

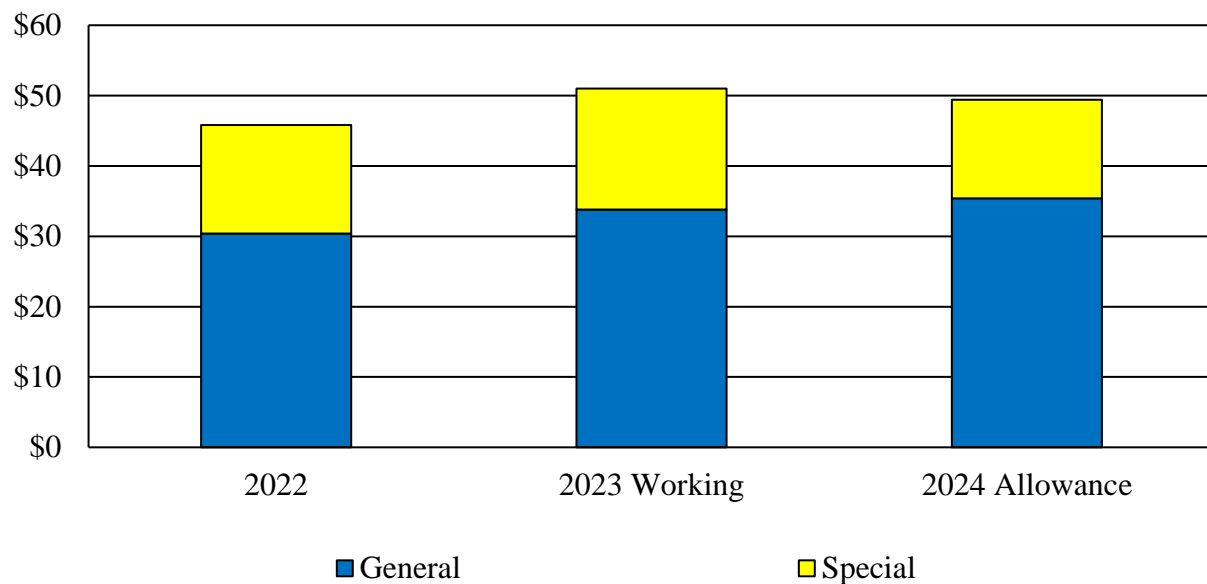
R00A03
Funding for Educational Organizations
Maryland State Department of Education

Executive Summary

Nonprofit organizations and nonpublic schools, including the Maryland School for the Blind (MSB) and Blind Industries and Services of Maryland (BISM), receive grants through the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) for various education programs operated under Funding for Educational Organizations.

Operating Budget Summary

Fiscal 2024 Budget Decreases \$1.6 Million, or 3.1%, to \$49.4 Million
(\$ in Millions)



Note: Numbers may not sum due to rounding. The fiscal 2023 working appropriation includes deficiency appropriations including this agency's share of a deficiency appropriation budgeted in the Statewide Account within the Department of Budget and Management (DBM). The fiscal 2024 salary enhancements are budgeted in the Statewide Account within DBM.

- The Governor's fiscal 2024 budget plan includes a \$1.6 million general fund increase for MSB, which incorporates the school's fiscal 2023 pay plan increase mandated under Chapter 423 of 2021 and a per pupil formula increase mandated in Chapter 36 of 2021, the Blueprint for Maryland's Future Grant Program.

Key Observations

- ***Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today (BOOST) Receives \$8.0 Million:*** The fiscal 2024 proposed budget provides \$8.0 million for BOOST, which is \$2.0 million less than the \$10.0 million allocation provided in fiscal 2023.

Operating Budget Recommended Actions

1. Adopt committee narrative requesting a report on Maryland School for the Blind enrollment and Managing for Results measures.
2. Amend language regarding the No Child Left Behind Act and distribution of funding for the Aid to Non-Public Schools Program.
3. Amend language to require programs participating in the Aid to Non-Public Schools Program to submit student handbooks or admissions policies.
4. Add language regarding nondiscrimination requirements for the Aid to Non-Public Schools Program.
5. Adopt committee narrative requesting a report on American Rescue Plan Act Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools Funding.
6. Amend language to restore the Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today Program administrative and reporting requirements.

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Operating Budget Analysis

Program Description

MSDE provides funding to certain nonprofit organizations that offer educational programs. These nonprofits include MSB, BISM, and other educational institutions that merit the department's support. This part of the MSDE budget also funds the Aid to Non-Public Schools Textbook and Technology Program, which provides eligible nonpublic schools with textbook and computer supplies, and the BOOST Program, which provides scholarships for students from low-income families to attend nonpublic schools. A brief description of each program is in **Appendix 1**.

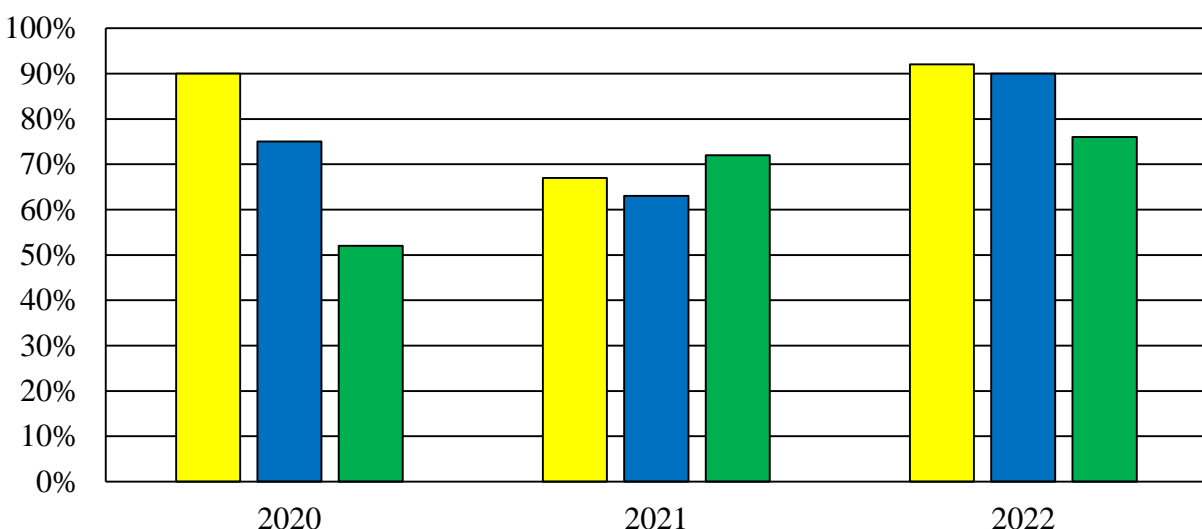
Performance Analysis: Managing for Results

1. Maryland School for the Blind

One of MSB's Managing for Results (MFR) goals is that students will acquire academic and independent living skills. This measure includes goals for the percentage of nonreaders and prereaders who achieved their Individualized Education Program (IEP) communication or literacy objectives; the percentage of readers who increased their fluency rate; and the percentage of students who achieved progress in demonstrating skills in the home, school, or community.

With the return to in-person instruction in fiscal 2022 (2021-2022 school year), MSB students returned to prepandemic achievement levels. Students who achieved IEP objectives increased from 67% to 92%; readers who increased their fluency rate increased from 63% to 90%; and students who progressed in demonstrating skills in the home, school, or community increased from 72% to 76%. All measures exceeded prepandemic achievement levels. MSB graduated all eligible students in 2022 and expects to do so in coming years. **Exhibit 1** displays these academic and independent living skills measures for fiscal 2020 through 2022.

Exhibit 1
Maryland School for the Blind
Academic and Independent Living Skills Measures
Fiscal 2020-2022



■ Nonreaders and Prereaders Who Achieved IEP Communication and/or Literacy Objectives

■ Readers Who Increased Fluency Rate

■ Students Who Achieved Demonstrated Skills Progress in Home, School, and/or Community

