

The Children's Budget: Investing in the Future of our State

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The Children's Budget: What Is It?

▶ **K-12 Education**

- ▶ State Department of Education; Education Cost Sharing Grants

▶ **Early Care and Education**

- ▶ Office of Early Childhood

▶ **Higher Education**

- ▶ University of Connecticut
- ▶ Board of Regents

▶ **Health and Human Services**

- ▶ HUSKY A & B
- ▶ Department of Children and Families
- ▶ TANF
- ▶ DDS Behavioral (Voluntary) Services

The final FY 2017 budget includes the following cuts:

- ▶ \$81.8 million (2.6 percent) from K-12 education;
- ▶ \$48.7 million (8.1 percent) from higher education;
- ▶ \$38.7 million (4.6 percent) from the Department of Children and Families; and
- ▶ \$5.5 million (17.9 percent) from Behavioral Services in the Department of Developmental Services

FY 2017 Final Budget

	Original FY 17 Appropriations	Final FY 17 Appropriations	Total Change	Percent Change
State Department of Education	\$3,100,190,364	\$3,018,381,393	\$81,808,971	2.6%
Office of Early Childhood	\$297,352,885	\$293,800,629	\$3,552,256	-1.2%
Department of Children and Families	\$833,527,745	\$794,842,146	\$38,685,599	-4.6%
DSS Medicaid (HUSKY A)	\$813,692,160	\$783,117,204	\$30,574,956	-3.8%
DSS TANF	\$98,858,030	\$89,936,233	\$8,921,797	-9.0%
DSS HUSKY B (CHIP)	\$36,250,000	\$36,250,000	\$0	0.0%
DSS CT Children's Medical Center	\$14,800,240	\$13,048,630	\$1,751,610	-11.8%
DDS Behavioral Services	\$30,818,643	\$25,303,421	\$5,515,222	-17.9%
DOL Jobs First	\$18,039,903	\$15,169,606	\$2,870,297	-15.9%
DPH School-Based Health Clinics	\$11,898,107	\$11,280,633	\$617,474	-5.2%
Board of Regents	\$358,002,116	\$332,662,476	\$25,339,640	-7.1%
University of Connecticut	\$248,969,082	\$229,917,913	\$19,051,169	-7.7%
Office of Higher Education	\$45,958,259	\$41,604,805	\$4,353,454	-9.5%
DOL Workforce Investment Act	\$32,104,008	\$34,149,177	\$2,045,169	6.4%
DMHAS Young Adult Services	\$85,961,827	\$80,902,861	\$5,058,966	-5.9%
JUD Juvenile Alternative Incarceration	\$28,442,478	\$25,788,309	\$2,654,169	-9.3%
JUD Youthful Offender Services	\$18,177,084	\$13,311,287	\$4,865,797	-26.8%
Total Children's Budget	\$6,073,042,931	\$5,839,466,723	\$233,576,208	-3.8%
Non-Children's Budget	\$12,843,837,458	\$12,046,684,040	\$797,153,418	-6.2%
General Fund	\$18,916,880,389	\$17,886,150,763	\$1,030,729,626	-5.4%

Other features of the Final FY 2017 Budget:

- ▶ Does not make any significant changes to revenue in FY17.
- ▶ Abandons current services budgeting, which sets the budget baseline at what the state would need to spend to maintain current programs and services, and replaces it with “zero-based budgeting”.

K-12 and Higher Education

- ▶ Department of Education was cut by over \$80 million (3%)
- ▶ Education Equalization line item that funds the Education Cost Sharing grant cut by 2% (over \$30 million)

Early Care and Education

- ▶ Office of Early Childhood was cut by \$3.5 million (1.2%)
- ▶ Maintains funding for early care and education slots
- ▶ Care 4 Kids, Connecticut's largest child subsidy program, remains funded at the original appropriation level.
- ▶ Quality enhancement programs suffered cuts

Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice

- ▶ Department of Children and Families was cut by \$38.6M million (4.6%)
- ▶ The majority of this budget reduction is due to a \$22.2 million cut to the Personal Services account and a \$4.5 million reduction in funding for residential and congregate care placements for foster children
- ▶ Judicial Department Youthful Offender Services cut by \$4,865,797 (26.8%)

Health

- ▶ Maintains HUSKY A eligibility for parents at 155% FPL (good news)
- ▶ Reduces HUSKY pediatric dental provider rates by 5% (\$2.7 million; at least \$5.4 million with loss of federal share)
- ▶ Eliminates supplemental funding for Federally Qualified Health Centers (\$775,000; \$2 million with loss of federal share)
- ▶ Reduces mental health and substance abuse services (\$4.5 million)
- ▶ Unspecified savings in the Medicaid program (approximately \$100 million)
- ▶ Reduces funding for School-Based Health Centers (\$617,474)

Looking Forward

- ▶ Adopt a balanced approach rather than a cuts-only approach
- ▶ Restore current services budgeting
- ▶ Protect investment in children and families.