

**School for the Deaf
Summary of Budget Recommendations - House**

Page III-47

Peter L. Bailey, Superintendent

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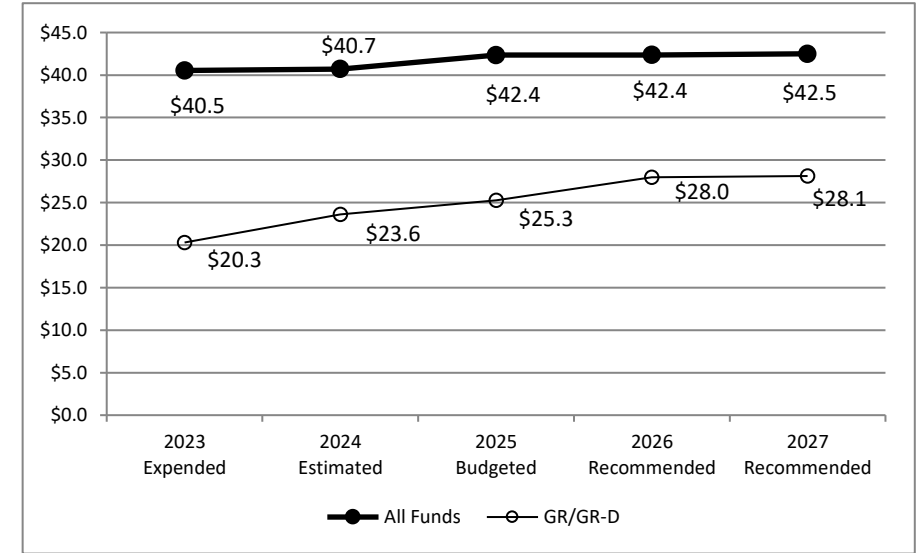
Method of Financing	2024-25 Base	2026-27 Recommended	Biennial Change (\$)	Biennial Change (%)
General Revenue Funds	\$48,905,555	\$56,096,287	\$7,190,732	14.7%
GR Dedicated Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
<i>Total GR-Related Funds</i>	<i>\$48,905,555</i>	<i>\$56,096,287</i>	<i>\$7,190,732</i>	<i>14.7%</i>
Federal Funds	\$2,951,238	\$2,036,006	(\$915,232)	(31.0%)
Other	\$31,208,442	\$26,730,745	(\$4,477,697)	(14.3%)
All Funds	\$83,065,235	\$84,863,038	\$1,797,803	2.2%

	FY 2025 Budgeted	FY 2027 Recommended	Biennial Change	Percent Change
FTEs	445.1	447.1	2.0	0.4%

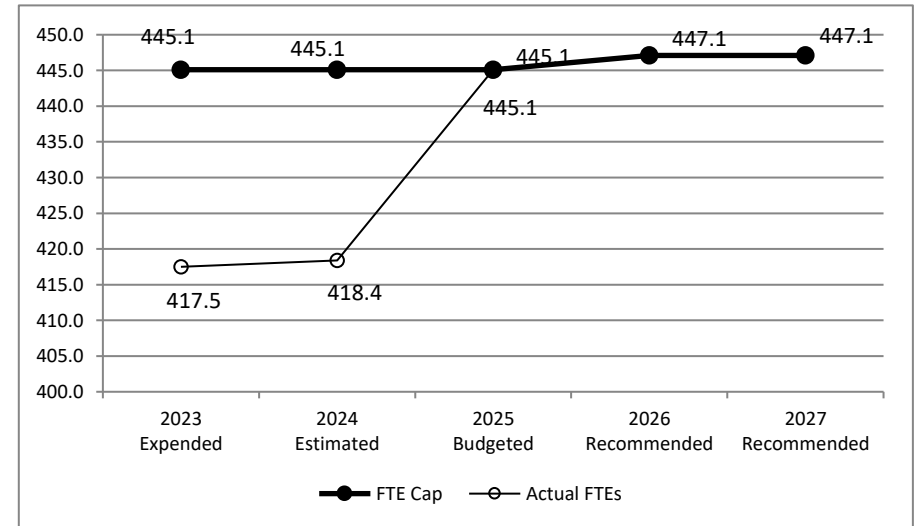
Agency Budget and Policy Issues and/or Highlights

The increase in General Revenue Funds maintains statutorily required teacher salary increases provided in the 2024–25 biennium, and to provide for cost increases related to student transportation and special education programs and services previously supported by Other Funds.

