



Please find a summary of some of the key budget items impacting hospitals from the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee’s version of [H.B. 81](#) - FY 2022 Appropriations Act, passed by the Committee on March 4, 2021. Find a copy of the bill and related details [here](#) (Select “FY2022” under *Search by Year.*) All figures reflect State Funds unless otherwise noted.

BUDGET OVERVIEW: The FY 2022 Budget for total state funds is \$27.3 billion or **5.2% more (+\$1.3 billion)** than the original FY 2021 Budget.

Additions and Changes to the Governor’s Recommended Budget

Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids (New items added by the House.)

1. New funding for **skilled nursing home payments**:
 - a. 2% rate increase (+\$11.9 million)
 - b. Updated insurance rate pass-through components to current costs (+\$3.5 million)
2. 10% rate increase (+\$25.3 million) for **home and community-based long term care** service providers.
3. New funding to increase 18 select **primary care and OB/GYN codes** to 2020 Medicare levels. (+\$7.1 million)

Medicaid Matching Rates

4. The Governor’s budget added \$179 million in new state funds to replace additional federal funds that were realized in FY 2021 due to the COVID-19-related **Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP)** increase. The FMAP initially increased by 6.2 percentage points between July 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020.

As the higher FMAP has now been extended through September 30, 2021, the House reduced the amount of state funds needed in FY 2022 by \$106 million in the Department of Community Health Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids budgets.

Healthcare Facilities Regulation

5. \$7.5 million was made available for **long term care surveyors** and contractual services to comply with CMS COVID-19 mandates and to ensure safe and healthy living conditions for residents of long-term care and health care facilities. (Annualizes a AFY 2021 Budget Item.) (New item added by the House.)

Health Care Access and Improvement

6. \$500 thousand in funding earmarked for two **federally qualified health center start up grants** in Jeff Davis and Marion counties. (New item added by the House.)

State Health Benefit Plan

7. \$500 thousand in funding for a pilot program for a **drug deactivation system** that provides a safe disposal of unused prescription and over-the-counter medications. (New item added by the House.)



Medical Education (New items added by the House.)

8. Funding for Year 2 of 3 of increased **medical education funding** for the Teaching Program in the Board of Regents. (+\$7.8 million)
9. Funding for Year 2 of 7 for **Mercer School of Medicine’s medical school campus in Columbus**. (+\$5.3 million)
10. New operational funding for the **Medical College of Georgia Hospital and Clinics Program** in the Board of Regents. (+\$1.6 million)
11. Funding for a **medical examiner/forensic pathologist** at Mercer School of Medicine. (+\$250 thousand)
12. Funding for initial planning to establish a **graduate medical education program** at Southeast Georgia Health System. (+\$180 thousand)

Public Health (New items added by the House.)

13. \$1.5 million in funding to operate the **new vaccine management system** implemented in FY 2021.
14. Annualized funding of \$860 thousand for a chief medical officer, a deputy commissioner of public health and a chief data officer hired in FY 2021 to support the agency with the COVID 19 pandemic response and ongoing **agency leadership**.

Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (New items added by the House.)

15. \$2 million in additional funding for the Child & Adolescent Mental Health [Georgia APEX Program](#).
16. \$400 thousand in additional funds for **suicide prevention** in the Adult and Child & Adolescent Mental Health programs.

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