

The Florida Senate  
**COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA**

**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ON PRE-K - 12  
EDUCATION**

**Senator Burgess, Chair  
Senator Thompson, Vice Chair**

**MEETING DATE:** Wednesday, January 15, 2025  
**TIME:** 9:00 a.m.—12:00 noon  
**PLACE:** *Mallory Horne Committee Room, 37 Senate Building*

**MEMBERS:** Senator Burgess, Chair; Senator Thompson, Vice Chair; Senators Bradley, Calatayud, Fine, Gaetz, Jones, Osgood, Simon, and Yarborough

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	Presentation of Pre-K - 12 Education Budget Overview		
2	Program Review: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) - Federal Funds		
3	Program Review: Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resource Centers (FDLRS)		
4	Program Review: University Autism Programs - Centers for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD)		
Other Related Meeting Documents			

# Appropriations Committee on PreK-12 Education



# Overview

- Key Concepts
- Budgets within Education
- Education Funding Summary
- Historical Student Enrollment and Funding Information
- Base Budget

# Key Concepts

- One state agency (DOE) and two major state governing boards
  - State Board of Education
  - Board of Governors (BOG)
- Local funds
  - PreK-12 - ad valorem revenues (state established limits)
- Education is funded primarily (approx. 89%) from state (GR/EETF) and local funds, which provides a lot of flexibility over the use of the funds
- Funds per FTE (students) is the primary fiscal metric
- Funding models or formulas (flexibility comes into play)
  - Operating
  - Performance
- PreK 12 Scholarships
  - Family Empowerment Scholarships (FES) – funded in the GAA
  - Florida Tax Credit Scholarships – not funded in the GAA

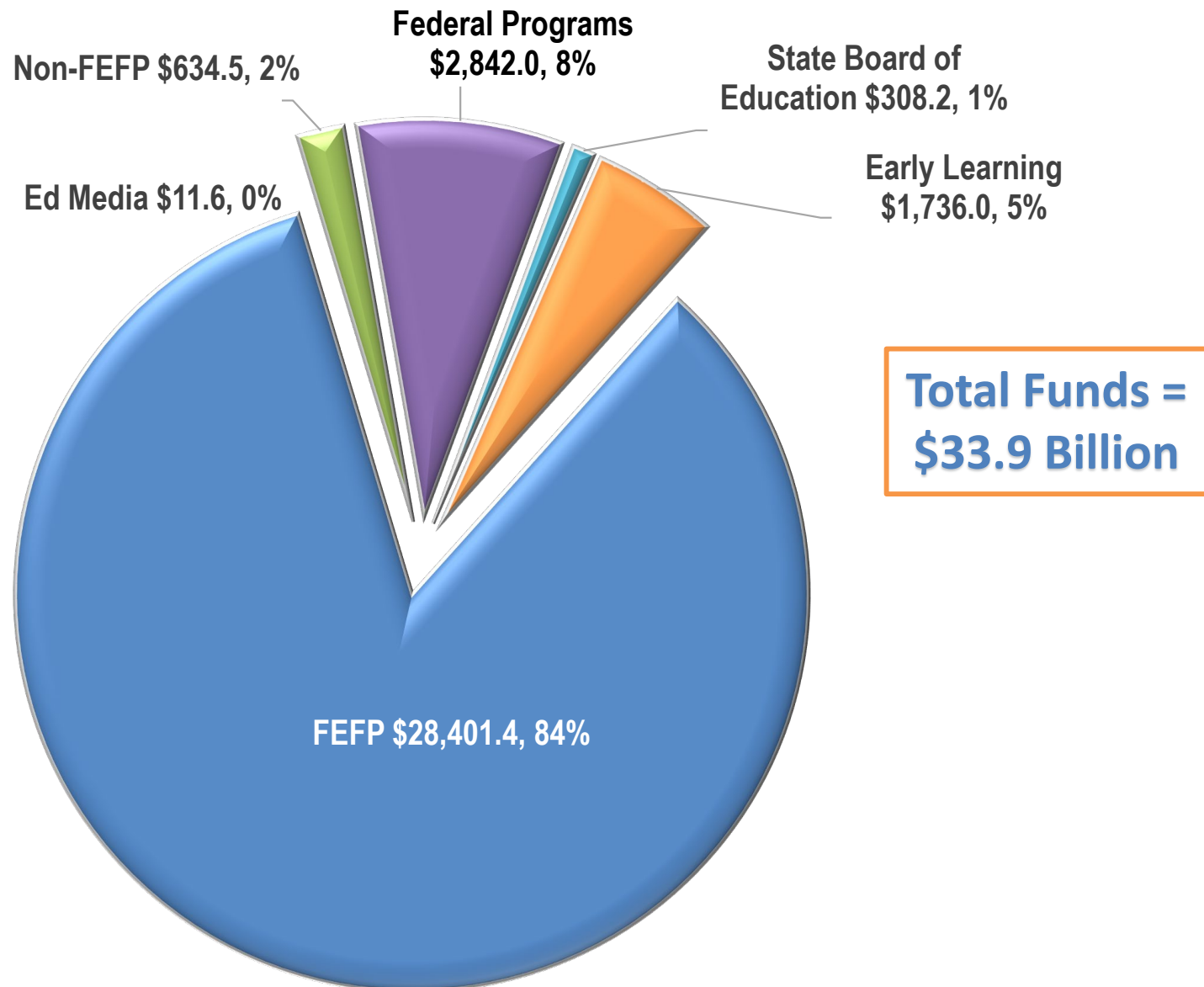
# PreK-12 Education Budgets and Funding Summary

# PreK-12 Education Budgets

- Early Learning
  - School Readiness Program
  - Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Program
- Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) – Public School Funding and Family Empowerment Scholarships
- Non-FEFP Programs - major issues include projects, New Worlds Reading Scholarships, Guardian Program, School Recognition, and the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind
- Education Media and Technology (Florida Channel and public broadcasting)
- Federal Programs (Title I and IDEA)
- State Board of Education (includes assessment budget)

# Total PreK-12 Education Funds by Budget Entity 2024-25 Appropriations (\$ Millions)

Includes Local Funds – No FCO



# PreK-12 Education Funds - FY 2024-25

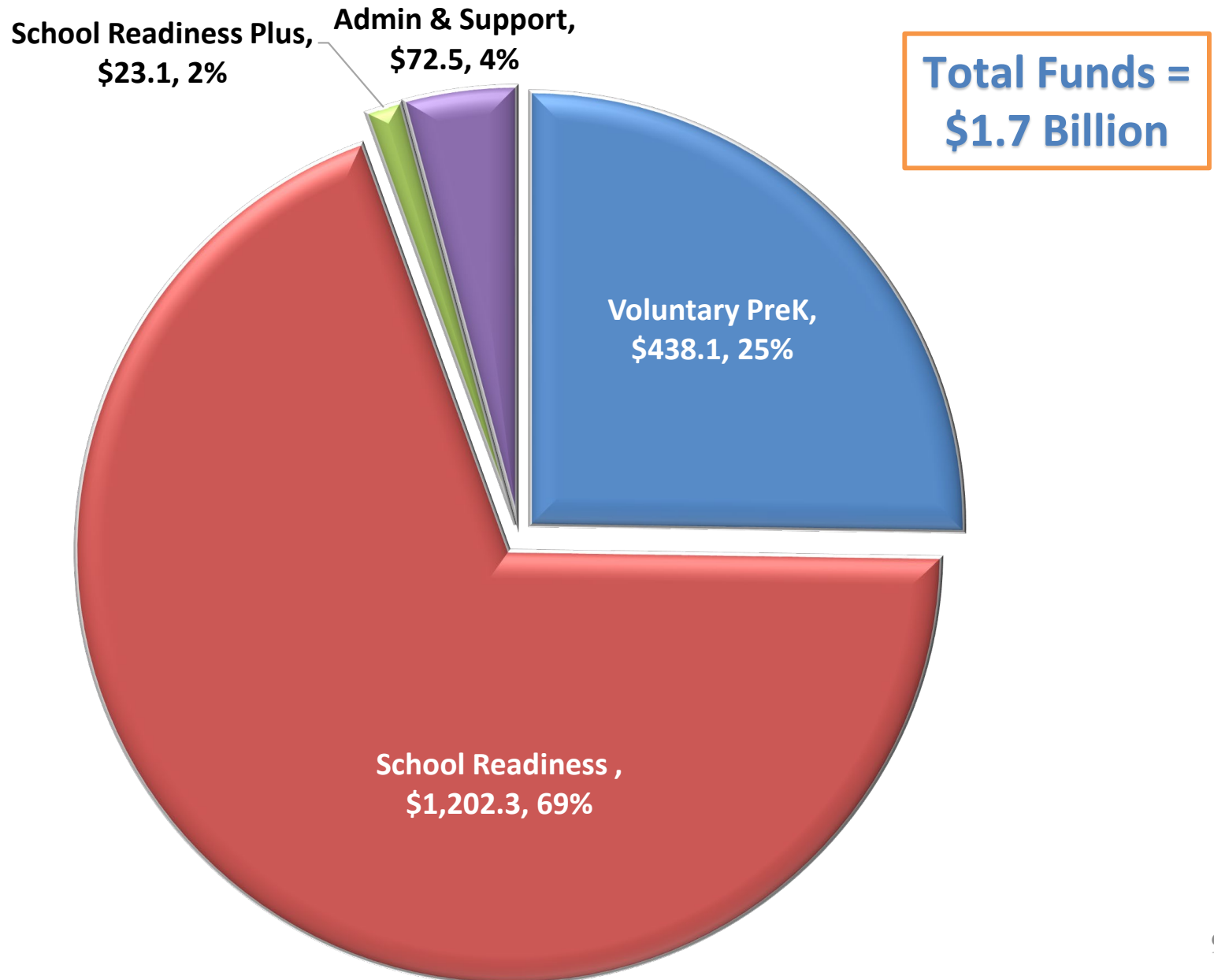
- **State Funds (56%)**
  - General Revenue
  - Educational Enhancement Trust Fund (lottery and gaming)
  - State School Trust Fund (abandoned property)
  - Fee-supported trust funds
- **Local Funds (33%)**
  - FEFP local funds (Required and Discretionary Local Effort)
- **Federal Funds (11%)**
  - Title I (for Economically Disadvantaged)
  - Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
  - Child Care Development Fund (CCDF for School Readiness)
  - Other federal funds (including funds for Principal and Teacher Training; English Language Acquisition; and Assessments)



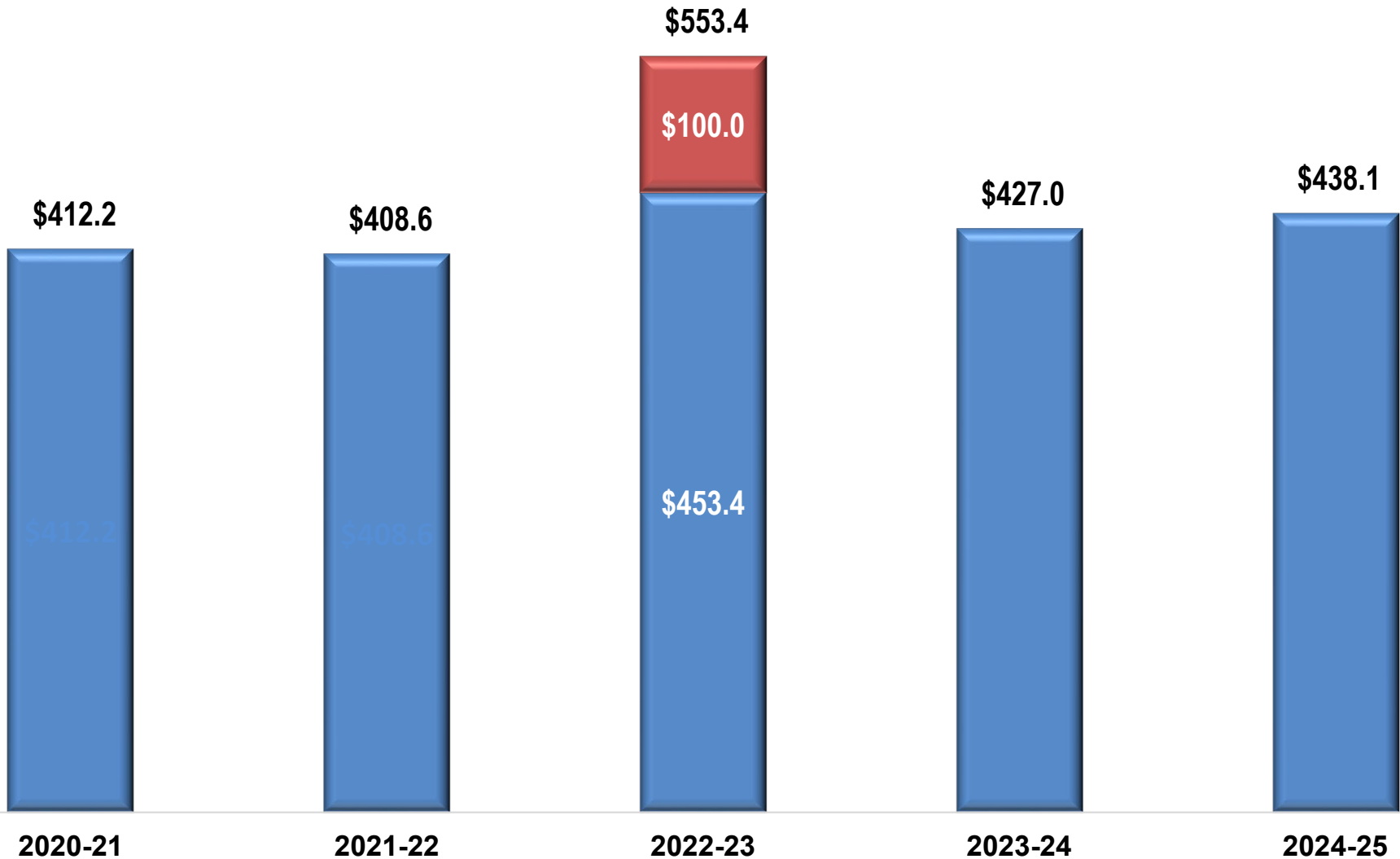
# Historical Funding and Student Enrollment Information - **Early Learning Programs**

