

Public Higher Education, K-12, and Early Education & Care

Highlights



Creates MassEducate & Expands Public Higher Education Opportunities

- Invests nearly \$118 million to create
 MassEducate, universal free community
 college and cover tuition & fees
- Provides \$80 million to expand financial aid programs for residents attending state universities through MASSGrant Plus and funds scholarships for residents at nearly \$176 million
- Invests \$14 million to state universities to provide wraparound services
- Provides \$5 million to implement the Massachusetts Inclusive Concurrent Higher Education law



Maintains Public K-12 Commitment

- Provides Chapter 70 funding at \$6.9 billion and ups minimum aid to \$104 per student
- Funds universal school meals at \$170 million
- Provides nearly \$494 million for special education, nearly \$100 million for regional transportation costs, and \$16 million for rural school aid assistance
- Invests \$6 million in social-emotional and mental health support, \$3 million in genocide education, and \$1 million in hate crime prevention





Do I have to make a

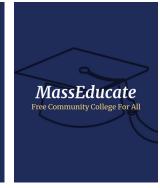








Mass**Senate**





Expands Access to Quality Child Care

- Invests a total of \$475 million in Commonwealth Cares for Children (C3) grants and makes the C3 grant program permanent
- Provides \$18.5 million for Head Start, \$65 million to increase salaries for early educators, and \$20 million for early literacy initiatives
- Invests a total of \$22.5 million to support the expansion of universal pre-kindergarten, including in Gateway Cities



Community Support & Local Aid

Highlights

- Provides \$1.3 billion in funding for Unrestricted General Government Aid (UGGA) to support additional resources for cities and towns
- Invests \$204 million in Regional Transit Authorities (RTAs) to support regional public transportation systems that connect all regions of the Commonwealth, including \$110 million from Fair Share funds
- Funds payments in lieu of taxes (PILOT) for state-owned land at \$53 million
- Provides more than \$52 million for libraries, including:
 - \$19 million for regional library local aid
 - \$20 million for municipal libraries
 - And more than \$6 million for technology and automated resource networks
- Supports the local creative economy by investing nearly \$27 million in the Massachusetts Cultural Council for local arts, culture, and creative initiatives

Expanding & Protecting Economic Opportnities

Highlights

- Invests nearly \$680 million to continue efforts to lift families out of deep poverty
- Provides nearly \$60 million for adult basic education services to improve workforce skills and \$10 million to the Workforce Competitiveness Trust Fund to connect underand unemployed workers with higher paying jobs
- Addresses food insecurity with a more than \$42 million investment in the
 Massachusetts Emergency Food Assistance Program and a \$15 million investment in
 Healthy Incentives Programs (HIP) to maintain access to healthy food options for
 households in need
- Provides more than \$10 million for Career Technical Institutes to provide residents access to to career technical training and grow the workforce pipeline
- Funds a community empowerment and reinvestment grant program at \$10 million to provide economic support to communities disproportionately impacted by the criminal legal system
- Invests \$5.4 million in the Innovation Pathways program to continue to connect students to training and post-secondary opportunities in STEM fields



Health, Mental Health & Family Care

Highlights



Expands Access to Quality Health Care

- Provides more than \$20 billion for MassHealth
- Invests \$625 million in nursing facility Medicaid rates, including \$40 million to pay nurses competitive wages
- Funds **Chapter 257** rates at \$390 million to support **direct care providers** across the continuum of care
- Supports family and adolescent health at nearly \$28 million, including:
 - More than \$9 million for comprehensive family planning services
 - And \$6.7 million to enhance federal Title X family planning funding
- Invests nearly \$15 million in maternal and child health, including
 - More than \$10 million for pediatric palliative care services
 - And a policy change that *allows terminally ill children up to age* **22** to receive pediatric palliative care services
- Provides \$2 million for reproductive health access, infrastructure and safety

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Supports Vulnerable Residents

- For the first time, residents are allowed to *identify as non-binary on birth certificates*, along with codifying the right do so on *drivers licenses*
- Supports those with intellectual and developmental disabilities at nearly \$3 billion
- Invests nearly \$213 million in a complete range of substance use disorder treatment and intervention services
- Provides nearly \$31 million for Early Intervention (EI) services for children with developmental delays and disabilities
- Provides nearly \$30 million for local Councils on Aging



Invests in Mental Health for Everyone

- Provides more than \$622 million for adult support services and more than \$131 million for children's mental health services
- Invests nearly \$34 million in Family Resource Centers for community-based services
- Continues the important work of the Behavioral Health, Access, Outreach and Support Trust Fund with \$20 million
- Invests \$5 million in Children Advocacy Centers



Transportation

Highlights

- Provides \$250 million for the Commonwealth Transportation Fund (CTF) to increase transportation infrastructure investments by \$1.1 billion over the next five years, including:
 - \$127 million to double operating support for the MBTA
 - \$63 million in debt service to leverage additional borrowing capacity
 - And \$60 million in operating support for MassDOT
- Funds capital investments in the MBTA by at \$60 million, including \$10 million for resilient rail services, and provides \$36 million for the MBTA workforce safety reserve, \$20 million to support implementation of low-income fare relief, and \$10 million for the MBTA Academy
- Supports regional transit funding at a total investment of \$204 million, including \$110 million to support the work of Regional Transit Authorities (RTAs) that serve the entire Commonwealth. Fair Share funding includes:
 - \$66 million in direct operating support for Regional Transit Authorities
 - \$30 million for systemwide implementation of fare-free transit service
 - \$10 million to incentivize connections between regional transit routes
 - \$4 million to support expanded mobility options
- Funds supplemental aid for cities and towns for roads and bridges at \$45 million
- Invests \$7.5 million in water transportation ferry services

Housing

Highlights

- Ends the practice of home equity theft
- Prioritizes relief for families and individuals who face financial instability, including
 more than \$326 million for Emergency Assistance family shelters, nearly \$198 million for
 Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT), nearly \$232 million for the
 Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP), more than \$57 million for HomeBASE and
 \$27 million for the Alternative Housing Voucher Program (AHVP)
- Provides \$113 million to local housing authorities and invests nearly \$111 million in assistance for individuals experiencing homelessness
- Provides \$10.5 million for Housing Consumer Education Center, \$10.5 million for unaccompanied homeless youth, \$8.9 million for supportive permanent housing and \$8.9 million for Home and Healthy for Good services to support homeless LGBTQ+ youth