear power development;
- Panguitch Lake Dam Replacement – \$5.0 million one-time from the General Fund to replace the dam on Panguitch Lake;
- Deer Creek Intake Project – \$4.0 million one-time from the General Fund to replace the intake structure on Deer Creek in exchange for a lease of water for the Great Salt Lake;
- Aquatic Invasive Species Combating Initiative – \$4.0 million one-time from the General Fund to purchase and install decontamination tanks at Bear Lake and Jordanelle and Pineview Reservoirs, and to upgrade existing tanks throughout the state;
- Bear River Basin Cloud Seeding Program – \$3.0 million one-time from the General Fund for increased cloud-seeding efforts that benefit the Great Salt Lake;
- Utah Center for Advanced Energy Research and Development – \$2.0 million one-time and \$0.2 million ongoing from the General Fund for the creation of the Utah Center for Advanced Energy Research and Development, formalizing a relationship between Utah and the Idaho National Laboratory;
- Operation Gigawatt – Geothermal – \$1.8 million one-time from the General Fund to facilitate geothermal power development; and
- Great Salt Lake Long-Term Water Program – \$1.0 million one-time from the General Fund to lease water for the lake as part of the Great Salt Lake Strategic plan.



Public Education

- Weighted Pupil Unit (WPU) Inflationary Adjustment of 4% – \$178.6 million ongoing from the Uniform School Fund to increase the WPU Value from \$4,494 to \$4,674;
- Educator Salary Adjustment – \$47.4 million ongoing from the Uniform School Fund for a \$1,000 salary increase and employer-paid benefits for educators (Total of \$1,275 per educator);
- Educator Support Professional Bonus – \$45.2 million one-time from the Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account for a \$1,000 bonus and employer-paid benefits for school-based education support professionals (Total of \$1,275 per employee);
- Utah Fits All Scholarship Enhancement – \$40.0 million ongoing from the Income Tax Fund to accommodate demand for the Utah Fits All Scholarship program, with \$20.0 million in FY 2026 and \$20.0 million in FY 2027;
- Student Enrollment Growth and Statutory Formula Change – \$21.4 million ongoing and \$3.5 million one-time from the Uniform School Fund for the statutory formulas that are part of the total enrollment growth estimate and net growth in students;
- H.B. 396, “Small School District Scale of Operations Formula” – \$16.4 million ongoing from the Uniform School Fund Small to update the formula for the Necessarily Existent Small Schools Program;
- Minimum School Program Formula Distribution Updates – \$95.0 million one-time (\$45.0 million in FY 2025 and \$50.0 million in FY 2026) from the Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account to fund declining enrollment hold-harmless provisions to protect school funding distributions;
- Educator Professional Time – \$77.7 million one-time from the Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account to fund up to 32 hours of paid professional time per educator;
- H.B. 447, “Statewide Catalyst Campus Model” – \$65.0 million one-time from the Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account to help local education agencies create or expand catalyst centers;
- H.B. 260, “First Credential Program” – \$29.0 million one-time from the Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account to help high school students gain industry-recognized skills and college credit;
- H.B. 40, “School Safety Amendments” – \$25.0 million one-time from the Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account to assist local education agencies with resources to meet any needs identified by the School Safety Needs Assessment;
- Small School District Capital Projects – \$12.5 million one-time from the Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account to provide grants to small districts for school construction and renovation;
- The Stipends for Future Educators Grant – \$12.4 million one-time from the Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account to provide student teachers with a stipend during their year of student teaching;



