FY 2016 Program Budgets

**Proposed FY16 Budget - Pages 183 - 199**

**Quality Basic Education Program (*Full funding based on FY16 growth*) pg - 189**

*Purpose:* The purpose of this appropriation is to provide formula funds to school systems based on full time

equivalent students for the instruction of students in grades K-12 as outlined in O.C.G.A. 20-2-161.

**Recommended Change:**

1. Increase funds to reflect an adjustment in the employer share of the Teachers Retirement System from

13.15% to 14.27%. $75,181,182

2. Increase funds for enrollment growth and training and experience. 152,313,334

3. Increase funds for differentiated pay for newly certified math and science teachers. 1,024,285

4. Increase funds for School Nurses. 332,354

5. Increase funds for the State Commission Charter Schools supplement. 8,987,653

6. Increase funds for charter systems grants. 2,946,279

7. Adjust funds for the Special Needs Scholarship. (1,189,260)

8. Increase funds for Move on When Ready. 51,723

9. Increase funds to offset the austerity reduction in order to provide local education authorities the

flexibility to eliminate teacher furlough days, increase instructional days, and increase teacher salaries.

280,000,000.

**Total Change $519,647,550**

**School Improvement pg - 190**

*Purpose:* The purpose of this appropriation is to provide research, technical assistance, resources, and teacher

professional learning and leadership training for low-performing schools and local educational

agencies to help them design and implement school improvement strategies to improve graduation

rates and overall student achievement.

**Recommended Change:**

1. Reflect an adjustment in Teamworks billings. $2,188

2. Increase funds to reflect an adjustment in the employer share of the Employees' Retirement System. 60,794

3. Provide funds for merit-based pay adjustments and employee recruitment and retention initiatives

effective July 1, 2015.

38,517

4. Increase funds to reflect an adjustment in the employer share of the Teachers Retirement System from

13.15% to 14.27%.

9,211

5. Reflect an adjustment to agency premiums for Department of Administrative Services administered

self insurance programs.

2,620

6. Increase funds for 17 teacher and leader effectiveness support positions, one teacher induction

position, and two district effectiveness positions and operating expenses. ( *Support for Evaluation System)*

2,438,684

7. Increase funds for professional development and support for corps members in Teach for America. 350,000 (Teach for America)

**Total Change $2,902,014**

**Georgia Network for Educational and Therapeutic Support (GNETS) pg - 187**

*Purpose:* The purpose of this appropriation is to fund the Georgia Network for Educational and Therapeutic

Support (GNETS), which provides services, education, and resources for students ages three to

twenty-one with autism or severe emotional behavioral problems and their families.

**Recommended Change:**

1. Increase funds to reflect an adjustment in the employer share of the Teachers Retirement System from

13.15% to 14.27%.

$514,767

2. Provide funds for merit-based pay adjustments and employee recruitment and retention initiatives

effective July 1, 2015.

507,107

3. Adjust funds based on enrollment. (984,815) - (*Based on Actual Enrolment Figures)*

4. Provide funds for one program manager position to provide state level support of GNETS. 128,000

**Total Change $165,059**

(*Additional funds in bonds for site improvements*)

**Information Technology Services pg - 188**

*Purpose:* The purpose of this appropriation is to manage enterprise technology for the department, provide

internet access to local school systems, support data collection and reporting needs, and support

technology programs that assist local school systems.

**Recommended Change:**

1. Increase funds to reflect an adjustment in the employer share of the Employees' Retirement System. $95,517

2. Increase funds to reflect an adjustment in the employer share of the Teachers Retirement System from

13.15% to 14.27%.

9,229

3. Provide funds for merit-based pay adjustments and employee recruitment and retention initiatives

effective July 1, 2015.

51,696

4. Reflect an adjustment to agency premiums for Department of Administrative Service administered self

insurance programs.