# 2024-25 Early Learning Appropriations (\$ Millions)

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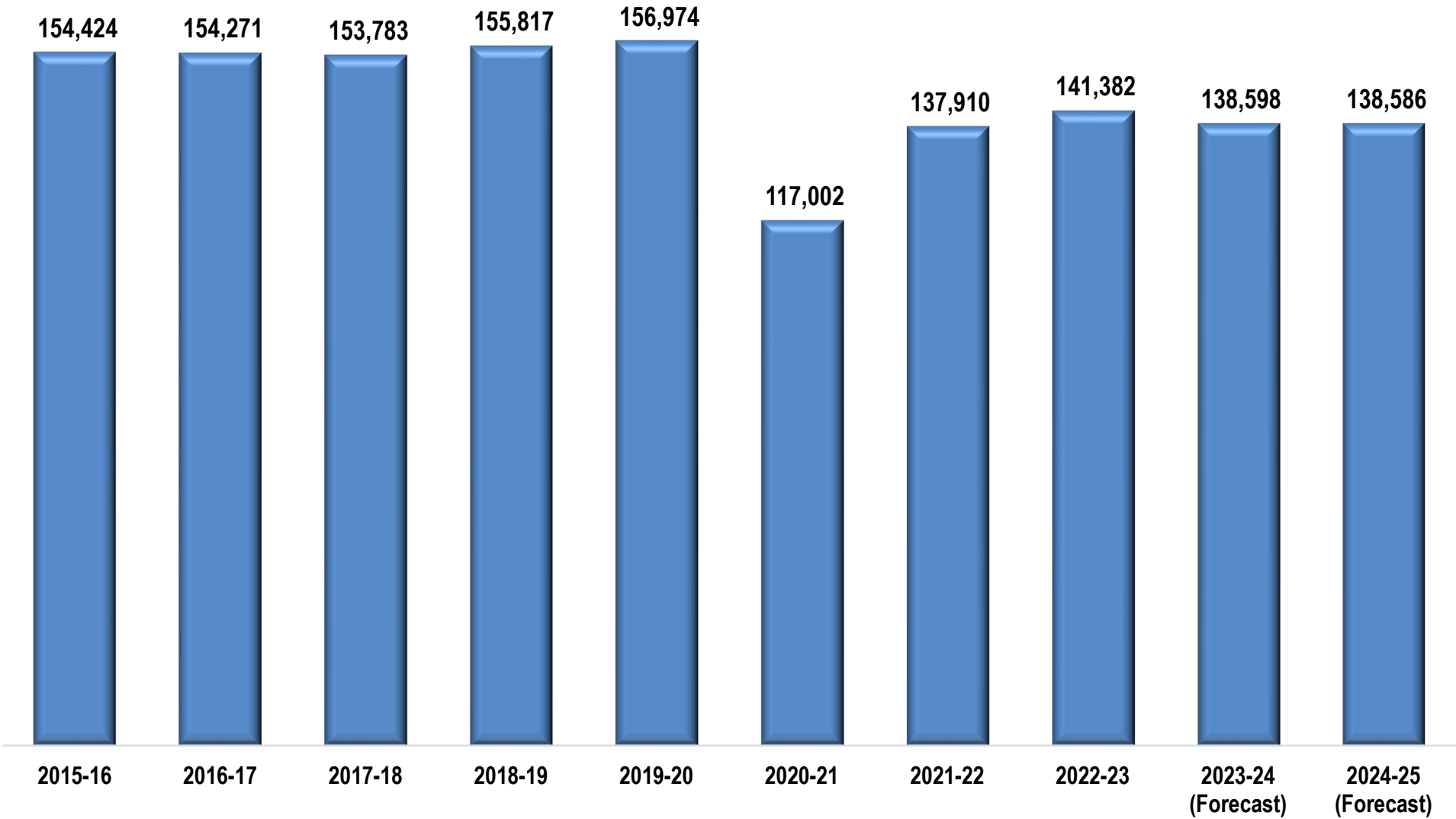


# Voluntary Prekindergarten Funding (\$ Millions)



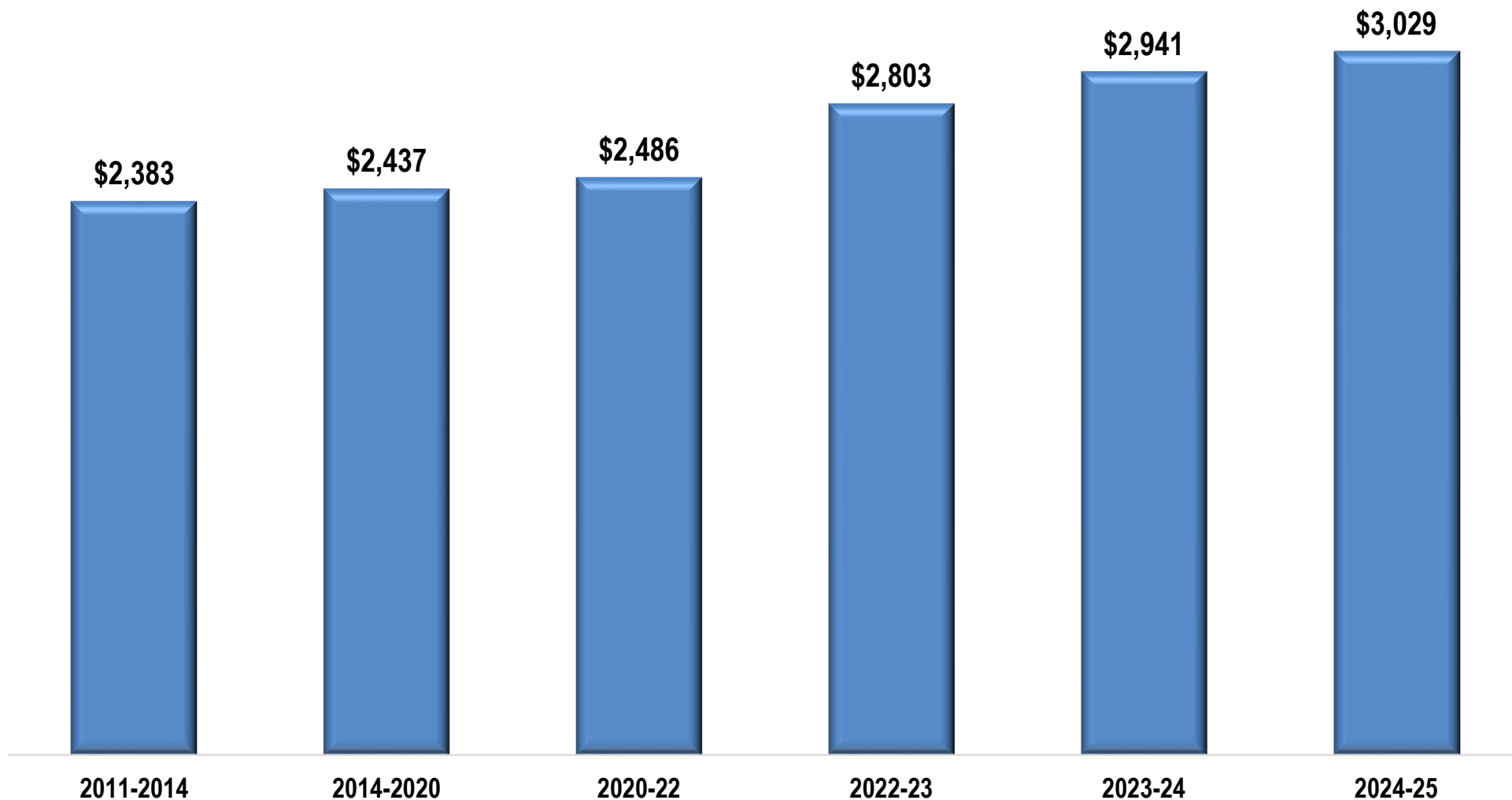
■ State Funds ■ CCDF Funds

# Voluntary Prekindergarten Full-Time Enrollment (FTE)

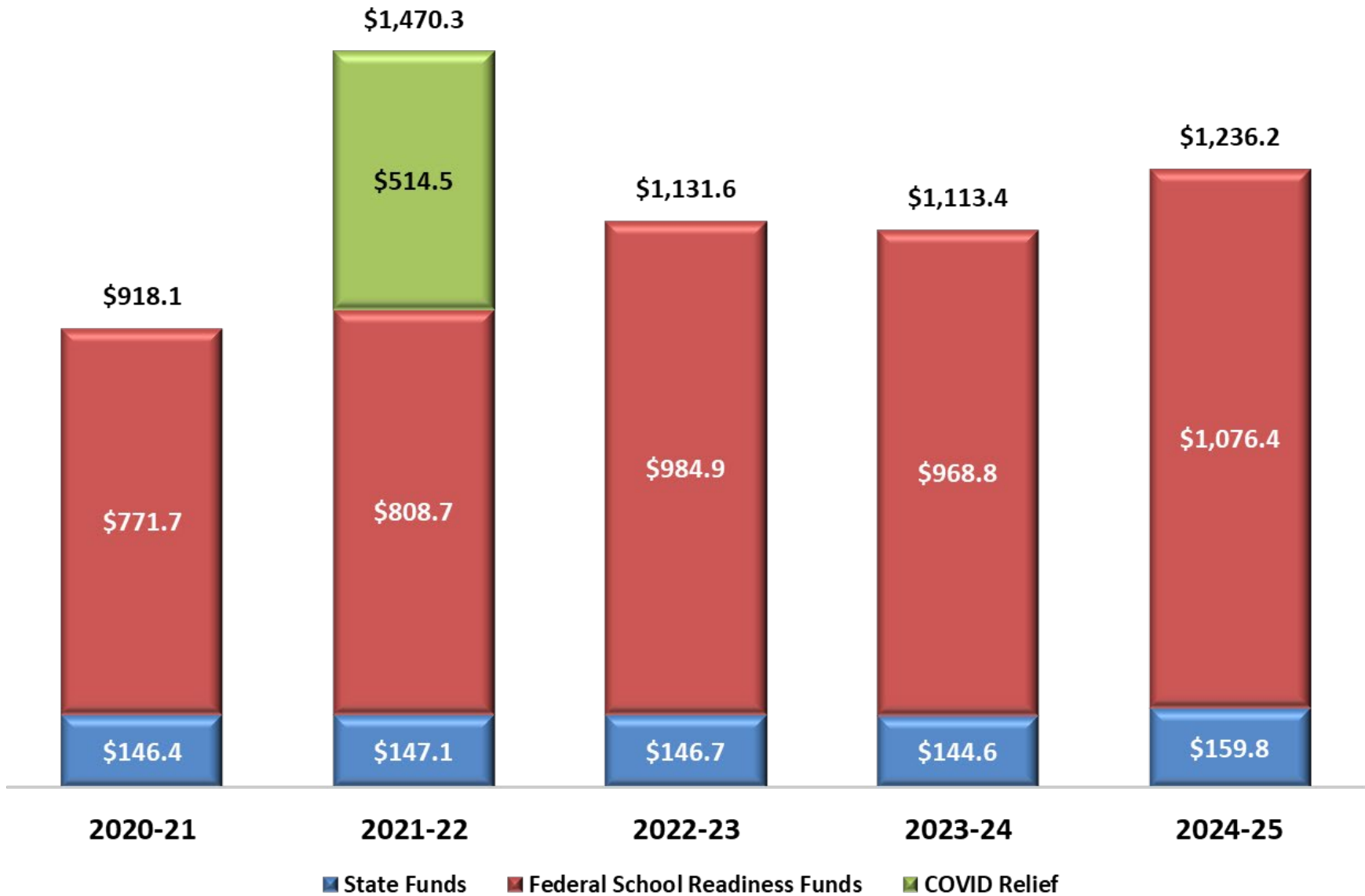


# Voluntary Prekindergarten Base Student Allocation (BSA) History – School Year

(State Funds Only)

