



Understanding the Budget: From the State to the Local Level

February 16, 2021

An overview of the New York State budget process, with a focus on how state library funding flows to library systems and libraries.

We'll also discuss how state budget cuts impact local libraries and strategies for advocating to elected officials at all levels.

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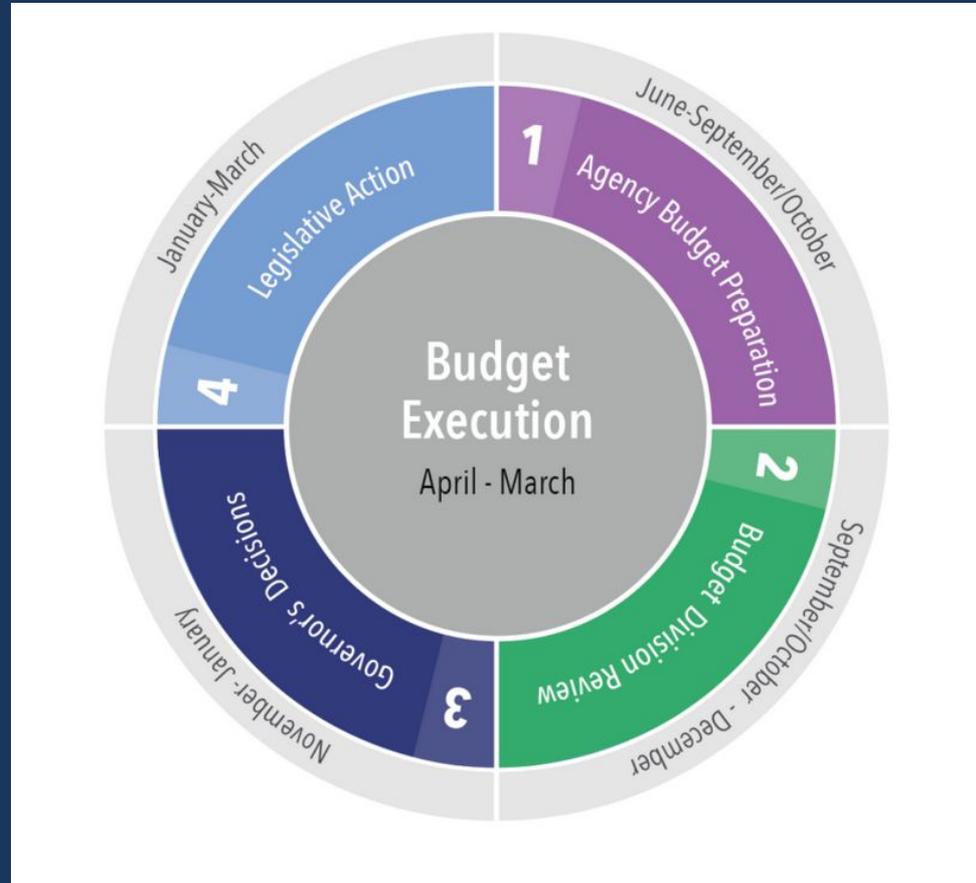
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Itinerary

- State Budget Process (How It's Developed) -Bri
- The State Budget at the System Level - Tim
- The State Budget at the Local Level - Cassie
- Where We Are Now - Bri
 - The Impact of COVID 19 (Be Realistic)
- Advocacy:The Seasons - Bri
- Advice from our Advocates - Cassie/Tim
- Q&A - All

The Budget Process



Executive Budget

- The governor must submit the executive budget by "... the second Tuesday following the first day of the annual meeting of the Legislature" (in January), or by February 1st following a gubernatorial election year
- Appropriation versus Article VII
- Yellow Book (Assembly)
- White Book (Senate)
- Amendments

One House Budget(s)

- Assembly & Senate
- Mid-March
- Joint Budget Hearings
 - Mid-January through end of February

Final Budget

- 3- way agreement
- The Goal: April 1

Library Aid : The Basics

Library Aid:

- Primarily broken up to address the needs of public library systems and public libraries, school library systems, and reference and research library systems
- Over 80% of aid allocated in each year's budget is provided to a system
 - Funds are used to provide services to pertinent members including, public libraries, public and nonpublic schools and academic, law and special libraries
- Under Aid to Localities (Appropriation Bill)

Construction Aid:

- Funds are used for capital projects
- Examples include broadband installation, acquisition, construction, renovation, or rehabilitation of public libraries spaces or the infrastructure of a public library system headquarters
- Under Capital Projects (Appropriation Bill)

The State Budget at the System Level

New York State Library Aid supports the state's library system infrastructure (80% vs. 20%)

This infrastructure ensures that essential services are provided to all libraries in New York State.