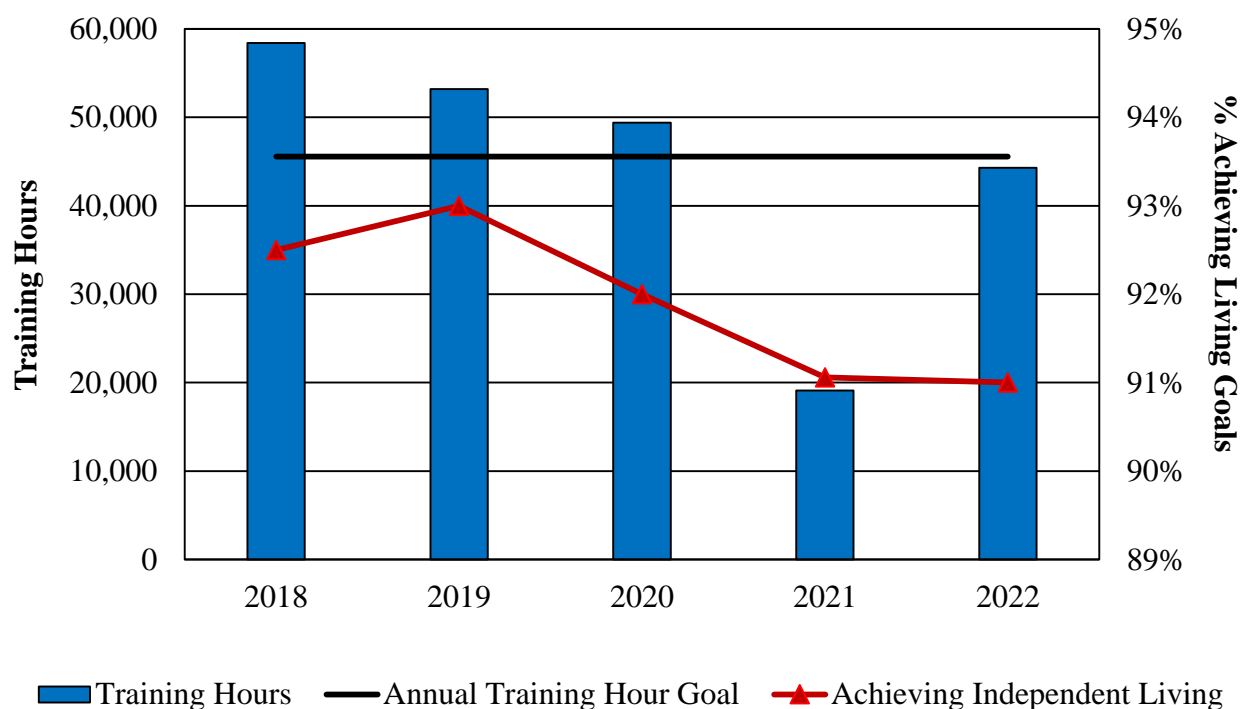
IEP: Individualized Education Plan

Source: Maryland School for the Blind, Fiscal 2024 Managing for Results

2. Blind Industries and Services of Maryland

The BISM MFR goals focus on assisting citizens who are blind or have low vision to gain the skills and confidence they need to live independently. One of the objectives within this goal is for BISM to deliver at least 45,450 hours of annual training, which includes braille instruction, computer skills, cane training, career exploration, physical fitness, and other necessary life skills. In fiscal 2022, BISM operated primarily in-person and increased training hours over 130% from 19,096 in fiscal 2021 to 44,297 in fiscal 2022, bringing this measure close to prepandemic levels. For achievement of independent living goals, 91% of BISM participants were successful in this measure in fiscal 2022, which is the same percentage as fiscal 2021. **Exhibit 2** shows BISM's achievement of independent living goals and training hours from fiscal 2018 through 2022.

Exhibit 2
Blind Industries and Services of Maryland
Achievement of Independent Living Goals and Training Hours
Fiscal 2018-2022

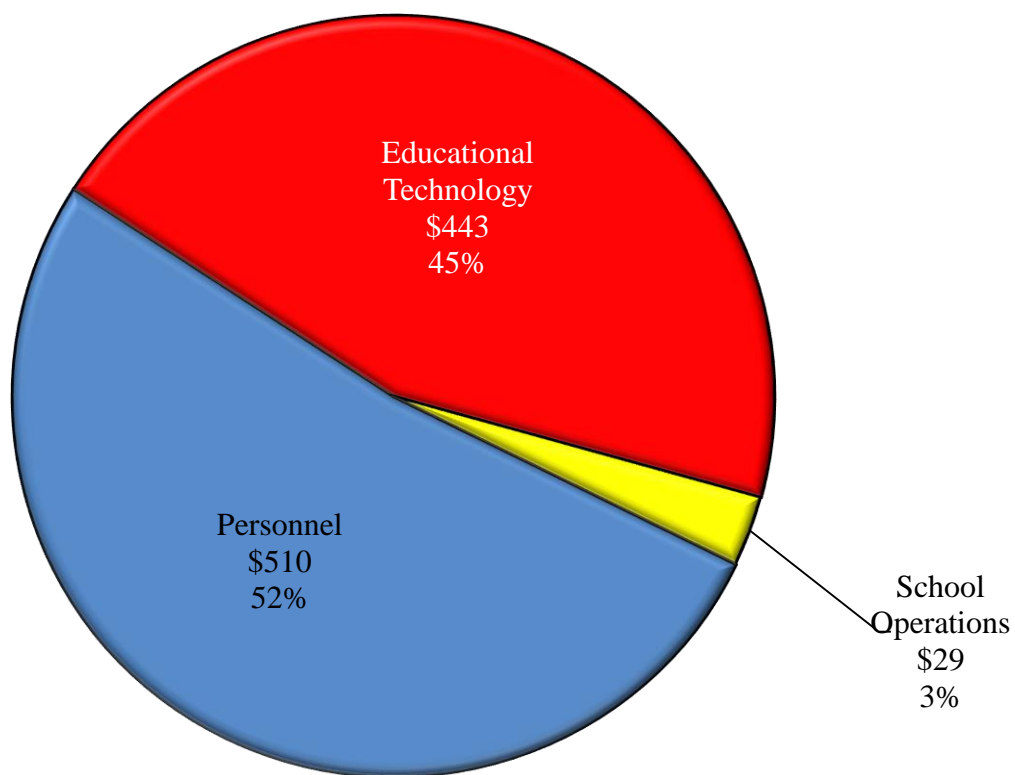


Source: Blind Industries and Services of Maryland, Fiscal 2024 Managing for Results

Fiscal 2023

MSDE administers two categories of federal stimulus funds in the Funding for Educational Organizations budget – funds allocated directly to MSB and funds available as reimbursable grants to nonpublic schools. In fiscal 2020 and 2021, MSB received \$1.0 million in four federal stimulus fund allocations. To date, MSB reports expenditures of \$982,000 and indicates that all funds will be spent in fiscal 2023 prior to the mandated federal deadline for these expenditures in September 2023. **Exhibit 3** shows how these funds have been expended with over half of the allocation supporting personnel costs.

Exhibit 3
MSB Federal Stimulus Fund Expenditures
Fiscal 2021-2023
(\$ in Thousands)



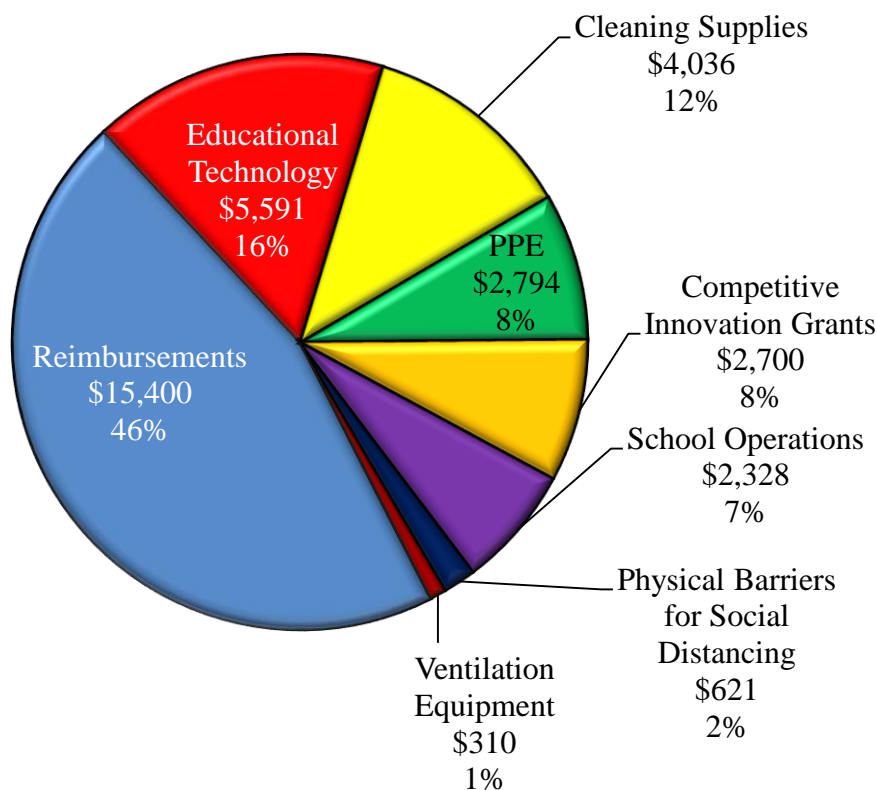
Total Funds Allocated: \$1.0 Million

MSB: Maryland School for the Blind

Source: Maryland State Department of Education; Maryland School for the Blind

In fiscal 2020 and 2021, K-12 nonpublic schools received three federal stimulus fund grants totaling \$77.8 million. In a first round of grants in fiscal 2021, MSDE awarded \$2.7 million in competitive innovation grants to 10 schools. In a second round of grants in fiscal 2022 and 2023, MSDE awarded \$31.1 million to 193 schools. **Exhibit 4** shows expenditures for the first two funding rounds totaling \$33.8 million.