3,665

5. Reflect an adjustment in Teamworks billings. 35,493

6. Increase funds for the E-Rate program to increase bandwidth from 3 Mbps to 100 Mbps for school

systems. 1,600,000

**Total Change $1,795,600**

**Non Quality Basic Education Formula Grants pg - 188**

*Purpose:* The purpose of this appropriation is to fund specific initiatives, including children in residential

education facilities and sparsity grants.

**Recommended Change:**

1. Increase funds to reflect an adjustment in the employer share of the Teachers Retirement System from

13.15% to 14.27%.

$24,476

2. Provide funds for merit-based pay adjustments and employee recruitment and retention initiatives

effective July 1, 2015.

24,796

3. Adjust funds for Residential Treatment Facilities based on attendance. (141,612)

4. Adjust funds for Sparsity Grants. (634,842) (*Elimination of Hold Harmless*)

**Total Change ($727,182)**

**Quality Basic Education Equalization pg - 189**

*Purpose:* The purpose of this appropriation is to provide additional financial assistance to local school systems

ranking below the statewide average of per pupil tax wealth as outlined in O.C.G.A. 20-2-165.

**Recommended Change:**

1. Increase funds for the Equalization grant. $11,364,325 (***Full funding of Equalization grant***)

**Total Change $11,364,325**

**Quality Basic Education Local Five Mill Share pg - 189**

*Purpose:* The purpose of this program is to recognize the required local portion of the Quality Basic Education

program as outlined in O.C.G.A. 20-2-164.

**Recommended Change:**

1. Adjust funds for the Local Five Mill Share. $9,556,510 (*Funding based on FY16 growth*)

**Total Change $9,556,510**

**Technology/Career Education pg - 191**

*Purpose:* The purpose of this appropriation is to equip students with academic, vocational, technical, and

leadership skills and to extend learning opportunities beyond the traditional school day and year.

**Recommended Change:**

1. Reflect an adjustment in Teamworks billings. $5,744

2. Increase funds to reflect an adjustment in the employer share of the Employees' Retirement System. 13,909

3. Provide funds for merit-based pay adjustments and employee recruitment and retention initiatives

effective July 1, 2015. 10,290

4. Increase funds to reflect an adjustment in the employer share of the Teachers Retirement System from

13.15% to 14.27%. 8,770

5. Reflect an adjustment to agency premiums for Department of Administrative Services administered

self insurance programs. 733

6. Increase funds for vocational industry certification. 752,546

**Total Change $791,992**

**Testing pg - 191**

*Purpose:* The purpose of this appropriation is to administer the statewide student assessment program and

provide related testing instruments and training to local schools.

**Recommended Change:**

**State General Funds**

1. Reflect an adjustment in Teamworks billings. $7,926

2. Increase funds to reflect an adjustment in the employer share of the Employees' Retirement System. 11,910

3. Provide funds for merit-based pay adjustments and employee recruitment and retention initiatives

effective July 1, 2015.

13,127

4. Increase funds to reflect an adjustment in the employer share of the Teachers Retirement System from

13.15% to 14.27%.

3,350

5. Reflect an adjustment to agency premiums for Department of Administrative Services administered

self insurance programs.

829

6. Increase funds for the Georgia Milestones assessment. 1,067,328 (*Cost in FY15 higher than FY16* *start up cost where higher* )

7. Increase funds for two accountability and assessment positions ($252,436) and operating expenses ($3,000). 255,436

8. Increase funds for contracts to review and analyze student growth models statewide. 605,569

**Total Change $1,965,475**

**Other Changes**

9. Utilize existing funds to provide tenth grade students with the choice between the PSAT or ACT

Compass exams. Yes

*Pay for new tests for High School math, Integrated or Discrete, test for each - district choice. Develop new Foundations in Math course. Expansion of 4th year math.*)

**State Health Benefit Plan pg - 137**

*Purpose:* The purpose of this appropriation is to provide a healthcare benefit for teachers and state employees

that is competitive with other commercial benefit plans in quality of care and access to providers;

and to provide for the efficient management of provider fees and utilization rates.

