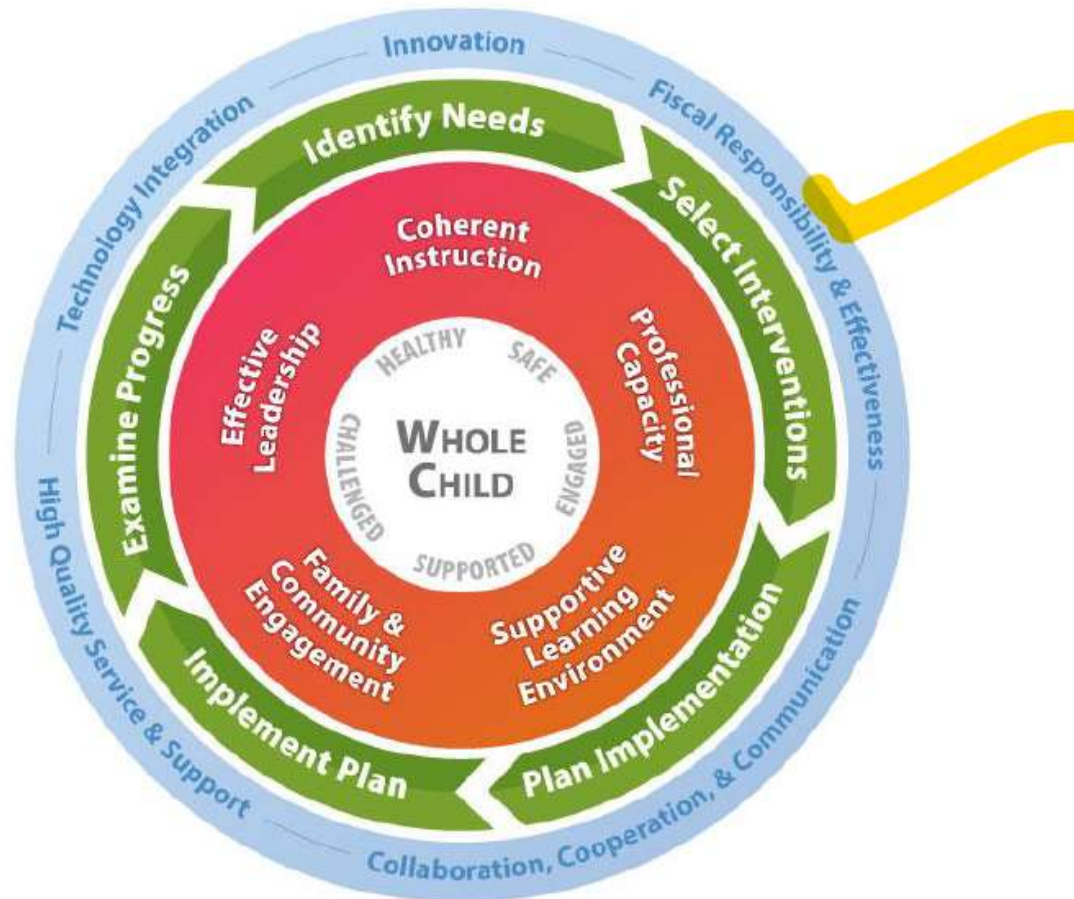


# Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Planning





## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Superintendent Richard Woods

**FROM:** Terry England, House of Representatives Appropriations Chair  
Blake Tillery, Senate Appropriations Chair  
Kelly Farr, Office of Planning and Budget Director

**DATE:** May 1, 2020

**RE:** FY 2021 Budget

We find ourselves in extraordinary times. COVID-19 has dealt a blow to our local, state, national and world economy like none we have seen in our lifetimes. Words cannot express our appreciation for the incredible work your agency and our local schools' systems have done these last few weeks in shifting from in-person daily learning to virtual models on an unprecedented scale. Systems large and small have stepped up to the call to ensure Georgia students have the information and resources necessary to continue their learning during this time of shelter-in-place and social distancing.

However, the actions we have had to take as a state and as a nation to protect the health of our citizens is significantly impacting our economy and our state revenues. As you know, we have a strict Constitutional mandate to create and adopt a balanced budget for our state. Due to the rapidly changing revenue picture for FY 2021, at this time we are asking every state agency to prepare an FY 2021 budget that includes a 14% reduction from their FY 2020 original base. This includes formula funding for local school systems.

We need you to email your revised budget plans to our offices by May 20, 2020, so we can react, prepare a budget, and give local systems guidance and adequate lead time as they prepare their budgets.

This request is being made of all state agencies.

Again, we greatly appreciate all that you, your staff, and all of those involved in education do for our children on a daily basis here in Georgia.

cc: Local School Superintendents of Georgia

## Memo to School Districts

- Memo to Superintendent Woods from House Appropriations Chair, Senate Appropriations Chair, and OBP Director
- 14% reduction from local districts' FY2020 original base
- Includes QBE and state grants
- Memo was shared with Georgia's K-12 Superintendents the same day (May 1, 2020)



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** State Departments and Agencies

**FROM:** Terry England, House of Representatives Appropriations Chair  
Blake Tillery, Senate Appropriations Chair  
Kelly Farr, Office of Planning and Budget Director

**DATE:** May 1, 2020

**RE:** FY 2021 Budget

We find ourselves in unprecedented times. COVID-19 has dealt a blow to our local, state, national and world economy.

