

Assembly Majority Yellow Book

**A Review and Analysis
of the
2021-22 Executive Budget**

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BUDGET REVIEW AND ANALYSIS: JUDICIARY



The New York State courts are established and administered as an independent branch of government pursuant to Article VI of the state constitution. The cost of operating the courts (excluding town and village courts) is borne by the state pursuant to the Unified Court Budget Act. The mission of the Unified Court System is to promote the rule of law and to serve the public by providing just and timely resolutions of all matters before the courts. The New York State Judiciary carries out its mission through eleven (11) different trial courts (courts of original jurisdiction), its intermediate appellate courts, and its highest court, the court of appeals.

The Judiciary's proposed budget request recommends All Funds appropriations of \$3.31 billion, which is an increase of \$40.2 million or 1.23 percent from the SFY 2020-21 level related to an increase in the appropriation for General State Charges.

Table 59

Agency	Appropriations			
	2020-21 Adjusted (\$ in Millions)	2021-22 Exec Request (\$ in Millions)	Change (\$ in Millions)	Change (%)
Office of Court Administration	3,265.20	3,305.40	40.20	1.23

Table 60

Agency	Disbursements			
	2020-21 Adjusted (\$ in Millions)	2021-22 Exec Request (\$ in Millions)	Change (\$ in Millions)	Change (%)
Office of Court Administration	3,032.60	3,208.10	175.50	5.79

Budget Reductions: The SFY 2021-22 budget submission includes appropriations at higher levels than in SFY 2020-21, with spending reductions made on a cash basis. The budget submission reduced disbursements by \$263 million for SFY 2020-21 and held SFY 2021-22 flat; this reduction consists of \$163 million in State Operations savings and \$100 million in General State Charges savings.

Civil Legal Services: The proposed budget includes appropriations totaling \$100 million to support the recommendations of an Office of Court Administration task force to expand civil legal services, unchanged from the SFY 2020-21 level. Cash reductions, however, are assumed for these services.

Capital Projects: The Judiciary's budget includes \$25 million to support continued improvements to court technology infrastructure, including modernization of the judiciary's secure high-speed area network, security equipment, records management and facility renovation.