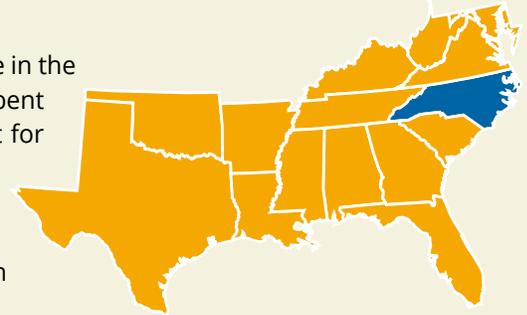




# North Carolina STATE BUDGET ANALYSIS

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM GOVERNOR RAY COOPER'S PROPOSED EDUCATION BUDGET

Governor Roy Cooper is one of a handful of Democratic governors holding office in the Deep South. He first entered office in 2016 when he defeated Republican incumbent Governor Pat McCrory. Governor Cooper recently released a proposed budget for 2019 - 2021 that invests in higher pay and retention strategies for teachers, expands Pre-K services, and increases funding for North Carolina's university system. These promising systemic programs are important because only 44% of the 3rd - 8th grade students meet grade-level norms and just 16% of high schoolers are deemed college-ready in all four tested ACT subject categories.



## NORTH CAROLINA'S EDUCATION BUDGET PRIORITIES

Core Education Program	Governor 2020 Budget Proposal	FY 2020 Base	FY 2019
Pre-K Investments	<b>\$47,580,000</b>	\$31,680,000	\$22,330,000
Department of Public Instruction	<b>\$10,154,153,000</b>	\$9,586,373,370	\$9,545,366,000
Special Education Scholarship Grant	<b>\$13,043,000</b>	\$13,043,000	\$13,043,000
NC Personal Education Savings Account	<b>\$3,000,000</b>	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000
Charter Schools	<b>\$2,360,000</b>	\$2,360,000	\$2,360,000
Teacher Pay Increases	<b>\$216,549,000</b>	N/A	N/A
Recruiting and Retaining Teachers	<b>\$10,000,000</b>	N/A	N/A
Wraparound Services	<b>\$40,000,000</b>	\$0	\$0
School Safety	<b>\$15,000,000</b>	\$0	\$0
Community Colleges	<b>\$1,226,061,000</b>	\$1,168,416,000	\$1,185,784,000
UNC System	<b>\$3,180,288,000</b>	\$3,092,496,000	\$3,110,024,000
HBCUs	<b>\$333,299,000</b>	\$330,299,000	\$331,200,000

1. The budget breakdown is a snapshot of the education budget rather than an exhaustive listing of every line item.
2. The budget line items listed in the chart above are selected based on the priorities of SEF. We believe these programs are most closely associated with student success or the most significant impediments in the education system.
3. The state education program charts may differ from state to state due to different budget development processes and a respective governor's education priorities.
4. The final Pre-K chart number combines multiple Pre-K programs listed in Governor Cooper's budget.
5. Teacher Pay increases include the sum of teacher compensation and Master's Pay for Teachers.

# North Carolina STATE BUDGET ANALYSIS

## AREAS OF PROMISE

### Governor Roy Cooper Recommends:

- A 50% funding increase for Pre-K expansion
- A 6% funding increase to Department of Public Instruction
- A \$217 million funding increase to teacher pay
- A \$40 million funding program to invest in more nurses, school counselors, and mental health services
- A \$10 million funding program to recruit and retain highly qualified teachers
- A 5% funding increase to the Community College System
- A 3% funding increase to the UNC Higher Education System



**50%↑** INCREASE TO PRE-K SERVICES



**\$217M↑** MILLION INCREASE TO TEACHER PAY



**6%↑** INCREASE TO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION



**\$40M** PROGRAM FOR MORE SCHOOL NURSES, COUNSELORS, AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

## AREAS OF CONCERN

### Governor Roy Cooper Recommends:

- A \$13 million increase to the Special Education Scholarship Fund, a school voucher initiative. He also plans to fund but phase out the general school voucher program, also known as the Opportunity Scholarship grant.
- A \$3 million increase for the NC Personal Education Savings Account program



**\$13M↑** TO SPECIAL EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND (SCHOOL VOUCHER)



**\$3M↑** FOR THE NC PERSONAL EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNT PROGRAM

## EQUITY RECOMMENDATIONS

Governor Cooper and the state legislature should: (1) defund all school voucher, education savings account, or any other measure that would fund private schools with public dollars; (2) defund all ineffective or discriminatory charter schools; (3) ensure school safety grants include mental health, wraparound services, and cultural competency training for all adults working inside the school; (4) maintain Governor Cooper's recommended allocation for teacher pay increases, teacher recruitment/retention, wraparound services, and Pre-k services; and (5) increase funding for HBCUs.