Words cannot express our joint appreciation for the incredible work your agencies and employees have been doing during this time. We realize that working remotely has presented many challenges; however, we have heard nothing but praise for your determination, compassion, and strength. You have proven your commitment to all Georgians.

However, the actions we have had to take as a state and as a nation to protect the health of our citizens is significantly impacting our economy and our state revenues. As you know, we have a strict Constitutional mandate to create and adopt a balanced budget for our state. Due to the rapidly changing revenue picture for FY 2021, at this time we are asking every state agency to prepare for an FY 2021 budget that includes a 14% reduction from their FY 2020 original base. Please email your revised budget plans to our offices by May 20, 2020.

While the Great Recession of 2008 was considered then to be a "once in a lifetime" event, our current situation will certainly overshadow it. That is why this request is being made to ALL areas of the state budget with no exceptions.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

## Memo to GaDOE

- Memo to Superintendent Woods from House Appropriations Chair, Senate Appropriations Chair, and OBP Director
- 14% reduction for each budget program – no exceptions
- Each reduction comes from a program's original FY20 base (meaning if Program A was cut 10% in FY20, the FY21 cut would be an additional 4%)

# Proposed FY21 Reductions (Memo)

Program	FY20 Beginning Budget	AFY20 (FY20 Reductions)	Percentage Reduction in AFY20	Additional Reduction Proposed for FY21	Additional Percentage Reduction for FY21	Total Reduction	Total Percentage Reduction since FY20 Base	FY21 Budget with 14% reduction
Agricultural Education	\$1,002,482	(\$13,005)	-1%	(\$140,347)	-14%	(\$140,347)	-14%	\$862,135
Curriculum Development	\$4,743,787	(\$221,968)	-5%	(\$442,162)	-9%	(\$664,130)	-14%	\$4,079,657
Central Office	\$4,569,116	(\$386,445)	-8%	(\$253,231)	-6%	(\$639,676)	-14%	\$3,929,440
Charter Schools	\$676,192	(\$5,468)	-1%	(\$89,199)	-13%	(\$94,667)	-14%	\$581,525
Nutrition	\$385,427	\$43		(\$53,972)	-14%	(\$53,972)	-14%	\$331,455
Georgia Virtual School	\$3,022,260	\$0		(\$423,116)	-14%	(\$423,116)	-14%	\$2,599,144
IT Services	\$17,118,727	(\$1,183,986)	-7%	(\$1,212,636)	-7%	(\$2,396,622)	-14%	\$14,722,105
School Improvement	\$10,053,830	(\$789,283)	-8%	(\$618,253)	-6%	(\$1,407,536)	-14%	\$9,346,294
State Schools	\$30,646,390	\$6,830		(\$4,297,325)	-14%	(\$4,297,325)	-14%	\$26,349,065
Testing	\$26,757,927	(\$261,745)	-1%	(\$3,485,065)	-13%	(\$3,746,810)	-14%	\$23,011,117
Technology/Career Education	\$3,900,830	(\$298,135)	-8%	(\$247,981)	-6%	(\$546,116)	-14%	\$3,354,714
Bus & Finance Administration	\$7,917,955	(\$553,088)	-7%	(\$555,426)	-7%	(\$1,108,514)	-14%	\$6,809,441
Chief Turnaround Officer*	\$2,200,912	(\$593,532)	-27%	(\$907,380)	<b>See note below</b>	(\$1,500,912)	<b>See note below</b>	\$0
Totals	\$112,995,835	(\$4,299,782)	-4%	(\$12,726,093)	-11%	(\$17,019,743)	-15%	\$95,976,092

Note: Proposed FY21 budget transfers \$700,000 from the Chief Turnaround Officer program to School Improvement.

# FY21 Budget Reduction Strategies

Focus	Budget Reduction Strategies
<b>Personnel</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hiring freeze (October 2019)</li> <li>• Added additional level of approval -- CFO, Chief of Staff, and HR approval; only <i>absolutely essential</i> postings</li> <li>• Prior OBP approval of salaries and postings for all positions</li> <li>• Evaluating all existing positions</li> </ul>
<b>Travel</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moratorium on out-of-state travel through January 2021</li> <li>• Extremely limited in-state travel through January 2021</li> </ul>
<b>Professional Learning/Training</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No face-to-face training, professional development, or technical assistance through January 2021</li> <li>• Blending coaching model</li> </ul>
<b>Contracts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Added additional level of approval – both CFO and Chief of Staff review and approve all contracts</li> <li>• Renegotiating contracts</li> </ul>

# FY21 Budget Reduction Strategies

Focus	Budget Reduction Strategies
<b>Workplace</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Downsize existing presence at the Twin Towers</li><li>• Additional remote working for staff members coupled with a smaller, more flexible physical workspace</li></ul>
<b>Technology</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• At the direction of the Governor's Office, adopting more leaner vendor solutions, instead of primarily building and supporting all platforms and applications in house</li><li>• Shifting to a paperless, online workflow for traditional processes and procedures</li></ul>

***From Superintendent Woods:***

*It is the expectation of every GaDOE staff member and every GaDOE division to not only maintain a high level of quality service and support but to use the current environment to reimagine our work and enhance our collective efforts.*