

Budget Glossary

ABE	Adult Basic Education
Accountability in Government Act	The state law that requires performance measures and performance reporting from all state agencies. Often referred to as AGA.
ad valorem	A tax on the value of the goods or property.
AFSCME	American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees
AG	Attorney General
ALTSD	Aging and Long-Term Services Department
anti-donation clause	A provision of the state constitution that forbids the state from appropriating money directly to a private entity. To avoid the issue, the Legislature usually appropriates the money to a state agency and specifies how it will be spent.
appropriation contingency fund	A fund within the general fund that can be spent only with the specific authorization of the Legislature. The fund is typically used for potential expenses that might occur if conditions change.
BAR	Budget adjustment request. A request from a state agency to move money from one area to another within the limits set in the General Appropriation Act. Agencies must submit their requests to the LFC for review but the LFC has no power to stop a transfer that complies with the law.
base budget	The cost of continuing existing levels of service in the current budget year.
bbl	Billions of barrels. Used to describe crude oil production and price. A \$1 increase in the price per barrel of oil translates roughly into an additional \$3.5 million in general fund revenue for the state.
BCMC	Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court
blast out of committee	To remove a bill from any remaining committee hearings and place it on the calendar for a floor vote.
blue chip stock	Stock in a company known for its long-established record of making money and paying dividends.
BoF	State Board of Finance
budget	The bill, usually House Bill 2, or package of bills that pay for the operating costs of state government. The main bill is the General Appropriation Act.
budget recommendation	The recommendation of either the executive or the Legislative Finance Committee for total appropriations and spending authorization for the coming fiscal year. It sometimes includes provisions allowing spending for several fiscal years. New Mexico is unusual in that both the executive and legislative branches prepare a recommendation.

budget request	A state agency's request for appropriations and spending authorization, usually for the coming fiscal year but sometimes for more than one coming year. Due September 1.
call	The governor's list of legislative issues for a short session or special session. During short or special sessions, a bill cannot be considered unless it is on the call or concerns state finances.
capital outlay	Funds, generally nonrecurring, appropriated to cover the costs of construction and equipment of local and state projects throughout the state.
carry-over	The amount of an appropriation carried from one fiscal year to the next.
CHE	Commission on Higher Education
CIT	Corporate income tax. A tax on the income of every domestic and foreign corporation employed or engaged in the transaction of business in this state or deriving any income from property in the state.
compa-ratio	A figure that represents the relative position of an employee's current pay or the average pay of a group of employees. It is calculated by dividing the employee's or the average salary of a group of employees by the midpoint of the salary range.
concordance	In the legislative sense, the bill number and the corresponding chapter in session law. The Legislative Council Service prepares a post-session document that lists each chapter number from the session laws for all enacted legislation.
consumer price index	It measures changes in the retail prices of a market basket of goods and services. It is issued monthly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. It is not the same thing as the cost-of-living index.
cost of living	The amount of money needed to pay taxes and buy the goods and services deemed necessary for a given standard of living, taking into account changes in states and buying patterns.
cost-benefit	An economic analysis of a service or program that compares the costs to the benefits.
CYFD	Children, Youth and Families Department
D&E	The waiver to federal Medicaid rules that allows the state to provide in-home services to individuals who are either disabled or elderly, whose care otherwise would not qualify for Medicaid reimbursement unless it was provided in a nursing home. The term is often used loosely to refer to either the program or the waiver.
DCA	Cultural Affairs Department
DD	Developmentally disabled
DD waiver	The waiver to federal Medicaid rules that allows the state to provide in-home services to the developmentally disabled, whose care otherwise would not qualify for Medicaid reimbursement unless it was provided in a nursing home.
dead dead	A bill can be reconsidered once after it dies through a floor vote. If the motion to reconsider fails or the floor vote kills the bill a second time, the bill is dead dead.
deficiency appropriation	An appropriation to cover a shortfall from a prior fiscal year.

DFA	Department of Finance and Administration
difference sheet	A document prepared by LFC and DFA staff describing the differences between the legislative and executive budget recommendations.
disasters	Emergency expenditures typically funded from the appropriation contingency fund.
DOH	Department of Health
DOL	Labor Department
DOT	Department of Transportation
DPS	Department of Public Safety
earmark	Funds designated for a specific use.
earned income tax credit	Earned income tax credit. A federal tax break aimed at the working poor.
EDD	Economic Development Department
efficiency	The degree to which services are productive often expressed in terms of dollars or time per unit of output.
EMNRD	Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department
entitlement	In the government sense, financial or other assistance to which qualifying beneficiaries have a legal right.
ERB	Educational Retirement Board
executive	Refers to either the governor or branch of government led by the governor and can be used as an adjective or a noun.
expansion	A new service or program within a state agency or additional employees for an existing service or program.
federal funds	Any payments by the United States government to state government or agencies except those payments made in accordance with the federal Mineral Lands Leasing Act.
feed bill	The bill, usually House Bill 1, that pays for most legislative operating expenses, including the expenses of the legislative session.
FFY	Federal fiscal year. Starts October 1.
FIR	Fiscal impact report. A document prepared by LFC staff that explains the possible financial, programmatic and legal consequences of proposed legislation.
fiscal year	A 12-month period used for accounting purposes. The state fiscal year starts July 1. The federal government's fiscal year starts October 1. Until the mid-1990s, state fiscal years were numbered based on the number of years since statehood. Fiscal years are now numbered according to the calendar year. FY05, for example, was the 2004-2005 budget year.
FMAP	The federal matching rate for the Medicaid program, or federal medical assistance percentages. The rate is based on a state's per-capita income relative to the national average.