Exhibit 4
Nonpublic School Federal Stimulus Fund Expenditures
Fiscal 2021-2023
(\$ in Thousands)



Total Funds Expended: \$33.8 Million

PPE: personal protective equipment

Source: Maryland State Department of Education; Department of Legislative Services

MSDE is currently processing a third round of grants totaling \$39.2 million and expects awards to be completed shortly. Of this amount, \$2.5 million was designated for the nonpublic school nursing program, which was a program created by the Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr. Administration in the fiscal 2023 budget. The General Assembly reduced the \$2.5 million general fund appropriation proposed in the fiscal 2023 allowance, instead directing MSDE to use American Rescue Plan Act Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools (EANS) federal stimulus

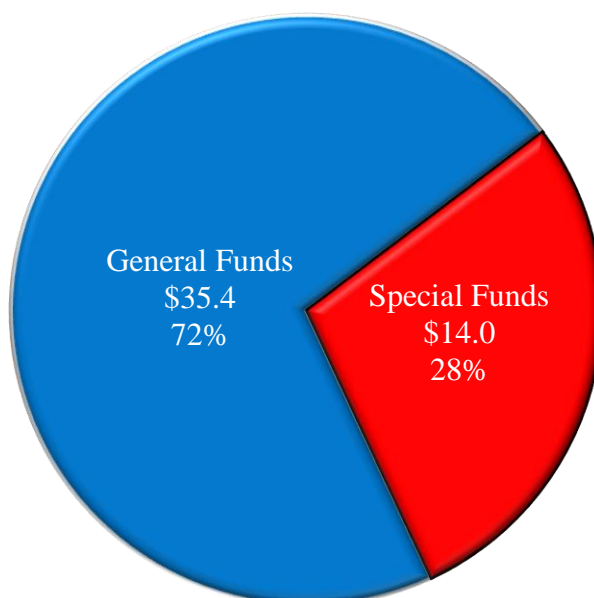
funds for this program. However, MSDE reports that due to federal procurement rules, the agency cannot implement this program.

The Department of Legislative Services (DLS) recommends that MSDE comment on issues regarding implementation of the nonpublic school nursing program. Due to the ongoing distribution of the third grant, DLS recommends the adoption of committee narrative directing MSDE to submit an update on this program.

Fiscal 2024 Overview of Agency Spending

In the fiscal 2024 proposed budget, the allowance for Funding for Educational Organizations is approximately \$49.4 million. The general fund allowance is \$35.4 million, or 72%, of this budget, and the special fund allowance is \$14.0 million, or 28%, of this budget. **Exhibit 5** shows the overview of agency spending for the fiscal 2024 allowance.

Exhibit 5
Overview of Agency Spending
Fiscal 2024 Allowance
(\$ in Millions)

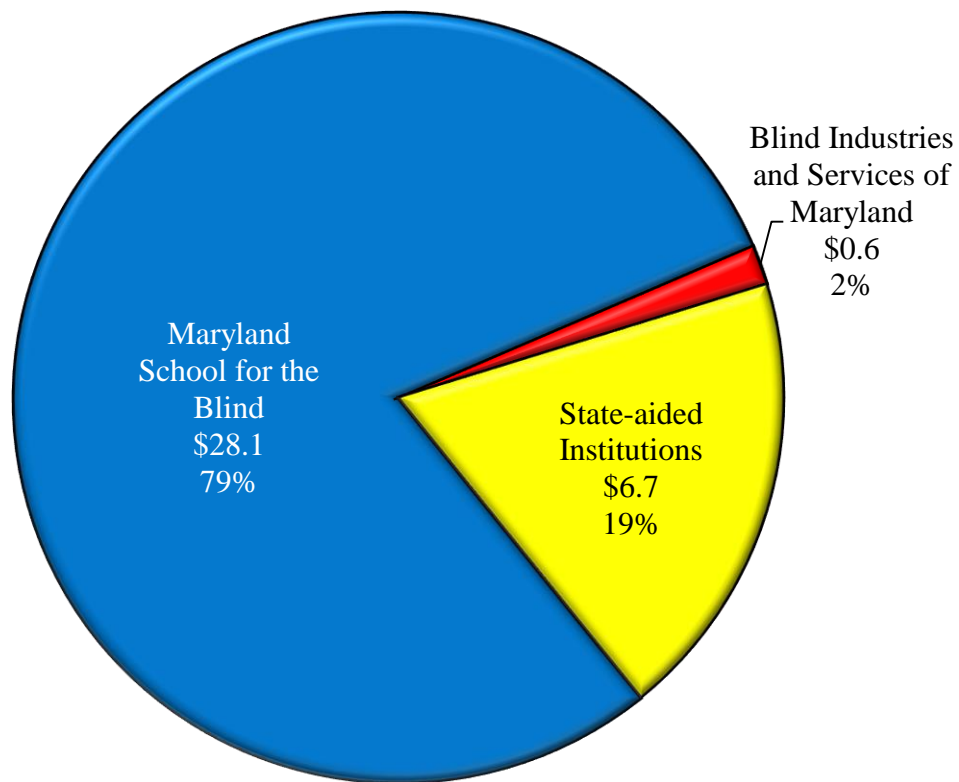


Note: The fiscal 2024 allowance for salaries and wages does not reflect funding for statewide personnel actions budgeted in the Department of Budget and Management, which include cost-of-living adjustments, increments, bonuses, and annual salary review adjustments.

Source: Governor's Fiscal 2024 Budget Books

Exhibit 6 shows the distribution of the fiscal 2024 general fund allowance. Of this \$35.4 million, MSB receives the majority of funds, \$28.1 million, or 79%, of the allowance.

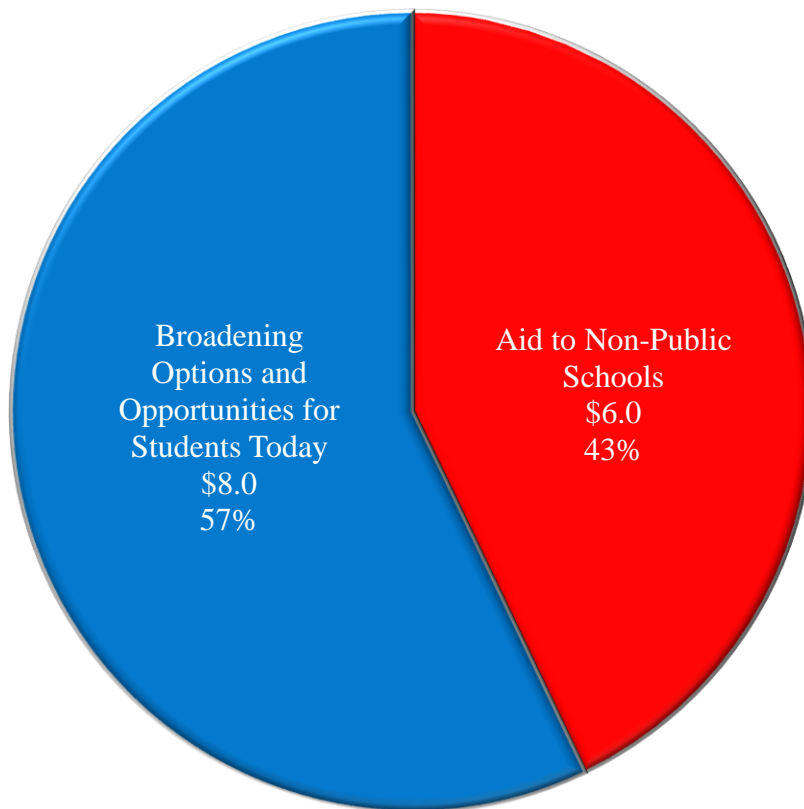
Exhibit 6
General Fund Allowance
Fiscal 2024
(\$ in Millions)



Source: Governor's Fiscal 2024 Budget Books

Exhibit 7 shows the distribution of the fiscal 2024 special fund allowance. Of the \$14.0 million in special funds appropriated from the Cigarette Restitution Fund (CRF) in fiscal 2024, \$8.0 million, or 57%, is allocated to BOOST, and \$6.0 million, or 43%, is allocated to the Aid to Non-Public Schools Program.

Exhibit 7
Special Fund Allowance
Fiscal 2024
(\$ in Millions)



Source: Governor's Fiscal 2024 Budget Books

Proposed Budget Change

Exhibit 8 shows the fiscal 2024 proposed budget change for MSDE's Funding for Educational Organizations, which decreases by \$1.6 million, or 3.1%, compared to the fiscal 2023 working appropriation.

Exhibit 8
Proposed Budget
MSDE – Funding for Educational Organizations
(\$ in Thousands)

How Much It Grows:	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Special Fund</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fiscal 2022 Actual	\$30,454	\$15,389	\$45,843
Fiscal 2023 Working Appropriation	33,774	17,240	51,014
Fiscal 2024 Allowance	<u>35,386</u>	<u>14,040</u>	<u>49,426</u>
Fiscal 2023-2024 Amount Change	\$1,612	-\$3,200	-\$1,588
Fiscal 2023-2024 Percent Change	4.8%	-18.6%	-3.1%
Where It Goes:			<u>Change</u>
General and Special Fund Changes			
Special fund decrease for the BOOST Program.....			-\$2,000
Net increase for Maryland School for the Blind			353
State-aided Institutions increase.....			59
Total			-\$1,588

BOOST: Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today

MSDE: Maryland State Department of Education

Note: Numbers may not sum to total due to rounding. The fiscal 2023 working appropriation includes deficiency appropriations including this agency's share of a deficiency appropriation budgeted in the Statewide Account within the Department of Budget and Management (DBM). The fiscal 2024 salary enhancements are budgeted in the Statewide Account within DBM.

