

**Budget Summary**

* **Total Budget:**  $37.4 Billion
* **Total Education Budget including pension payment:** $14.9 billion
	+ $8.6 billion would be direct aid to schools (increase is about 3.5 percent increase over the current year)
	+ No district will lose aid; 94% of districts will get an increase in state aid
	+ Goal: to fully fund K-12 schools over the next four years
	+ Funding for pre-K-12 would increase by $341 million overall
	+ $283.6 million for K-12 and $57.6 million for pre-K expansion (for more than 3,500).
	+ **$3.2 billion pension payment**
	+ A 28% increase over last year’s contribution.
	+ Larger than the total of all contributions made during the Christie Administration’s first term.
	+ The  proposal includes $3.4 billion for active employee health benefits and post-retirement medical health benefits
* **Higher Education**
	+ $2.4 billion in direct support for higher education and student financial aid programs
	+ $50 million in new aid for community college tuition assistance for the new fiscal year.
	+ Goal: to offer tuition-free community college to all by 2021.
	+ This budget will fund tuition free community college for 15,000 additional students whose family incomes fall below $45,000 starting in spring 2019.
	+ Funding for Tuition Aid Grants would increase $7 million; Educational Opportunity Fund by $1.5 million
* **Revenue Raisers**
	+ Total revenue it would raise: $1.7 billion
	+ **Millionaires Tax:** The proposed budget would increase taxes on New Jersey households earning more than $1 million a year from 8.97 percent to 10.75 percent. This change, estimated to bring in $765 million, would be retroactive to January 1, 2018.
	+ **Marijuana**: $80 million in sales tax revenue from marijuana, including $20 million from expanding the existing medical marijuana program and $60 million from legalizing recreational marijuana.
	+ **Sales Tax**: The proposal would raise the state sales tax from 6.625 percent to 7 percent, and expand it to include some new items like the ridesharing service Uber. This is expected to generate about $581 million. With this hike in the sales tax, Murphy is restoring the cut made by Gov. Chris Christie as part of a deal to replenish the state's Transportation Trust Fund.
	+ **Closing Tax Loophole:** The proposal would close the "carried interest loophole," that allows wealthy money managers to characterize some of their earnings as lower-taxed capital gains, rather than ordinary income. This is projected to raise $100 million in revenue.
	+ **Changes to Corporate Business Tax Code:** Making technical changes to the corporate business tax code to generate $110 million.
* **OTHER INTERESTING STUFF**
	+ The Governor proposed a **$2 million grant program to help high schools offer college-level Computer Science courses** and to support teachers’ professional development.
	+ **Raising the Minimum Wage**. This budget plans for a statewide increase to a $15 minimum wage, including an increase to $11 per hour in fiscal 2019.
	+ **Raising the Property Tax Cap:** Governor Murphy supports bipartisan legislation to raise the deduction from state income taxes to $15,000.
	+ **Confronting Gun Violence:** New Jersey will establish the **Center on Gun.**
	+ **Violence Research:** The Governor’s budget also recommends raising firearm fees, many of which have not been updated since the 1960s.