

FY 2025 Governor's Budget (House 2)

Budget Highlights: Pre-Kindergarten to 12 and Higher Education

Fair Share Funding

The Governor's budget proposal reminds us how important it was that the MTA, other unions, community groups, and so many others campaigned in 2022 to win passage of the Fair Share Amendment. This constitutional amendment taxes multimillionaires and billionaires a little bit more to pay for crucial investments in education and transportation, including universal school meals, free community college for adults 25 and older, significant new scholarship funds for all public college and university students, and much more. In a year when ordinary revenue is barely growing, the governor's budget proposes new initiatives to support the mental health and social emotional well-being of students and educators who are working effectively to teach all students to read. The budget also provides funds, in line with our *Cherish Act* for public higher ed, to build and repair campus buildings to meet the needs of students, staff and faculty, and meet the Commonwealth's climate goals, not to mention funding for an improved MBTA, regional buses and repairs to city and town roads and bridges. MTA members made these investments possible.

This budget, however, proposes only modest steps toward making sure that all of our schools have the resources they need to help all students to thrive, and for a public higher education system that makes debt-free, high-quality public higher education possible for all students in our community colleges, state universities, and at the University of Massachusetts. As a Commonwealth we need to keep pushing forward to make that future a reality. We will look to make further progress as the House and Senate debate the budget for the coming year.

Pre-Kindergarten through 12

- The FY2025 governor's budget proposes a \$271 million (4.1%) increase in Chapter 70 aid, for a total of \$6.85 billion.
- The charter school reimbursement was reduced from \$232 million to approximately \$199 million, a 14.5% decline. The reason for this is that few new charter schools have been added and so the number of new first-time students to charter schools has decreased, causing a decrease in tuition reimbursements.
- The special education circuit breaker is fully funded. Because there are still funds available in a reserve created in FY24, the proposed appropriation is less than the appropriation in the FY24 budget.
- The regional school transportation reimbursement account is funded at \$99 million, a level that is expected to reimburse 80% of costs.
- The budget proposes an increase for MCAS administration of \$9 million, which reflects a new contract with the test company. This amount is expected to include things like translating the tests into multiple languages.

The FY2025 House 2 budget proposes new funding for the following:

- Mental health supports and wraparounds (\$5 million).
- Child care affordability (\$75 million).
- Early literacy (\$30 million). This is for a new grant initiative called “Literacy Launch: Reading Success from Age 3 through Grade 3.” Reading and literacy are essential to student success and educators have stated clearly that what they need is more time, funding and flexibility to analyze student needs and respond appropriately. The governor’s grant proposal aligns with many of the policies that MTA educators have been recommending, such as expanded access to professional learning and resources to allow for the adoption and implementation of high-quality curricula materials at the local level. This proposal represents a meaningful step in ensuring that educators have the tools and resources to respond most effectively to students’ unique needs.

The House 2 budget proposes to eliminate funding for several programs including the Educational Improvement Project grants, civics education, and financial literacy education.

The following table provides a complete list of proposed appropriations, by line item, compared to the current year’s funding.

