



RESIDENT'S GUIDE TO THE BUDGET FY2025

2025 CPS BUDGET

TOTAL BUDGET: \$9.9 BILLION

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OPERATING BUDGET: \$8.4 BILLION

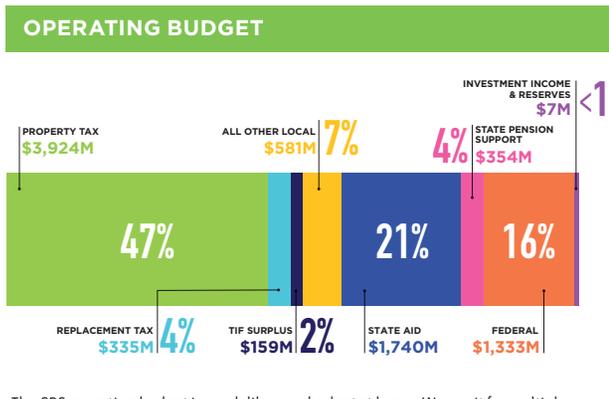
This is the budget figure that most people are familiar with and represents the amount of funds allocated to operate the day-to-day activities of our schools each year.

DEBT BUDGET: \$817 MILLION

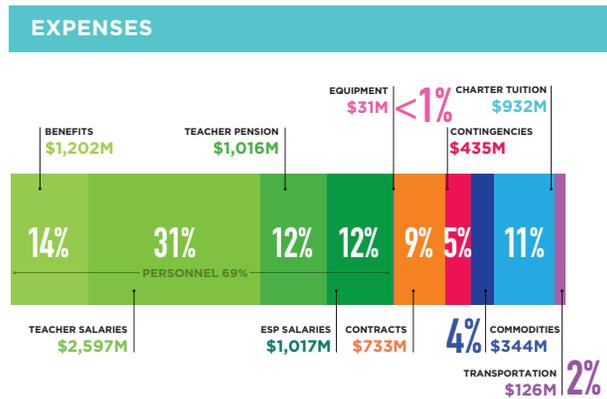
The debt budget represents the amount of funds allocated to make annual payments on our bonds and other debt payments.

CAPITAL BUDGET: \$611 MILLION

The capital budget represents the amount of funds allocated for long-term investments in our school facilities including building construction and renovations, and infrastructure based technology like high speed internet. This money is raised largely through the issuance of bonds, which are debt instruments like loans, and require annual payments on the bond principal and interest.



The CPS operating budget is much like your budget at home. We use it for multiple purposes: to track income and spending, to help manage priorities, to plan for the future and to measure financial performance.



MONEY FOR OUR SCHOOLS



We are firmly committed to ensuring that every dollar we spend goes the furthest for our students and families, so 59 cents (59%) of every dollar spent in our operating budget is tied directly to school-based expenditures and positions, with another 36 cents (36%) directly supporting schools through citywide services.

CPS AT A GLANCE

The mission of Chicago Public Schools is to provide a high quality public education for every child, in every neighborhood, that prepares each for success in college, career and civic life. As the nation's third largest school district and the largest employer in Chicago outside of the U.S. Government, CPS is a dynamic organization serving a dynamic city.

OUR SCHOOLS

635 Schools

158
High Schools

92
District Run

58
Charter

6
Contract

2
SAFE

477
Elementary Schools

423
District Run

53
Charter

1
Contract

OUR STUDENTS

Fall 2023

17,589
Preschool

21,233
Kindergarten

182,481
Elementary Grades 1-8

101,948
Secondary Grades 9-12

OUR EMPLOYEES

45,965 Employees

37,523
School-Based Employees

6,570
City-Wide Student Support

1,662
Central Office Support

210
Network Office School Support

Between our students and employees, CPS directly impacts 14 percent of the entire population of Chicago every day. And when you add in the countless numbers of current and former parents and alumni living and working in Chicago, the importance of public education in shaping the lives and future of our great city becomes exceedingly clear. This is why education funding is such an important issue and why we have created this resident's guide to the budget. We want you, as residents, to understand how CPS is funded and how the success of our public schools is central to the success of Chicago.

WHO PROVIDES OUR FUNDING?