State-aided Institutions

To determine the budget for State-aided Institutions (SAI), MSDE and the Maryland State Board of Education review and select applicants from nonprofit organizations that offer educational programming to Maryland students. MSDE forwards this list to the Governor for consideration, who determines SAIs that will receive grants in any given fiscal year.

Chapters 399 and 400 of 2021 required the Governor to include a fiscal 2023 allowance for each SAI that was equal to or greater than the highest allocation that a recipient received in fiscal 2020, 2021, or 2022. The Governor's fiscal 2024 budget maintains this level of funding with a total allowance of approximately \$6.7 million awarded to 60 institutions. **Exhibit 9** shows the fiscal 2023 working appropriation and the fiscal 2024 allowance.

Exhibit 9
State-aided Institutions
Fiscal 2023-2024

<u>Institution</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>Change from 2023</u>
Accokeek Foundation	\$21,072	\$21,072	\$0
Adventure Theatre	18,080	18,080	0
Alice Ferguson Foundation	83,633	83,633	0
Alliance of Southern P.G. Communities, Inc.	33,454	33,454	0
American Visionary Art Museum	18,080	18,080	0
Annapolis Maritime Museum	40,216	40,216	0
Audubon Naturalist Society	18,080	18,080	0
Baltimore Center Stage	18,080	18,080	0
Baltimore Museum of Art	18,080	18,080	0
Baltimore Museum of Industry	84,514	84,514	0
Baltimore Symphony Orchestra	66,906	66,906	0
B&O Railroad Museum	63,386	63,386	0
Best Buddies International (of Maryland)	167,265	167,265	0
Calvert Marine Museum	52,680	52,680	0
Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center*	18,080	0	-18,080
Chesapeake Bay Foundation	439,296	439,296	0
Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum	21,128	21,128	0
Chesapeake Shakespeare Company	18,080	18,080	0
Citizenship Law-Related Education Program	30,812	30,812	0
Collegebound Foundation	37,856	37,856	0
The Dyslexia Tutoring Program, Inc.	37,856	37,856	0
Echo Hill Outdoor School	56,342	56,342	0
Everyman Theatre	52,680	52,680	0
Fire Museum of Maryland	18,080	18,080	0
Greater Baltimore Urban League	18,080	18,080	0
The Hippodrome Foundation	70,000	70,000	0
Historic London Town and Gardens	18,080	18,080	0
Imagination Stage	250,900	250,900	0
Irvine Nature Center	18,080	18,080	0
The Jewish Community Center	15,000	15,000	0
Jewish Museum of Maryland	18,080	18,080	0
Junior Achievement of Central Maryland	42,256	42,256	0
KID Museum	18,080	18,080	0

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<u>Institution</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>Change from 2023</u>
Learning Undefeated	23,706	23,706	0
Living Classrooms Inc.	320,447	320,447	0
Maryland Academy of Sciences	919,967	919,967	0
Maryland Historical Society	125,888	125,888	0
Maryland Humanities Council	44,017	44,017	0
Maryland Leadership	45,778	45,778	0
Maryland Zoo in Baltimore	855,702	855,702	0
Math, Engineering, Science Achievement of Maryland	80,110	80,110	0
National Aquarium in Baltimore	500,039	500,039	0
National Great Blacks in Wax Museum	42,256	42,256	0
NorthBay	502,232	502,232	0
Olney Theatre	147,018	147,018	0
Outward Bound – Baltimore School	133,814	133,814	0
Pickering Creek Audubon Center	36,000	36,000	0
Port Discovery	117,086	117,086	0
Reginald F. Lewis Museum	26,340	26,340	0
Round House Theatre	18,080	18,080	0
Salisbury Zoological Park	18,486	18,486	0
ShoreRivers, Inc.	0	76,725	76,725
Sotterly Foundation	18,080	18,080	0
South Baltimore Learning Center	42,256	42,256	0
State Mentoring Resource Center	80,111	80,111	0
Sultana Projects	21,128	21,128	0
SuperKids Camp	412,003	412,003	0
Village Learning Place	72,118	72,118	0
Walters Art Museum	18,080	18,080	0
Ward Museum	35,214	35,214	0
Young Audiences of Maryland	89,556	89,556	0
Total	\$6,647,804	\$6,706,449	\$58,645

Note: Bold institution indicates a new program.

*Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center did not submit required documents and therefore did not receive a grant in fiscal 2024.

Source: Governor’s Fiscal 2024 Budget Books; Department of Legislative Services

Maryland School for the Blind

Enrollment

An enrollment formula in § 8-313 of the Education Article determines MSB’s annual enrollment count, which includes a four-year average to soften increases and decreases. Early intervention and outreach students are counted at 50%, and school-age students are counted at 100%. For fiscal 2024, MSB’s projected enrollment count is 354, which includes 213 school-age students, 33 early intervention students, and 108 outreach students. For the purposes of formula funding, the fiscal 2024 enrollment totals 356. **Exhibit 10** shows MSB’s enrollment from fiscal 2020 through 2024 estimated.

Exhibit 10
Maryland School for the Blind Enrollment
Fiscal 2020-2024

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023 Est.</u>	<u>2024 Est.</u>
School Year	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
School-age Students	222	211	210	206	213
Outreach Students	139	140	51	98	108
Early Intervention Students	38	34	30	32	33
Total	399	385	291	336	354
<i>Enrollment for Formula Funding</i>	<i>410</i>	<i>407</i>	<i>373</i>	<i>356</i>	<i>356</i>

Source: Maryland School for the Blind; Department of Legislative Services

In a recent audit of the school’s enrollment, MSB discovered data missing in its monthly count of outreach students in fiscal 2022 (2021-2022 school year). As a result of this error, MSB’s outreach student count for fiscal 2022 totals 51 students, which is a decline of 89 students from the finalized count of 140 students in fiscal 2021. Because MSB’s calculation for formula funding uses four-year enrollment averages through the sixth year prior to the current fiscal year, if the school’s full-time equivalent enrollment does not increase in the next four years, even with annual statutory increases in the target per pupil foundation amount as required in Education Article § 5201, the error counting outreach students could potentially decrease the school’s formula funding through fiscal 2027. MSB reports that it has updated its enrollment data collection process to avoid future errors.

MSB Funding and Expenditures

MSB receives an annual State appropriation based on a formula that includes enrollment; an allocation based on the per pupil amount in the State Share of the Foundation formula in § 5-201 of the Education Article; and an additional grant of \$1.0 million as mandated in Chapter 672 of 2016. With the implementation of Chapter 36, MSB's per pupil allocation increases from \$8,310 in fiscal 2023 to \$8,642 in fiscal 2024.

In addition to its State appropriation, MSB receives other State revenues from an enhanced services grant, which is supplemental funding for blind students with additional disabilities who are at risk for out-of-state placement, as well as grants for a statewide vision consultant and funds for the Maryland Information Resource Center. Local revenue sources include tuition, extended school year, and direct orientation and mobility payments from local education agencies (LEA), which are determined by a formula based on property wealth in each jurisdiction. Revenues also include federal grants and private donations.

Exhibit 11 shows MSB's revenues and expenditures for fiscal 2020 through 2024 estimated. MSB estimates fiscal 2024 revenues will total \$39.7 million, with State and local revenue sources accounting for \$38.5 million, or 97%, of this amount. The school does not have any federal stimulus fund reimbursements in fiscal 2024, a loss of \$760,000. Fiscal 2024 expenses total \$42.4 million, a \$1.8 million increase from fiscal 2023. As the exhibit shows, MSB's structural balance has dwindled over the past five fiscal years as \$10.1 million in expenditure growth has outpaced the \$4.3 million in additional revenues between fiscal 2020 and the fiscal 2024 allowance. MSB indicates that fiscal 2022 spending was aligned with available revenues through annual cost-cutting measures, private gifts, and when necessary, the use of funds from the school's endowment.

Exhibit 11
Maryland School for the Blind Revenues and Expenditures
Fiscal 2020-2024 Est.
(\$ in Thousands)

	<u>Source</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023 Est.</u>	<u>2024 Est.</u>
Revenues						
State Appropriation	State	\$23,948	\$24,831	\$24,831	\$27,726	\$28,079
Enhanced Services	State	5,584	4,669	5,787	6,500	6,500
Sponsored Projects	Federal, State	1,183	1,210	1,128	1,003	1,132
Tuition	Local	1,843	1,997	2,462	2,130	2,190
Extended School Year	Local	745	756	976	800	800
Direct Orientation and Mobility	Local	981	991	957	855	900
Private gifts*	Private	989	1,164	682	0	0
Reimbursable Funds for COVID-19 Expenditures	Federal, Local	0	0	0	760	0
Other		144	302	121	130	130
Total Revenues		\$35,417	\$35,920	\$36,944	\$39,904	\$39,731
Total State and Local Revenue Sources						
(Approximate)		\$33,101	\$33,443	\$33,980	\$38,011	\$38,469
Percent of State and Local Revenue Sources						
(Approximate)		93%	93%	92%	95%	97%
Expenses		\$32,328	\$32,126	\$36,218	\$40,579	\$42,409
Revenue Less Expenses		\$3,089	\$3,794	\$726	-\$675	-\$2,678

* This amount is subject to change based depending on gifts received in any given fiscal year.