Comparison of FY 2025 House 2, with change from FY2024 K-12 Spending

Comparison of FY 2025 House 2, with change from FY2024 K-12 Spending							
Line Item	Account Descriptor	FY24 GAA	9C Cuts	FY2024 GAA after 9C Cuts	FY 2025 Governor's Budget (H2)	After 9C Cuts	
						Change from FY 2024	Percent Change
1233-2401	Smart Growth School Cost Reimbursers	750,000		750,000	750,000	-	0%
1595-0035	21st Century Education Trust Fund	5,000,000	2,000,000	3,000,000	1,000,000	(2,000,000)	-67%
1595-0115	Civics Education Trust Fund	2,500,000		2,500,000	1,500,000	(1,000,000)	-40%
1595-0116	Genocide Education Trust Fund	2,000,000		2,000,000	2,000,000	-	0%
1596-2410	Childcare Grants to Providers				150,000,000		
1596-2413	Early College and Innovation Pathways	5,000,000		5,000,000	5,000,000	-	0%
1596-2422	School Meals (see 7053-1925)	69,000,000		69,000,000	170,000,000	101,000,000	146%
1596-2424	Green Schoolworks	50,000,000		50,000,000	-	(50,000,000)	-100%
1596-2431	MSBA Capital Supports	100,000,000		100,000,000	-	(100,000,000)	-100%
1596-2435	Childcare Affordability				75,000,000		
1596-2436	Mental Health Supports and Wraparounds				5,000,000		
1596-2437	Early Literacy				30,000,000		
7009-1700	Education Information Technology Cos	24,519,373		24,519,373	24,931,893	412,520	2%
7009-6379	Executive Office of Education (Office of	2,354,846		2,354,846	3,084,991	730,145	31%
7009-6600	Early College Programs	15,150,000		15,150,000	15,000,000	(150,000)	-1%
7010-0005	Department of Elementary and Seconda	12,495,386		12,495,386	13,258,175	762,789	6%
7010-0012	METCO Program to Eliminate Racial I	29,400,000		29,400,000	29,408,285	8,285	0%
7010-0033	Literacy Programs	5,366,731		5,366,731	5,298,364	(68,367)	-1%
7010-1192	Educational Improvement Project Grant	11,116,765		11,116,765	-	(11,116,765)	-100%
7010-1193	Civics Education	2,100,000		2,100,000	-	(2,100,000)	-100%
7010-1194	Financial Literacy Education	250,000		250,000	-	(250,000)	-100%
7027-0019	School to Career Connecting Activities	7,807,715	500,000	7,307,715	7,318,346	10,631	0%
7027-0020	Career Technical Partnership Grants	5,876,152	129,058	5,747,094	5,386,584	(360,510)	-6%
7027-1004	English Language Acquisition	3,624,084		3,624,084	3,672,228	48,144	1%
7028-0031	Educational Services in Institutional Se	8,658,798		8,658,798	8,729,028	70,230	1%
7035-0001	Career and Technical Education	3,500,000	457,485	3,042,515	2,500,000	(542,515)	-18%
7035-0002	Adult Basic Education	60,450,000		60,450,000	59,408,278	(1,041,722)	-2%
7035-0006	Transportation of Pupils - Regional Sel	97,077,605		97,077,605	99,456,813	2,379,208	2%
7035-0007	Non-Resident Pupil Transportation	1,000,000		1,000,000	1,000,000	-	0%
7035-0008	Homeless Student Transportation	28,671,815		28,671,815	28,671,815	-	0%
7035-0035	Advanced Placement Math and Science	3,392,809	100,000	3,292,809	2,000,320	(1,292,489)	-39%
7053-1909	School Lunch Program	5,314,176		5,314,176	5,314,176	-	0%
7053-1925	School Breakfast Program	107,066,445		107,066,445	4,566,445	(102,500,000)	-96%
7061-0008	Chapter 70 Payments to Cities and Tow	6,584,758,265		6,584,758,265	6,856,027,888	271,269,623	4%
7061-0009	State Wards Tuition Reimbursement	7,864,821		7,864,821	-	(7,864,821)	-100%
7061-0009	Minimum Aid Supplement	7,864,821		7,864,821	-	(7,864,821)	-100%
7061-0012	Special Education Circuit Breaker	498,972,361		498,972,361	492,227,484	(6,744,877)	-1%
7061-0028	Social Emotional Learning Grants	6,000,000		6,000,000	6,033,474	33,474	1%
7061-0029	Office of Educational Quality and Acco	1,382,781		1,382,781	1,590,112	207,331	15%
7061-0033	Public School Military Mitigation	1,450,000		1,450,000	725,000	(725,000)	-50%
7061-9010	Charter School Reimbursement	232,682,538		232,682,538	198,988,065	(33,694,473)	-14%
7061-9200	Education Technology Program	1,133,214		1,133,214	1,162,475	29,261	3%
7061-9400	Student and School Assessment (MCA	32,383,266		32,383,266	41,439,132	9,055,866	28%
7061-9401	Assessment Consortium	550,000		550,000	550,000	-	0%
7061-9406	Statewide College and Career Readines	875,000		875,000	-	(875,000)	-100%
7061-9408	Partnership Schools Network (Targeted	16,170,664		16,170,664	16,403,545	232,881	1%
7061-9412	Extended Learning Time Grants	2,400,000	7,078,856	(4,678,856)	-	4,678,856	-100%
7061-9601	Teacher Certification Retained Revenue	2,400,000		2,400,000	2,612,438	212,438	9%
7061-9607	Recovery High Schools	2,908,971		2,908,971	2,919,704	10,733	0%
7061-9611	After-School and Out-of-School Grants	10,937,017		10,937,017	8,447,449	(2,489,568)	-23%
7061-9612	Worcester Polytechnic Institute School	650,000		650,000	661,461	11,461	2%
7061-9612	Safe and Supportive Schools	650,000		650,000	661,461	11,461	2%
7061-9619	Franklin Institute of Boston	1		1	1	-	0%
7061-9624	School of Excellence	2,000,000		2,000,000	2,000,000	-	0%
7061-9626	YouthBuild Grants	3,000,000		3,000,000	1,750,000	(1,250,000)	-42%
7061-9634	Mentoring Matching Grants	1,800,000		1,800,000	1,500,000	(300,000)	-17%
7061-9650	Student Wellness School Supports (SH	1,000,000	336,103	663,897	-	(663,897)	-100%
7061-9813	Rural School Aid	15,000,000		15,000,000	15,000,000	-	0%
7061-9814	Summer Learning	3,000,000		3,000,000	3,000,000	-	0%
7061-9815	Hate Crimes and Bias in Schools Preve	800,000		800,000	800,000	-	0%
7100-4003	Campus Hunger Initiative	1,000,000		1,000,000	-	(1,000,000)	-100%
TOTAL		8,109,076,420	10,601,502	8,098,474,918	8,413,755,430	55,280,512	0.68%