Historical Funding Levels (Millions)



Historical Full-Time-Equivalent Employees (FTEs)



The bill pattern for this agency (2026-27 Recommended) represents an estimated 97.6% of the agency's estimated total available funds for the 2026-27 biennium.

School for the Deaf
Summary of Funding Changes and Recommendations - House

Funding Changes and Recommendations for the 2026-27 Biennium compared to the 2024-25 Base Spending Level (in millions)	General Revenue	GR-Dedicated	Federal Funds	Other Funds	All Funds	Strategy in Appendix A
<i>SIGNIFICANT Funding Changes and Recommendations (each issue is explained in Section 3 and additional details are provided in Appendix A):</i>						
A) Reduction in federal reimbursements beginning in FY 2024, with reduced reimbursements anticipated to continue into the 2026–27 biennium.	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$7.2)	(\$7.2)	A.1.1, A.1.2, A.1.3, A.1.4, A.1.5, B.1.2
B) Increase in Appropriated Receipts to partially offset SHARS reimbursements reduction.	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2.7	\$2.7	A.1.1, A.1.2, A.1.3, A.1.4, A.1.5
C) Funding to maintain FY 2025 teacher salary increases into the 2026–27 biennium, based on salary increases granted by Austin ISD.	\$0.6	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.6	C.1.1
D) Funding to provide for cost increases related to student transportation and salary and staffing levels for special education programs and services.	\$5.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$5.5	A.1.1, A.1.2, A.1.3, A.1.4, A.1.5, B.1.1, B.1.2, D.1.1, D.1.2
<i>OTHER Funding Changes and Recommendations (these issues are not addressed in Section 3 but details are provided in Appendix A):</i>						
F) Increase in funding to biennialize the statewide salary adjustments included in the 2024–25 appropriations.	\$1.1	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1.1	A.1.1, A.1.2, A.1.3, A.1.4
G) Decrease in Federal Funds to reflect end of contracts for federal pass-through grants.	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$0.9)	\$0.0	(\$0.9)	B.1.2, D.1.2
TOTAL SIGNIFICANT & OTHER Funding Changes and Recommendations (in millions)	\$7.2	\$0.0	(\$0.9)	(\$4.5)	\$1.8	As Listed
<i>SIGNIFICANT & OTHER Funding Increases</i>	\$7.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2.7	\$9.9	As Listed
<i>SIGNIFICANT & OTHER Funding Decreases</i>	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$0.9)	(\$7.2)	(\$8.1)	As Listed

NOTE: Totals may not sum due to rounding.

**School for the Deaf
Selected Fiscal and Policy Issues - House**

1. **Impact of Educational Professional Salary Increases.** Texas Education Code, Section 30.055 and Rider 3 of the agency's bill pattern require the School for the Deaf (TSD) to pay professional educators salaries equivalent to professional salary rates at Austin ISD. TSD's Education Professional Salary Increase strategy is an estimated appropriation that provides additional General Revenue to grant comparable salary increases to those adopted by AISD during the 2026–27 biennium. Rider 3 provides the agency with the authority necessary to receive these funds from the Comptroller of Public Accounts (CPA). Dollar amounts are calculated annually and documented in a letter sent to the LBB and CPA.

In fiscal year 2024, TSD was appropriated \$1.8 million in General Revenue to implement a 7.0 percent teacher salary increase. In fiscal year 2025, recommendations assume TSD will draw \$1.8 million in General Revenue to maintain the fiscal year 2024 increase and \$0.6 million to implement an additional salary increase, which varies by position and tenure.