LOCAL REVENUE: \$5.3 BILLION

Our largest source of income, 57 percent, is generated by local sources. The majority of this comes from local property taxes, replacement tax and TIF surpluses. CPS also generates revenue from other local sources such as philanthropic donations, interest income, lunchroom fees, and school rental fees.



STATE REVENUE: \$2.6 BILLION

State income accounts for 28 percent of our revenue. The bulk of funding we receive from the state is through evidence-based funding (EBF). The amount of EBF that each school district receives is based on a complex formula that considers the number of students, the special needs of the district, household income levels, and many other factors. Though EBF, introduced in FY2018, was a major improvement from the state's old funding model, the state acknowledges that CPS remains just over \$1 billion underfunded. We continue to work closely with our partners in Springfield to advocate for additional education funding for our students.



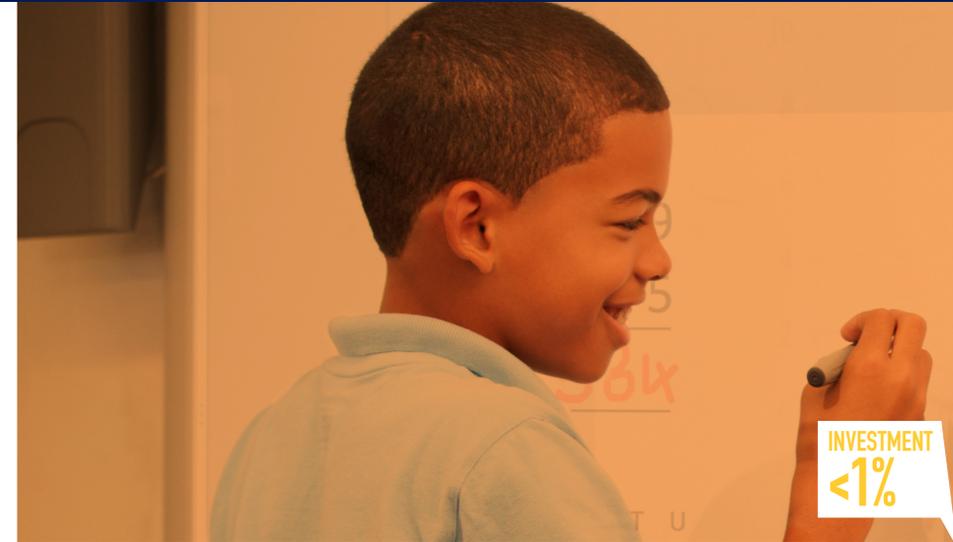
FEDERAL REVENUE: \$1.4 BILLION

Federal income accounts for 15 percent of our revenue. Most federal income is distributed through Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to provide extra support for low-income children. We have limited flexibility in how we spend federal revenue and the money can be used only for certain types of expenses, such as reading and math instruction and teacher professional development. The federal government also pays for free or reduced-price meals for all CPS students. The District projects to have \$233 million in ESSER III funding slated for FY2025. This funding is helping the district reduce the overall budget deficit for FY2025 and will provide revenue to support FY2025 school funding.

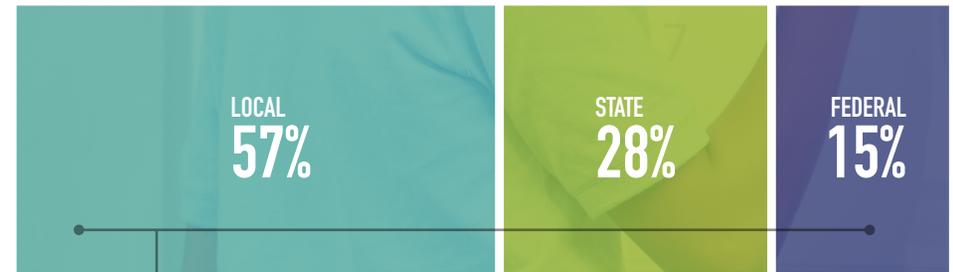


INVESTMENT REVENUE: \$30 MILLION

Investment income accounts for less than one percent of our operating budget. CPS generates this income based on the interest and dividends received off of investments held by the District.



INVESTMENT
<1%



99 percent of the revenue in CPS' operating budget comes from tax based income sources.

