

GRAPEVINE

A newsletter on state tax legislation; state appropriations for universities, colleges, and junior colleges; state support of public school systems; legislation affecting education at any level. There is no charge for GRAPEVINE, but recipients are asked to send occasional timely newsnotes regarding pertinent events in their respective states.

STATE APPROPRIATIONS

Table 81, below, reports appropriations by 15 states, as indicated in its caption. Note that the populous states of California, New York, and Michigan are among these. The total increase over 2 years appears to be approximately 30%.

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Table 81. Annual appropriations of state tax funds for operating expenses of institutions of higher education, for fiscal years 1958-59 through 1960-61, in thousands, with percentages of increase for 1960-61 over 1958-59.

States (1)	Year 1958-59 (2)	Year 1959-60 (3)	Year 1960-61 (4)	2-year increase (5)	Percentage increase (6)
Arizona	\$11,041	\$13,742	\$15,818	\$4,777	43 $\frac{1}{4}$
California	147,421	162,065	195,312	47,891	32 $\frac{1}{2}$
Colorado	15,595	19,796	23,282	7,687	49 $\frac{1}{4}$
Georgia	21,356	24,058	26,605	5,249	24 $\frac{1}{2}$
Hawaii	4,499	6,277	7,374	2,875	64
Kansas	23,429	25,036	27,939	4,510	19 $\frac{1}{4}$
Kentucky	13,351	14,954	19,672	6,321	48
Maryland	21,383	23,413	26,088	4,705	22
Michigan	79,099	91,979	98,016	18,917	24
Mississippi	13,480*	13,480*	16,200*	2,720**	20
Nevada	2,411	3,636	4,107	1,696	70 $\frac{1}{4}$
New York	52,540	60,886	69,774	17,234	33
Rhode Island	4,221	5,026	5,918	1,697	40 $\frac{1}{4}$
Vermont	3,036	3,208	3,287	251	8 $\frac{1}{4}$
Virginia	19,606	19,943	23,187	3,581	18 $\frac{1}{4}$

* Mississippi's appropriations are made for the full biennium beginning with an even-numbered year. The figures used here represent one-half of the biennial appropriation.
 **This is the difference between fiscal year 1960-61 and fiscal year 1958-59; not the difference between two bienniums.

APPROPRIATIONS OF STATE TAX FUNDS FOR SUPPORT OF OPERATING EXPENSES
OF LOCAL PUBLIC JUNIOR COLLEGES

Reports from 7 states indicate that state aid for operating expenses of local public junior colleges for fiscal year 1960-61 will be over \$5½ million larger than the total for the same states 2 years earlier. (See Table 82, below).

The increase for these 7 states is a little over 20%. This modest figure seems to be largely due to the comparatively stable situation in California, the Queen of the junior college states, whose 60-odd junior colleges far outnumber those in any other state, and where the annual amounts of state aid are twice those in the other six states of Table 82 combined. Michigan, with 16 local public junior colleges, is also moving only slowly at present. Arizona made no change for 1960-61, but enacted a new statute to become effective July 1, 1961 which will mean substantial increases. Notethat in the other 4 states reported the increases range from 27% to 146%, and demonstrate the volatility of this rapidly-growing field.

Table 82. State appropriations for operating expenses of local public junior and community colleges, fiscal years 1957-58, 1958-59, 1959-60, and 1960-61, with percentages of increase for 1960-61 over 1958-59, in thousands of dollars.

States	Year 1957-58	Year 1958-59	Year 1959-60	Year 1960-61	2-year increase 1958-59 to 1960-61	Percentage increase
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
California	\$20,390	\$22,947	\$26,539	\$26,240*	\$3,293*	14½*
New York	2,200	2,750	3,450**	4,610**	\$1,860	67½
Michigan	3,420	3,600	3,620	3,820	220	6
Mississippi	1,415	1,683	1,683	2,147	464	27½
Colorado	396	426	475	1,050	624	146½
Maryland	252	337	405	432	95	28
Arizona	300	300	300	300	***	***

* There was no new legislation in 1960 regarding state support; but a statute was enacted in which the legislature reminded itself to consider this subject in 1961.