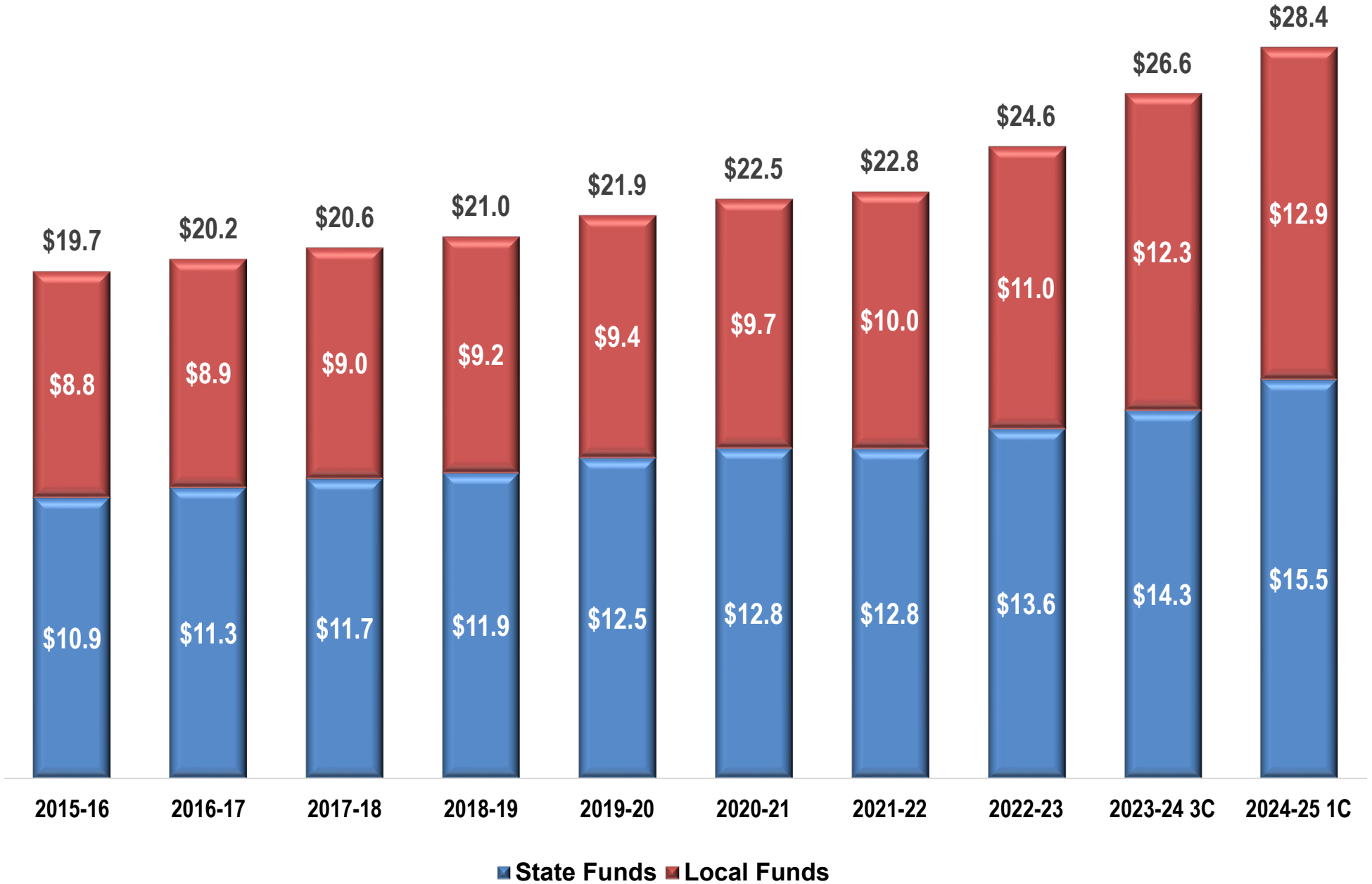


# School Readiness Funding History State and Federal (\$ Millions)



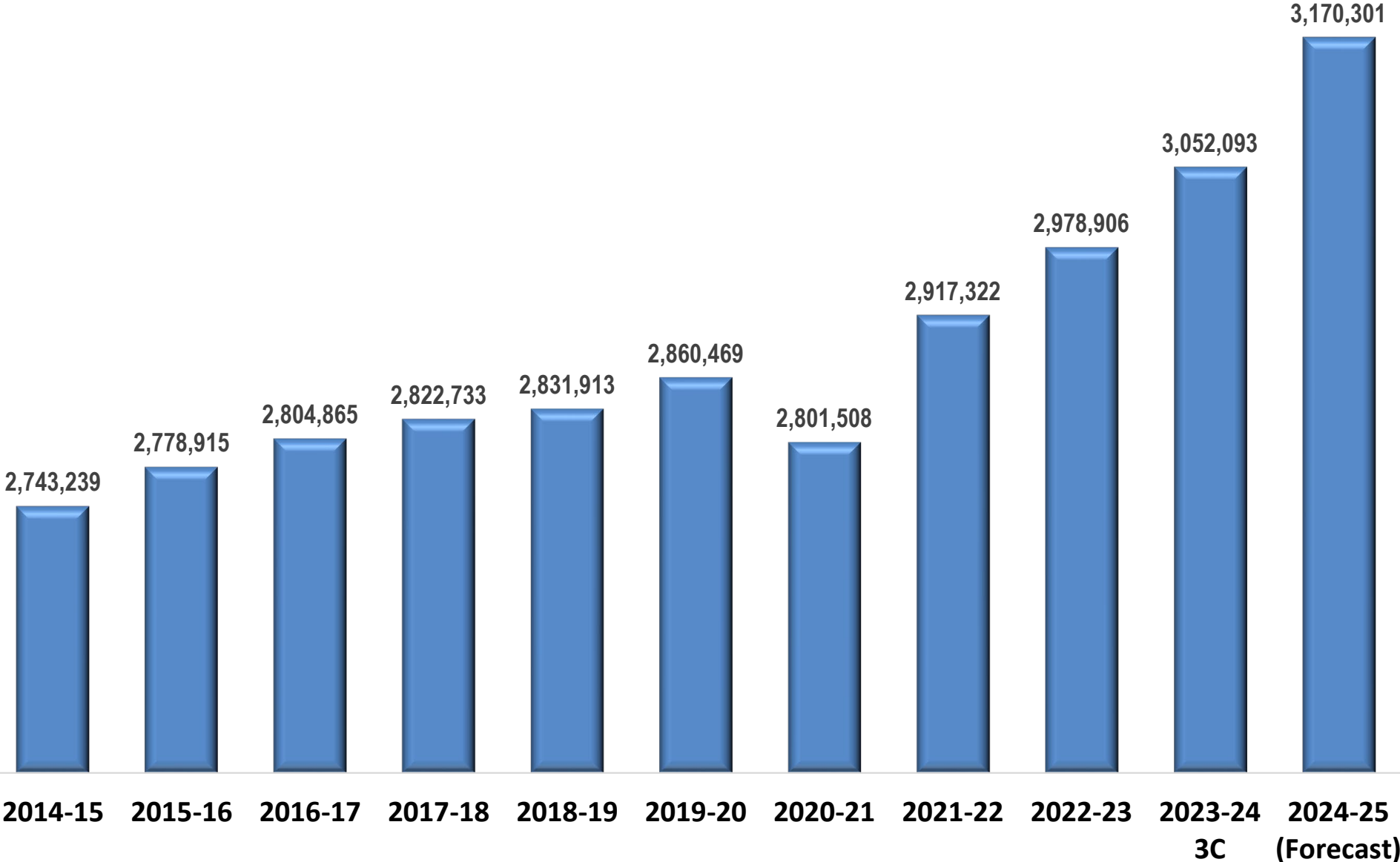
# Historical Funding and Student Enrollment Information - **FEFP and Other K-12 Programs**

