# Budget Glossary

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<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tr>
<td>ABE</td>
<td>Adult Basic Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accountability in Government Act</td>
<td>The state law that requires performance measures and performance reporting from all state agencies. Often referred to as AGA.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ad valorem</td>
<td>A tax on the value of the goods or property.</td>
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<td>AFSCME</td>
<td>American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees</td>
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<td>AG</td>
<td>Attorney General</td>
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<td>ALTSD</td>
<td>Aging and Long-Term Services Department</td>
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<td>anti-donation clause</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>appropriation</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>contingency fund</td>
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<td>BAR</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>base budget</td>
<td>The cost of continuing existing levels of service in the current budget year.</td>
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<td>bbl</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>BCMC</td>
<td>Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court</td>
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<td>blast out of committee</td>
<td>To remove a bill from any remaining committee hearings and place it on the calendar for a floor vote.</td>
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<td>blue chip stock</td>
<td>Stock in a company known for its long-established record of making money and paying dividends.</td>
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<td>BoF</td>
<td>State Board of Finance</td>
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<tr>
<td>budget</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>budget recommendation</td>
<td>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.</td>
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</table>
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 An appropriation to cover a shortfall from a prior fiscal year.
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.


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.


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 20th 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