Department of Community Health

Operates Medicaid, PeachCare, State Health Benefit Plan and other health regulatory and planning programs and houses the state’s health care workforce board.

FY 2021

+ $196.5 million in state funds (6.7% increase)

• Federal matching rate dropped from 67.30% to 67.03%
• $101.5 million for Aged, Blind and Disabled Medicaid projected growth, $6.3 million for PeachCare growth, reduction of $18.3 million for Low-Income Medicaid
• $2.5 million for 133 new primary care residency slots
• Reductions in loan repayment awards and grants to medical schools at Mercer, Morehouse and Augusta University
Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities

Provides support and treatment services for people with developmental disabilities, mental illnesses and substance use disorders – largely through home and community based services.

FY 2021

- $24.3 million in state funds (2% decrease)

• Annualize the cost of 125 NOW and COMP waiver slots, no new slots
• $6.6 million for a 40-bed forensic unit in Columbus
• $7.4 million reduction over in adult mental health services – mostly supported employment and behavioral health services
  • $5 million for $1,000 pay raise for full-time employees making ≤$40,000
• $14.1 million reduction in children’s mental health services
Department of Public Health

Operates programs focused on health promotion, disease prevention, and emergency preparedness and administers grants to support the local health departments in all 159 counties.

FY 2021

- $13.6 million in state funds (4.9% decrease)
  
  • $1.9 million reduction to adolescent and adult health promotion
  • $9.2 million reduction in funding to county boards of health
Gov. Kemp and the Department of Community Health submitted the Medicaid 1115 waiver and the Affordable Care Act (ACA) 1332 waiver to the federal government on December 23, 2019. No money is appropriated for either waiver in FY 2021:

- Medicaid waiver enrollment begins July 1, 2021 (start of FY 2022)
- ACA innovation waiver phase one – reinsurance program – begins for individual marketplace plans starting January 1, 2021. Expected to cost $104 million in first calendar year.
- Phase two begins January 1, 2022 (middle of FY 2022)
Federal comment period for Georgia Medicaid waiver open now. Submit comments by February 7 at 11 pm.

- Individuals: Comment at coverGA.org
- Organizations: Comment letter templates available from Cover Georgia
- Expect 2 federal comment periods – another one for 1332 waiver expected in February
- Anyone can and should submit comments
Department of Human Services

Total DHS Budget
FY 2020: $829 million | FY 2021 (proposed): $800 million

The Governor’s FY 2021 budget request reduces the Department of Human Services budget by $29 million

Child Welfare and Foster Care
i.e. 133 vacant staff positions eliminated
-$16 million

Safety Net Support for Low-Income Families
i.e. 105 vacant caseworker positions eliminated, Basic Assistance cut
-$6 million

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
Transfers TANF away from core purposes
-$3.9 million
Department of Corrections

Total DOC Budget
FY 2020: $1.21 billion | FY 2021 (proposed): $1.6 billion

The Governor’s FY 2021 budget request reduces the Department of Corrections budget by $54 MILLION

Vacancies and reduction in overtime
-$30 million

GED opportunities for people in prison
-$1.6 million

Metro Reentry Facility
+$7.2 million (increase)
Georgia’s Higher Education Agencies

- University System of Georgia: $2.58 billion state funds
- Technical College System of Georgia: $373 million state funds
- Georgia Student Finance Commission
  - State funds: $139 million
  - Lottery funds: $923 million
- Takeaways for each agency
USG and TCSG Takeaways

- Large, instructional portions of USG and TCSG budgets essentially flat
- Pay raises for full-time employees earning $40,000 or less
- Other programs under Board of Regents and TCSG cut
  - Adult Education - $1 million
  - Public Libraries - $3 million
  - Cooperative Extension Service - $4 million
Georgia Student Finance Commission Takeaways

- No increase in HOPE awards for FY 2021
- Dual Enrollment flat, changes needed to make budget - $100.8 million
- REACH Scholarship flat - $5.4 million
Lottery Reserves

- Lottery Reserves total $1.3 Billion
- $572 million required by law
- $706 million in unrestricted reserves, above legal requirement
- $26 million interest earned and added back to reserves
K-12 Education

FY 2021

- $272 million - Total GaDOE funding increase (2.6%)
- $362 million - Teacher pay raises
- $144 million - Enrollment growth
- ($151 million) Reduction in the Local Five Mill Share
- $32 million Equalization program
- ($192 million) Lower employer contribution rate to TRS
Teacher Pay Raises

Teacher Raises Add $900 Million to K-12 Budget in Two Years

- $534M
- $362M
- $896M

FY 2020
FY 2021

$- $200 $400 $600 $800 $1,000 Millions
Student Transportation

K-12 Transportation Costs Rise, State Funding Does Not