FTE	Full-time equivalent. One or more positions that together receive compensation for 2088 hours per year.
FY	Fiscal year
General Appropriation Act	Usually House Bill 2, the legislation that pays for most of the operating expenses of state government.
general fund	The primary fund from which the ongoing expenses of state government are paid. About 85 percent of the fund comes from revenue from the gross receipts and compensating taxes, selective sales taxes, income taxes, and interest earnings from the land grant and severance tax permanent funds and balances held by the State Treasurer.
general fund financial summary	A balance sheet for the general fund.
GO bonds	General obligation bonds. Bonds authorized by the Legislature and, if approved by voters at a general election, repaid with collections from property taxes.
GRIP	Governor Richardson Investment Partnership. A state highway construction program.
gross receipts tax	A tax on businesses generating revenue in New Mexico. The majority of the revenue from the tax is designated for the state but cities and counties have the option of authorizing a variety of supplemental gross receipts taxes for general use and specific purposes.
GSD	General Services Department
HAFC	House Appropriations and Finance Committee
House Bill 2 Junior	A funding bill that complements the General Appropriation Act. The bill is usually made up of member adds, appropriations added to an agency's base budget by a legislator.
HSD	Human Services Department
HTRC	House Taxation and Revenue Department
IAD	Indian Affairs Department
interim	The period between legislative sessions.
ISD	Usually, Information Systems Division. The computer services section of the General Services Department. Within GSD, the abbreviation is also used to refer to the division's mainframe computer. ISD, when used in reference to public assistance or the Human Services Department, is the abbreviation for the Income Support Division.

land grant permanent fund	The fund into which royalties from oil, gas, and mining activity on state trust land are deposited on behalf of specific beneficiaries. The fund is managed by the State Investment Council and some of the money earned on the investment of the fund is paid to the beneficiaries and some is returned to the permanent fund. Bonuses, one-time payments to the State Land Office for the privilege of mining the trust land, and lease payments on trust land are deposited into the land office maintenance fund and the net revenue in that fund, after the State Land Office covers its administrative costs, are distributed directly to the beneficiaries.
LCS	Legislative Council Service
legislative day	An artificial day used and sometimes manipulated to move legislation through the session. The day ends with the floor leader moving for adjournment.
LICTR	Low-income comprehensive tax rebate. A state tax break aimed at the poor.
MAD	Medical Assistance Division
maintenance of effort	The amount of money the state spends on services for those who qualify for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families as required as a condition for receiving the federal TANF grant.
mcf	Thousand cubic feet. Used to describe natural gas production and price. A 10-cent increase in the price per mcf translates roughly into an additional \$12 million in general fund revenue for the state.
MCO	Managed-care organization. Usually used in reference to the private companies that manage the Medicaid Salud program.
Medicaid	A federal-state program that helps pay for health care for the poor, elderly, blind and disabled, pregnant women, and children. In New Mexico, most patients are part of the managed care program called Salud. Most adults qualify only if they have incomes below 37 percent of the federal poverty level. Children, pregnant women, and certain other groups may have higher incomes. The program for children is called New MexiKids.
Medicaid in the schools	A program managed by the Human Services Department through which some public school nursing costs are paid for with Medicaid funds.
MEM	Public school student membership. The figure reflects full-time equivalent enrollment.
member add	An appropriation added to the base budget of an agency at the request of a legislator and typically included in House Bill 2 Junior.
MFA	New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority. A quasi-governmental agency originally created to issue tax-exempt mortgage revenue bonds. The authority now also is responsible state and federally funded housing programs.
mill	One-tenth of a cent. One mill is equal to \$1 per \$1,000 of taxable value.
MOE	Maintenance of effort. The amount of money the state spends on services to those who qualify for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families as required as a condition for receiving the federal TANF grant.
NCSL	National Conference of State Legislatures