# FEFP Total Funds Funding (\$ Billions)

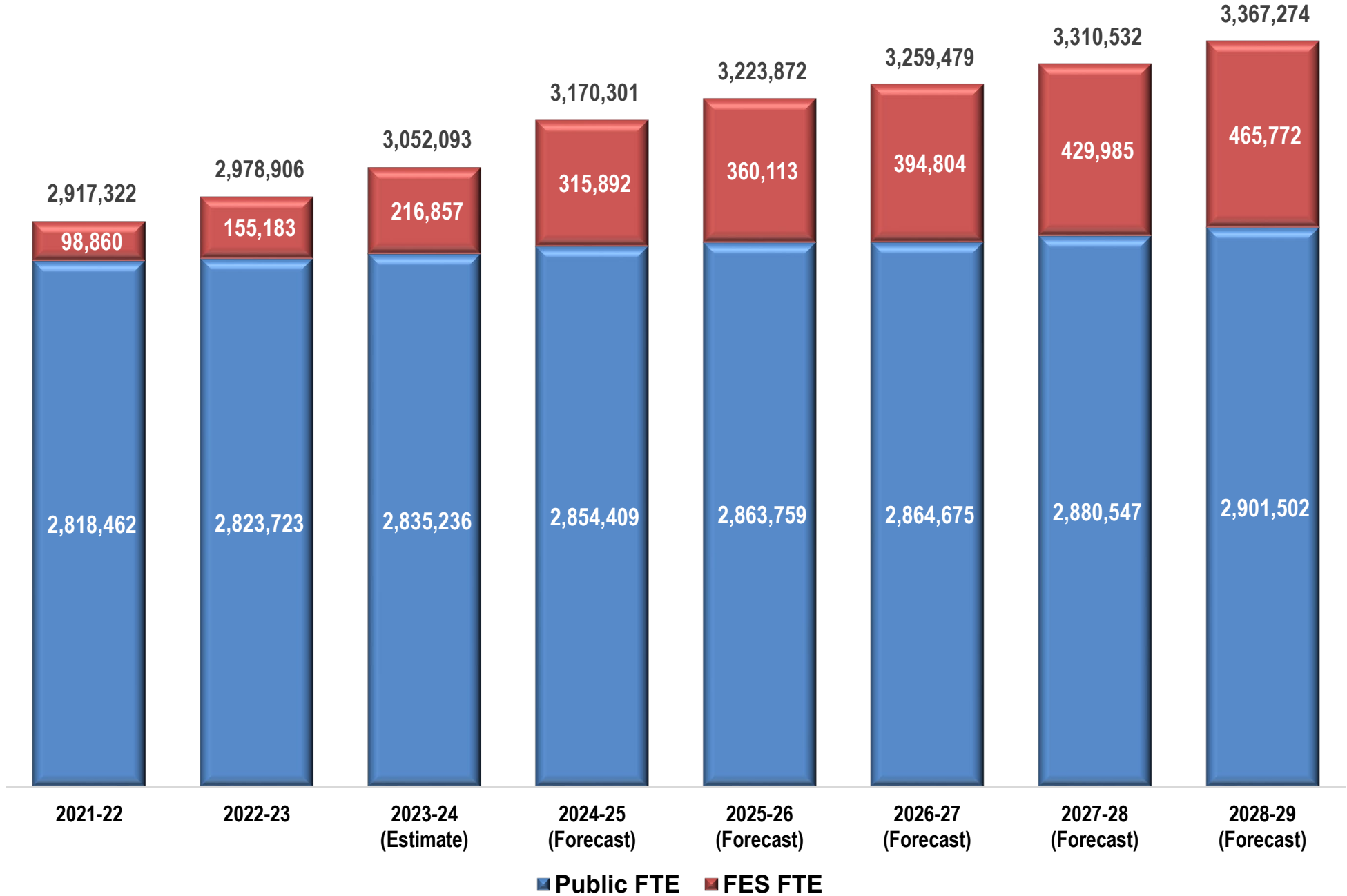




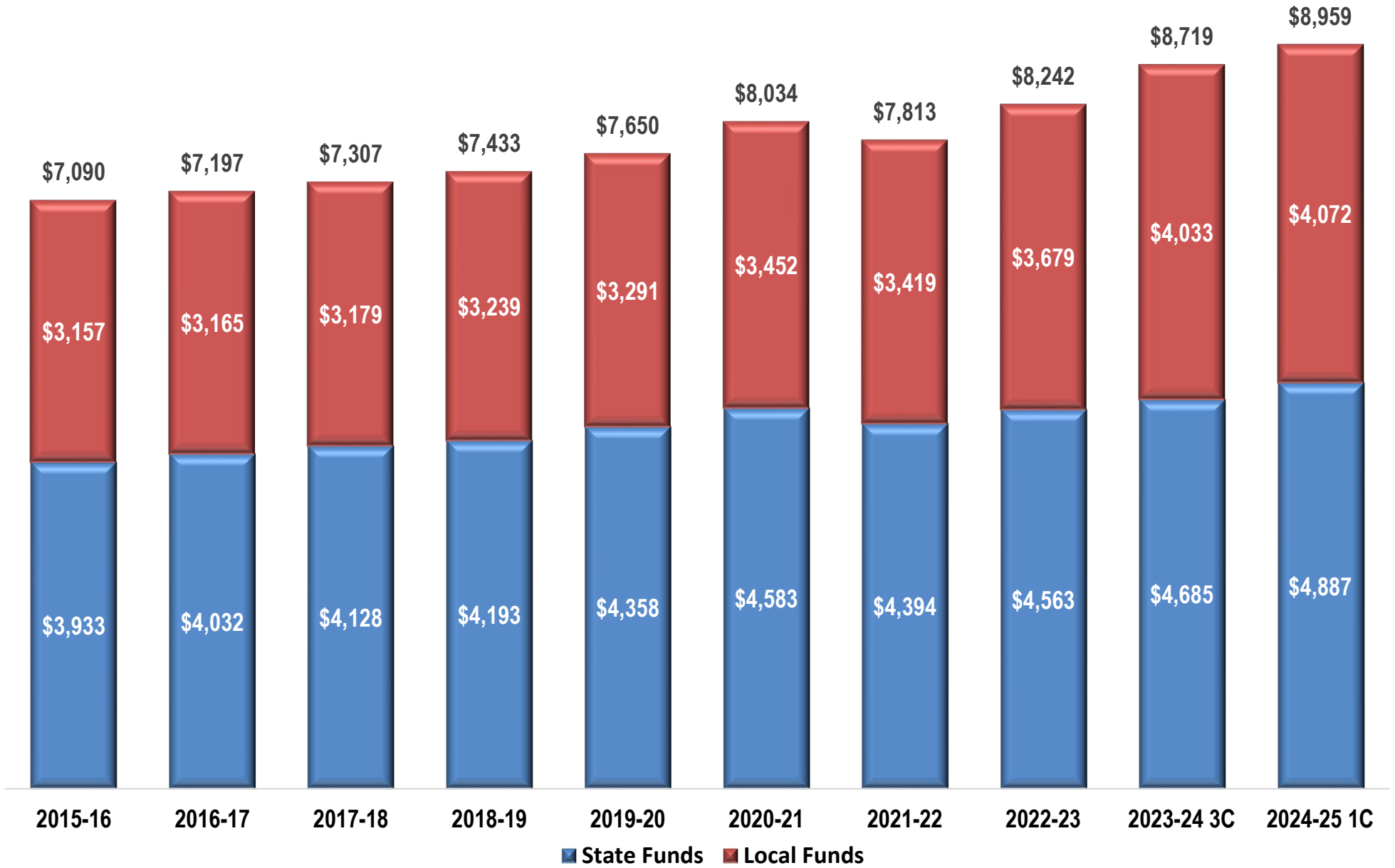
# FEFP Student FTE Enrollment



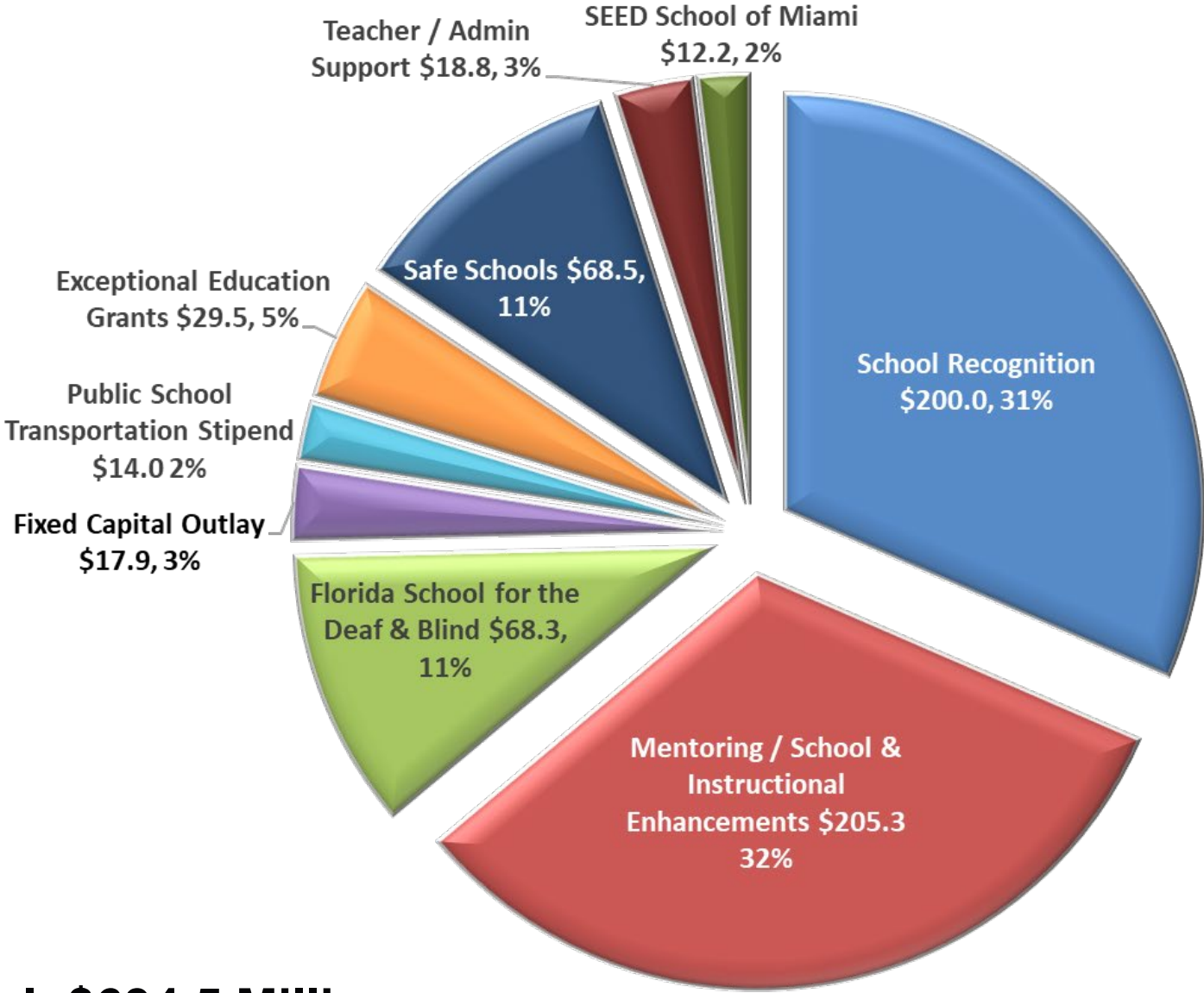
# FEFP Student FTE Forecast



# FEFP Funds per FTE

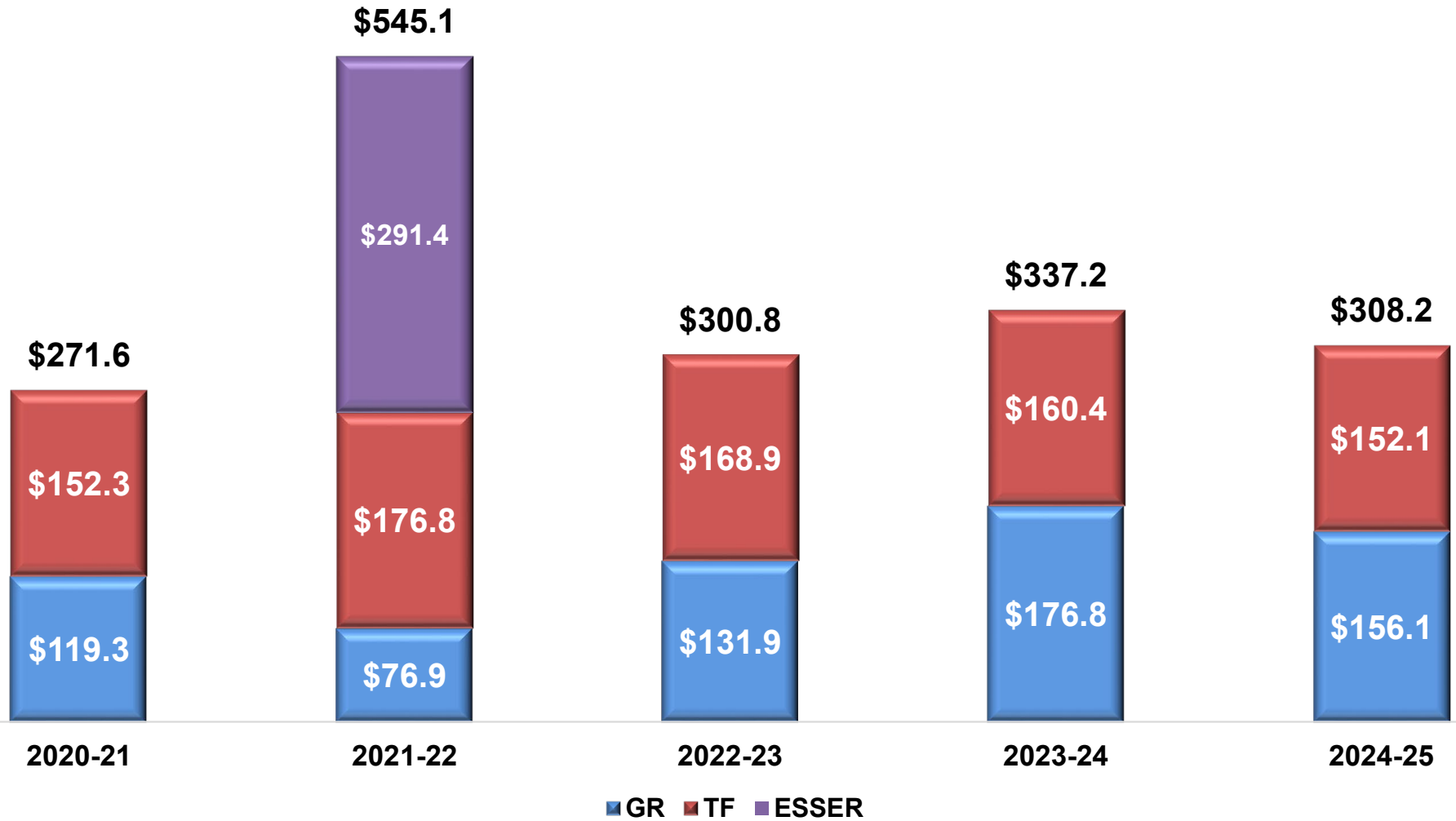


# 2024-25 Non-FEFP Appropriations (\$ Millions)



**Total: \$634.5 Million**

# State Board of Education (\$ Millions)



Year	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Employees	930	934	940	948	949

# Base Budget

# Base Budget Overview

- Primary differences from total FY 2024-25 Appropriations
  - Base budget excludes nonrecurring funds appropriated for FY 2024-25, which totaled approximately \$832.4 million for PreK-12 Education
  - Base budget includes other startup adjustments such as transfers from administered funds for various personnel/human resources
- Starting point for FY 2025-26 budget discussions and analysis
- PreK-12 Education base budget can be grouped into five major categories (discussed on next slide)
- The base budget handout identifies (1) the issue, (2) staff FTE count if applicable, (3) the base funding totals by general revenue and trust fund (all trust funds grouped into one total), and (4) a brief description of the issue

# Major Types of Funding Categories

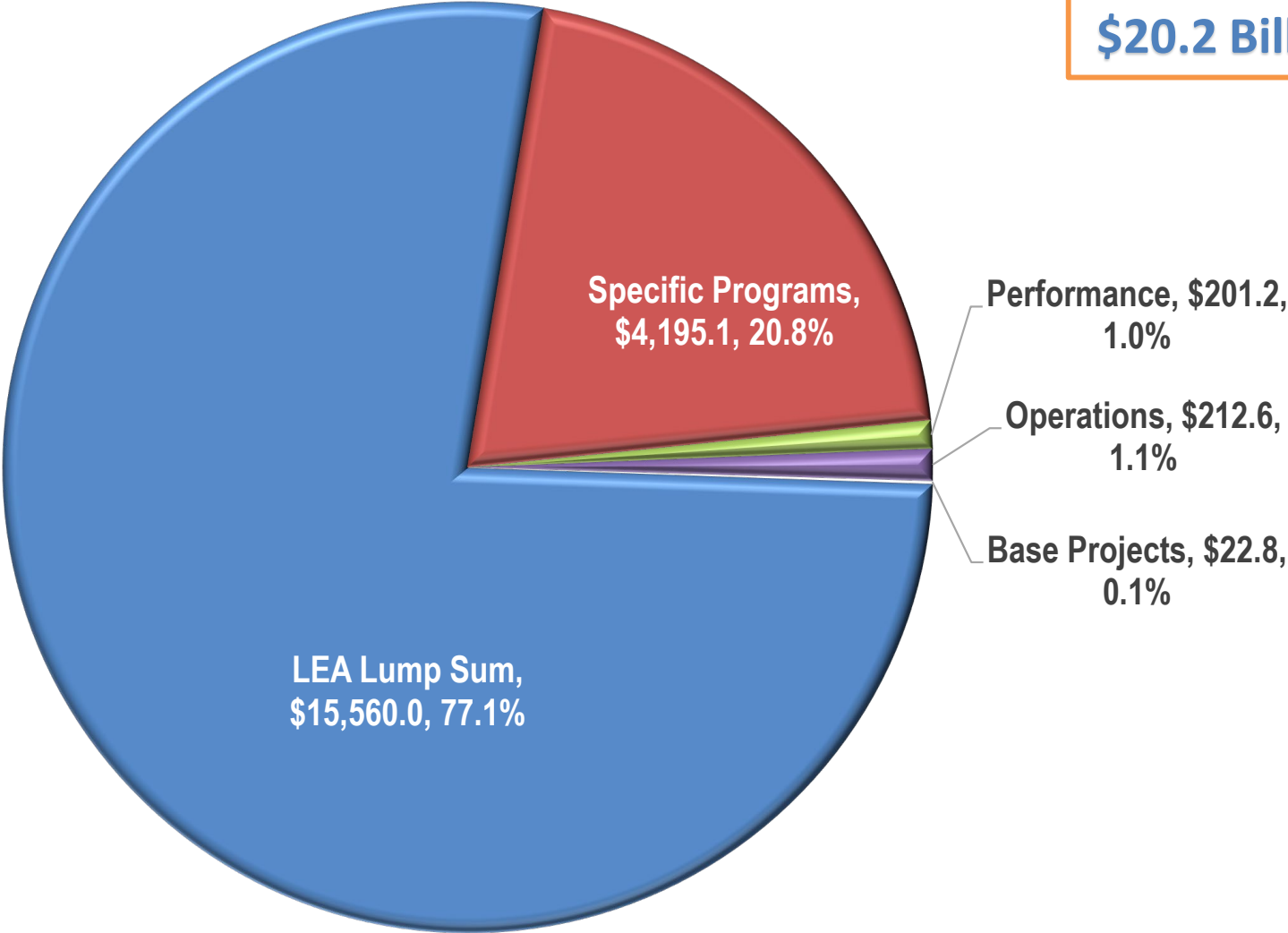
1. Local Education Agency (LEA) Operational Funding – State appropriations provided to directly support the operations of a public LEA established pursuant to Florida law. This funding is appropriated as a lump-sum allocation to each LEA, in contrast to the funding provided to state agencies where funding is appropriated in specific operational categories such as salaries and benefits, expenses, OPS, and so forth. This provides LEAs significant flexibility in how they spend their state appropriations. In Florida, these LEAs currently include:
  - a) **School districts (FEFP)**
  - b) State Universities
  - c) Florida College System Institutions
  - d) District Career and Adult Education Centers
  - e) **Florida School for the Deaf and Blind**
  - f) Private Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)
2. Performance or Incentive Funds
3. Specific Programs or Initiatives (examples include Voluntary Prekindergarten Program, student financial aid programs,....)
4. Typical Agency Operational Expenses (salaries and benefits, expenses, OCO,...)
5. Recurring Base Local Funding Initiatives



# PreK-12 Education Appropriations

FY 2025-26 Base Funds (\$ Millions)

**Total Funds =  
\$20.2 Billion**



# Questions

**Senate Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education**

#	Agency/Program/Issue	FTE	FY 2025-2026 Base Budget			Description	
			GR	Trust Fund	Total Funding		
1	<b>Early Learning</b>						1
2	Division of Early Learning - Salaries and Benefits	98	5,983,087	5,604,002	11,587,089	Section 20.15, Florida Statutes, establishes the Division of Early Learning within the Department of Education as a division under the State Board of Education (SBE). The division is responsible for the state level administration of early learning programs within the department, which includes Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Program and the School Readiness program.  This funding supports the salaries and benefits, OPS, expenses and operating capital outlay associated with the 98 positions within the Division of Early Learning.	2
3	Contracted Services		1,150,211	17,317,064	18,467,275	This funding supports statewide contracts to support the services provided by the division.	3
4	Partnership for School Readiness - School Readiness Quality and Professional Development Initiatives			3,000,000	3,000,000	Funding is provided to the division to continue School Readiness Quality and Professional Development initiatives. These initiatives consist of activities intended to improve the supply and quality of child care, which includes conducting a needs assessment, supporting the training, professional learning, postsecondary education of the child care workforce, and any other activity consistent with § 98.53, Code of Federal Regulations.	4
5	Teacher Education and Compensation Program (T.E.A.C.H.) Helps			10,000,000	10,000,000	These funds support the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Scholarship Program licensed by the Florida Children’s Forum. The goal of the program is to increase the education and training for caregivers, increase the compensation for child caregivers who complete the program requirements, and reduce the rate of participant turnover in the field of early childhood education.	5