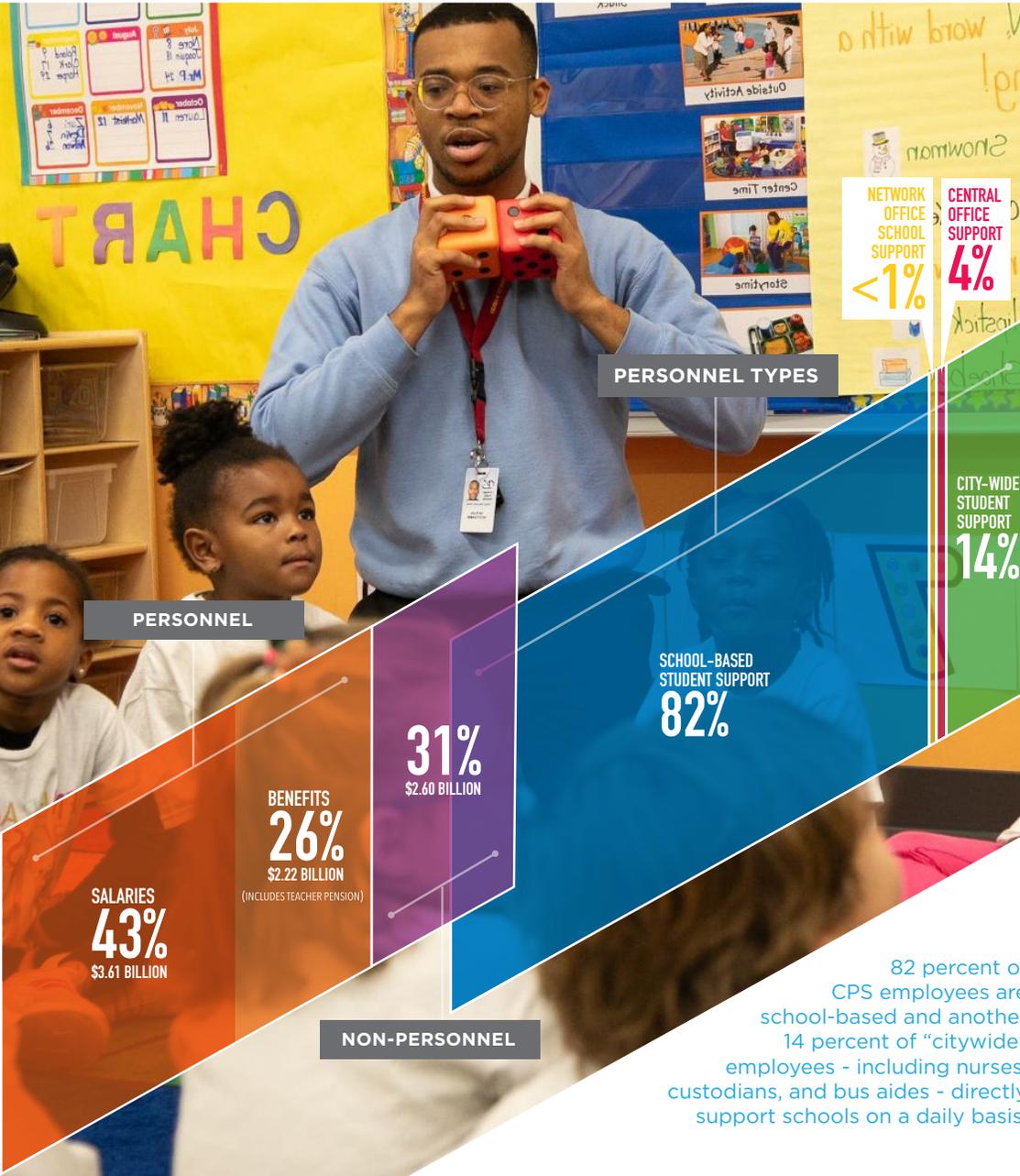
WHAT DO WE SPEND MONEY ON?

RESIDENT'S GUIDE TO THE BUDGET FY2025



OPERATING BUDGET: \$8.4 BILLION

Day-to-Day School Operations: All the money in the CPS' operating budget is used to pay personnel and non-personnel costs.



Personnel Costs: \$5.83 Billion

69 percent of the CPS operating budget is used to pay for the salaries and benefits of our 45,965 employees. This includes school-based staff such as teachers, principals, teacher aides, security officers, school clerks, cooks and janitors. It also includes central office staff that provide administrative and programmatic support to the schools, and network office staff that support schools as they are grouped into 17 networks across the city. We also have city-wide support staff that include coaches, clinicians, nurses, social workers and speech pathologists.

