



Office of the Governor

JB Pritzker

Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Highlights

The Fiscal Year 2027 General Funds budget is a \$55.9 billion plan centered around making Illinois more affordable for working families, protecting long-term stability, and fulfilling core obligations as Illinois navigates federal actions that are driving up prices and fueling national uncertainty. The Fiscal Year 2027 budget package includes House Bill 111 (Fiscal Year 2027 appropriations), House Bill 2949 (Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Implementation bill), Senate Bill 3019 (Revenue bill), House Bill 5196 (Pension Acceleration Program), Senate Bill 3365 (Medicaid Omnibus), House Bill 862 (Efficiencies Bill), and Senate Bill 3255 (Fiscal Year 2027 Bond Authorization bill).

Highlights from the budget package include:

COMMITMENT TO FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY – 8th Balanced Budget

This budget builds on seven years of historic fiscal progress with eight balanced budgets, 10 credit rating upgrades, elimination of the bill backlog, and a forecasted balance of nearly \$2.7 billion in the State's Budget Stabilization Fund ("rainy day" fund) by the end of Fiscal Year 2027.

- Deposits an estimated \$197 million for the Budget Stabilization Fund during Fiscal Year 2027, following a deposit of \$161 million in Fiscal Year 2026.
- Advances pieces of the Governor's Path to Full Pension Funding by extending Illinois' pension buyout program for two years and directing surplus refund reserve funds above \$150 million annually toward accelerating pension debt reduction and lowering long-term liabilities.
- Uses a portion of the State's BRIDGE Fund to finance the FRESH (Families Receiving Emergency Support for Hunger) program, which will provide one-time \$400 cash assistance to those kicked off the SNAP food assistance program by the federal government.

EDUCATION:

Early Childhood Education:

The Fiscal Year 2027 budget provides continued funding for the fourth year of the Governor's Smart Start Illinois early childhood initiative, which includes:

- **\$748 million** in the Early Childhood Block Grant to continue the Smart Start Illinois plan, which extends access to support services and high-quality preschool slots for families with children up to age 3 and has resulted in more than 11,000 new seats since Fiscal Year 2023.
- **\$200 million** investment in funding for Early Childhood Workforce Compensation Grants to continue to stabilize operational funding and promote quality in the childcare system. The contract funding model stems from recommendations made by the Early Childhood Funding Commission.
- **\$55 million** in additional funding for the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) to support provider rate increases and a caseload level of up to 155,000 children (provided no federal funding changes).
- **\$15 million** increase for Early Intervention programs to support timely services for families.
- The first year of full operational and programmatic funding for the new Illinois Department of Early Childhood (IDEC), which will consolidate early childhood programs such as the Child Care Assistance, Early Intervention, Home Visiting, and Maternal and Child Health programs, as well as daycare licensing and the Early Childhood Block Grant, into one agency.

K-12 Education

- **\$350 million** investment in the Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) Formula to achieve the statutory target for annual funding increases — including \$50 million for the Property Tax Relief Grant (PTRG) program. This investment brings the total EBF program to \$9.3 billion, a \$2.5 billion increase to the annual funding level during the Pritzker Administration.
- **\$68 million** increase, for a total of \$1.2 billion, in grants for Mandated Categorical Programs (MCATs):
 - Fully funds the Special Education-Orphanage Tuition and the Regular Orphanage budget lines to ensure claims are 100% funded for the education of students who are primarily under the care and custody of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) guardianship administrator.
 - Increases the available funding for Special Education Transportation reimbursements by \$20 million, for Special Education Tuition by \$20 million, and for Regular/Vocational Transportation expenses by \$10 million, plus \$35

million in new funding at the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) to support mass transit costs related to student transportation needs.

- Nearly triples the available funding for the Illinois Free Lunch and Breakfast program by \$17 million.
- **\$15 million** for the fourth year of funding for the Teacher Vacancy Grant Pilot program.
- **\$1.5 million** for implementation of the Illinois Comprehensive Literacy and Numeracy Plan to provide tools, support, and resources to align educator training and student instruction.
- **\$30 million** for After School Programing, plus a separate \$8 million for After School Matters.