Source: Maryland School for the Blind

DLS recommends that MSB submit a report on the school's process to collect and audit enrollment data and the potential impact of the school's enrollment data error on formula funding over the next four years. DLS also recommends that MSB include enrollment numbers in the school's future MFR submissions.

MSB Spending by Category

In the past three years, MSB has seen a steady increase in costs associated with salaries, wages, and benefits, which account for approximately 82% of total spending. As required in Chapter 423, the Department of Budget and Management conducted a review of MSB's pay plan, and Supplemental Budget No. 5 of the fiscal 2023 budget provided \$1.2 million for increased salaries and wages for MSB personnel, budgeted in the Dedicated Purpose Account and reflected in the fiscal 2024 allowance for MSB. The additional funds do not change the school's formula funding. MSB has a projected increase in salaries, wages, and benefits from fiscal 2023 and 2024 of approximately \$1.3 million, or 4%, which when compared to fiscal 2022 actual spending represents an overall increase of \$7.2 million, or 26%. **Exhibit 12** shows MSB's expenses by spending category from fiscal 2022 through 2024.

Exhibit 12
Maryland School of the Blind Spending by Category
Fiscal 2022-2024 Est.
(\$ in Thousands)

<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>2022</u>	<u>Working</u> <u>2023</u>	<u>Estimated</u> <u>2024</u>	<u>\$ Change</u> <u>2023-2024</u>	<u>% Change</u> <u>2023-2024</u>
Salaries, Wages, and Benefits	\$27,672	\$33,141	\$34,861	\$1,720	5%
Fixed Charges	4,449	1,807	1,763	-44	-2%
Contractual Services	1,733	2,274	2,409	135	6%
Supplies and Materials	1,234	1,981	1,902	-79	-4%
Transportation Costs	1,020	1,246	1,324	78	6%
Other Expenses	110	130	150	20	15%
Total	\$36,218	\$40,579	\$42,409	\$1,830	5%
<i>Change in Personnel Costs from Fiscal 2022 through 2024</i>				<i>\$7,189</i>	<i>26%</i>

Note: Expenses do not include anticipated cash outlay towards depreciation and maintenance costs.

Source: Maryland School for the Blind; Department of Legislative Services

Issues

1. BOOST

Since fiscal 2017, BOOST has provided scholarships to nonpublic, K-12 students who are eligible for the federal free or reduced-price lunch program. This program receives special funds from the CRF, which must be renewed every year in the budget bill. MSDE administers BOOST with the assistance of the BOOST Advisory Board, which is responsible for the annual selection of BOOST scholarship recipients. Fiscal 2024 is the eighth year of the BOOST Program.

The fiscal 2024 Governor’s budget, as introduced, details the criteria for nonpublic schools that have students who are eligible for a BOOST scholarship and would like to participate. These criteria include:

- participated in the Aid to Non-Public Schools Program in the prior school year;
- provide more grades than only prekindergarten and kindergarten; and
- comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended; Title 20, Subtitle 6 of the State Government Article (related to employment nondiscrimination); and not discriminate in student admissions, retention, or expulsion based on race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression.

Students are eligible for the BOOST program if they meet the following criteria:

- have received a BOOST program scholarship for the 2022-2023 school year and will be entering any of grades 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, or grade 9 if they are a student who attended, during the 2022-2023 school year, a nonpublic school that serves kindergarten through grade 12; or
- have a sibling who received a BOOST Program scholarship award for the 2022-2023 school year.

When MSDE receives BOOST applications, the agency ranks eligible applicants by their percentage of family income compared to federal poverty levels. MSDE submits this list to the BOOST Advisory Board, which is responsible for the review and certification of the ranked list of applicants, determining the scholarship award amounts, and making final scholarship decisions. The amount of the scholarship award may not exceed the lesser of the statewide average per pupil expenditure by LEAs or the tuition of the nonpublic school with the exception of special education students, who may receive an award that exceeds their tuition if needed for tutoring or academic support. If a nonpublic school does not comply with these requirements, it must forfeit all scholarship funds received under the BOOST Program and may not charge the student tuition and fees instead.

BOOST Appropriations and Fund Balances

The fiscal 2023 BOOST appropriation for the 2022-2023 school year was \$10.0 million. The total amount available for awards includes the \$10.0 million appropriation plus an additional \$520,481 in funds retained from fiscal 2022, for a total of \$10.5 million available for awards. The BOOST Advisory Board offered approximately \$11.0 million in awards, of which \$903,000, or 8%, were declined. With these declines, final awards total \$10.1 million, and MSDE retains a \$432,136 fund balance for fiscal 2024 awards. **Exhibit 13** displays fiscal 2023 BOOST awards and the program’s remaining balance headed into fiscal 2024.

Exhibit 13 BOOST Current Appropriation and Fund Balance Fiscal 2023

	<u>Fund Balance</u>
Fiscal 2023 Working Appropriation	\$10,000,000
Fiscal 2022 Balance Remaining	520,481
Total Funds Available for Awards in the 2022-2023 School Year	\$10,520,481
Total Awards Offered and Accepted, Including Award Adjustments	\$10,991,335
Total Declined Awards	-902,990
Total Awards Offered and Accepted as of December 2022	\$10,088,345
<i>Remaining Balance</i>	<i>\$432,136</i>

BOOST: Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today

Source: Maryland State Department of Education

BOOST Student Awards

Chapter 484 of 2022 required the BOOST Advisory Board to give priority to renewal students, students who previously attended public schools, and students who qualify for free meals versus reduced-price meals. Students with the lowest incomes have priority for awards, and \$700,000 in additional awards was designated for special education students. In addition, the BOOST Advisory Board could distribute up to \$1,000 as an additional per student award to high school students.

Of the \$11.0 million in fiscal 2023 awards (including approximately \$900,000 in declined awards), \$3.4 million was awarded to 706 students who qualified for free meals and attended public school, \$1.5 million was awarded to 401 students who qualified for reduced-price meals

and attended public school, \$2.2 million was awarded to 1,406 students who qualified for free meals and attended private school, and \$882,000 was awarded to 735 students who qualified for reduced-price meals and attended private school. A total of 774 high school students received \$2.3 million in additional awards, and 247 special education students received a total of \$680,000. **Exhibit 14** displays these awards by category of student.

Exhibit 14
Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today
Total Student Awards Offered
Fiscal 2023

<u>BOOST Scholarships Awarded and Accepted</u>	<u>Students</u>	Average	Maximum Scholarship	<u>Total</u>
		<u>Income</u>	<u>Amount</u>	
Qualified for Free Meals, Attended Public School	706	\$26,436	\$4,750	\$3,353,500
Qualified for Reduced Meals, Attended Public School	401	39,127	3,750	1,503,750
Qualified for Free Meals, Attended Private School	1,406	29,000	1,600	2,249,600
Qualified for Reduced Meals, Attended Private School	735	49,017	1,200	882,000
<i>Subtotal – Base Awards</i>	<i>3,248</i>	<i>\$35,895</i>		<i>\$7,988,850</i>
Adjusted Award – Special Education	247	–	–	\$680,485
Adjusted Award – High School	774	–	3,000	2,322,000
Adjustments When Award Exceeded Tuition				-902,990
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>1,021</i>			<i>\$2,099,495</i>
Total Amount Awarded				\$10,088,345

BOOST: Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today

Source: Maryland State Department of Education

Review of Assessment Data

Exhibit 15 shows assessment data for BOOST and non-BOOST students in grades 3 through 12 for fiscal 2022, which was the 2021-2022 school year. Participating schools had to administer standardized tests approved by the National Blue Ribbon program in English/language arts and math in grades 3 through 8 and once in grades 9 through 12, and in science once in grades 3 through 5, grades 6 through 9, and grades 9 through 12.

Exhibit 15
BOOST and Non-BOOST Student Proficiency by Assessment Type
2021-2022 School Year

<u>Assessment</u>	<u>BOOST Students Assessed</u>	<u>BOOST Students Proficient</u>	<u>% of BOOST Students Proficient</u>	<u>Non-BOOST Students Assessed</u>	<u>Non-BOOST Students Proficient</u>	<u>% of Non-BOOST Students Proficient</u>	<u>% Difference BOOST and Non-BOOST Students</u>
American College Testing	*	*	*	143	101	71%	*
Comprehensive Testing Program 4	*	*	*	746	475	64%	*
Iowa Assessments	106	74	70%	1,588	1,246	78%	-8%
IReady Diagnostic	*	*	*	66	29	44%	*
Measures of Academic Program	572	322	56%	5,839	4,275	73%	-17%
Performance Series	1,928	998	52%	28,542	18,797	66%	-14%
Preact	42	21	50%	2,883	1,586	55%	-5%
Standardized Test for the Assessment of Reading	*	*	*	234	173	74%	*
Stanford Achievement Test 10th Edition	517	359	69%	4,762	4,045	85%	-16%
Stanford Achievement Test 2017	79	47	59%	1,561	774	50%	9%
Terra Nova 3/Next	311	223	72%	2,621	1,929	74%	-2%
Total	3,555	2,044	57%	48,985	33,430	68%	-11%

BOOST: Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today

* Indicates missing data, test not administrated, or less than 10 students assessed

Source: Maryland State Department of Education; Department of Legislative Services

These data indicate that BOOST students scored lower than non-BOOST students on all standardized tests except for the Stanford Achievement Test 2017 in the 2021-2022 school year. These differences range from 2 percentage points lower on the Terra Nova 3/Next assessment to 17 percentage points lower on the Measures of Academic Program assessment. Across all tests, BOOST students scored 11 percentage points lower than non-BOOST students.

