

[THE 90 DAY REPORT - A Review of the 2023 Legislative Session](#)

Education – page A-19

In fiscal 2024, State aid for education grows by \$704.9 million, or 8.9%, providing local school systems with \$8.7 billion in funding for the upcoming fiscal year. These increases were primarily driven by two factors: a dramatic increase in the number of students identified for FRPM and the continued implementation of education reform through the Blueprint for Maryland's Future. For the 2022-2023 school year, full-time equivalent enrollment increased by 4,139 students, or 0.5%, which is the first increase since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

FRPM enrollment increased by nearly 34%, which reflects the first-time use of direct certification through Medicaid for this purpose. This unanticipated increase in **FRPM students results in an increase of over \$390.0 million in compensatory education formula funding**, which accounts for almost half of the total increase in Blueprint program funding from fiscal 2023 to fiscal 2024.

Funding for Blueprint programs increases by \$673.7 million, or almost 70%, from \$965.1 million in fiscal 2023 to \$1.64 billion in fiscal 2024. These increases are slightly offset by a 26% decrease in the prekindergarten funding due to the use of nonproxy enrollment counts for fiscal 2024.

To mitigate the eventual impact to the General Fund, the **Governor added \$500 million to the Blueprint Fund in the budget as introduced, and the General Assembly provided an additional \$400 million, redirecting a total of \$900 million from the statutory Rainy Day Fund appropriation to the Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund in fiscal 2024** - estimated carryover balance of \$2.3 billion from fiscal 2023,

Blueprint Fund resources in fiscal 2024 total approximately \$4.5 billion, which represents an almost 40% increase in total resources available compared to fiscal 2023 and provides adequate funding for Blueprint programs through at least fiscal 2026.

Education – Primary and Secondary - State Funding (page L-1)

Fiscal 2024 major State education aid was impacted by several factors, including ongoing implementation of Chapters 36 and 55 of 2021, known as the Blueprint for Maryland's Future (Blueprint). Overall, State aid for public schools increases by \$704.9 million, or 8.9%, from \$8.0 billion in fiscal 2023 to \$8.7 billion in fiscal 2024. **State education aid provided directly to the local boards of education increases by \$661.0 million, or 9.1%,** while retirement aid increases by \$43.9 million, or 6.0%. These changes include the Blueprint special funds allocated to major State aid and Blueprint programs.

A detailed description of State education aid programs and allocations by school system can be found in Part A – Budget and State Aid of this 90 Day Report, *pages A-76 to A-176*

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**Exhibit A-3.4 - Total State Aid to Local Governments
Fiscal 2023 and 2024 (Green/Increase, Red/Decrease)**

Program (page A-75)	2023	2024	Difference
Foundation Aid	\$3,659,452,582	\$3,768,324,327	\$108,871,745
Foundation– Special Grants	0	34,508,079	34,508,079
Geographic Cost of Education Index*	157,909,651	0	-157,909,651
Comparable Wage Index*	0	155,298,837	155,298,837
Compensatory Education	1,295,201,860	1,686,097,760	390,895,900
Student Transportation– Regular	308,751,983	335,817,268	27,065,285
Student Transportation– Special Education	27,213,000	27,547,000	334,000
Special Education– Formula	401,310,445	465,973,318	64,662,873
Special Education– Nonpublic Placements	141,413,212	148,613,212	7,200,000
Special Education– Infants and Toddlers	14,673,430	15,815,593	1,142,163
English Language Learners Grant	422,465,014	473,518,248	51,053,234
Guaranteed Tax Base	45,783,860	56,783,213	10,999,353
Prekindergarten Expansion Program*	26,644,000	26,644,000	0
School Safety Grants	20,600,000	23,600,000	3,000,000
Blueprint– Concentration of Poverty	190,286,426	227,257,191	36,970,765
Blueprint– Transitional Supplemental Instruction	49,951,813	51,323,685	1,371,872
Blueprint– Transition Grants	57,688,465	57,688,465	0
Blueprint– Full Day PreKindergarten**	144,063,352	99,575,069	-44,488,283
Blueprint– College and Career Readiness	18,669,966	19,888,097	1,218,131
Blueprint– Education Effort Index	125,673,114	87,978,308	-37,694,806
Blueprint– Career Ladder	9,033,505	9,534,910	501,405
Blueprint– Coordinators	0	2,000,000	2,000,000
Food Service	15,796,664	20,296,664	4,500,000
SEED School	12,291,760	12,782,839	491,079
Judy Hoyer Centers	24,936,380	27,906,380	2,970,000
Teacher Development	23,322,000	23,322,000	0
Next Generation Scholars	5,000,000	5,000,000	0
Public School Opportunities	3,000,000	3,000,000	0
Out-of-county Foster Placements	2,000,000	2,000,000	0
Head Start	3,000,000	3,000,000	0
Other Education Aid	24,442,396	20,470,894	-3,971,502
Total Primary and Secondary Education	\$7,230,574,878	\$7,891,565,357	\$660,990,479
Retirement – Teachers (page A-67)	\$724,643,897	\$768,559,037	\$43,915,140
Total w/Teacher Retirement	\$7,955,218,775	\$8,660,124,394	\$704,905,619