Higher Education

- The funding levels proposed by the governor for higher education campuses would provide an overall increase of \$137 million, or 10 percent more than the FY24 General Appropriations Act. (This is a smaller increase over current spending because there have been supplemental budgets.) Most of this increase is for negotiated collective bargaining agreements.
- The governor proposes to decrease the amount in the formula funding item from \$9.8 million to \$3.65 million for state universities and from \$10 million to \$3.76 million for the community colleges.
- The actual funding in the FY24 budget for the Massachusetts State Scholarship program line item, after the \$4 million 9C cut, was \$171.6 million. The FY25 House 2 budget proposes \$175 million, close to the original funding level in the FY24 GAA of \$175.6 million.
- The proposed funding for the Financial Aid Expansion (MassGrant Plus Expansion) was reduced from \$84 million in FY24 GAA to \$80 million in the governor's FY25 budget.
- The Massachusetts State Scholarship program and the MassGrant Plus Expansion (financial aid expansion) would receive \$255 million in the FY25 governor's proposal. This is lower than the original funding level of \$259.6 million in the FY24 GAA.
- The proposed funding for the Community College SUCCESS Fund has been restored to \$14 million, which was the original funding level in FY24 GAA. The actual funding in FY24 was lower, at \$9.7 million, because of a \$4.3 million 9C cut.
- The governor's FY25 budget proposes to increase the funding for the MassReconnect program by \$4 million. The program provides tuition-free community college for students ages 25 and older without a college degree. This program takes us closer to attaining debt-free community college for students in the state.
- The House 2 budget proposes to eliminate funding for several targeted scholarships and programs including the Targeted In-Demand Scholarships, Tomorrow's Teachers, Free Community College Implementation Supports and the Nursing Program Free Community College, shaving about \$70 million from the FY2024 GAA budget.
- The table below provides a complete list of proposed appropriations, by line item, compared to the FY24 GAA less the 9C cuts. (This chart does not include FY24 Supplemental Appropriations.) Following that is a chart that sorts the campus funding by sector with totals.