Recommendations include an increase of \$0.6 million in General Revenue to maintain estimated fiscal year 2025 salary levels in the 2026–27 biennium, but do not make assumptions about additional AISD salary increases in the 2026–27 biennium.

2. **Special Education Services General Revenue Increase.** Recommendations include \$3.5 million in General Revenue Funds to provide for cost increases related to 30.7 existing FTEs in federally mandated regular and short-term special education programs and services, including orientation and mobility, social work services, occupational and physical therapy services, psychological services, counseling, educational diagnostician services, speech and audiological services. FTEs include occupational therapists, physical therapists, and speech language pathologists. Recommended General Revenue increases would offset declines in federal reimbursements (Other Funds) experienced during the 2024–25 biennium and projected during the 2026–27 biennium, which previously supported these functions.
3. **Student Transportation.** Recommendations include a total of \$7.6 million for transportation in Strategy A.1.5 in the 2026–27 biennium, an increase of \$0.3 million from the 2024–25 biennium. Included is \$2.0 million in additional General Revenue Funds for charter bus transportation services to provide weekends home transportation for residential students, partially offset by a decrease in federal reimbursements (Other Funds) for this purpose. Daily transportation brings students who live in the surrounding Austin area to and from the TSD campus on school buses. Weekends home transportation brings students who do not live in the surrounding area to their family homes on the weekends. About 49.0 percent of TSD students live in the surrounding area and the remaining 51.0 percent come from other areas of Texas.

Article IX, Section 17.15(e) provides legislative intent to provide \$339.0 million in cross-article funding for vehicle replacement in the supplemental bill, of which \$0.5 million is intended for school bus replacement for TSD.

4. **Campus Master Plan.** Recommendations do not include TSD's request for \$35.3 million in General Revenue for upgrades to the central utility plant to expand capacity of the chilled water and heating water systems, including replacement of the site distribution piping and the connected building pump systems. In fiscal year 2023, TSD was appropriated \$56.8 million in General Revenue by SB30, Eighty-eighth Legislature, Regular Session, for Campus Master Plan Phase 3, which includes funding for Adult Curriculum for Community, Employment, and Social Skills (ACCESS) program classrooms, ACCESS dormitories and a campus security entrance. Surveying is currently underway for the ACCESS classrooms, ACCESS dormitories, and security entrance, with construction expected to begin in Spring 2025.

**School for the Deaf
Rider Highlights - House**

Modification of Existing Riders

3. **Educational Professional Salary Increases.** Recommendations specify the amounts in Strategy C.1.1, Educational Professional Salary Increases, included to maintain teacher salary increases from the previous biennium and the estimated amounts for future salary increases (estimated to be \$0). Recommendations also clarify the computation of the teacher salary increases to be included in baseline budget request for the 2028–29 biennium.

Deleted Riders

4. **Contingency for Behavioral Health Funds.** Recommendations delete rider as all provisions are currently covered in Article IX, Section 10.04, Statewide Behavioral Health Strategic Plan and Coordinated Expenditures.

See also Special Provisions for the School for the Blind and Visually Impaired and School for the Deaf.

School for the Deaf
Items Not Included in Recommendations - Senate

		2026-27 Biennial Total			Information Technology Involved?	Contracting Involved?	Estimated Continued Cost 2028-29
		GR & GR-D	All Funds	FTEs			
Agency Exceptional Items Not Included (in agency priority order)							
1)	Campus Master Plan Phase 3B - TSD requests \$35.3 million for upgrades to the central utility plant to expand capacity of the chilled water and heating water systems, including replacement of the site distribution piping and the connected building pump systems.	\$35,300,000	\$35,300,000	0.0	No	No	\$0
TOTAL Items Not Included in Recommendations		\$35,300,000	\$35,300,000	0.0			\$0

**School for the Deaf
Appendices - House**

Table of Contents		
Appendix	Appendix Title	Page
A	Funding Changes and Recommendations by Strategy	7
B	Summary of Federal Funds	*
C	FTE Highlights	8