**Senate Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education**

#	Agency/Program/Issue	FTE	FY 2025-2026 Base Budget			Description	
			GR	Trust Fund	Total Funding		
6	Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY)			1,400,000	1,400,000	HIPPY is an evidenced-based home visiting program that works with families to support parents' critical role as their children's first and most important teacher. HIPPY was developed to support parents in communities at risk due to limited education, poverty, language, or isolation. HIPPY promotes school readiness, early literacy, and parent engagement through adherence to the HIPPY model. Essential Elements of the HIPPY Model: 1. A 4-year evidence-based curriculum in English and Spanish 2. HIPPY role-play instructional technique 3. Community-based home visitors with professional coordinator supervision 4. Home visits combined with parent group meetings as the service delivery method.	6
7	Differential Payment Program			3,500,000	3,500,000	Funding is provided to the department to develop a differential payment program for early learning providers based on the quality measures adopted by the department. The program assessment for school readiness program providers will measure the quality of teacher-child interactions, including emotional and behavioral support, engaged support for learning, classroom organization, and instructional support for children ages birth to 5 years.	7
8	Help Me Grow Florida (HMGF) Network		1,808,957		1,808,957	This program assists the state in identifying children birth through age eight at risk for developmental or behavioral challenges and connects their families with community-based services and programs. HMGF care coordinators answer questions that parents and caregivers have about their child's development and provide follow up to ensure children receive necessary services. Care coordinators average five direct follow-ups per family.	8

**Senate Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education**

#	Agency/Program/Issue	FTE	FY 2025-2026 Base Budget			Description	
			GR	Trust Fund	Total Funding		
9	School Readiness Program		155,995,939	781,321,893	937,317,832	In 1999, the Florida Legislature established a statewide school readiness program to ensure children of low income working families receive high-quality care. The School Readiness Program is a financial assistance program for working families with children at-risk of school failure, including children from families with low incomes, families receiving temporary cash assistance or transitional child care, migrant farm workers and those with children at risk of abuse, neglect, homelessness or being victims of domestic violence.	9
10	Risk Management Insurance		7,046	19,973	27,019	Funding for business insurance to cover potential state liability for employees and property within the division.	10
11	Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Program		434,063,367		434,063,367	Florida's Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Education Program is established in the constitution and is available free of-charge to all eligible four-year-olds (and young five-year-olds). The VPK program provides funding for students using a full-time equivalent (FTE) and base student allocation methodology. Funds are distributed through early learning coalitions to public and private early learning providers.	11
12	VPK Summer Bridge program		2,773,891		2,773,891	The VPK Summer Bridge Program is for students who completed the VPK program and scored below the 10th percentile on the final administration of the Coordinated Screening and Progress Monitoring (CSPM) established pursuant to section 1008.25, Florida Statutes. The program will enable these students to receive additional services and supports from the local school district, with a strong emphasis on emergent literacy skills to support kindergarten readiness. These funds are provided directly to school districts using a separate allocation methodology from the regular VPK program.	12
13	Transfer to DMS - Human Resource Services/State Contract		23,186	10,408	33,594	Funding to support for human resource management services for the division.	13
14	Education Technology and Information Services		1,232,809	2,283,778	3,516,587	Funding for the technological resources needed to carry out the mission and goals of the division.	14

Senate Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education

#	Agency/Program/Issue	FTE	FY 2025-2026 Base Budget			Description	
			GR	Trust Fund	Total Funding		
15	Northwest Regional Data Center (NWRDC)		254,026	342,949	596,975	Funding to pay the Northwest Regional Data Center (NWRDC) for three main services/functions: Primary Data Center, Mainframe Environment, and Open Systems Environment.	15
16	<b>Subtotal Early Learning</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>603,292,519</b>	<b>824,800,067</b>	<b>1,428,092,586</b>		16
17	<b>FEFP</b>						17
18	FEFP Main		12,034,672,789	685,759,410	12,720,432,199	<p>In 1973, the Florida Legislature enacted the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) and established the state policy on equalized funding to guarantee each student in the Florida public education system the availability of programs and services appropriate to his or her educational needs that are substantially equal to those available to any similar student notwithstanding geographic differences and varying local economic factors.</p> <p>To provide equalization of educational opportunity, the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) formula recognizes varying: (1) local property tax bases; (2) education program costs; (3) costs of living; and (4) costs for equivalent educational programs due to scarcity and dispersion of the student population. The FEFP is the primary mechanism for funding the operating costs of Florida school districts and is the foundation for financing Florida's K-12 education programs.</p>	18
19	FEFP - Class Size		2,581,361,909	189,937,454	2,771,299,363	<p>Funding to carry out Florida's Constitutional Amendment to Reduce Class Size, which was approved by the electorate on November 5, 2002.</p> <p>Pursuant to section 1011.685(2), Florida Statutes, class size reduction operating categorical funds shall be used by school districts to reduce class size as required in section 1003.03, Florida Statutes, and to ensure school districts that meet the maximum class size requirement use the funds for any lawful operating expenditure, giving priority to increasing salaries of classroom teachers.</p>	19
20	<b>Subtotal FEFP</b>		<b>14,616,034,698</b>	<b>875,696,864</b>	<b>15,491,731,562</b>		20

Senate Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education

#	Agency/Program/Issue	FTE	FY 2025-2026 Base Budget			Description	
			GR	Trust Fund	Total Funding		
21	<b>Non-FEFP</b>						21
22	Guardian Program		6,500,000		6,500,000	<p>Funding provided to Sheriff offices for screening-related and training-related costs and to provide a one-time stipend of \$500 to district and charter school employees who participate in the school guardian program.</p> <p>Guardians are armed personnel who aid in the prevention or abatement of active assailant incidents on school premises. They are either school employees who volunteer to serve in addition to official job duties or personnel hired for the specific purpose of serving as a school guardian. School guardians must pass psychological and drug screenings and successfully complete a minimum of 144 hours of training.</p>	22
23	School Recognition		200,000,000		200,000,000	<p>Funds to support the School Recognition Program, which provides awards as performance-based incentives to public schools that receive a school grade of "A", or improve more than one letter grade compared to the previous fiscal year.</p> <p>Program funds must be used for nonrecurring bonuses to the faculty and staff, nonrecurring expenditures for educational equipment or materials, or temporary personnel to assist the school in maintaining or improving student performance.</p>	23

**Senate Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education**

#	Agency/Program/Issue	FTE	FY 2025-2026 Base Budget			Description	
			GR	Trust Fund	Total Funding		
24	Assistance to Low Performing Schools		4,000,000		4,000,000	<p>The purpose of this funding is to prepare, inspire, and connect all students to postsecondary success and opportunity, with a primary focus on students from low-performing middle and high schools.</p> <p>The Florida Partnership for Minority and Underrepresented Student Achievement (FLP) provides a coordinated series of programs, services and activities in Florida’s secondary schools to increase opportunities for access and levels of preparedness for all students. FLP’s goal is to deliver teacher training and professional learning to increase the number of students enrolled in advanced courses, increase the number of students who successfully complete and pass advanced course examinations and improve the skill level and ability of students at the level that will prepare them for the admission and completion of a postsecondary education.</p>	24
25	Take Stock in Children		6,125,000		6,125,000	<p>The purpose of this program is to enhance and to improve student performance of eligible students from low-income families and to reduce dropout rates by providing additional learning opportunities.</p> <p>The program promotes personal growth, personal responsibility, and academic success for eligible students who are from low-income families. Student services include mentoring, coaching, college readiness workshops and educational opportunities, scholarships, student advocacy and long-term support.</p>	25
26	College Reach Out Program (CROP)		1,000,000		1,000,000	<p>The College Reach-Out Program (CROP) is intended to increase the number of students from low-income families in grades 6-12 identified as needing academic improvement who pursue and successfully complete their postsecondary education.</p>	26



**Senate Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education**

#	Agency/Program/Issue	FTE	FY 2025-2026 Base Budget			Description	
			GR	Trust Fund	Total Funding		
27	Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resource Centers (FDLRS)		8,700,000		8,700,000	<p>The FDLRS program consists of a network of centers established around the state to provide diagnostic evaluation services for children and youth at-risk for, or identified as having, complex medical, educational, emotional, or behavioral problems and other risk factors for poor educational/academic outcomes.</p> <p>In addition, the program provides information, training, and support to families in order to promote effective parent participation in the education of children who are exceptional and/or have special needs. Services include assistance in the development of family-friendly programs, training and support for services for children with disabilities, and the support of partnerships between schools and parents to support student achievement. The program also provides evidence-based, high quality professional learning opportunities to teachers, administrators, and support personnel who work with students with disabilities. From instructional, behavioral, and compliance trainings to the appropriate use of technologies for students with disabilities, FDLRS offers online and face-to-face professional learning to support exceptional education in the state of Florida.</p>	27
28	School District Education Foundation Matching Grants		7,000,000		7,000,000	<p>These funds provide school district local education foundations a dollar-for-dollar match in state funds to private funds to address strengthening academic programs for low-performing students, improvement in science, technology, engineering and mathematics education, teacher recruitment and retention efforts, enhancements to career and technical education, and enhanced literacy initiatives in public school districts.</p>	28
29	Educator Professional Liability Insurance		1,021,560		1,021,560	<p>These funds provide full-time instructional personnel with liability insurance benefits for potential monetary damages and costs of defending actions resulting from claims made against the instructional personnel arising out of occurrences in the course of activities within the instructional personnel's professional capacity.</p>	29

**Senate Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education**

#	Agency/Program/Issue	FTE	FY 2025-2026 Base Budget			Description	
			GR	Trust Fund	Total Funding		
30	Teacher and School Administrator Death Benefits		41,321		41,321	Funding to support special death benefits for surviving spouses and dependents of teachers or school administrators who were killed or die while performing their teaching or administrative duties.	30
31	Risk Management Insurance		429,831	49,485	479,316	Funding for business insurance to cover potential state liability for state employees and property.	31
32	Autism Program		12,000,000		12,000,000	The seven regional autism centers provide nonresidential resource and training services for persons of all ages and of all levels of intellectual functioning who have autism, a pervasive developmental disorder, an autistic-like disability, a dual sensory impairment, or a sensory impairment with other disabling conditions.	32
33	Regional Education Consortium Services		1,750,000		1,750,000	The three Regional Education Consortiums provide regional delivery of educational services to small and rural districts in order to improve student achievement through technical assistance and school improvement strategies.	33
34	Computer Science Certification and Teacher Bonuses		10,000,000		10,000,000	Funding to deliver or facilitate training for classroom teachers to earn an educator certificate in computer science or for training that leads to an industry certification associated with a course identified in the Course Code Directory, to pay fees for examinations that lead to a relevant credential, or to deliver professional development that provides classroom teachers instruction in computer science courses and content.	34
35	Mental Health Awareness and Assistance Training		5,500,000		5,500,000	Evidence-based youth mental health awareness and assistance training program to assist school personnel in identifying and understanding the signs of emotional disturbance, mental illness, and substance use disorders, and to provide such personnel with the skills to help a person who is developing or experiencing an emotional disturbance, mental health or substance use problem.	35
36	Principal, Personnel, and Teacher of the Year		1,219,426		1,219,426	Funding to support the recognition of high-performing principals, assistant principals, school-related support personnel, and teachers across Florida.	36

**Senate Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education**

#	Agency/Program/Issue	FTE	FY 2025-2026 Base Budget			Description	
			GR	Trust Fund	Total Funding		
37	School District Intensive Reading Initiative (Tutoring Pilot from 2021-22)		2,530,645		2,530,645	This program provides additional reading intervention opportunities to students in 10 districts, in kindergarten through grade 5 enrolled in a public school, who either scored below a Level 3 on the English Language Arts (ELA) assessment in the prior year or who the district has determined through progress monitoring to be below grade level. School districts may use funds for: (a) salaries and stipends for reading coaches, specialists, interventionists and other instructional staff qualified to provide reading intervention during the school year or a summer program; (b) salaries or stipends for local reading coordinators to facilitate a district-managed reading intervention response to improve student reading outcomes; or (c) curriculum, resources and materials necessary to implement explicit and systematic instructional strategies.	37
38	Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool (FSSAT)		845,000		845,000	The primary physical site security assessment tool required by the Office of Safe Schools, which is used by school officials at each school district and public school site in the state in conducting security assessments. The FSSAT helps school officials identify threats, vulnerabilities, and appropriate safety controls for the schools that they supervise, pursuant to the security risk assessment requirements of s. 1006.07(6), F.S.	38
39	Centralized Integrated Data Repository and Data Analytics Resources (School Safety Portal)		3,000,000		3,000,000	The centralized integrated data repository (centralized system) and data analytics resource are two separate tools.  The centralized system, which is similar to the State Courts Judicial Inquiry System, allows authorized users to search across multiple criminal justice databases through a single-entry application. The centralized system provides a web-based system that enables users to access multiple data sources through one point of entry.  The data analytics resource is a monitoring tool that is intended to aid districts with social media monitoring services.	39

**Senate Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education**

#	Agency/Program/Issue	FTE	FY 2025-2026 Base Budget			Description	
			GR	Trust Fund	Total Funding		
40	Regional Literacy Teams		5,000,000		5,000,000	State Regional Literacy Directors (SRLDs) engage with cross-divisional experts (Reading, Exceptional Student Education, English language learners, etc.) to provide professional learning and support evidence-based literacy coaching models and evidence-based reading practices, identified pursuant to s. 1001.215, F.S. SRLDs provide targeted services and supports to schools and school districts with the largest reading achievement gaps, emphasizing services and supports for identified schools serving kindergarten through grade five students.	40
41	Charity for Change Program		4,702,500		4,702,500	Statewide grant program to fund in-school, after-school, or summer school programs that build resiliency, character, civic and charitable engagement, and life skills critical for students to become successful learners in school, future careers, and life.	41
42	Early Childhood Music Education		400,000		400,000	The program provides funding to participating school districts to assist them in implementing comprehensive music education programs for students in kindergarten through grade two.	42
43	Florida Institute for Charter School Innovation		2,000,000		2,000,000	The institute, which is located at Miami Dade College, analyzes charter school applications to identify charter school best practices and to provide training and assistance to charter school sponsors.	43
44	Florida Safe Schools Canine Program		3,306,121		3,306,121	Startup grant funds for the school districts located within the 29 fiscally constrained counties to implement the Florida Safe Schools Canine Program. The districts may use their allocated funds to purchase a canine, train the canine and the handler, provide veterinary care as well as other costs associated with participating in the program.	44