Exhibit 16 shows these same differences in terms of subject area. BOOST students scored 10 percentage points lower than non-BOOST students in English/language arts and math and 15 percentage points lower in science. The overall difference across subjects between BOOST and non-BOOST students is 11 percentage points.

Exhibit 16
BOOST and Non-BOOST Student Proficiency by Subject Area
School Year 2021-2022

BOOST Students Only

<u>Assessment</u>	<u>Assessed</u>	<u>Proficient</u>	<u>% Proficient</u>
English/Language Arts	1,445	892	62%
Math	1,332	715	54%
Science	778	437	56%
Total	3,555	2,044	57%

Non-BOOST Students

English/Language Arts	19,000	13,688	72%
Math	19,438	12,366	64%
Science	10,547	7,376	70%
Total	48,985	33,430	68%

Difference between BOOST and Non-BOOST Students	-11%
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BOOST: Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today

Source: Maryland State Department of Education; Department of Legislative Services

DLS recommends that language from Chapter 484 be restored for the BOOST Program and for the Aid to Non-Public Schools Program. DLS also recommends that MSDE comment on why special education awards were adjusted when the award exceeded tuition and the efforts of BOOST schools to close the gap between BOOST and non-BOOST students on standardized assessments.

Operating Budget Recommended Actions

1. Adopt the following narrative:

Report on Maryland School for the Blind (MSB) Enrollment and Managing for Results (MFR) Measures: MSB recently reported errors in its monthly count of outreach students for fiscal 2022. Because MSB’s calculation for formula funding uses four-year average enrollment counts, this error could potentially decrease the school’s formula funding through fiscal 2027. The budget committees request that, by December 1, 2023, MSB report on this issue. This report should include details of MSB’s enrollment audit including (1) how the school identified and audited enrollment errors; (2) procedures and safeguards to remediate against future errors; and (3) the impact of this error, if any, on the school’s formula funding through fiscal 2027. The committees also request that MSB add enrollment data to the school’s MFR submission starting in fiscal 2025.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on enrollment and MFR	MSB	December 1, 2023

2. Amend the following language to the special fund appropriation:

, provided that this appropriation shall be for the purchase of textbooks or computer hardware and software and other electronically delivered learning materials ~~as permitted under Title IID, Section 2416(b)(4), (6), and (7), of the No Child Left Behind Act~~ for loan to students in eligible nonpublic schools with a maximum distribution of \$65 per eligible nonpublic school student for participating schools, except that at schools where ~~at least 20% from 20% to 40%~~ of the students are eligible for the free or reduced-price lunch program there shall be a distribution of \$95 per student, and at schools where more than 40% of the students are eligible for the free or reduced-price lunch program there shall be a distribution of \$155 per student.

Explanation: This action amends language modifying the distribution of funding for the Aid to Non-Public Schools Program so that schools where more than 40% of the students are eligible for the free or reduced-price lunch program receive \$155 per student. Similar language has been included in the budget since fiscal 2017. It also strikes language regarding the No Child Left Behind Act due to technical differences with the reauthorized Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

3. Amend the following language to the special fund appropriation:

- (2) Not charge more tuition to a participating student than the statewide average per pupil expenditure by the local education agencies, as calculated by the department, with appropriate exceptions for special education students as determined by the department; ~~and~~

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- (3) Comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; and
- (4) Submit its student handbook or other written policy related to student admissions to the Maryland State Department of Education for review to ensure compliance with program eligibility requirements.

Explanation: This action requires schools that participate in the Aid to Non-Public Schools Program to submit a student handbook or policy on student admissions to the Maryland State Department of Education to ensure compliance with program eligibility requirements.

- 4. Add the following language to the special fund appropriation:

Further provided that a nonpublic school participating in the Aid to Non-Public Schools Program R00A03.04 shall certify compliance with Title 20, Subtitle 6 of the State Government Article. A nonpublic school participating in the program may not discriminate in student admissions, retention, or expulsion, or otherwise discriminate against any student on the basis of race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. Nothing herein shall require any school or institution to adopt any rule, regulation, or policy that conflicts with its religious or moral teachings. However, all participating schools must agree that they will not discriminate in student admissions, retention, or expulsion or otherwise discriminate against any student on the basis of race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. Any school found to be in violation of the requirements to not discriminate shall be required to return to the Maryland State Department of Education all textbooks or computer hardware and software and other electronically delivered learning materials acquired through the fiscal 2023 allocation. The only other legal remedy for violation of these provisions is ineligibility for participating in the Aid to Non-Public Schools Program. Any school that is found in violation of the nondiscrimination requirements in fiscal 2023 or 2024 may not participate in the program in fiscal 2024. It is the intent of the General Assembly that a school that violates the nondiscrimination requirements is ineligible to participate in the Aid to Non-Public Schools Program, the Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today Program, the James E. “Ed” DeGrange Nonpublic Aging Schools Program, and the Nonpublic School Security Improvements Program in the year of the violation and the following two years.

Explanation: This action requires a nonpublic school participating in the Aid to Non-Public Schools Program to certify compliance with Title 20, Subtitle 6 of the State Government Article (Discrimination in Employment). It also specifies that a participating school may not discriminate in student admissions on the basis of race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. Violation of these provisions means that a school will be ineligible for the program. Similar language has been included in the budget since fiscal 2017. This action also specifies that schools that violate the provisions must return all textbooks and technology received through the program to the

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Maryland State Department of Education. It also states that a school that violates the nondiscrimination requirements in fiscal 2023 or 2024 is not eligible to participate in the program in fiscal 2024 and states legislative intent that any school that violates the nondiscrimination requirements is ineligible to participate in any program that provides funding to nonpublic schools for a total of three years.

5. Adopt the following narrative:

Report on American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools (EANS) Funding: In fiscal 2022, Maryland received \$39.1 million distributed through the ARPA EANS program. The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) expects to process awards for this program in spring 2023. The budget committees request that, by September 1, 2023, MSDE report on ARPA EANS awards. This report should include:

- MSDE’s process for issuing awards and amount awarded to each nonpublic school;
- aggregate expenditures by fiscal year and by type, including but not limited to, educational technology and infrastructure, instruction, personal protective equipment, ventilation equipment and other COVID-19 mitigation supplies, routine school operations and maintenance, and physical barriers for social distancing;
- administrative expenses by object; and
- amount of funds remaining, the intended use of remaining funds, and/or amount of canceled funds.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
Report on ARPA EANS funding for nonpublic schools	MSDE	September 1, 2023

6. Amend the following language to the special fund appropriation:

- (c) ~~administer assessments to all students in accordance with federal and State law; and~~ administer national, norm-referenced standardized assessments chosen from the list of assessments published by the U.S. Department of Education to qualify nonpublic schools for the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program. The nonpublic schools must administer the assessments to all students as follows:
- (i) English/language arts and mathematics assessments each year for students in grades 3 through 8, and at least once for students in grades 9 through 12; and

- (ii) a science assessment at least once for students in grades 3 through 5, at least once for students in grades 6 through 9, and at least once for students in grades 10 through 12; and
 - (d) comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended, Title 20, Subtitle 6 of the State Government Article, and not discriminate in student admissions, retention, or expulsion or otherwise discriminate against any student on the basis of race, color, national origin, ~~or~~ sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. Nothing herein shall require any school or institution to adopt any rule, regulation, or policy that conflicts with its religious or moral teachings. However, all participating schools must agree that they will not discriminate in student admissions, retention, or expulsion or otherwise discriminate against any student based on race, color, national origin, ~~or~~ sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. If a nonpublic school does not comply with these requirements, it shall reimburse MSDE all scholarship funds received under the BOOST Program for the 2023-2024 school year and may not charge the student tuition and fees instead. The only other legal remedy for violation of this provision is ineligibility for participating in the BOOST Program.
- (2) MSDE shall establish procedures for the application and award process for scholarships for students who are eligible for the free or reduced-price lunch program. The procedures shall include consideration for award adjustments if an eligible student becomes ineligible during the course of the school year.
- (a) have received a BOOST Program scholarship award for the 2022–2023 school year and will be entering any of grades 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, or 12, or grade 9 if they are a student who attended during the 2022–2023 school year a nonpublic school that serves kindergarten through grade 12; or
 - (b) have a sibling who received a BOOST Program scholarship award for the 2022–2023 school year.
- (3) MSDE shall compile and certify a list of applicants that ranks eligible students by family income expressed as a percent of the most recent federal poverty levels.
- (4) MSDE shall submit the ranked list of applicants to the BOOST Advisory Board.
- (5) There is a BOOST Advisory Board that shall be appointed as follows: 2 members appointed by the Governor, 2 members appointed by the President of the Senate, 2 members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates, and 1 member jointly appointed by the President and the Speaker to serve as the chair. A member

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of the BOOST Advisory Board may not be an elected official and may not have any financial interest in an eligible nonpublic school.