- Grow Your Own Educator Pipeline – \$7.3 million one-time from the Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account for paraprofessionals and school counselor assistants/interns to become licensed teachers and counselors;
- H.B. 42, “English Learner Amendments” – \$5.0 million one-time from the Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account for emergency funding for schools with high growth in English language learners;
- H.B. 462, “Rural School Funding Amendments” – \$4.4 million one-time from the Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account to assist rural secondary schools with athletic facility maintenance and improvement;
- H.B. 219, “Charter School Funding Revisions” – \$4.0 million one-time from the Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account to fund the Charter School Credit Enhancement Program;
- Charter School Funding Base – \$3.6 million one-time from the Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account to continue support for small charter schools;
- Student Credential Account Statewide Usage – \$3.6 million one-time from the Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account to link student learning, aptitudes, and skills certifications to academic and career pathways; and
- H.B. 100 Food Security Amendments – \$2.5 million one-time from the Public Education Economic Stabilization Restricted Account to provide lunch at no cost to eligible students K-12.



Social Services

- Budget Reductions – (\$48.6) million ongoing from the General Fund for reductions, which represents 3.15% of Social Services' base budget for state funds;
- Medicaid Consensus – \$82.0 million ongoing and (\$85.2) million one-time for caseload changes in Medicaid and mandatory cost drivers;
- State Hospital – \$3.8 million ongoing from the General Fund in new operational funds to ensure proper staffing and resources for both personnel and patients of the hospital;
- Opioid Settlement Funds – \$3.1 million ongoing and \$1.0 million one-time to support prevention and treatment efforts related to the opioid epidemic;
- H.B. 302, "Minors in State Custody Amendments" – \$0.8 million ongoing and \$17,400 one-time from the General Fund to fund new trust accounts for children in state custody from their federal benefits received;
- Services for People with Disabilities Waiting List – \$6 million in new funding for services to individuals with disabilities;
- Correctional Healthcare – \$5 million one-time to support personnel, supply needs and medications to treat the physical and mental health care of inmates under the care of the Department of Corrections;
- Nursing Homes and Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Disabilities – \$2.5 million for Medicaid rate increases;
- Meals on Wheels – \$1.8 million one-time to provide over 1,700 meals to seniors at risk of hunger; and
- Baby Watch – \$1.5 million one-time to enhance early growth and development in infants and toddlers, who have developmental delays or disabilities.



Transportation and Infrastructure

- H.B. 10, “Fund and Account Modifications” – \$2.1 million ongoing transferred from Dedicated Credits to the State Treasurer Investment Management Account to pay for the State Treasurer’s costs of managing state and local government investments;
- Convergence Hall at the Point – \$36.5 million one-time for Convergence Hall at the Point, a building that will act as the hub for the Innovation District and will support education, business development and research, among other activities;
- Central Evidence Warehouse – \$19.8 million one-time to build a new 20,000 square-foot evidence warehouse with an adjoining secured evidence vehicle lot. This will provide advanced security and safety features and improve evidence storage;
- Multi-Agency State Office Building – \$14.2 million one-time towards the construction of a new Multi-Agency State Office Building in Ogden to relocate and consolidate agency office space;
- Camp Williams South Gate Access Point – \$9.0 million one-time, which will enhance security, streamline traffic management, and support the increasing volume of operations at Camp Williams;
- Dixie Technical College Trades and Technology Building – \$8.0 million one-time for planning and design;
- Utah State University Math, AI, Data and Analytics Center (MAIDAC) – \$3.5 million one-time for planning and design;
- Provo Airport – \$4.5 million one-time for terminal expansion and other improvements;
- I-15 Salem/Benjamin EIS – \$3.0 million one-time for right of way preservation and environmental work at the I-15 interchange at 8000 South Salem/Benjamin in Utah County;
- Coral Pink Sand Dunes Road Project – \$2.0 million one-time, which will aid in the improvements and completion of the Coral Pink Sand Dunes Road and address regional transportation scarcity caused by the Zion National Park road closures to over-sized vehicles;
- S.B. 323, “Asset and Investment Review Task Force” – \$0.1 million one-time from the General Fund to establish a task force to complete a study on investment strategies for public funds and their economic impacts; and
- The Legislature also funded capital projects across 8 Higher Education campuses.