Senate Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education

#	Agency/Program/Issue	FTE	FY 2025-2026 Base Budget			Description	
			GR	Trust Fund	Total Funding		
45	Threat Management Coordinator		5,000,000		5,000,000	<p>Funding to support the employment of threat management coordinators in each school district. These coordinators are part of the department's statewide behavioral threat management operational process and oversee the district's threat management program.</p> <p>The threat management process is designed to identify, assess, manage, and monitor threats to schools, school staff, and students. The aim of threat management is to intervene at the earliest stage to assist students and alter or disrupt behavior for the benefit of the student and school.</p>	45
46	New Worlds Scholarship		4,000,000		4,000,000	<p>Funding to support reading scholarships for Florida public kindergarten through grade 5 students who have a substantial reading or math deficiency. Parents may use scholarship funds to purchase instructional materials, curriculum defined as a complete course of study for a particular content area or grade level, tuition and fees for part-time tutoring services, fees for summer education programs designed to improve reading, literacy or mathematics skills, or fees for after-school education programs designed to improve reading, literacy, or mathematics skills.</p>	46
47	New Worlds School of the Arts		500,000		500,000	<p>New World School of the Arts (NWSA) was created by the State of Florida Legislature as a center of excellence in the arts providing residents with focused professional arts training in dance, music, theater and visual arts. It is a partnership of Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Miami Dade College and the University of Florida, through which the High School Diploma, Associate of Arts and Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees are granted. Since inception NWSA has received direct line item funding from the State of Florida Legislature.</p>	47

**Senate Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education**

#	Agency/Program/Issue	FTE	FY 2025-2026 Base Budget			Description	
			GR	Trust Fund	Total Funding		
48	SEED School of Miami (College Preparatory Boarding Academy Pilot Program)		12,189,942		12,189,942	Supplemental funding to support the SEED School of Miami, which is a statutorily established college preparatory boarding school for at-risk students. The school completed its tenth year of operation during the 2023-24 school year serving students in grades 6-11. The school's primary mission is to provide an intensive, educational program that empowers students both academically and socially, for success in college and beyond. The school provides five days a week, 24 hour a day wrap-around services, which include mentors, counseling, academic supports and exposure to enrichment activities for students.	48
49	Safer, Smarter Schools Program		2,000,000		2,000,000	The purpose of the Safer, Smarter Schools program is to increase students' health education skills through awareness and education related to the prevention of childhood sexual abuse, the prevention of child trafficking, and information regarding mental health.	49
50	Exceptional Education Grants and Aids - Florida Instructional Materials Center for the Visually Impaired (FIMC-VI)			270,987	270,987	In accordance with s. 1003.55, F.S., the department has created the Florida Instructional Materials Center for the Visually Impaired (FIMC-VI) to provide staff and resources for the coordination, cataloging, standardizing, producing, procuring, storing, and distribution of braille, large print, tangible apparatus, and other specialized educational materials needed by these students. The purpose of FIMC-VI is to serve as a statewide centralized collection of specialized accessible instructional materials including large print and braille textbooks and materials for students with visual impairments from birth through grade 12.	50

**Senate Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education**

#	Agency/Program/Issue	FTE	FY 2025-2026 Base Budget			Description	
			GR	Trust Fund	Total Funding		
51	Exceptional Education Grants and Aids - Multi-Agency Service Network for Students with Severe Emotional/Behavioral Disturbance (SEDNET)			750,322	750,322	Pursuant to s. 1006.04, F.S., the Multi-Agency Network for Students with Emotional and Behavioral Disabilities (SEDNET) project assists students with severe emotional disturbance to learn appropriate behaviors, reduce dependency, and fully participate in all aspects of school and community living. This includes developing individual programs for students with severe emotional disturbance, including necessary educational, residential, and mental health treatment services; providing programs and services as close as possible to the student's home in the least restrictive manner consistent with the student's needs; and integrating a wide range of services necessary to support students with severe emotional disturbance and their families.	51
52	Exceptional Education Grants and Aids - Portal to Exceptional Education Resources (PEER)			786,217	786,217	The Portal to Exceptional Education Resources (PEER) and Medicaid Tracking System (MTS) is a web-based system that is made available to school districts to use when implementing federal and state requirements related to exceptional student education. Current functionality includes the development of Individual Educational Plans (IEPs) for students with disabilities, Educational Plans (EPs) for students who are gifted, Service Plans (SPs) for parentally placed private school students with disabilities, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 Plans for students with disabilities, amendments to an existing plan, parent notifications, progress reports, transportation documentation requirements, matrix of services documents, conference notes, prior written notices, consent notices for evaluation and reevaluation, consents for provision of Exceptional Student Education (ESE) services, eligibility determination forms, and written summaries of groups' analyses.	52

**Senate Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education**

#	Agency/Program/Issue	FTE	FY 2025-2026 Base Budget			Description	
			GR	Trust Fund	Total Funding		
53	Exceptional Education Grants and Aids - Resource Materials Technology Center for Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing (RMTC-DHH)			191,828	191,828	Section 1003.55, F.S., established a coordinating unit and instructional materials center for deaf and hard of hearing students, the Resource Materials and Technology Center for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing (RMTC- DHH). The center provides staff and resources for the coordination, cataloging, standardizing, producing, procuring, storing, and distributing of captioned media and other specialized educational materials needed by these students. The center’s major purpose is the improvement of instructional programs for deaf or hard of hearing students.	53
54	Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resource Centers		577,758		577,758	The FDLRS program consists of a network of centers established around the state to provide diagnostic evaluation services for children and youth at-risk for, or identified as having, complex medical, educational, emotional, or behavioral problems and other risk factors for poor educational/academic outcomes.	54
55	Bridge to Speech Program		1,750,000		1,750,000	The program provides opportunities for families of students who are deaf or hard of hearing ages 3-6 to choose a private auditory oral program with faculty members who are credentialed as certified Listening and Spoken Language Specialists.	55
56	Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind (FSDB)		65,276,484	5,221,527	70,498,011	The Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, located in St. Johns County, is a state-supported residential public school for students who are deaf/hard-of-hearing and blind/visually impaired in preschool through grade 12. The school is a component of the delivery of public education within Florida's Early Learning-20 education system .  The school shall provide educational programs and support services appropriate to meet the education and related evaluation and counseling needs of students who are deaf/hard-of hearing and blind/visually impaired in the state who meet enrollment criteria.	56
57	Human Resource Services/ State Contract - FSDB		198,518	49,160	247,678	Funding to support human resource management services for the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind.	57



Senate Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education

#	Agency/Program/Issue	FTE	FY 2025-2026 Base Budget			Description	
			GR	Trust Fund	Total Funding		
58	Articulated Health Care Programs (Lab Schools: UF, FSU, FAU, and FAMU)		2,000,000		2,000,000	This program is part of the Live Healthy initiative, which is meant to increase Florida’s healthcare workforce, to increase access to training, and to incentivize innovation. Each participating lab school must develop and implement a plan aligned with each university's strategic mission and/or priorities to increase their students’ access to study health care occupations through articulated pathways. As a result, each lab school’s articulated health care program will differ from the others, reflecting programmatic strength and unique availability to each university.  Each lab school is charged with sharing these innovative practices and providing technical assistance to districts around the state.	58
59	Local Funding Initiatives - Operational Funds		13,195,860	334,000	13,529,860	Funding to support local initiatives.	59
60	<b>Subtotal Non-FEFP</b>		<b>393,759,966</b>	<b>7,653,526</b>	<b>401,413,492</b>		60
61	<b>Federal Grants K-12 Programs</b>						61
62	Projects, Contracts and Grants			3,999,420	3,999,420	This category provides a method for the distribution of projects, contracts or grants funded by private entities and non-federal funds from other state agencies. Currently this budget authority is only used for the distribution of grants to provide teacher training to reduce and prevent the use of tobacco and tobacco related (vape) products by children. These funds are received from the Department of Business and Professional Regulation as penalties collected from the sale of tobacco and tobacco related products (vape) to minors.	62

**Senate Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education**

#	Agency/Program/Issue	FTE	FY 2025-2026 Base Budget			Description	
			GR	Trust Fund	Total Funding		
63	Federal Grants and Aid			2,546,421,313	2,546,421,313	Federal grant awards consist of two main types: entitlement and discretionary.  There are two major programs included in the entitlement category: (1) programs authorized under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), and (2) programs authorized under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).  The discretionary category includes smaller programs primarily authorized under ESSA.	63
64	Domestic Security			5,409,971	5,409,971	Federal budget authority for potential federal grant awards for school districts and higher education institutions. In the past, funds have been received for initiatives such as the acquisition of mass notification and/or communications equipment to provide a continuous flow of critical information that will maximize effective and swift communication with Florida citizens, visitors and the campus community.  Funding is provided to the department for federally funded K-12 Target Hardening and Higher Education Emergency Communications projects.	64
65	<b>Subtotal Federal Grants K-12 Programs</b>		-	<b>2,555,830,704</b>	<b>2,555,830,704</b>		65
66	<b><i>Educational Media &amp; Technology Services</i></b>						66
67	Capital Technical Center		224,624		224,624	The Capitol Technical Center is located in the Capitol Building and houses the facilities for the production of public television programming, televised coverage of the Florida Legislature, and production assistance for the department. This facility provides coverage of the State Board of Education meetings, as well as year-round coverage for House and Senate meetings, Florida Supreme Court hearings, Public Service Commission hearings and statewide emergencies. The center also produces the Florida Channel and Florida Crossroads programs, which are appropriated through the department's Public Broadcasting budget.	67

Senate Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education

#	Agency/Program/Issue	FTE	FY 2025-2026 Base Budget			Description	
			GR	Trust Fund	Total Funding		
68	Public Broadcasting		10,813,532		10,813,532	Funding for free educational and governmental resources to the citizens of Florida through the use of the state's public broadcasting television and radio stations. Specifically, this funding supports the following initiatives/programs: production of the Florida Crossroads television program; production of a daily 12-hour block of programming covering the Legislature, Governor's Office, Supreme Court, education, statewide emergencies and other programming of statewide interest; statewide delivery of governmental and educational broadcast services, which include the Florida Channel, the Florida Lottery and emergency management information; and Florida's 12 public television and 13 public radio stations in delivering valuable programming.  Florida's public radio stations have created the Florida Public Radio Emergency Network (FPREN) to communicate emergency information statewide through a seamless system of free over-the-air FM radio and multiple mobile applications.	68
69	<b>Subtotal Ed Media &amp; Technology Svcs</b>		<b>11,038,156</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,038,156</b>		69
70	<b>State Board of Education</b>						70
71	State Board of Education Salaries and Benefits	949	36,116,908	67,465,841	103,582,749	Funding to support salaries and benefits, OPS, expenses, and operating capital outlay associated with the 949 positions within the State Board of Education.	71
72	Assessment and Evaluation		66,311,120	52,890,899	119,202,019	Funding to support the improvement of public schools by enhancing the learning gains of all students and informing parents of the educational progress of their public school children. The department provides K-12, postsecondary and certification assessments.	72
73	College Entrance Assessments		8,000,000		8,000,000	Funding for school districts to help offset the costs associated with providing college assessments to each public school student in the 11th grade, including students attending alternative schools and the Department of Juvenile Justice education programs.	73
74	Development of New Advanced Courses Assessments		2,000,000		2,000,000	The department uses this funding to develop, administer, score, and report new advanced K-12 assessments.	74

**Senate Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education**

#	Agency/Program/Issue	FTE	FY 2025-2026 Base Budget			Description	
			GR	Trust Fund	Total Funding		
75	Transfer to Division of Administrative Hearings		463,272		463,272	Funding for the administrative hearings and related services.	75
76	Contracted Services		12,670,599	20,351,313	33,021,912	Funding provided for the department to contract for expertise in a variety of areas that is more advantageous to acquire from the private sector.	76
77	Early Learning Customer Service Survey			300,000	300,000	Pursuant to law, the Division of Early Learning must adopt performance standards and outcome measures for early learning coalitions (ELCs) that, at a minimum, include the development of objective and statistically valid customer service surveys by a state university or other independent researcher with specific expertise in customer service survey development. The survey shall be deployed beginning of each fiscal year and be distributed to customers who use the services provided through early learning coalitions.	77
78	Safe Schools Initiatives Alyssa's Alert / Panic Button		6,400,000		6,400,000	Each public school, including charter schools, shall implement a mobile panic alert system capable of connecting diverse emergency services technologies to ensure real-time coordination between multiple first responder agencies. Such system, known as "Alyssa's Alert," must integrate with local public safety answering point infrastructure to transmit 911 calls and mobile activations.	78
79	Workforce Development Information System Career and Technical Education Analytical Dashboard		1,345,000		1,345,000	Funding to support the implementation of s. 1008.40, F.S., which requires the development of a workforce development metrics dashboard that measures the state's investments in workforce development. The dashboard is referred to as the Education Meets Opportunity Platform (EMOP).	79
80	Grant Award to a state university for the Family Empowerment Scholarship (FES) and Florida Tax Credit Scholarship programs		50,000		50,000	Grant award provided to a state university to produce an annual report for the Department of Education on the performance of K-12 students participating in scholarship programs. Private schools must annually administer or make provisions for students participating in the programs in grades 3 through 10 to take one of the nationally norm-referenced tests that are identified by the department and report the scores of all participating students to the selected state university by August 15th of each year.	80

**Senate Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education**

#	Agency/Program/Issue	FTE	FY 2025-2026 Base Budget			Description	
			GR	Trust Fund	Total Funding		
81	Career Planning and Work-based Learning Coordination System		4,000,000		4,000,000	Funding for the career readiness system that walks students through a process of career exploration, planning, and preparation.	81
82	Grant Application System		500,000		500,000	Funding to procure a system to process grant applications from entities receiving state and or federal funds.	82
83	Cloud Computing Services		6,500,000		6,500,000	Funding to support the following two systems: (1) the School Environmental Safety Incident Reporting System (SESIR), which is a statewide portal for school districts to submit SESIR data; and (2) the Statewide Information Sharing System (Threat Management Portal), which is a portal that supports a Florida-specific behavioral threat assessment instrument used by each school district, school, charter school governing board, and charter school.	83
84	Educational Facilities Research and Development Projects			200,000	200,000	Funding for the research, technical assistance and training related to educational facilities to the education agencies. Additionally, research projects are undertaken to provide boards and their consultants with needed information relating to the planning, design, construction and operation of educational facilities as needed.	84
85	Risk Management Insurance		148,653	300,613	449,266	Funding for business insurance to cover potential state liability for state workers and property.	85
86	Transfer to DMS - Human Resource Services/State Contract		116,366	221,350	337,716	Funding to support human resource management services for the department.	86
87	Education Technology and Information Services		6,053,246	10,647,286	16,700,532	Funding for the technological resources needed to carry out the mission and goals of the Department of Education.	87
88	Northwest Regional Data Center (NWRDC)		2,568,712	7,208,538	9,777,250	Funding to pay the Northwest Regional Data Center (NWRDC) for three main services/functions: Primary Data Center, Mainframe Environment, and Open Systems Environment.	88
89	<b>Subtotal State Board of Education</b>	<b>949</b>	<b>153,243,876</b>	<b>159,585,840</b>	<b>312,829,716</b>		89
90	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>1,047</b>	<b>15,777,369,215</b>	<b>4,423,567,001</b>	<b>20,200,936,216</b>		90