net take	In gaming, total cash receipts or other compensation less the total of all cash paid out and amounts paid to purchase annuities to fund payments to winners over several years.
new money	Difference between expected recurring revenue and prior-year recurring spending.
NM.HR.2001	New Mexico Human Resources 2001. A state personnel classification system adopted in 2001.
NMCD	New Mexico Corrections Department
NMED	New Mexico Environment Department
NMFA	New Mexico Finance Authority. A quasi-governmental agency with members appointed by the governor that administers a public projects revolving loan fund.
nonrecurring	One-time money or expense.
nonreverting	Funds that do not have to be returned to the general fund at the end of a fiscal year. Also refers to agencies that receive such funds. Most agencies are reverting agencies.
ONGARD	Oil and Natural Gas Administration and Revenue Database. A program that tracks oil and natural gas production and related taxes and fees owed to the state. Managed by the State Land Office, Taxation and Revenue Department, and Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department.
operating reserve	Part of the general fund reserves. The difference between revenues and expenditures used as a cushion to cover any unexpected decline in revenue or unanticipated costs.
other state funds	Unencumbered, nonreverting balances in agency accounts other than in internal service funds accounts, all revenue available to agencies from sources other than the general fund, internal service funds, interagency transfers and federal funds, and all restricted-use revenue.
PED	Public Education Department
PERA	Public Employee Retirement Association
Performance measure	When used in performance-based budgeting, a performance measure is the phrase used for a specific goal of a program and includes both the target and the result.
permanent funds	Investment funds, usually fed by a continuing source of income, from which investment income is used but rarely the corpus. The two biggest are the land grant permanent fund and the severance tax permanent fund.
PIT	Personal income tax.
PNM	Can mean Public Service Company of New Mexico or Penitentiary of New Mexico.
pocket veto	A veto that is the result of inaction by the governor. Until three days before adjournment, a governor must veto a bill within three days or it automatically becomes law. After the third day prior to adjournment, a governor must sign a bill before the 20 th day after adjournment or the bill is automatically vetoed, or pocket vetoed.

pork	Used generally to refer to capital outlay spending on local projects. Used derisively, it means government-funded projects that bring jobs and other benefits to an area with the goal of winning favor with voters.
poverty level	An income level judged inadequate to provide a family or individual with the essentials of life. The figure is equal to three times the cost of a minimally adequate diet and is regularly adjusted to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index.
prior appropriation	In water law, it is the principle that allocates water rights based on the chronological order in which the water was put into use.
prison, jail	As a place where criminals are confined, a prison or penitentiary is part of the state corrections system and confines those with felony convictions and a jail is usually operated by a county or city and confines those with misdemeanor convictions.
reverting agency	An agency that has to deposit any money left in its budget at the end of the fiscal year back into the general fund. Most agencies are reverting agencies.
riparian	Along a stream or river.
RLD	Regulation and Licensing Department
roll the clock	Moving from one legislative day to the next.
Salud	The managed-care Medicaid program managed by private healthcare providers.
sanding	An informal term meaning a small, across-the-board cut. Sometimes an agency is excepted.
SBD	State Budget Division
SCHIP	State Children’s Health Insurance Program. A Medicaid program restricted to children that comes with a four-to-one match in federal dollars
severance tax	A tax on the “severing” of nonrenewable natural resources from the land.
severance tax bonds	Bonds authorized by the Legislature to fund capital outlay projects that are repaid with severance taxes.
severance tax permanent fund	The fund consisting of the portion of the severance taxes not used to retire severance tax bonds. Some of the revenue from the investment of the fund is deposited into the general fund.
SFC	Senate Finance Committee
SLO	State Land Office
special appropriation	An appropriation outside the agency’s regular budget for what should be, philosophically, a one-time expense.
SPO	State Personnel Office
sponge bonds	Severance tax bonds issued and retired within one fiscal year.
standing committee	A permanent committee of either of the House or Senate that meets during the legislative session.

- state equalization guarantee** The funding formula for public schools primarily based on enrollment but with factors for teacher experience, district and school size, population of at-risk children, and other conditions.
- state road fund** The fund consisting of fuel, motor vehicle, and road use fees and taxes used to pay for the administrative operations of the Department of Transportation, to build and maintain roads, and to make debt payments on highway capital improvement bonds. It is the state's second largest fund.
- state trust land** Tracts of land set aside under the Ferguson Act and Enabling Act of 1910 for the benefit of the public schools and 19 specific state institutions. The Commissioner of Public Lands administers 8.9 million acres of surface rights and 12.7 million of subsurface rights for beneficiaries.
- STB** Severance tax bonds.
- STIP** Statewide Transportation Improvement Program. A planning document prepared by the state Department of Transportation prioritizing road projects and funding.
- structural deficit** A projected shortfall – the state cannot constitutional overspend – created when spending on existing programs is expected to exceed expected revenue.
- supplemental appropriation** An appropriation to an agency for a shortfall or other need made within the current fiscal year.
- supplemental severance tax bonds** Secondary lien bonds issued against the severance tax bonding fund using no more than 87½ percent of severance tax revenues for certain authorized capital projects.
- suspense fund** A fund in the State Treasury that receives taxes, fees, and other revenues.
- TANF** Temporary Assistance for Needy Families. The cash assistance program for the poor funded by the state and federal governments.
- TD** Tourism Department
- TOOL** Table of Organizational Listing. A complete list of all the positions in an agency with FTE, names, and salaries.
- TRD** Taxation and Revenue Department
- unit** When used with public school funding, it is the equivalent of a full-time student weighted by the other factors in the public school funding formula known as the state equalization guarantee.
- unit value** Total public school support divided by the number of units, roughly \$3,000.
- vacancy savings** The expected savings from unfilled positions in an agency. For example, a 4 percent vacancy savings rate means the Legislature anticipates 96 percent of the positions will be filled at any time and funds personnel costs at 96 percent of the total for all authorized positions.
- VSD** Veterans' Service Department