- (6) The BOOST Advisory Board shall review and certify the ranked list of applicants and shall determine the scholarship award amounts. The BOOST Advisory Board shall take into account the needs of students with disabilities on an Individualized Education Plan or 504 Plan when determining scholarship award amounts.
- (7) MSDE shall make scholarship awards to eligible students as determined by the BOOST Advisory Board.
- (8) ~~The~~ Unless the student has special needs due to a disability, the amount of a scholarship award may not exceed the lesser of:
 - (a) the statewide average per pupil expenditure by local education agencies, as calculated by MSDE; or
 - (b) the tuition of the nonpublic school.
- (9) In order to meet its BOOST Program reporting requirements to the budget committees, MSDE shall specify a date by which participating nonpublic schools must submit information to MSDE so that it may complete its required report. Any nonpublic schools that do not provide the necessary information by that specified date shall be ineligible to participate in the BOOST Program.
- (10) Students who received a BOOST Program scholarship award in the prior year who still meet eligibility criteria for a scholarship shall receive a scholarship renewal award. For students who are receiving a BOOST Program scholarship for the first time, priority shall be given to students who attended public schools in the prior school year.

Further provided that the BOOST Advisory Board shall make all scholarship awards no later than December 31, 2023, for the 2023-2024 school year to eligible individuals. Any unexpended funds not awarded to students for scholarships shall be encumbered at the end of fiscal 2024 and available for scholarships in the 2024-2025 school year.

Further provided that \$700,000 of this appropriation shall be used only to provide an additional award for each student with special needs that is at least equal in amount to the BOOST Program scholarship award that a student is awarded in accordance with paragraph (6) above.

Further provided that MSDE shall submit a report to the budget committees by January 15, 2024, that includes the following:

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- (1) the number of students receiving BOOST Program scholarships;
- (2) the amount of the BOOST Program scholarships received;
- (3) the number of certified and noncertified teachers in core subject areas for each nonpublic school participating in the BOOST Program;
- (4) the assessments being administered by nonpublic schools participating in the BOOST Program and the results of these assessments. MSDE shall report the assessment results reported by nonpublic schools to the budget committees in an aggregate manner that does not violate student data privacy;
- (5) in the aggregate, for each BOOST Program scholarship awarded (a) the nonpublic school and grade level attended by the student; (b) the school attended in the 2022-2023 school year by the student; and (c) if the student attended the same nonpublic school in the 2022-2023 school year, whether, what type, and how much nonpublic scholarship aid the student received in the 2022-2023 school year and will receive in the 2023-2024 school year;
- (6) the average household income of students receiving BOOST Program scholarships;
- (7) the racial breakdown of students receiving BOOST Program scholarships;
- (8) the number of students designated as English language learners receiving BOOST Program scholarships;
- (9) the number of special education students receiving BOOST Program scholarships;
- (10) the county in which students receiving BOOST Program scholarships reside;
- (11) the number of students who were offered BOOST Program scholarships but declined them as well as their reasons for declining the scholarships and the breakdown of students attending public and nonpublic schools for students who declined scholarships;
- (12) the number of students who received BOOST Program scholarships for the 2022-2023 school year who are attending public school for the 2023-2024 school year as well as their reasons for returning to public schools; and
- (13) the number of students who received BOOST Program scholarships for the 2023-2024 school year who withdrew or were expelled from the nonpublic schools they were attending and the reasons for which they withdrew or were

expelled; the schools they withdrew or were expelled from; and the length of time students receiving BOOST Program scholarships were enrolled at a nonpublic school before withdrawing or being expelled.

Explanation: This language specifies that schools with BOOST students administer certain national, norm-referenced standardized assessments and sets certain priorities for BOOST scholarships. This language also provides that for the 2023-2024 school year, the BOOST Advisory Board shall make all scholarship awards no later than December 31, 2023, and any unexpended funds not awarded to students shall be encumbered for scholarships in the next year. This language also requires MSDE to report by January 15, 2024, on the distribution of the BOOST scholarships; information on the students receiving BOOST scholarships; teacher certifications for nonpublic schools participating in the BOOST Program; and assessments being administered in nonpublic schools participating in the BOOST Program, including student performance. The language also requires that MSDE report on students who choose to decline scholarships or attend public schools after participating in the BOOST Program in the past, along with their reasons for doing so, and information on students receiving scholarships for the 2023-2024 school year who withdrew or were expelled from the nonpublic schools that they were attending. Finally, the language requires that the BOOST Advisory Board shall take into account the special needs of students with disabilities as it is determining scholarship award amounts and that \$700,000 of the BOOST appropriation shall be used to provide higher awards for these students.

Information Request	Author	Due Date
BOOST Program participation	MSDE	January 15, 2024

Appendix 1
Funding for Educational Organizations Program Descriptions
Maryland State Department of Education

Maryland School for the Blind

MSB is a nonprofit school and resource center that provides outreach, educational, and residential programs in all 24 Maryland jurisdictions for blind and visually impaired students ages birth to 21, including those with multiple disabilities. MSB currently serves 65% of the 2,000 Maryland students identified as blind or visually impaired either on its campus in Baltimore City or through outreach programs and the Maryland Instructional Resource Center. MSB receives general fund allocations from the State, funding from local school systems, federal funds, and private funds through gifts and its endowment.

Blind Industries and Services of Maryland

BISM offers two programs that assist Maryland residents with blindness and low vision to gain employment opportunities and training. The Comprehensive Orientation, Rehabilitation, and Empowerment (CORE) program serves blind or low-vision adults who are employable. CORE incorporates a positive philosophy of blindness to prepare graduates for employment, continuing education, or independent living. The BISM Senior program serves Maryland residents with blindness or low vision who are 55 and over. This program incorporates braille teaching, cane travel, computer technology, arts and crafts, and independent living skills so that seniors can continue to be active. The State allocation for BISM is in general funds.

State-aided Institutions

The SAI Program provides annual general fund grants to institutions that impact education statewide and merit State funds. Programs that receive grants change from year to year. In fiscal 2024, 59 programs receive \$6.7 million in grants. A list of these programs in alphabetical order follows:

- **Accokeek Foundation** in Accokeek offers educational tours that supplement social studies and environmental education.
- **Adventure Theatre** in Glen Echo is a musical theatre academy for youth with an integrated, nationally renowned professional theatre company.
- **Alice Ferguson Foundation** in Accokeek is an environmental education center and working farm on the Potomac River that offers educational field trips and a summer science camp.

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- **Alliance of Southern Prince George’s Communities, Inc.** in Oxen Hill provides students with SAT preparation courses and tutoring.
- **American Visionary Art Museum** in Baltimore offers students and teachers museum tours, library visits, and online programs on self-taught artists.
- **Annapolis Maritime Museum** in Annapolis educates youth and adults about Annapolis’ maritime heritage and the ecology of the Chesapeake Bay.
- **Audubon Naturalist Society** in Chevy Chase offers camp and daily nature programs for schools, families, and scouts.
- **Baltimore Center Stage** in Baltimore City provides theater programs for youth, families, and the community, regardless of financial, racial, or orientation barriers.
- **Baltimore Museum of Art** in Baltimore City provides educational programs for children and families on its well-known art collection.
- **Baltimore Museum of Industry** in Baltimore City has hands-on exhibits for students in math, science, and technology as well as a training center for technology education teachers.
- **Baltimore Symphony Orchestra** in Baltimore City enhances teaching of the arts through midweek concerts for students and teachers.
- **B&O Railroad Museum** in Baltimore City offers programs that focus on history, social studies, and science related to railroads and railroad technology.
- **Best Buddies International (of Maryland)** pairs special and general education students in middle and high schools to foster inclusion and build socialization skills.
- **Calvert Marine Museum** in Solomons is dedicated to the collection, preservation, research, and interpretation of the culture and natural history of Southern Maryland.
- **Chesapeake Bay Foundation** provides an environmental education program encompassing student field experiences and summer in-service courses for teachers.
- **Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum** in St. Michaels offers experiential learning programs on the Chesapeake Bay, including a field trip program for grade 3 students.
- **Chesapeake Shakespeare Company** in Baltimore allows students the opportunity to experience Shakespeare’s work through live performances and discussion.