# Senate Appropriations Committee on PreK-12 Education

Peggy Aune, Ed.D., Vice Chancellor for Strategic Improvement

January 14, 2025



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# Florida Department of Education (FDOE) Goals

1. Highest Student Achievement
2. Seamless Articulation and Maximum Access
3. Skilled Workforce and Economic Development
4. Quality Efficient Services

## **Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS)**

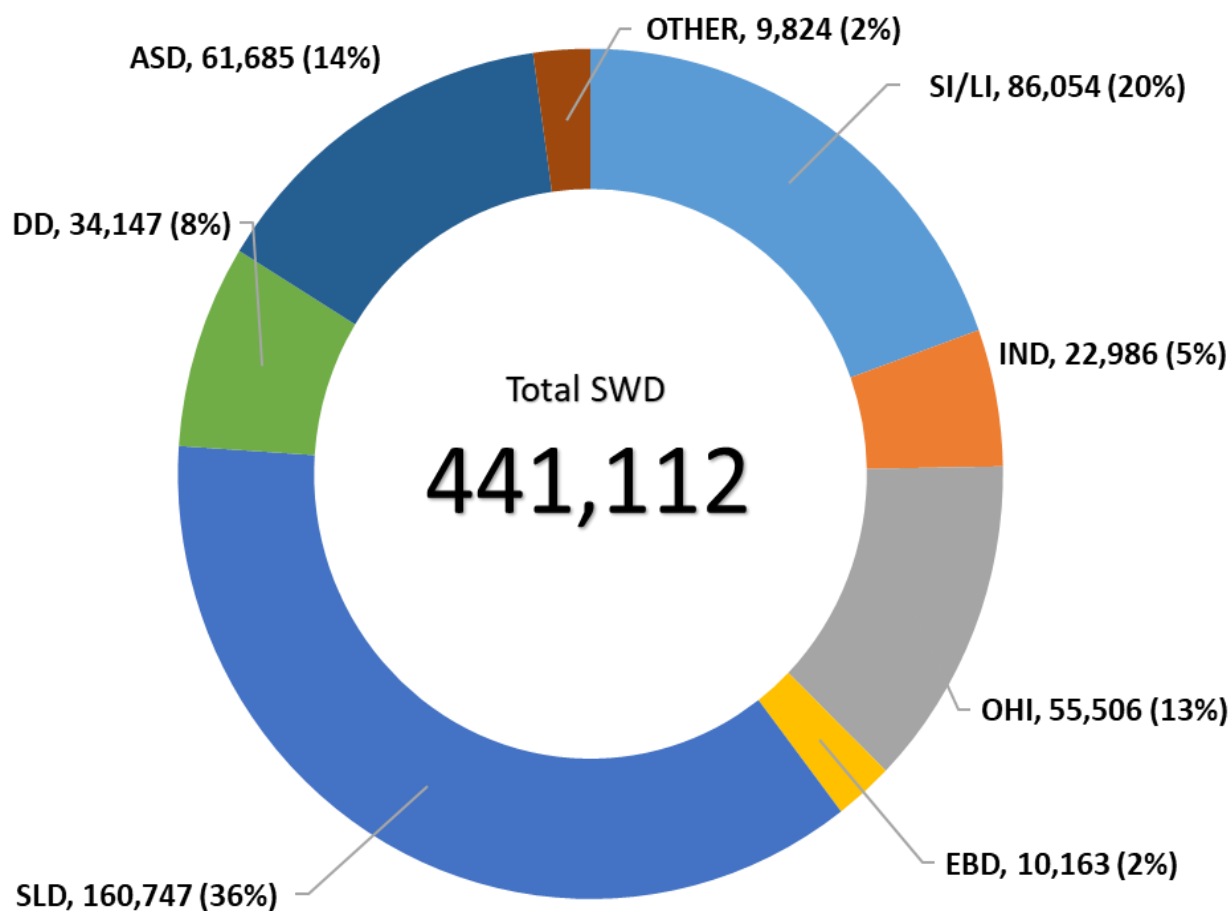
- Hope Florida
- Dispute Resolution and Monitoring (DRM)
- Instructional Support Services (ISS)
- Program Accountability Assessment and Data Systems (PAADS)
- Student Support Services



# Students with Disabilities Definitions

Florida Statutes Definition	Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Definition
<p>A student who is documented as having an intellectual disability; a hearing impairment, including deafness; a speech or language impairment; a visual impairment, including blindness; an emotional or behavioral disability; an orthopedic or other health impairment; an autism spectrum disorder; a traumatic brain injury; or a specific learning disability, including, but not limited to, dyslexia, dyscalculia, or developmental aphasia.</p> <p>Section (s.) <a href="#">1007.02</a>, Florida Statutes (F.S.)</p>	<p>A child with a disability means a child evaluated as having an intellectual disability, a hearing impairment (including deafness), a speech or language impairment, a visual impairment (including blindness), a serious emotional disturbance (referred to in this part as “emotional disturbance”), an orthopedic impairment, autism, traumatic brain injury, an other health impairment, a specific learning disability, deaf-blindness, or multiple disabilities, and who, by reason thereof, needs special education and related services.</p> <p>34 Code of Federal Regulations, (C.F.R.) §§ <a href="#">300.304</a> through <a href="#">300.311</a></p>

# Florida's SWD

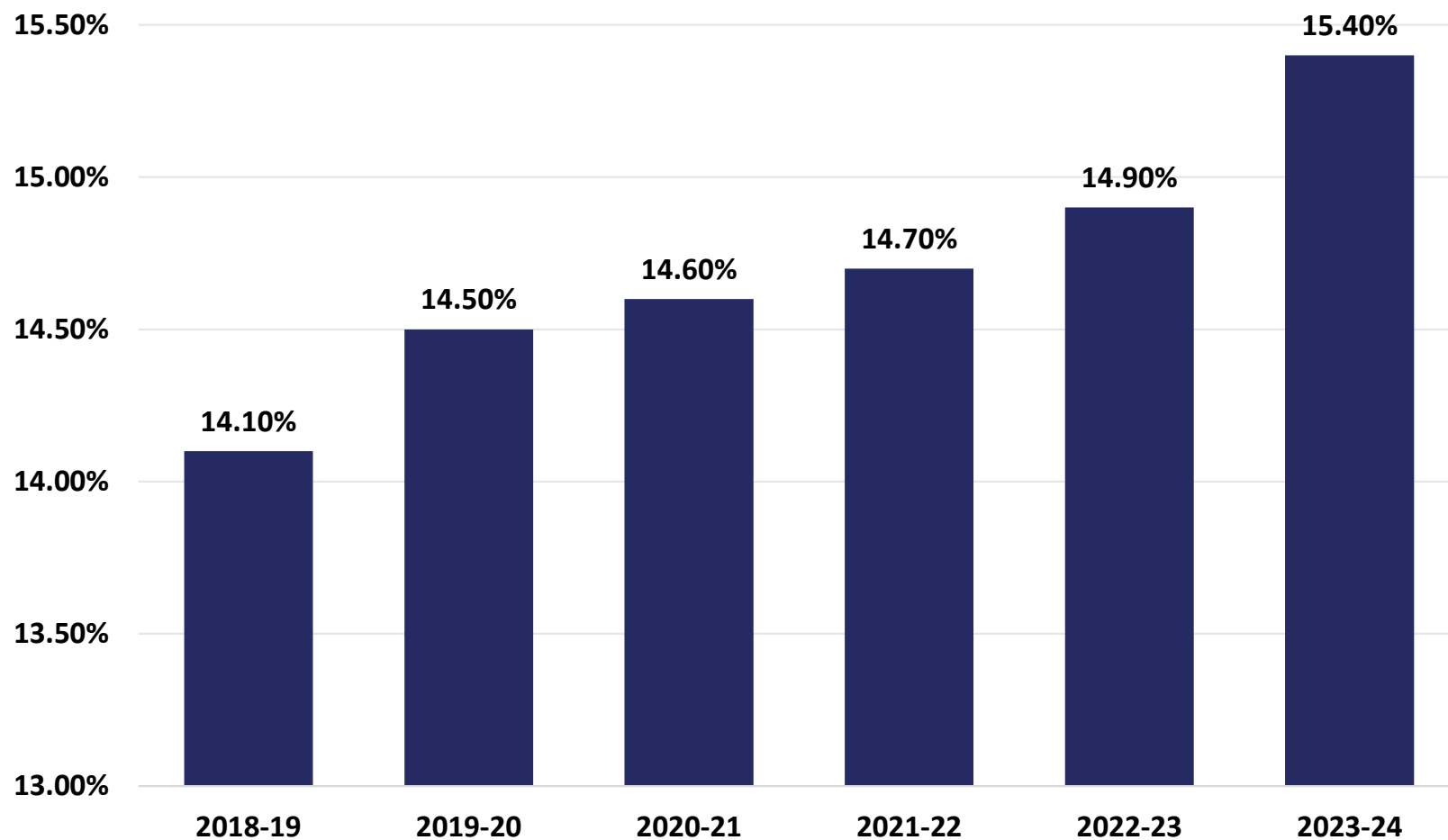


Source: Final Survey 2, 2023-24

## Areas of Eligibility:

- ASD – Autism Spectrum Disorder
- SLD – Specific Learning Disability
- OHI – Other Health Impairment
- IND – Intellectual Disability
- DD – Developmentally Delayed
- SI – Speech Impaired
- LI – Language Impaired
- EBD – Emotional/Behavioral Disability
- Other – Defined Below**
- H/H - Hospitalized or Homebound
- DSI - Dual Sensory Impaired
- TBI - Traumatic Brain Injury
- EC - Established Conditions (0-2)
- OI - Orthopedic Impairment
- D/HH - Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing
- VI - Visual Impairment

# Florida's SWD as Percent of Total Students



Source: Final Survey 2, 2023-24



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# State Funding

## **Florida Education Finance Program**

The Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Guaranteed Allocation provides supplemental funding for SWD. These funds are provided in addition to the funds generated by each student's basic program funding.

## **Family Empowerment Scholarship for Students with Unique Abilities (FES-UA)**

Families may choose to enroll their student in another public school, or they may choose to take the opportunity to receive a personal education savings account (ESA) for their student.



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# Federal IDEA Funds

## Federal IDEA Part B Funds

- **Part B** is the second part of the law itself. The four parts include:
  - **Part A** – General Provisions
  - **Part B** – Assistance for Education of all children with disabilities
    - The majority of funding is for school-aged students with disabilities, with a smaller portion for children ages 3-5
  - **Part C** – Infants and toddlers with disabilities
    - Florida’s Early Steps Program is part of the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act (IDEA), Part C.
  - **Part D** – National Activities to improve education of children with disabilities

For school-aged children with disabilities (including preschoolers), Part B is the foundation for Exceptional Student Education (ESE) and related services.

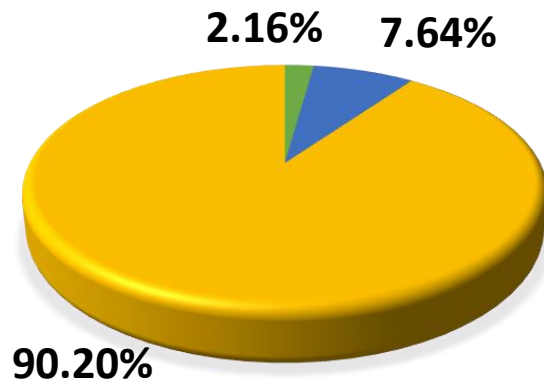
# Florida's Federal IDEA Part B Grants

## State Part B Grants

State Determined Grants

Formula Grants to LEAs

**TOTAL 2024-25 ALLOCATION**  
**\$808,403,042**

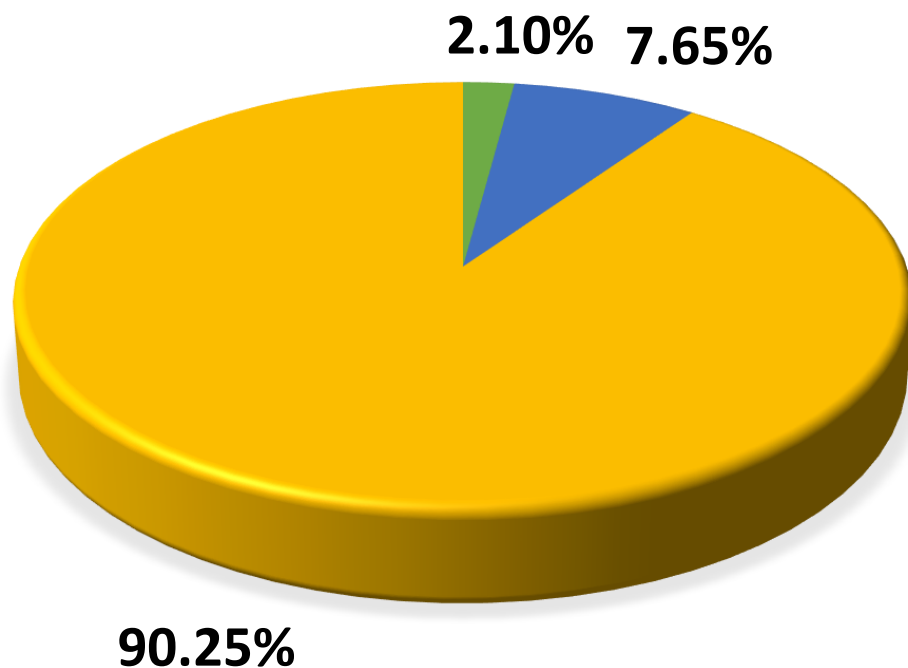


- Administration Costs  
\$17,466,882
- State Determined Grants  
\$61,745,064
- Formula Grants to LEAs  
\$729,191,096