**Recommended Change:**

**Other Changes**

1. Increase funds to annualize the cost of a pilot program to provide coverage for the treatment of autism

spectrum disorders (ASDs) effective January 1, 2015. (Total Funds: $2,410,661)

Yes

2. Increase funds to annualize the cost for providing coverage for hearing aids for children effective

January 1, 2015. (Total Funds: $853,980)

Yes

3. Increase funds to annualize the cost of the bariatric surgery pilot program effective January 1, 2015.

(Total Funds: $5,400,000)

Yes

4. Increase funds for members requiring treatment with the new Hepatitis C drugs. (Total Funds:

$15,400,000)

Yes

5. Reduce funds due to a scheduled reduction in the Transitional Reinsurance Fee imposed by the Patient

Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA). (Total Funds: ($4,924,000))

Yes

6. Increase funds to account for limits imposed on cost sharing by the PPACA. (Total Funds: $46,470,000) Yes

7. Increase funds to account for the projected increased enrollment due to the individual mandate and

auto-enrollment of new employees as required by the PPACA. (Total Funds: $14,155,000)

Yes

8. Reduce funds to reflect savings from removing copayments from health reimbursement arrangement

(HRA) plans. (Total Funds: ($58,000,000))

Yes

9. Reduce funds to reflect updated projections for membership, medical services utilization, and medical

trend changes. (Total Funds: ($174,853,282))

Yes

10. Increase funds for reserves to fund future claims and Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) liabilities.

(Total Funds: $98,212,114)

Yes

11. Delay the implementation of the scheduled increase of the employer contribution rate for noncertificated

school service employees from $596.20 per member per month to $746.20 per member

per month, deferring the collection of an estimated $102,825,000 in revenue for the SHBP. Yes

12. Effective January 1, 2016, eliminate SHBP coverage for non-certificated public school employees, as

defined in OCGA §20-2-910, who work, on average, fewer than 30 hours per week. Yes

**General Obligation Debt Sinking Fund pg - 420**

**FY 2016 Program Budgets**

General Obligation Debt Sinking Fund

**Bond Projects Term**

**Authorized**

**Principal Debt Service**

**New Projects Recommended by Policy Area**

**Educated Georgia**

**State Board of Education / Department of Education**

1. Capital Outlay Program - Regular for local school construction,

statewide. 20 $188,790,000 $16,160,424

2. Capital Outlay Program - Low-Wealth for local school construction,

statewide. 20 31,500,000 2,696,400

3. Capital Outlay Program - Additional Project Specific Low Wealth for

local school construction. 20 5,945,000 508,892

4. Purchase 259 school buses, local school districts, statewide. 10 20,000,000 2,656,000

5. Purchase vocational equipment, statewide. 5 3,000,000 694,200

6. Facility improvements and repairs at the State Schools, multiple

locations. 20 800,000 68,480

7. Building construction at the FFA/FCCLA Center, Covington, Newton

County. 20T 9,500,000 862,600

8. Facility major repairs, improvements, renovations, and equipment at

Georgia Network for Educational and Therapeutic Support (GNETS)

program facilities, statewide. 20 12,000,000 1,027,200

Subtotal Department of Education $271,535,000 $24,674,196

**Teacher Retirement - No Changes in FY16 from FY15 budget. Investments are up.**

**FYI**

**Umbrella Academy part of Economic Development Budget Part of One Georgia**

**Film, Video, and Music**

*Purpose:* The purpose of this appropriation is to increase industry awareness of Georgia business

opportunities, financial incentives, infrastructure resources, and natural resources in order to attract

film, video, music, and electronic gaming industry projects and businesses to the state.

**Total Change $174,435**

**Criminal Justice**

Two new charter high schools and additional staff are proposed for the start of the 2015 -2016 school year for the prison system. The school would be associated with the Technical College system and focus on career development.