The state's library system infrastructure also serves as a connector and facilitator between all New Yorkers and the library service they need.

<http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/libs/index.html>

Three types of library systems make up the NYS LIBRARY SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE:

- Public Library Systems (23) - support and connect public libraries
- Reference and Research Library Resources Councils aka "3R's" or "ESLNS" (9) - support and connect academic, special, and public libraries
- School Library Systems - support and connect all public and non-public schools K-12

<http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/libs/index.html>

THE NYS SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE has been around more than 50 years. It was created to serve three CORE PURPOSES:

- Promote sharing of resources to ensure equity of service for all New Yorkers
- Create and maximize opportunities for shared services and economies of scale.
- Concentrate expertise to share with all member libraries regardless of library size, staff, budget, etc.

SYSTEMS are still effectively and efficiently serving these core purposes in the 21st century!

System services and programs funded by NYS Library Aid that are provided to members by Public Library Systems

- Resource Sharing - Delivery Services, ILL
- Shared collections - ebooks, databases, digital resources
- Continuing Education for Library Staff and Trustees
- Automation and Technology Support Services
- Coordinated Outreach Services for high need populations
- Library services and support for the state's jails and correctional facilities

If you are from a public library - how important are these system services to your library and your community?

This is what you are advocating for!

System Services and programs funded by NYS Library Aid that are provided to members by Reference and Research Library Resource Councils

- Resource Sharing - Delivery Services, ILL
- Shared collections - ebooks, databases, digital resources, digitization services
- Continuing Education for Library Staff
- Automation and Technology Support Services
- Coordinated Collection Development between member libraries
- Hospital Library services and support
- Special Library services and support

If you are from an academic or special library - how important are these system services to your library and your community?

This is what you are advocating for!

System Services and programs funded by NYS Library Aid that are provided by School Library Systems

- Resource Sharing - Delivery Services, ILL
- Shared collections - ebooks, databases, digital resources
- Continuing Education for Library Staff
- Automation and Technology Support Services
- Coordinated Collection Development between member libraries
- Library services to students with special needs

If you are from a school library - how important are these system services to your library and your community?

This is what you are advocating for!

- Every system is different - different libraries, different communities, different populations
- Proportion of NYS funding to other revenue sources (member library cost shares, membership fees, etc.) varies widely from system to system
- Some systems charge members for certain system services
- There are registration fees for some programs
- Etc.

But what all systems have in common is that NYS funding is their most important source of support to make a difference at your library!

When statewide library aid goes up, every library system in NYS benefits, AND
When every library system has more NYS aid to support their services, every library in NYS
benefits, AND
When every library can give their community, their students, their users the resources and
services they want...

A Rising Tide Lifts all Boats!

That is what you are advocating for!

Please help us get this simple message out to all library staff, trustees, students,
library users, and advocates in your library's community

The State Budget at the Local Library Level

- Direct
 - Local Library Services Aid (public)
 - Public Library Construction Aid
 - Coordinated Collection Development Aid (academic)
 - Library Materials Aid (school)
- Indirect
 - System Services
 - Cuts and/or Increased Cost Shares (public)
 - Fewer CE Opportunities (all)
 - Fewer Partnership Opportunities (all)

Where We Are Now

Last year:

- Library Aid Program
 - \$94.1M Enacted
 - 20% temporary withholding
 - 15-20% return is uncertain
- Library Construction
 - \$14M Enacted
 - Reduced by \$20M

This year:

- Library Aid Program
 - \$87M
 - 7.5% reduction from '20 Enacted
 - Edu Law requirement of \$102.6
- Library Construction
 - \$14M
 - Flat from '20
 - \$1.5B community need

Proposal to form “Services Aid” from 11 existing expense-based aid categories.

- Amongst the eleven categories are Instructional Materials that include textbooks, software, computer hardware and library materials.
- School library materials include audio, visual and printed materials.
- In addition to the consolidation of eleven aid categories, the Governor has proposed reducing reimbursement to the newly formed Services Aid category by nearly \$400 million.
- Without the dedicated funding provided by Library Materials Aid, school libraries will be unable to maintain their current collections curated to reflect the diverse literacy needs of their students.
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- Under ELFA (education, labor, housing and family assistance

Seasons of Advocacy

- January - February
- March - April
- May - June
- July - September
- October - December

Advice from Advocates

**Use Social
Media**

**All Politics
is Local**

**Make
Connections**

**Be
Memorable**

Listen

**Have
a Story**

Q&A