***NOTES:**

- Some data formerly within Blueprint categories are now included in their regular categories – Example:
 - Geographic Cost of Education Index is now Comparable Wage Index
- For Detailed Summaries of the categories above, *page A-68* or Part L-Education
- Direct Aid and Retirement Payments to Local Government *pages A-76 to A-176*
- Statewide Education Policy Summary Highlights - *pages L-4 to L-17*
 - The Blueprint for Maryland’s Future Policy Summaries – *page L-6 to L-11*

**Prekindergarten Enrollment significantly decreased during the pandemic between 2020 and 2022, but is beginning to return toward 2020 levels

FY 2024 PUBLIC SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION FUNDS – (pages A-39-40)

Budget Code	Project Title	General Obligation	Revenue	General	Special	Federal	FY 2024 Total Funds	FY 2023 Total Funds	Difference
RA0702A	Aging Schools Program	\$6,109,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,109,000	-\$6,109,000	0
Section 19	Healthy School Facility	0	0	90,000,000	0	0	90,000,000	90,000,000	0
RA0702C	Public School Construction	0	0	216,549,000	268,450,784	0	484,999,784	522,000,000	-37,000,216
RA0702D	Senator James E. "Ed" DeGrange Nonpublic Aging Schools Program	3,500,000	0	0	0	0	3,500,000	3,500,000	0
RA0702E	Supplemental Capital Grant Program	0	0	40,000,000	0	0	40,000,000	95,400,000	-55,400,000
RA0702F	School Construction Revolving Loan Fund	0	0	20,000,000	0	0	20,000,000	40,000,000	-20,000,000
RA0702G	Built To Learn Fund	0	447,231,000	0	0	0	447,231,000	480,000,000	-32,769,000
TOTALS		9,609,000	447,231,000	366,549,000	268,450,784	0	1,091,839,784	1,237,009,000	-145,169,216

Note: Figures include \$40 million of federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act budgeted in the Dedicated Purpose Account for fiscal 2023.

Exhibit L-2 – (page L-3)
Enrollment Growth and Relocatable Classroom Program (Supplemental)
Fiscal 2022-2024 (\$ in Millions)

Local Education Agency	2022	2023	2024
Anne Arundel	\$7.3	\$14.6	\$4.9
Baltimore County	9.4	7.9	6.5
Carroll	0.0	0.0	1.5
Charles	0.0	4.4	1.6
Frederick	5.8	15.3	2.6
Harford	0.0	0.0	2.2
Howard	9.4	16.8	3.4
Montgomery	15.2	18.6	9.4
Prince George's	12.9	17.8	7.5
Worcester	0.0	0.0	0.4
Total	\$60.0	\$95.4	\$40.0

Note: Numbers may not sum due to rounding.

Source: Interagency Commission on School Construction

Summary of Public School Construction Budget – Pages L-1 to L-4

To learn more about Maryland Public School Construction, [CLICK HERE](#)

[CLICK HERE](#) to access Local Education Agencies websites and search school construction on their websites