Non-Personnel Costs: \$2.60 Billion

31 percent of the CPS operating budget is used to pay for non-personnel expenses, which are the costs required to keep our schools running. This includes commodities such as food and utilities, instructional supplies, building supplies, and software. It also includes equipment like furniture and computers, transportation via our school bus fleet or CTA passes, and contingency funds for unexpected or discretionary purchases. Lastly, non-personnel costs also include the tuition we pay to charter schools, which primarily funds salaries and benefits for charter school staff.

PERSONNEL COSTS

(of \$5.83 Billion)

\$1.202	21%	BENEFITS
\$1.017	17%	ESP SALARIES
\$1.016	17%	TEACHER PENSION
\$2.597	45%	TEACHER SALARIES

NON-PERSONNEL COSTS

(of \$2.60 Billion)

\$31	1%	EQUIPMENT
\$126	5%	TRANSPORTATION
\$344	13%	COMMODITIES
\$733	28%	CONTRACTS
\$932	36%	CHARTER TUITION
\$435	17%	CONTINGENCY (includes federal dollars that will be used on salaries, benefits, and other expenses)

82 percent of CPS employees are school-based and another 14 percent of "citywide" employees - including nurses, custodians, and bus aides - directly support schools on a daily basis.

WHAT DO WE SPEND MONEY ON?

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CAPITAL BUDGET: \$611 MILLION

Long-Term Asset Investments: The FY2025 budget includes a capital budget totaling \$611 million of investments that will focus on priority facilities needs at neighborhood schools, mechanical systems that control the indoor environment and air quality of our schools, building envelope improvements for roofing systems, ADA accessibility, restroom modernizations, student recreation and athletic improvements, site improvements, and continued expansion of technology upgrades and other academic priorities.

\$417.4 MILLION FOR CRITICAL MAINTENANCE PROJECTS AND INTERIOR IMPROVEMENTS

As part of our commitment to equity, the district is prioritizing renovations at neighborhood schools throughout the city to ensure all students can learn and grow in school buildings that support high-quality learning environments. CPS is allocating \$417.4 million in funding for critical maintenance projects and interior improvements.

- \$150.5 million for priority roof, envelope, mechanical projects, and support services;
- \$80 million for unanticipated emergency repairs;
- \$15.1 million for modular refurbishment;
- \$5 million for masonry remediation;
- \$83.2 million for interior improvements;
- \$30.7 million for fire alarm system replacement;
- \$5 million for chimney stabilization;
- \$25 million to increase Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility;
- \$15 million for energy retrofit and keyless entry programs; and
- \$7.9 million for mechanical, electrical, and plumbing (MEP) minor repair/replacement.

\$93.5 MILLION FOR PROGRAMMATIC INVESTMENTS TO BUILD UPON SCHOOL SUCCESS

CPS is investing \$93.5 million in programmatic investments, including Career and Technical Education (CTE) upgrades, Office for Students with Disabilities improvements, Library renovations, and student recreation and athletic resources.

\$60.2 MILLION FOR IT, FACILITY, AND BUILDING SYSTEMS INVESTMENTS

CPS is investing \$54.7 million to upgrade school network infrastructure to address equitable connectivity, replace aging hardware at schools, and upgrade our data warehouse and data backups. An additional \$5.5M will be used to support cleanliness at every school by insourcing custodial equipment to better serve students.

\$40.0 MILLION FOR SITE IMPROVEMENTS THAT FOSTER LEARNING

This year's capital budget includes \$30.0 million to design and build new playgrounds, playlots, and schoolyards across the city so that students can benefit from a well-rounded education that promotes healthy and active development. The budget will also eliminate the last of the rubber mat tiles, which are an accessibility issue. In addition, \$10 million will be allocated to improve parking lots and replace turf fields.

DEBT BUDGET: \$817 MILLION

Principal & Interest Payments on District Debt: The FY2025 budget includes total appropriations of approximately \$817 million for principal and interest payments on the district's outstanding bonds, which were issued to fund the district's capital plans and related investments. As of June 1, 2024, the Board has approximately \$9.3 billion of outstanding long-term debt and no outstanding short term.