Comparison of House 2 (Governor's budget) with Change from FY2024 Spending							
Line Items	FY24 GAA	9C Cuts	FY2024 GAA after 9C Cuts	FY 2025 Governor's Budget (H2)	After 9C Cuts		
					Change from FY 2024	Percent Change	
1595-7066	STEM Pipeline Fund	1,500,000	530,000	970,000	1,000,000	30,000	3%
1596-2414	Financial Aid Expansion	84,000,000		84,000,000	80,000,000	(4,000,000)	-5%
1596-2417	Higher Education Capital Funding	50,000,000		50,000,000	125,000,000	75,000,000	150%
1596-2418	MassReconnect	20,000,000		20,000,000	24,000,000	4,000,000	20%
1596-2423	Targeted In-Demand Scholarships	25,000,000		25,000,000	-	(25,000,000)	-100%
1596-2425	DHE Endowment Match	10,000,000		10,000,000	-	(10,000,000)	-100%
1596-2426	UMass Endowment Match	10,000,000		10,000,000	-	(10,000,000)	-100%
1596-2432	Free Community College Implementation Sup	12,000,000		12,000,000	-	(12,000,000)	-100%
1596-2433	Nursing Programs Free Community College	18,000,000		18,000,000	-	(18,000,000)	-100%
1599-4417	E.J. Collins Jr. Center for Public Management	250,000		250,000	250,000	-	0%
1599-7106	Nano/Bio-Manufacturing Facility - UMass Lc	1,500,000		1,500,000	1,500,000	-	0%
1599-7114	UMass Center at Springfield	300,000		300,000	-	(300,000)	-100%
4000-0020	Nursing and Allied Health Workforce Develop	1,500,000		1,500,000	900,000	(600,000)	-40%
7066-0000	Department of Higher Education	7,432,123		7,432,123	2,974,759	(4,457,364)	-60%
7066-0009	New England Board of Higher Education	378,525		378,525	378,525	-	0%
7066-0015	Workforce Development Grants to Communit	1,450,000	90,000	1,360,000	725,000	(635,000)	-47%
7066-0016	Foster Care Financial Aid	1,485,000		1,485,000	1,485,000	-	0%
7066-0019	Dual Enrollment Grant and Subsidies	12,600,000	2,500,000	10,100,000	12,616,733	2,516,733	25%
7066-0021	Foster Care and Adopted Fee Waiver	7,294,911		7,294,911	7,294,911	-	0%
7066-0025	Performance Management Set Aside	2,552,157		2,552,157	2,552,156	(1)	0%
7066-0036	STEM Starter Academy	4,750,000	2,276,131	2,473,869	3,605,158	1,131,289	46%
7066-0040	Adult College Transition Services	500,000	250,000	250,000	-	(250,000)	-100%
7066-0115	Public Matching Grants for Private Funds			-	-	-	
7066-1123	State University & Community College Menta	4,228,000		4,228,000	4,228,000	-	0%
7066-1400	State University Incentive Grants	9,820,456		9,820,456	3,655,242	(6,165,214)	-63%
7066-9600	Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment	5,000,000		5,000,000	4,539,960	(460,040)	-9%
7070-0065	Massachusetts State Scholarship Program	175,650,000	4,000,000	171,650,000	175,188,311	3,538,311	2%
7077-0023	Tufts School of Veterinary Medicine Program	6,500,000		6,500,000	5,500,000	(1,000,000)	-15%
7100-0200	University of Massachusetts	687,101,930		687,101,930	760,555,874	73,453,944	11%
7100-0700	Office of Dispute Resolution	3,213,465		3,213,465	3,013,465	(200,000)	-6%
7100-0701	Center for Portuguese Studies and Culture	250,000		250,000	250,000	-	0%
7100-0702	Institute of Asian American Studies	300,000		300,000	300,000	-	0%
7100-4000	Massachusetts Community Colleges	10,078,100		10,078,100	3,766,551	(6,311,549)	-63%