** These figures are exclusive of the sums (\$2.7 million in 1959-60 and \$10 million in 1960-61) appropriated for the first 2 years in the municipal colleges of New York City.

*** Under a statute to become effective July 1, 1961, Arizona will pay local public junior colleges \$525 per student per year for operating expenses for the first 320 students, and \$350 per student above that number. See GRAPEVINE, page 112.

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MICHIGAN. Appropriations of state tax funds for higher education were made in mid-May, immediately preceding adjournment. The figures appear in Table 83.

Table 83. Appropriations of state tax funds for higher education in Michigan, for fiscal year 1960-61, in thousands.

Institutions	For operating expenses.	For capital outlays
U of Michigan	\$35,229	\$2,000
Michigan State U	29,472	1,930
Wayne State U	15,799	1,385
Western Mich U	4,880	838
Central Mich U	3,003	598
Eastern Mich U	3,138	76
Northern Mich C	1,340	130
Coll Min & Tech	3,208	305
Ferris Institute	1,947	594
Totals	98,016	7,856

The total for operating expenses is about 24% above the comparable figure for the fiscal year 1958-59, two years ago. It seems to represent about 11% of the total of appropriations of state funds for all purposes, which is reported as \$899½ million.

The legislature authorized the establishment of a new state college in the west central part of the state, to serve a group of counties in the region of Grand Rapids, conditional upon local provision of a suitable site without cost to the state and \$1 million in available funds. It is expected that these conditions will be met. No state appropriation was made for 1960-61. The new institution will be known as Grand Valley State College.

The state appropriation for aid to local public junior colleges for operating expenses, fiscal year 1960-61, is \$3,820, an increase of a little more than 6% over two years ago. For state aid for capital outlays by local public junior colleges, \$1 million was appropriated-- the same as in each of the 2 preceding fiscal years.

The amount of state funds to be expended for support of the operating expenses of local elementary and secondary schools is estimated as \$277 million, an increase of about 11½% over the comparable figure of two years ago.

MISSISSIPPI. Appropriations of state tax funds for operating expenses of higher education for the biennium 1960-62 appear in Table 84. In lieu of the usual information regarding allocations to the several institutions the only breakdown presently available to GRAPEVINE shows a lump sum of \$20 million for "general support" of all the institutions, plus eleven other appropriations to particular units and services, which bring the total to \$32,400,500 for operating expenses.

Table 84. Appropriations of state tax funds for operating expenses of higher education in Mississippi, for biennium 1960-62, in thousands of dollars.

Objects of appropriation	Sums appropriated
(1)	(2)
General support	\$20,000
Extension service	2,799
Experiment station	2,188
Medical school	2,550
Teaching hospital	3,000
School of nursing	400
Negro students	550
Regional education	450
Aid to nursing education	104
Chemical regulatory	265
Gulf Coast Research Lab	60
Foundation herds	35
Total	32,500

The \$20 million appropriated for "general support" will be allocated to the several institutions by the Board of Trustees of Institutions of Higher Learning, which is the state agency governing all of them. The allocations will be reported in a future issue of GRAPEVINE as soon as they become available.

Sums made available for capital outlays are shown as allotted to the several institutions in Table 86.

Amounts made available for state aid to local public junior colleges in Mississippi for the biennium 1960-62 are reported as \$4,294,000 for operating expenses, and \$2,150,000 for capital outlays. The amount for operating expenses appears to be about 27½% greater than the comparable appropriation for 1958-60. (Continued on page 123).

NEW YORK. The development of the New York State system of public higher education is of sufficient interest and importance to justify considerable detailed attention. Accordingly, we undertake to transmit data regarding the fiscal years 1958-59 through 1960-61 which have come to us through the kindness of our Albany correspondents. Table 85 shows the appropriations of state tax funds for the 3 fiscal years, separately for operating expenses and for capital outlays.

Table 85. Appropriations of state tax funds for higher education in the state of New York, for fiscal years 1958-59, 1959-60, and 1960-61, in thousands of dollars, separately for operating expenses and for capital outlays.