SETTING AN EQUITABLE STANDARD: Resourcing based on student need

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FY2025 resourcing follows a targeted universalist approach that provides universal foundation resources to every school with targeted additional resources for schools with greater need.



Foundational Resources for Every School

- Principal
- Assistant Principal
- Core classroom and holistic teachers
- Counselor(s)
- Clerk
- Professional development funding
- Baseline funding for discretionary needs
- Centrally-managed operational positions (custodians, engineers, security, lunchroom)
- Before- and after-school programming to support athletics, enrichment, and other activities

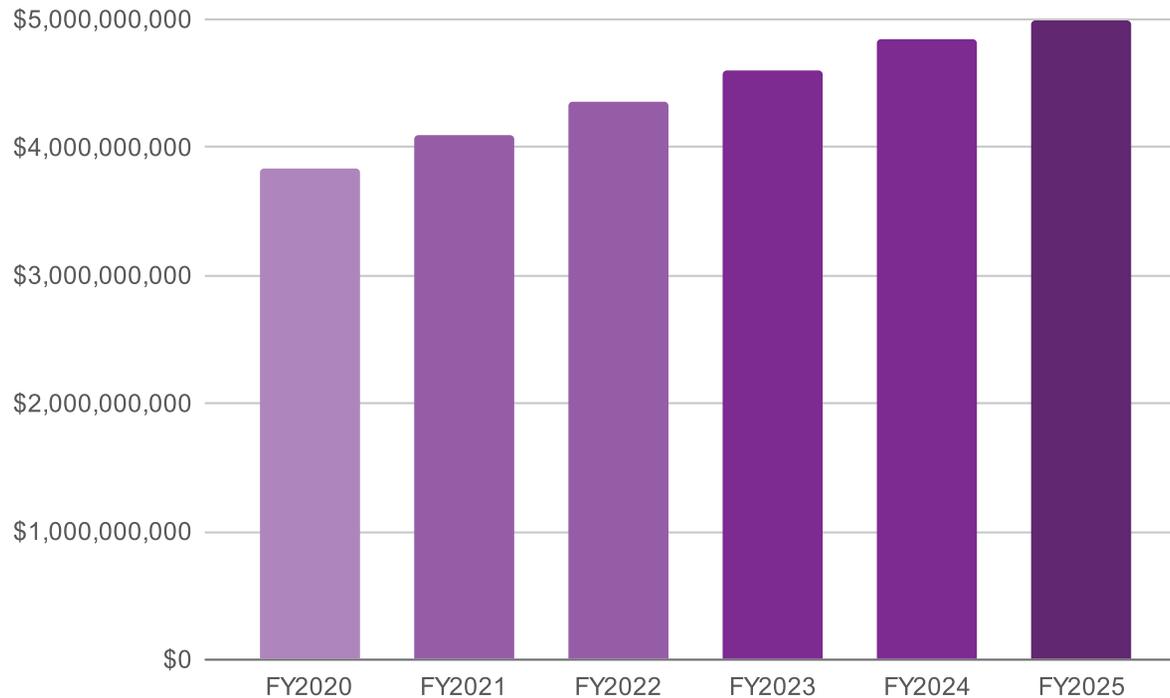


Additional Resources Based on Need

- Additional teachers to support smaller class size
- Additional discretionary funding for high-needs schools
- Additional counselors for high-needs schools
- Instructional coaches
- Tiered intervention supports
- Tutoring
- Advocates for Students in Temporary Living Situations
- Special education positions
- Supplemental English Learner resources
- Social and emotional supports
- Restorative justice coordinators for high-needs schools

PROGRESS SINCE 2019: Growth in school funding

Total Dollars Budgeted at Schools



Since 2019, CPS has

**INCREASED
DIRECT SCHOOL
FUNDING BY 30%,
ADDING OVER
\$1 BILLION TO
SCHOOL BUDGETS,**

to meet the growing needs of the students we serve, despite an increase of just \$250 million in state funding.



CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

42 W. Madison St.
Chicago, IL 60602

cps.edu

773-553-1000

FOR MORE INFORMATION

cps.edu/budget

GET INVOLVED

Family And Community
Engagement in Education (FACE)

cpsparentu.org

773-553-FACE

Local School Council (LSC)
Relations

cps.edu/lscrelations

773-553-1400



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