7100-4002	Community College SUCCESS Fund	14,000,000	4,322,212	9,677,788	14,000,000	4,322,212	45%
7109-0100	Bridgewater State University	60,739,987		60,739,987	67,641,289	6,901,302	11%
7110-0100	Fitchburg State University	37,687,632		37,687,632	41,993,969	4,306,337	11%
7112-0100	Framingham State University	37,087,442		37,087,442	41,290,595	4,203,153	11%
7113-0100	MA College of Liberal Arts	20,943,485		20,943,485	22,886,133	1,942,648	9%
7113-0101	Gallery 51 at the Berkshire Cultural Resource Center			-	50,000	50,000	
7114-0100	Salem State University	56,689,874		56,689,874	63,026,026	6,336,152	11%
7114-0110	Frederick E. Berry Institute for Politics and C	200,000		200,000	200,000	-	0%
7115-0100	Westfield State University	35,424,405		35,424,405	39,637,534	4,213,129	12%
7116-0100	Worcester State University	34,859,139		34,859,139	38,874,136	4,014,997	12%
7117-0100	Massachusetts College of Art	23,163,212		23,163,212	25,862,608	2,699,396	12%
7118-0100	Massachusetts Maritime Academy	22,041,908		22,041,908	24,311,925	2,270,017	10%
7502-0100	Berkshire Community College	13,197,485		13,197,485	14,840,522	1,643,037	12%
7503-0100	Bristol Community College	27,337,925		27,337,925	30,322,851	2,984,926	11%
7504-0100	Cape Cod Community College	15,007,897		15,007,897	16,625,186	1,617,289	11%
7505-0100	Greenfield Community College	12,880,259		12,880,259	14,487,538	1,607,279	12%
7506-0100	Holyoke Community College	24,350,121		24,350,121	27,127,638	2,777,517	11%
7507-0100	Massachusetts Bay Community College	19,420,019		19,420,019	21,839,616	2,419,597	12%
7508-0100	Massasoit Community College	26,040,568		26,040,568	28,946,844	2,906,276	11%
7509-0100	Mount Wachusett Community College	17,842,335		17,842,335	20,184,867	2,342,532	13%
7509-0101	Brewer Center for Civic Learning and Commu	150,000		150,000	150,000	-	0%
7510-0100	Northern Essex Community College	23,767,647		23,767,647	26,659,658	2,892,011	12%
7511-0100	North Shore Community College	26,242,903		26,242,903	29,306,678	3,063,775	12%
7512-0100	Quinsigamond Community College	26,257,655		26,257,655	29,584,745	3,327,090	13%
7514-0100	Springfield Technical Community College	29,927,094		29,927,094	33,281,659	3,354,565	11%
7515-0100	Roxbury Community College	12,990,071		12,990,071	14,517,293	1,527,222	12%
7515-0120	Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center	1,128,694		1,128,694	1,128,694	-	0%
7515-0121	Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center Retai	529,843		529,843	2,500,000	1,970,157	372%
7516-0100	Middlesex Community College	28,458,000		28,458,000	31,969,817	3,511,817	12%
7518-0100	Bunker Hill Community College	33,200,128		33,200,128	36,960,151	3,760,023	11%
7518-0120	PACE Initiative	300,000	150,000	150,000	300,000	150,000	100%
7520-0424	Health and Welfare Reserve for Higher Educa	6,529,017		6,529,017	6,529,017	-	0%
8700-1150	National Guard Tuition and Fee Waivers	10,432,009		10,432,009	9,616,761	(815,248)	-8%
	TOTAL	1,873,461,421	14,118,343	1,859,343,078	2,001,933,395	142,590,317	8%

