



Department of Education (95-00-00)
Fiscal Year 2026 Governor's Recommended Budget Summary

Requested Items Description/Detail	Recommended FTEs			Recommended \$		Not Recommended			Not Recommended \$	
	NSF	ASF	GF	ASF	GF	NSF	ASF	GF	ASF	GF
Fiscal Year 2025 Budget (Base Budget)	44.2	18.2	16,733.2	\$5,869.5	\$2,156,827.7					
Fiscal Year 2025 Personnel Contingency					\$168,352.9					
DTI Secure End User Services					\$45.8					
Requests										
Projected Unit Growth for the 2025-2026 School Year										
Funding for State share of new units; includes Division I-Personnel Costs, Division II-Energy and All Other Costs, and Division III-Equalization Costs.			225.0		\$25,168.3			25.0		\$2,796.5
Funding for the Academic Excellence Block Grant to reflect unit growth. This includes Division I-Personnel Costs, Division II-Energy and All Other Costs, and Division III-Equalization Costs and Cash Options.					\$4,369.6					
Funding to reflect increase in cafeteria salary needs associated with enrollment growth.					\$3,651.6					
Current Year True-Up			(31.0)		(\$3,185.4)					
Actual unit growth of 194 units versus 225 units projected.										
Mental Health Services					\$13,407.5					\$11,326.7
Funding to support mental health staff and support services. This supports increased funding needs for elementary and middle school students due to enrollment growth and personnel cost increases. This also increases the high school mental health services block grant.										
Opportunity Funding					\$3,840.4					
Funding to provide additional support for low-income and English learners. In order to comply with the legal settlement, Opportunity Fund flexible funding must maintain the per pupil amounts established in Fiscal Year 2025. This will increase flexible funding to \$58,840.4 and maintain the current mental health/reading support funding at \$8,000.0.										
Student Success Block Grant					\$718.0					
Funding to support reading assistance in kindergarten through fourth grade. Additional funding is needed due to enrollment growth.										
Public School Transportation					\$5,723.0					
Funding for enrollment growth, transportation formula adjustments, increased capital costs, and increased costs for homeless and foster care transportation.										
Driver's Education					\$254.5					
Funding for driver's education to reflect increased utilization of summer/evening student driver education courses.										



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Child Nutrition Funding for increased costs associated with the Free School Meals reimbursement program established by House Substitute 2 for House Bill 125 of the 152nd General Assembly.					\$5.0					
Child Safety Awareness Funds Funding for increased costs of personal body safety and child sexual abuse awareness and prevention training for students as required under Erin's Law. Additional funding is requested due to enrollment growth.					\$3.5					
Digital Learning Options Funding for increased licensing and maintenance costs for the Professional Development Management System (PDMS), which is the system of record for educator professional learning.					\$45.7					
BIM360 School Building Software Funding for contractual services for the BIM360 School Building Software which is used to map all public school buildings in Delaware as part of School Safety Plans. Funding will offset costs which were previously covered by the Emergency Management Performance Grant through the Department of Safety and Homeland Security.					\$90.0					
Higher Education Office 1.0 FTE and associated funding to administer the mental health critical need reimbursement program established by House Bill 200 of the 152nd General Assembly.			1.0		\$168.8					
Teacher Academy Standards Funding to support program model maintenance for the statewide Teacher Academy Standards which was updated under House Bill 332 of the 152nd General Assembly. This includes support, professional development, and funding to maintain training associated with assessments and certifications.					\$25.0					
Professional Standards Board Funding for the projected cost of dues for the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact enacted by Senate Bill 188 of the 152nd General Assembly.					\$50.0					
Inspire Scholarship Funding to reflect expected expenditures on behalf of Delaware State University to reflect enrollment growth.					\$2,269.0					



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SEED Scholarship Funding to reflect expected expenditures on behalf of the University of Delaware and Delaware Technical Community College to reflect enrollment growth.					\$1,000.0					
Other Adjustments										
Family Services Cabinet Council Reallocate contractual services funding from the Office of the Governor (10-02-01) for the Family Services Cabinet Council.					\$45.0					
Children Services Cost Recovery Project System Funding for ongoing maintenance support for the new Children Services Cost Recovery Project System for implementation of House Substitute 1 to House Bill 5 of the 152nd General Assembly.					\$650.0					
Lease Costs Funding for lease costs for new office space in New Castle County for the Office of Child Care Licensing Staff.					\$93.8					
Custodial Scale Adjustment Funding to implement adjustment to the 1311 Custodial Scale. This funding was included in the Fiscal Year 2025 Grants In Aid Act.					\$1,171.7					
Division II - All Other Costs Funding to increase the Division II - All Other Costs value from \$2,925 to \$3,010 per unit.					\$1,100.0					
Driver's Education Vehicle Maintenance Funding for increased vehicle maintenance costs for driver's education.					\$162.8					
Reallocation of Scholarships Reallocate SEED Scholarship funding to University of Delaware to be managed by the University.					(\$4,600.0)					
Reallocate SEED Scholarship funding to Delaware Technical Community College to be managed by the College.					(\$13,937.6)					
Reallocate Inspire Scholarship funding to Delaware State University to be managed by the University.					(\$13,000.0)					
Fiscal Year 2026 Recommended Budget	44.2	18.2	16,928.2	\$5,869.5	\$2,354,516.5	0.0	0.0	25.0	\$0.0	\$14,123.2
<i>Increase/Decrease</i>			195.0		\$197,688.8					
<i>% Increase/Decrease</i>			1.2%		9.2%					
<i>% Increase/Decrease without Personnel Contingency</i>					1.4%					