* Appendix is not included - no significant information to report

School for the Deaf
Funding Changes and Recommendations by Strategy - House -- ALL FUNDS

Strategy/Goal	2024-25 Base	2026-27 Recommended	Biennial Change	% Change	Comments
CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION A.1.1	\$22,912,582	\$23,349,534	\$436,952	1.9%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendations include a \$5.5 million increase in General Revenue Funds to provide for cost increases related to student transportation and special education programs and services. • Recommendations include a \$1.1 million increase in General Revenue Funds to biennialize the statewide salary adjustments included in the 2024-25 appropriations. • Recommendations include a \$0.9 million decrease in Federal Funds associated with anticipated decreased grant funding. • Recommendations reflect an increase of \$0.6 million in General Revenue Funds for Educational Professional Salary Increases to maintain salary increases implemented in fiscal year 2025. (See Section 3, Item #1). • Recommendations include a \$7.2 million decrease in Interagency Contracts associated with an anticipated decrease in federal reimbursements. • Recommendations include a \$2.7 million increase in Appropriated Receipts to partially offset the federal reimbursements reduction.
RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM A.1.2	\$11,840,651	\$11,847,220	\$6,569	0.1%	
RELATED AND SUPPORT SERVICES A.1.3	\$14,702,005	\$15,415,286	\$713,281	4.9%	
CAREER AND TRANSITION PROGRAMS A.1.4	\$6,990,720	\$7,439,984	\$449,264	6.4%	
STUDENT TRANSPORTATION A.1.5	\$7,318,741	\$7,639,406	\$320,665	4.4%	
Total, Goal A, ACADEMIC, LIFE, AND WORK TRAINING	\$63,764,699	\$65,691,430	\$1,926,731	3.0%	
SPECIALIZED ASSISTANCE B.1.1	\$2,735,920	\$2,835,336	\$99,416	3.6%	
STATEWIDE OUTREACH PROGRAMS B.1.2	\$2,779,468	\$2,097,200	(\$682,268)	(24.5%)	
Total, Goal B, OUTREACH AND RESOURCE SERVICES	\$5,515,388	\$4,932,536	(\$582,852)	(10.6%)	
EDUC PROF SALARY INCREASES C.1.1	\$2,427,522	\$3,039,918	\$612,396	25.2%	
Total, Goal C, EDUCATIONAL PROF SALARY INCREASES	\$2,427,522	\$3,039,918	\$612,396	25.2%	
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION D.1.1	\$5,732,476	\$5,835,344	\$102,868	1.8%	
OTHER SUPPORT SERVICES D.1.2	\$5,625,150	\$5,363,810	(\$261,340)	(4.6%)	
FACILITY CONSTRUCT., REPAIR & REHAB D.1.3	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	
Total, Goal D, INDIRECT ADMINISTRATION	\$11,357,626	\$11,199,154	(\$158,472)	(1.4%)	
Grand Total, All Strategies	\$83,065,235	\$84,863,038	\$1,797,803	2.2%	

**School for the Deaf
FTE Highlights - House**

Full-Time-Equivalent Positions	Expended 2023	Estimated 2024	Budgeted 2025	Recommended 2026	Recommended 2027
Cap	445.1	445.1	445.1	445.1	445.1
Actual/Budgeted	417.5	418.4	445.1	NA	NA

Schedule of Exempt Positions (Cap)					
Superintendent, Group 5	\$171,688	\$185,000	\$185,000	\$185,000	\$185,000

Notes:

a) Texas Education Code, Section 30.053(d) states that the annual salary of the Superintendent may not exceed 120.0 percent of the annual salary of the highest paid instructional administrator at the school.

b) The Superintendent position currently receives an annual salary of \$185,000. Pursuant to Article IX, Section 3.04(c)(1-3) of the 2024–25 General Appropriations Act, TSD's board is authorized to request to set the rate of compensation for the exempt position within the salary range of Group 5, \$122,500 - \$197,415.