Comparison of House 2 (Governor's budget) with Change from FY2024 Spending					
Line Item	Name	FY 2024 GAA	FY 2025 Governor's Budget (H2)	Change from FY 2024	Percent Change
	State Universities	338,457,540	369,179,457	30,721,917	9.08%
7066-1400	Massachusetts State Universities	9,820,456	\$ 3,655,242.00	(6,165,214)	-63%
7109-0100	Bridgewater State University	60,739,987	\$ 67,641,289.00	6,901,302	11%
7110-0100	Fitchburg State University	37,687,632	\$ 41,993,969.00	4,306,337	11%
7112-0100	Framingham State University	37,087,442	\$ 41,290,595.00	4,203,153	11%
7113-0100	Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts	20,943,485	\$ 22,886,133.00	1,942,648	9%
7114-0100	Salem State University	56,689,874	\$ 63,026,026.00	6,336,152	11%
7115-0100	Westfield State University	35,424,405	\$ 39,637,534.00	4,213,129	12%
7116-0100	Worcester State University	34,859,139	\$ 38,874,136.00	4,014,997	12%
7117-0100	Massachusetts College of Art	23,163,212	\$ 25,862,608.00	2,699,396	12%
7118-0100	Massachusetts Maritime Academy	22,041,908	\$ 24,311,925.00	2,270,017	10%
	University of Massachusetts	687,101,930	\$ 760,555,874.00	73,453,944	10.69%
7100-0200	University of Massachusetts	687,101,930	\$ 760,555,874.00	73,453,944	11%
	Community Colleges	346,998,207	380,421,614	33,423,407	9.63%
7100-4000	Massachusetts Community Colleges	10,078,100	\$ 3,766,551.00	(6,311,549)	-63%
7502-0100	Berkshire Community College	13,197,485	\$ 14,840,522.00	1,643,037	12%
7503-0100	Bristol Community College	27,337,925	\$ 30,322,851.00	2,984,926	11%
7504-0100	Cape Cod Community College	15,007,897	\$ 16,625,186.00	1,617,289	11%
7505-0100	Greenfield Community College	12,880,259	\$ 14,487,538.00	1,607,279	12%
7506-0100	Holyoke Community College	24,350,121	\$ 27,127,638.00	2,777,517	11%
7507-0100	Massachusetts Bay Community College	19,420,019	\$ 21,839,616.00	2,419,597	12%
7508-0100	Massasoit Community College	26,040,568	\$ 28,946,844.00	2,906,276	11%
7509-0100	Mount Wachusett Community College	17,842,335	\$ 20,184,867.00	2,342,532	13%
7510-0100	Northern Essex Community College	23,767,647	\$ 26,659,658.00	2,892,011	12%
7511-0100	North Shore Community College	26,242,903	\$ 29,306,678.00	3,063,775	12%
7512-0100	Quinsigamond Community College	26,257,655	\$ 29,584,745.00	3,327,090	13%
7514-0100	Springfield Technical Community College	29,927,094	\$ 33,281,659.00	3,354,565	11%
7515-0100	Roxbury Community College	12,990,071	\$ 14,517,293.00	1,527,222	12%
7516-0100	Middlesex Community College	28,458,000	\$ 31,969,817.00	3,511,817	12%
7518-0100	Bunker Hill Community College	33,200,128	\$ 36,960,151.00	3,760,023	11%
	Total	\$ 1,372,557,677.00	\$ 1,510,156,945.00	\$ 137,599,268.00	10.03%

Retired Members Committee (RMC)

- The governor's FY25 budget proposes the typical 3% COLA on the first \$13,000 in pension benefits for retired members of the state and teachers' retirement systems. In addition, the proposal includes the creation of a special commission to study the COLA system. This would include the development of potential policy changes to increase the COLA base and to fund such increases. While we continue to advocate for more immediate steps to strengthen the COLA base, the proposed commission is a positive step and one that reflects the incredible advocacy that MTA Retired members have been applying to this issue in recent years, especially over the past few months.