

Improving Quality of Life

K-12 Education

- The FY 2017 budget includes a record \$6.3 billion State investment in Maryland's public schools, a \$140.1 million increase over FY 2016, fully funding State aid programs. The budget includes full funding of the Geographic Cost of Education Index.
- In another show of the Hogan Administration's dedication to education, every jurisdiction in the State receives more funding per student in this year's budget compared to FY 2016.
- In order to ensure the resources needed to succeed while planning for the future, the Governor's budget provides \$5.6 million in one-time aid to three jurisdictions that have experienced decreases in State aid due in part to declining enrollments over the past five years. Of the total, \$4 million is for Carroll County, \$1.3 million for Garrett County, and \$300,000 for Kent County.
- The budget includes \$704,000 over two years to launch the development of four P-TECH 9-14 schools in Maryland to help better prepare students for college and entry into the job market. Graduates from Maryland's P-TECH schools will earn their high school diploma and a two-year postsecondary degree in a STEM field from an accredited community college.



Other Education Programs

- The Division of Rehabilitation Services, which promotes the employment and independence of individuals with disabilities, receives \$105.3 million in FY 2017 to cover services for an estimated 2,625 customers.
- Child Care Subsidy funding grows by \$5.7 million over FY 2016, including an 8 percent bump, or \$3 million in additional State funds. Total funding of \$97.4 million is estimated to provide free or reduced-priced child care to 18,610 children.
- The budget includes \$74.4 million in additional funds for school lunch and breakfast programs, bringing the total for school nutrition programs to \$429.3 million in FY 2017.
- \$18.2 million is provided for the Autism Waiver, enabling 1,000 children diagnosed with severe autism to receive services in their community, rather than in more restrictive and expensive institutional settings.
- An additional \$2 million in State funding and 20 new positions are provided in FY 2017 to enhance services to vulnerable youth through the Juvenile Services Education Program.
- The budget fully funds the State aid formulas for the Maryland School for the Deaf (\$31.0 million) and the Maryland School for the Blind (\$21.5 million).
- The budget includes a \$2.3 million or 3.2 percent increase to fully fund aid to local libraries at \$74.1 million. Full formula funding of \$2.5 million is provided for the Maryland Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped as well as 14 new positions to expand customer access to library materials and services.