



Budget Update 2021: Disability Programs

Presenter

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Every year, review the state
budget to learn: **How much
money did key disability
programs receive?**

Did we miss a program you
care about? Let us know.





**Programs with no
budget changes**

No Changes to State Funding

Council on Developmental Disabilities

- State funding is about \$200,000. No changes in state funding compared to last year.
- 10 staff
- Approximately \$2.2 million total budget.

No Changes to State Funding

Commission on Aging and Disability

- State funding is about \$16 million. No changes in state funding compared to last year.
- 31 staff
- Total budget: \$50 million



Programs with
increases

Funding increases

Commission on Children and Youth

- State funding is about \$3.5 million, an **increase** of \$30,000 compared to last year.
- 30 staff
- Total budget \$5.7 million

Funding increases

Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (DIDD)

- State funding is about \$50 million, an **increase** of about \$1 million compared to last year.
- Includes new funding for a 25% **increase** in the hourly wage for Direct Support Professionals and other new programs listed [here](#).
- 1,763 staff
- Total budget: \$245 million

Funding increases

Dept. of Health

- State funding is about \$225 million, an **increase** of \$4.3 million compared to last year.
- Includes funding **increase** of \$2 million for the Family Health and Wellness Division, which includes the Children's Special Services (CSS). CSS is for children with special health care needs who do not have other insurance options. The overall state funding for Family Health and Wellness is \$17 million.
- 3,000 staff
- Total budget of about \$685 million

Funding increases

Labor and Workforce Development

- State funding is about \$50 million, an **increase** of \$4.2 million compared to last fiscal year.
- A program highlight for the disability community is a new [virtual American Job Center](#), offering job search help online.
- 1,237 staff
- Total budget about \$210 million

Funding increases

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

- State funding is about \$325 million, an **increase** of \$28.6 million compared to last fiscal year.
- Program highlights for the disability community includes:
 - Mobile Crisis Services **increased** by \$354,300.
 - Behavioral Health Safety Net (for uninsured Tennesseans) **increased** by \$6,500,000.
- 1,849 staff
- Total budget about \$468 million

Funding increases

Division of TennCare

- State funding is about \$4 billion, an **increase** of \$135 million compared to last fiscal year.
- 1,253 staff
- Total budget about \$13 billion
- TennCare's budget includes:
 - \$11 million for 300 more slots for the Employment and Community First CHOICES program. These new slots are prioritized for: people who have aging caregivers, are transitioning from state custody, or are otherwise in crisis.



**Overall Increase;
No change for
disability programs**

Overall Increase; No Change to Disability

Dept. of Education

- State funding is about \$5.6 billion, an increase of about \$341 million compared to last fiscal year.
- Note: state funding did not change for Special Education Services compared to last year. State funding for Special Education Services is about \$1 million. Funds to school districts for students with disabilities are distributed in the Basic Education Plan (BEP) formula.
- An additional \$35 million in state funds goes to state special schools serving students who are blind and deaf.
- 1,100 staff
- Total budget \$6.9 billion

Overall Increase; No Change to Disability

Dept. of Human Services

- State funding for the entire department is about \$186 million, an increase of about \$40 million compared to last fiscal year.
- Note: state funding did not change for Rehabilitation Services serving Tennesseans with disabilities. State funding for Rehabilitation Services is about \$17 million.
- 4,000 staff
- Total budget about \$2.8 billion

Overall Increase; No Change to Disability

Department of Treasury

- State funding is about \$3.4 million. No changes in state funding compared to last year.
- Note: state funding for the ABLE TN savings program for people with disabilities did not change compared to last year.



Other Budget Highlights

Other highlights

Governor's Initiative

- Establishment of a \$250 million Mental Health Trust Fund for K-12 education.

Department of Human Resources

- The FY21-22 budget bill included \$265,800 for implementing the **State as a Model Employer** initiative for recruiting and retaining employees with disabilities.

Other highlights

Department of Environment and Conservation

- The FY21-22 budget bill included \$30 million for **making state parks more accessible** (see Press Release, #3 under Sources below).

Department of Transportation

- Officially launched the new **Office of Accessible Transportation**. This did not require additional state appropriations because it is supported by federal funds.

Sources

1. Final budget bill, Public Chapter 454:
<https://publications.tnsosfiles.com/acts/112/pub/pc0454.pdf>
2. Governor's Budget FY21-22:
<https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/finance/budget/documents/2022BudgetDocumentVol1.pdf>
3. "Gov. Lee Announces Passage of Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget," Press Release, April 29, 2021:
<https://www.tn.gov/governor/news/2021/4/29/gov--lee-announces-passage-of-fiscal-year-2021-2022-budget-.html>
4. Confirmation from state agencies referenced.

Thank you!

Questions? Comments?

Look for this summary every year in the Council's Policy Newsletter:
<https://www.tn.gov/cdd/training-and-news/subscribe-to-council-updates.html>

Find a link to this summary on the Council's State Policy webpage:
<https://www.tn.gov/cdd/public-policy/state-public-policy-priorities.html>