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- **Citizenship Law-Related Education Program** in Baltimore City (now Maryland Youth and the Law) teaches youth to foster an appreciation of the American judicial and legal system.
- **CollegeBound Foundation** in Baltimore provides college advisors to Baltimore City public high schools to encourage and assist students in their education beyond high school.
- **The Dyslexia Tutoring Program, Inc.** in Baltimore City works with low-income children and adults who are dyslexic or have a language-based learning disability.
- **Echo Hill Outdoor School** in Worton offers students the opportunity to participate in experiential, environmental education classes and residential programs.
- **Everyman Theatre** in Baltimore City provides students with the opportunity to experience the theater through programs in improvisation, Page-to-Stage, and subsidized high school matinees.
- **Fire Museum of Maryland** in Lutherville educates students about the history, technology, and innovation of the fire service through its collection of operating apparatus and memorabilia.
- **Greater Baltimore Urban League** in Baltimore City offers disadvantaged citizens equal opportunities in employment, education, health care, housing, and the civic arena.
- **The Hippodrome Foundation** in Baltimore City facilitates access to experts in the fields of music, dance, and theater and instructs students about the Hippodrome and the world of theater.
- **Historic London Town and Gardens** in Annapolis instructs students about daily life and activities in a 1700s colonial port.
- **Imagination Stage** in Bethesda provides students with performing arts education through theater productions by professional actors and artists.
- **Irvine Nature Center** in Owings Mills offers environmental education programs, classes, and camps for children and adults.
- **The Jewish Community Center** of Greater Baltimore provides health and fitness opportunities for children and teens through fun, enriching, and immersive experiences.
- **Jewish Museum of Maryland** in Baltimore City supports onsite and outreach programs that focus on the history, tradition, and culture of Jewish life in Maryland.

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- **Junior Achievement of Central Maryland** in Owings Mills offers economic and financial literacy programs for young people to prepare them to succeed in a global economy.
- **KID Museum** in Bethesda offers hands-on learning experiences that incorporate science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); art; culture; creativity, and critical thinking.
- **Learning Undeclared** in Gaithersburg provides STEM experiences for high-needs communities through innovative and experiential K-12 education programs.
- **Living Classrooms Inc.** in Baltimore City offers programs for children, youth, and adults in hands-on education, workforce development, health, wellness, and violence prevention.
- **Maryland Academy of Sciences** in Baltimore City provides student visits to the Maryland Science Center, traveling science programs, and instructional materials for teachers.
- **Maryland Historical Society** in Baltimore City provides museum visits, a research center, historical investigations, and a virtual tour of Maryland history.
- **Maryland Humanities Council** supports educational experiences in the humanities so that students embrace lifelong learning, exchange ideas openly, and enrich their communities.
- **Maryland Leadership** in Annapolis offers week-long residential programs that allow middle and high school students to immerse themselves in all aspects of leadership.
- **Maryland Zoo in Baltimore** provides school visits, conservation education, classes, and summer camps for students in pre-K through 12.
- **Math, Engineering, Science Achievement of Maryland** is a precollege program that prepares students for careers in STEM.
- **National Aquarium in Baltimore** supports environmental and science education through school visits, fellowships for high school students, and a youth ocean conservation summit.
- **National Great Blacks in Wax Museum** in Baltimore City provides school tours and other museum-related activities for students to learn about African American history and culture.
- **NorthBay** in North East provides an academically rigorous and engaging science curriculum that inspires middle school students to take responsibility for their surroundings and decisions.
- **Olney Theatre** in Olney offers student matinees, campus tours, and field trips to encourage and support arts education.

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- **Outward Bound – Baltimore School** provides high school students with challenging educational experiences in Baltimore and on the Chesapeake Bay.
- **Pickering Creek Audubon Center** in Easton conserves natural habitats on Maryland’s Eastern Shore and engages the community through exploration, education, and stewardship.
- **Port Discovery** in Baltimore City provides interactive and fun educational programs for toddlers and children pre-K through grade 5.
- **Reginald F. Lewis Museum** in Baltimore City provides curricula and teacher training that explores local African American heritage through themes of family, community, slavery, and art.
- **Round House Theatre** in Silver Spring offers programs that encourage students to explore all aspects of theatre such as acting, movement, design, and play creation.
- **Salisbury Zoological Park** in Salisbury offers school visits, hands-on classroom programs, and teacher training on conservation, wildlife, and native animals of the Americas and Australia.
- **ShoreRivers, Inc.** in Easton protects and restores Eastern Shore waterways through science-based advocacy, restoration, and education.
- **Sotterley Foundation** in Hollywood provides tours, STEM programs, and a junior docent academy designed to educate students about life on a tidewater plantation.
- **South Baltimore Learning Center** in Baltimore City provides a supportive, rigorous, and transformative education for adults who are eager to learn and motivated to succeed.
- **State Mentoring Resource Center** (Y of Central Maryland) connects volunteer adult mentors with disadvantaged school children.
- **Sultana Projects** in Chestertown provides educational programs to increase student understanding of history and awareness of the natural environment of the Chesapeake Bay.
- **SuperKids Camp** in Baltimore City is a six-week academic enrichment program designed to help elementary school-age students maintain their scholastic skills during the summer months.
- **Village Learning Place** is an independent, nonprofit library that offers educational programs, enrichment opportunities, and resources for Charles Village and throughout Baltimore City.

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- **Walters Art Museum** in Baltimore City offers first-hand experiences with art that encourage learning and creativity including school tours, family activities, Art Babies, and summer camp.
- **Ward Museum of Wildlife Art** in Salisbury provides environmental educational programs that focus on art, history, and science through tours and hands-on activities.
- **Young Audiences of Maryland** in Baltimore City hosts professional artists who deliver academic lessons through the arts and create hands-on arts learning experiences for students.

Aid to Non-Public Schools

The Aid to Non-Public Schools Program provides grants that support the purchase of textbooks and technology for nonpublic schools statewide. The Governor authorizes this program annually through the budget bill and budget bill language. This program receives special funds from the CRF.

Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today Program

The BOOST Program provides scholarships for students who are eligible for free and reduced-price lunches to attend nonpublic schools. The annual budget bill and budget bill language provide authorization for this program. This program receives special funds from CRF.

Appendix 2
2022 Joint Chairmen’s Report Responses from Agency

The 2022 *Joint Chairmen’s Report* (JCR) requested that MSDE prepare two reports. Electronic copies of the full JCR responses can be found on the DLS Library website.

- ***Report on EANS Grant Program:*** In calendar 2021, Maryland nonpublic schools received \$75.0 million as part of the EANS grant program. This report required MSDE to report awards to nonpublic schools from this program and expenditures to date. Further discussion of this response is in the Fiscal 2022 budget section of this analysis.
- ***BOOST Program:*** This report required MSDE to submit detailed data on applicants for the 2022-2023 school year on the BOOST Program. This report included information on schools and students participating in the program, including special needs students; assessment results; amount and number of scholarships; student household income; and withdrawals and expulsions from the program. Further discussion of this response is in the Issues section of this analysis.

Appendix 3
Object/Fund Difference Report
Maryland State Department of Education – Funding for Educational Organizations

<u>Object/Fund</u>	<u>FY 22 Actual</u>	<u>FY 23 Working Appropriation</u>	<u>FY 24 Allowance</u>	<u>FY 23 - FY 24 Amount Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Objects					
12 Grants, Subsidies, and Contributions	\$ 45,842,996	\$ 51,013,810	\$ 49,425,790	-\$ 1,588,020	-3.1%
Total Objects	\$ 45,842,996	\$ 51,013,810	\$ 49,425,790	-\$ 1,588,020	-3.1%
Funds					
01 General Fund	\$ 30,453,538	\$ 33,773,810	\$ 35,385,790	\$ 1,611,980	4.8%
03 Special Fund	15,389,458	17,240,000	14,040,000	-3,200,000	-18.6%
Total Funds	\$ 45,842,996	\$ 51,013,810	\$ 49,425,790	-\$ 1,588,020	-3.1%

Note: The fiscal 2023 appropriation does not include deficiencies. The fiscal 2024 allowance does not include contingent reductions or cost-of-living adjustments.

Appendix 4
Fiscal Summary
Maryland State Department of Education – Funding for Educational Organizations

<u>Program/Unit</u>	<u>FY 22 Actual</u>	<u>FY 23 Wrk Approp</u>	<u>FY 24 Allowance</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>FY 23 - FY 24 % Change</u>
01 Maryland School for the Blind	\$ 24,831,335	\$ 27,726,006	\$ 28,079,341	\$ 353,335	1.3%
02 Blind Industries and Services of Maryland	531,115	600,000	600,000	0	0%
03 Other Institutions	5,091,088	6,647,804	6,706,449	58,645	0.9%
04 Aid to Non-Public Schools	5,909,939	6,040,000	6,040,000	0	0%
05 Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today	9,479,519	10,000,000	8,000,000	-2,000,000	-20.0%
Total Expenditures	\$ 45,842,996	\$ 51,013,810	\$ 49,425,790	-\$ 1,588,020	-3.1%
General Fund	\$ 30,453,538	\$ 33,773,810	\$ 35,385,790	\$ 1,611,980	4.8%
Special Fund	15,389,458	17,240,000	14,040,000	-3,200,000	-18.6%
Total Appropriations	\$ 45,842,996	\$ 51,013,810	\$ 49,425,790	-\$ 1,588,020	-3.1%

Note: The fiscal 2023 appropriation does not include deficiencies, targeted revenues, or across-the-board reductions. The fiscal 2024 allowance does not include contingent reductions or cost-of-living adjustments.