## Federal IDEA State Part B Funds (611)

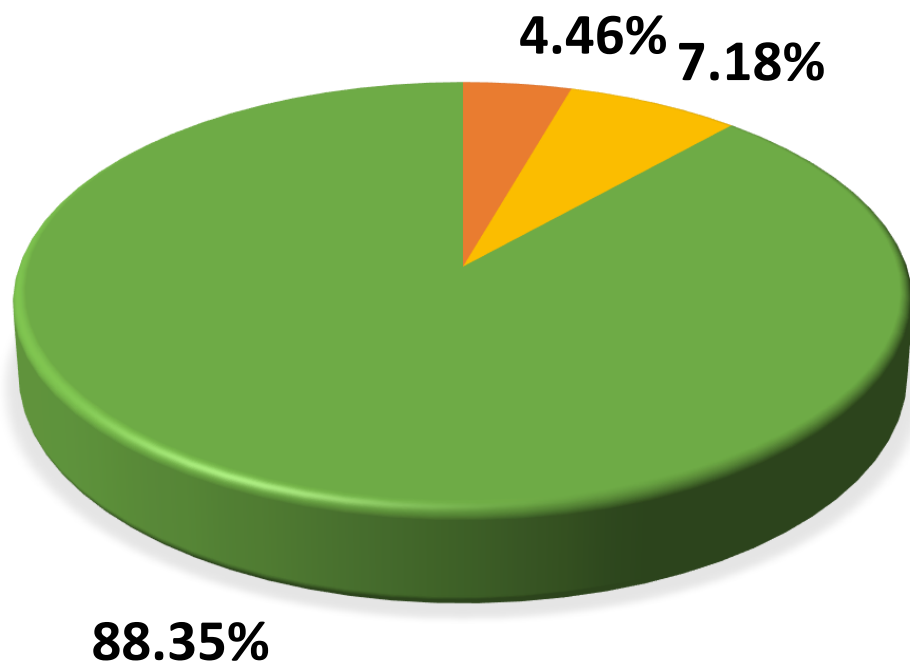
**TOTAL 611 ALLOCATION**  
**\$787,872,110**



- Administration  
\$16,550,476
- State Determined Grants  
\$60,270,245
- Formula Grants for LEAs  
\$711,051,389

# Federal IDEA State Preschool Funds (619)

**TOTAL 619 ALLOCATION**  
**\$20,530,932**



- Administration  
\$916,406
- State Determined Grants  
\$1,474,819
- Formula Grants for LEAs  
\$18,139,707

# Florida's Federal IDEA Part B Grants

## 2024 State Part B Grant to LEAs

**Base Allocation**  
**\$179,007,131**

**Population Allocation**  
**\$452,237,619**

**Poverty Allocation**  
**\$79,806,639**

- States are awarded an allocation each new fiscal year. The majority is allocated to LEAs.
- The Office of Special Education Programs at the USED has established a formula that states must use to calculate allocations for local educational agencies.
- Each LEA completes an IDEA application annually that is reviewed and approved by the Department before funds are disbursed.
- Each LEA is monitored for eighteen IDEA indicators and Florida is monitored by USED for indicator performance and monitoring of the LEAs.

# Exceptional Student Education Project Funding

Project	IDEA Part B Grant	State Appropriation
Florida Diagnostic Learning Resources System (FDLRS) Administration	\$1,501,799	\$0
FDLRS-Associate Centers	\$21,797,745	\$577,758
FDLRS-Specialized Centers	\$3,057,864	\$0
FDLRS-Multidisciplinary Centers	\$0	\$8,700,000
Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD)	\$0	\$12,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$26,357,408</b>	<b>\$21,277,758</b>



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For Additional Questions:

Amelia Johnson  
Deputy Chief of Staff  
[Amelia.Johnson@fldoe.org](mailto:Amelia.Johnson@fldoe.org)



# Senate Appropriations Committee on PreK-12 Education

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# Florida Diagnostic Learning Resources System (FDLRS)



**PURPOSE:** Assist in the provision of medical, physiological, psychological, and educational testing and other services designed to evaluate and diagnose exceptionalities, to make referrals for necessary instruction and services, and to facilitate the provision of instruction and services to exceptional students.

## **FDLRS NETWORK**

**FDLRS  
Administration**

**(18) FDLRS  
Associate  
Centers**

**(6) FDLRS  
Multidisciplinary  
Centers**

**(2) FDLRS  
Specialized  
Centers**



# FDLRS Administration and Associate Centers

- There are **four central functions** of each FDLRS Associate Center:
  - Child find;
  - Parent services;
  - Human resource development;
  - Technology.

FDLRS collaborates with districts, support personnel, administrators and students with disabilities to ensure these four functions are carried out.



# FDLRS Administration and AC Services

## Child Find

FDLRS Child Find, in coordination with the school districts, locates children who are potentially eligible for services under the IDEA and provides diagnostic screening, placement, training and support.

## Family Services

FDLRS Parent and Family Services Specialists assist in the development of family-friendly programs, training and support services for children with disabilities. FDLRS facilitates the partnership between schools and parents to support student achievement.

## Resource Development

FDLRS resources development is available in the areas of behavior management, instructional strategies, differentiated instruction, universal design for learning, explicit instruction, secondary transition and collaborative teaching.

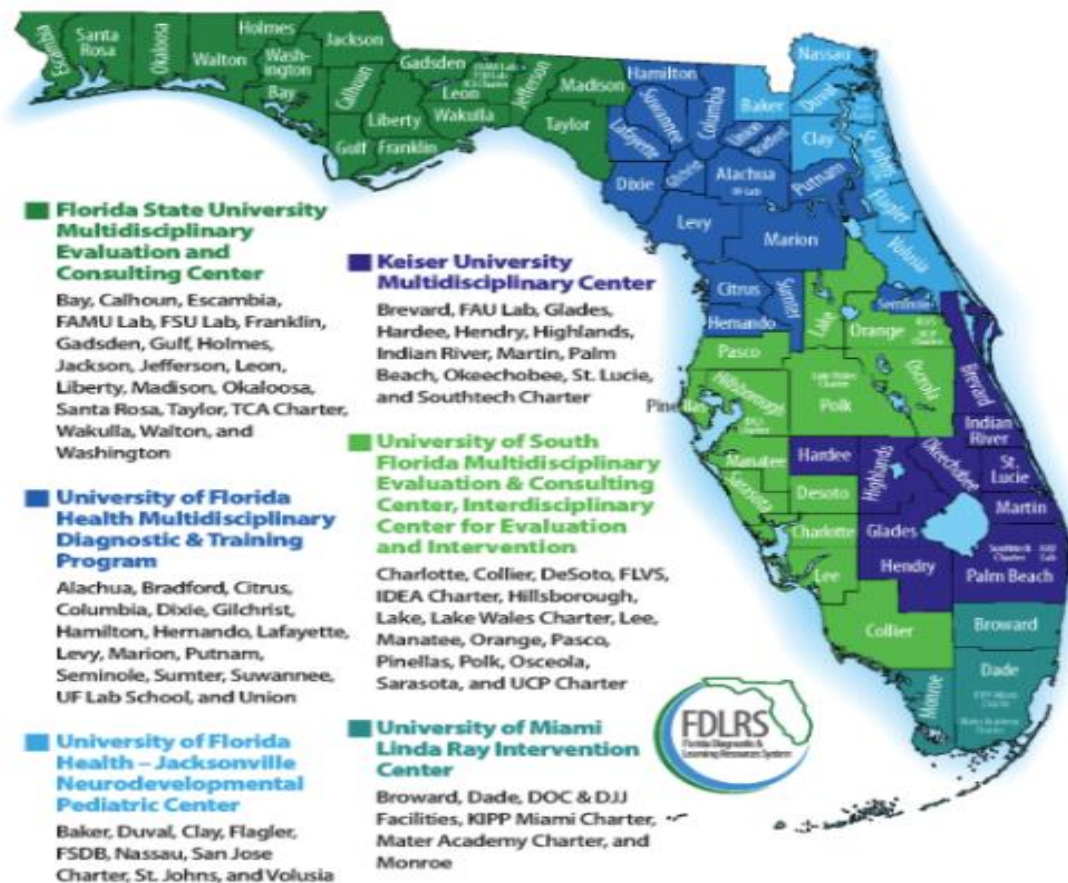
## Technology

FDLRS technology support personnel provide services in multiple areas including assistive technology, instructional technology, universal design for learning, accessible educational materials and virtual instruction.





# FDLRS Multidisciplinary Centers (MDC)



## FDLRS MDC Services

School-based, individual, and group health services with students.

Psychological assessment of children and adolescents.

Collaboration with appropriate community-based agencies and resources.

Specialized evaluations of children suspected of having an autism spectrum disorder or an attention disorder.

Academic and behavioral consultations.

Specialized evaluations for bilingual children.

Participation in school-based intervention teams.

Audiological, speech, and language evaluations.



## FDLRS Specialized Centers

- **Florida Instructional Materials Center for the Visually Impaired (FIMC-VI)**
  - Provides accessible materials, hosts events, and supports the visually impaired
- **Resource Materials and Technology Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (RMTC-DHH)**
  - Focuses on research, curriculum, and interventions for students with hearing impairments.



# FDLRS Outcomes and Achievements

Outcomes and Achievements	FDLRS Administration and AC
Child Find Screenings	25,569
Professional Learning Events	3,686

Outcomes and Achievements	FDLRS Specialized Centers
Students Served	8,115
Professional Learning Events	120

Outcomes and Achievements	FDLRS MDC
Students Served	2,025
Professional Learning Events	1,448



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## Panel Discussion





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For Additional Questions:

Amelia Johnson  
Deputy Chief of Staff  
[Amelia.Johnson@fldoe.org](mailto:Amelia.Johnson@fldoe.org)





# Senate Appropriations Committee on PreK-12 Education

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## Centers for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD)

**PURPOSE:** Provide nonresidential resource and training services for persons of all ages and of all levels of intellectual functioning who have autism; a pervasive developmental disorder that is not otherwise specified; an autistic-like disability; a dual sensory impairment; or a sensory impairment with other handicapping conditions.

**CARD provides consultations to caregivers and professionals on how best to work with an individual with a disability, in order to:**

Teach new skills

Provide trainings and informational materials

Understand and resolve challenging behavior

Refer families to federal, state and local service agencies

Include individuals with autism spectrum disorder and related disabilities in typical school and community settings

Train on how to work effectively with individuals with ASD and related disabilities

Develop meaningful communication skills

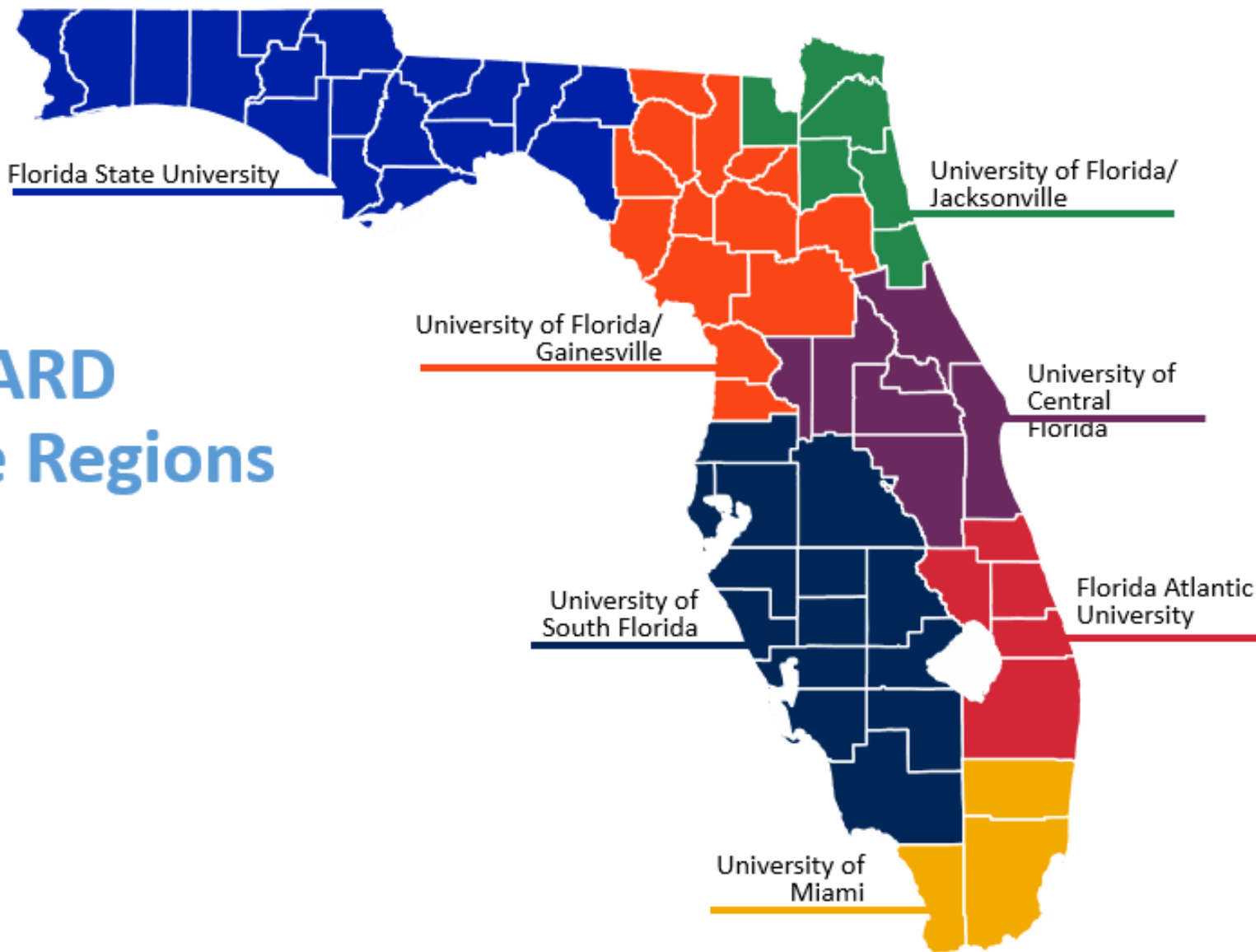
Support families in planning for the future and help

Help families find support groups





# CARD Service Regions





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# Panel Discussion



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Amelia Johnson  
Deputy Chief of Staff  
[Amelia.Johnson@fldoe.org](mailto:Amelia.Johnson@fldoe.org)