Institutions (1)	For operating expenses			For capital outlays		
	1958-59 (2)	1959-60 (3)	1960-61 (4)	1958-59 (5)	1959-60 (6)	1960-61 (7)
Cornell contract*--						
St Coll of Agri	\$6,217	\$6,872	\$6,965	\$1,373	\$160	\$365
St Coll of H. Ec	1,410	1,538	1,564	18	-	-
Ag Experiment Sta	1,325	1,417	1,467	-	-	-
St Coll Vet Med	1,141	1,227	1,240	230	-	-
SC Indus & Lab R	1,017	1,125	1,098	-	1,065	-
Genl Services	1,526	1,563	1,529	-	-	225
Various state colls*--						
Downstate Medical	3,440	3,888	3,862	-	-	-
Upstate Medical	2,476	2,740	2,715	316	-	16,000
Forestry	1,781	1,859	1,862	308	-	20
Maritime	849	947	950	-	125	210
Harpur	808	920	935	2,000	-	-
Long Island	606	799	874	-	7,490	8,940
Ceramics	643	770	767	-	-	100
St Colls of Education*--						
Albany	1,945	2,276	2,292	-	-	-
Buffalo	2,206	2,460	2,578	-	2,628	1,385
Oswego	1,685	1,990	2,017	152	2,675	25
Cortland	1,653	1,864	1,916	783	2,260	42
Oneonta	1,236	1,461	1,584	-	2,150	200
New Paltz	1,357	1,476	1,500	58	610	2,388
Brockport	1,229	1,431	1,460	-	3,320	22
Plattsburg	1,186	1,347	1,407	55	25	2,290
Potsdam	1,224	1,383	1,423	-	-	-
Genesee	1,093	1,290	1,355	265	-	140
Fredonia	1,119	1,299	1,312	50	510	-
Ag & Tech Institutes*--						
Farmingdale	1,520	1,670	1,679	-	-	172
Alfred	778	869	888	200	-	-
Morrisville	543	606	603	65	-	-
Canton	396	451	437	75	40	-
Cobleskill	325	387	410	-	40	-
Delhi	283	369	398	-	38	-
Central Admin--	822	865	887	2,463	5,260	3,350
Schlrshps & Fellows	9,494	11,158	12,293	-	-	-
Subsidies to NYC--						
For teacher edn	8,250	8,629	9,300	-	-	-
Municipal colls	-	2,700	10,000	-	-	2,200
State aid to						
Community colls--	2,750	3,450	4,610	14,300	10,600	-
Dormitory Authority--	-	-	-	6,084	3,250	5,800

*All the institutions named are components of the State University of New York.

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NEW YORK (Continued). It will be noted that the appropriation for state aid for operating expenses of local public community colleges for 1960-61 is \$4,610,000, as compared with \$2,750,000 two years ago-- an increase of more than 67 $\frac{1}{2}$ %.

No appropriation for state support of capital outlays by local public community colleges was made for 1960-61, on account of the existence of a large backlog of unexpended funds appropriated for this purpose in earlier years.

Appropriations for state support of operating expenses of local public elementary and secondary schools are reported as \$656,181,000 as against \$520,285,000 two years ago-- an increase of 26%. The gain over 1959-60 (one year ago) is apparently about \$55 million. This is mentioned because early newspaper reports to the effect that the gain would amount to \$90 million or more were apparently in error.

The appropriation for state support of capital outlays for local public elementary and secondary schools in 1960-61 is \$29,680,000, an increase of 42% over the comparable \$20,894,000 of two years ago.

The 1960 legislature passed, and Governor Rockefeller signed, a measure to become effective September 1, 1961, which will require local school boards to provide free public transportation for parochial school pupils in their districts in a manner equivalent to the same service which is provided for pupils in public schools. Hitherto the parents of pupils attending parochial schools have been required to make formal request for this service at the annual meeting of the public school district, and if refused could then appeal to the Commissioner of Education. In recent years the Commissioner has usually ordered the local board to provide the requested transportation in such cases, holding that this is in accord with the intent of a permissive constitutional amendment adopted several years ago, and subsequent legislation. The new statute permits direct request to the Commissioner in the first instance, and makes his favorable ruling virtually automatic.