Higher Education:

- **\$721.6 million** to maintain the Monetary Award Program (MAP) funding level, representing a \$320 million (80%) increase for MAP since 2019.
- **\$16 million (1%)** general funds increase for operating costs of public universities (\$13 million) and community colleges (\$3 million) to invest in both students and institutions of higher education.
- **\$3 million** to support Common App simplified admissions across institutions of higher learning.
- **\$2 million** to continue funding the Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois (DFI) program at Fiscal Year 2026 levels to provide holistic supports to graduate students, in addition to their fellowship stipends.
- **\$10.75 million** for Golden Apple Scholars and \$5 million for Golden Apple Accelerators.
- **\$7 million** for Prepare for Illinois' Future test preparation program.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICE PROGRAMS:

Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS)

- **\$55 million** to hire 450 additional staff and update eligibility determination systems for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid to comply with federal changes regarding eligibility and work requirements imposed by H.R.1.
- **\$263.7 million** in general funds for Home Illinois. In combination with other resources, the Home Illinois program funds services and supports, including:
 - **\$81.5 million** to support shelters and other services for homeless populations.

- **\$62.3 million** for supportive housing, homelessness prevention services, shelter diversions, addressing racial disparities, and access to counsel.
- **\$50 million** for court-based rental assistance.
- **\$42 million** for emergency and transitional housing.
- **\$25 million** for Rapid Rehousing services for short-term rental assistance and targeted support services.
- **\$149.6 million** increase for the Division of Developmental Disabilities to support Direct Service Provider (DSP) rate increases and new community placements.
- **\$82.6 million** Home Services Program increase for liability and caseload growth, bringing the investment to \$1.2 billion.

Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS)

- **\$5 million** Fiscal Year 2026 supplemental appropriation to provide continued support for the wildly successful Medical Debt Relief Pilot Program.
- **\$350 million** for the new federal Rural Healthcare Transformation Fund program.
- **\$85 million** for the new Distressed Hospital Loan Program.

Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS):

- **\$19.8 million** increase to help DCFS providers by addressing reimbursement rates to maintain a competitive wage structure.
- **\$3.7 million** increase for the DCFS scholarship program, which will serve 1,381 youths in Fiscal Year 2027.
- **\$33 million** to enhance support for relative caregivers through a nation-leading relative certification model and support for increased guardianship and adoption subsidies.
- **\$35 million** for Comprehensive Community-Based Youth Services, a program of intervention services for at-risk youth that will transition from the Department of Human Services in Fiscal Year 2027.

Department of Public Health (IDPH):

- **\$14 million** for the Office of Health Care Regulation to hire an additional 61 staff for licensing, inspecting, and certifying that healthcare facilities are compliant with regulations.
- **\$18 million** to support reproductive health initiatives, including patient services, provider training, and specialty consultations. Maintains funding for the Breast and Cervical Cancer Program and the AIDS Drug Assistance Program.
- Increases funding for newborn screenings to accommodate new requirements.

Department on Aging (Aging):

- **\$161.8 million** increase for the Community Care Program (CCP) for caseload and utilization growth and to annualize the January 1, 2026, \$1.17/hour rate increase for in-home providers.
- **\$3.3 million** increase in funding for the Adult Protective Services (APS) program.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION:

- **\$111 million** to maintain funding for services for Reimagine Public Safety to help reduce gun violence in Illinois communities through the following:
 - Violence Prevention Programs
 - High-Risk Youth Prevention
 - Programs Youth Development Programs

Illinois Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security (IEMA-OHS):

- **\$10 million** for the Homeland Security Preparedness and Response Grant Program.
- **\$5 million** for another round of funding for the Illinois Nonprofit Security Grant Program.

Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC):

- **\$103 million** increase for personal services at all 28 correctional facilities and to hire additional administrative staff and 100 additional correctional officers to relieve overtime pressures.
- **\$31 million** to support the implementation of an electronic health record system.
- **\$20 million** for annual repair and maintenance expenses to avoid costly repairs and prevent adding to the deferred maintenance backlog.

Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (IDJJ):

- **\$12 million** increase to support onboard staff and to hire an additional 65 staff to maintain mandated staffing ratios.
- **\$5 million** increase for IYC Lincoln to support operational expenses and to hire additional juvenile justice specialists and educators to serve additional youths at the new center.
- **\$2.6 million** for annual repair and maintenance expenses to avoid costly emergency repairs and help prevent adding to the deferred maintenance backlog.
- **\$1.9 million** increase for contractual healthcare services and increased programming.

Illinois State Police (ISP):

- **\$2 million** to support two new cadet classes to hire and train 100 additional sworn Troopers.
- **\$9.7 million** for expenses related to STARCOM infrastructure and equipment.
- **\$4 million** for annual repair and maintenance expenses to avoid costly repairs and prevent adding to the maintenance backlog.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO):

- **\$50 million** for Area Career Centers capital grant program for facility modernization and program enhancements to create seamless, high-quality educational and career pathways.
- **\$20 million** for Manufacturing Training Academies (MTA) capital grants to provide funds for workforce training partnerships with community colleges and private industry.
- **\$20 million** for Illinois Works Pre-Apprenticeship Program to continue investing in the State's workforce development pipeline and train qualified, diverse candidates ready to enter the workforce in construction and building trades.
- **\$35 million** capital investment in the Rebuild Illinois Downtowns and Main Streets program to revitalize business corridors and support small businesses.
- **\$200 million** for public infrastructure capital grants to strengthen and modernize roads and bridges, sewer and water mains, and public transportation.
- **\$100 million** investment in Site Readiness Illinois (SRI) to advance critical capital infrastructure improvements and ensure Illinois remains competitive for large-scale domestic and international projects.
- **\$65 million** investment in Prime Sites funding to support companies relocating to or expanding operations in Illinois to assist with large scale capital investment projects.

ENVIRONMENTAL, NATURAL, AND CULTURAL RESOURCES:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA):

- **\$14 million** for electric vehicle (EV) rebates, encouraging the use of EVs to improve air quality in Illinois.
- **\$5 million** increase to support the Brownfields Redevelopment Grant Program.

- **\$2 billion** in capital appropriations for new and reappropriated funding for IIJA water infrastructure programs, including:
 - **\$110 million** for opportunities to address emerging contaminants in small and disadvantaged communities to confront per- and polyfluoroalkyl substance (PFAS) pollution.
 - **\$1.2 billion** in funding for Lead Service Line Replacement.

Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR):

- **\$37.5 million** to support the continued operation of key capital programs, such as Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) grants.
- **\$11 million** for the repair and maintenance and other permanent improvements to historic sites and state parks.

Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA):

- **\$8.4 million** to support the Weights and Measures Division.
- **\$275,000** for a Soil Health Assessment per PA 103-0494.
- **\$32.8 million** in funding for the industrial hemp, adult-use, and medicinal cannabis division to support the permanent testing facility in Central Illinois to help regulate the State’s cannabis cultivation, craft grower, infuser, and transportation industries.
- **\$4.5 million** commitment for grants to Soil and Water Conservation Districts.
- **\$11 million** deposit into the State Cooperative Extension Trust Fund to support University of Illinois extension programs.

CAPITAL AND TRANSPORTATION FUNDING:

- **\$1.4 billion** in new funding for deferred maintenance at state facilities, universities, and community colleges.
 - **\$1 billion** for deferred maintenance at state facilities.
 - **\$300 million** for deferred maintenance at universities.
 - **\$100 million** for deferred maintenance at community colleges.
- **\$110 million** to rebuild the residential complex at the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy.
- **\$5.6 billion** for the annual Road Program.
 - **\$5.3 billion** from pay-as-you-go funds.
- **\$500 million** for a downstate IDOT road and bridge construction program (outside of District 1).

- **\$300 million** for grants to economically distressed communities for transportation infrastructure projects.
- **\$200 million** for grants to municipalities, counties, townships, and road districts for transportation infrastructure related to large-scale economic development projects.
- **\$35 million** for a new grant program to downstate transit districts providing transportation services to public school students.
 - \$20 million for reduced fares to downstate public school students.
 - \$15 million for public school transportation pilot programs.
- **\$97 million** for renovation at DMA's General Jones Armory and completion of the new Peoria Readiness Center.
- **\$110 million** for continued ERP implementation and technology modernization initiatives.
- **\$100 million** for the expansion of the water loan programs at IEPA.

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