Apparently due to a small oversight in drafting, the new statute is believed to apply to the 62 cities of the state.

This was not intended; and it is reported that legislative leaders have agreed with the governor to introduce and enact in the 1961 session an amendment to exclude the cities before the new law becomes effective.

A 14-member legislative committee to study the costs and financing of public education was created, and given an appropriation of \$150,000.

MISSISSIPPI (Continued from page 121).

Table 86. Sums made available for capital outlays for institutions of higher education in Mississippi, pursuant to action by the 1960 legislature, in thousands of dollars.

Institutions	Capital outlays authorized
(1)	(2)
U of Mississippi	\$2,615
U Medical Center	1,610
Mississippi State U	3,725
Miss St Coll for Women	950
Miss Southern College	2,150
Delta State College	800
Alcorn A & M College	790
Jackson State College	1,085
Miss Vocational College	1,070
Total	14,795

A Senate concurrent resolution created a survey committee to study public education in the state of Mississippi, and appropriated \$150,000 for the purpose.

NEW JERSEY. The issue of reasonably uniform assessment of real property, bearing some rational relationship to true market value, has been active since a court decision of 1957 in which a defendant township was ordered to assess all taxable property uniformly at 100% of true value, as the statutes seem to require. No immediate statewide application of this rule was made, but it was reported that about a dozen local units were assessing at 100% in 1959, and that the number would probably increase. Meantime a second court action on April 12, 1960, brought by the village of Ridgefield Park against Bergen County, resulted in a ruling that the

NEW JERSEY (Continued) county must comply with the statute. More recently it is reported that, in conformity with this decision, the county tax boards in Monmouth and Essex counties have ordered local assessors to use the uniform standard of 100% of true value.

Meantime the question of amending the statute has been under consideration in the legislature. At this moment GRAPEVINE does not know what the outcome of the debate may be. Probably the ultimate result will be a more rational system of assessment for the state, though perhaps not necessarily uniform throughout the state. One measure proposed would permit each county to establish its own ratio between true value and assessed value, with limits fixed by the state.

NORTH CAROLINA. A Commission to Study the Public School Curriculum has operated during 1959-60 and recently filed a preliminary report. This body received about \$85,000 of state tax funds to finance its work. Another special group study under way is concerned with the possibility of improving qualitative standards of teacher education in the state.

PENNSYLVANIA. Lieutenant Governor John M. Davis is chairman of a Special Committee on Education charged with preparing a 10-year plan for the financing of education. The 35-member committee, appointed by the governor, will head task forces on curriculum, school district organization, school construction, teacher education and relations, school administration, guidance and counseling, higher education, and school finance. The report is due in January 1961.

RHODE ISLAND. Two new measures intended to improve the state-local partnership in support of local public elementary and secondary schools were enacted by the 1960 legislature.

As to state aid for operating expenses, the new law abolishes 12 separate special aid programs and starts anew with a general program under which each child

in the state is guaranteed a minimum of \$300 a year spent on his education. This is the floor. The state's minimum contribution will be 25% of the total operating expenses, so that Providence, already spending about \$450 per child, will receive about \$112.50 from the state. Some of the poorer districts will receive about 50% of their operating expenses from the state-- meaning they will receive \$150 per pupil toward the \$300 minimum, plus one dollar from the state for each additional dollar of local funds spent.

The statewide minimum salary schedule for teachers is raised, so that it will now range from \$4,000 for a beginner to \$6,000 for a teacher with 11 years of service.

A separate measure provides for the first time for state aid to local school districts for capital outlays and debt service. The state's share in the cost of school housing constructed since 1950 and hereafter will be at approximately the same percentages as those indicated above for operating expenses. For buildings constructed after July 1, 1960 the state's share will be paid over a period of 20 years; for those built between 1950 and 1960 the state will pay its share over a period of 20 years minus the number of years since the date of building.

There is also provision for state payment of 75% of the balance of debts which a district may be unable to meet from the yield of a \$3 tax on its assessed valuation. At least 4 of the weaker districts in the state will qualify for this. An incentive for the construction of larger regional school buildings is in the form of an additional 2% of state aid for each grade centralized.

Please send timely notes

from your state to:

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