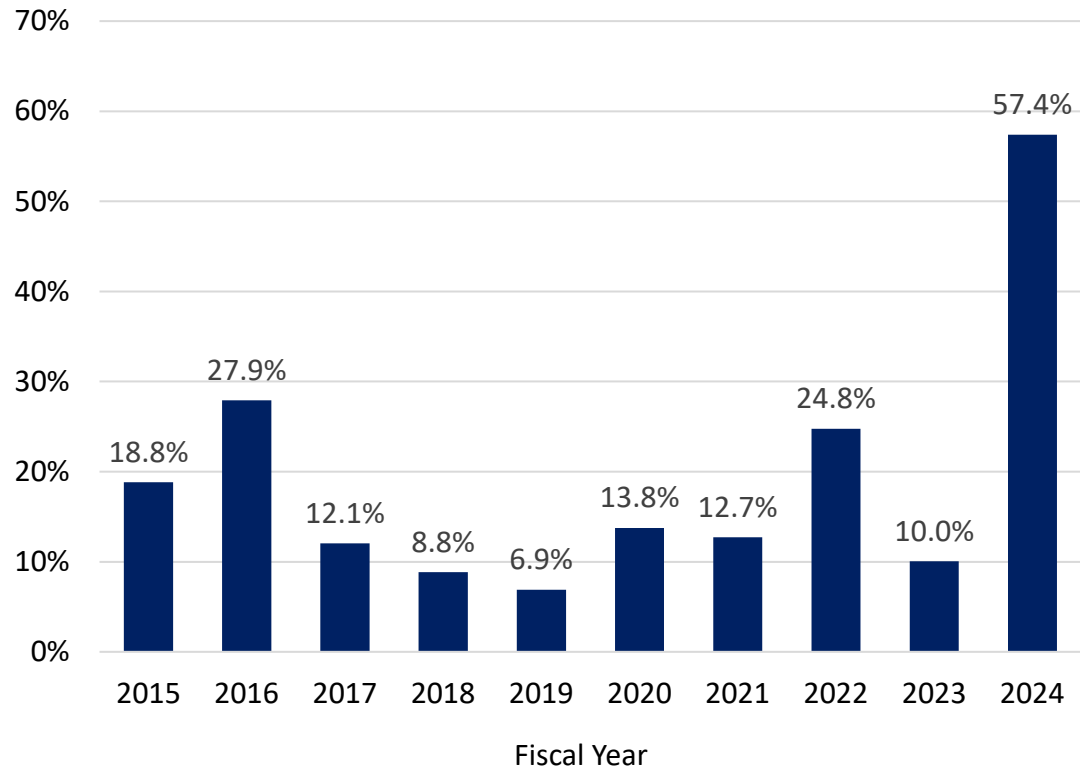


# School Choice Programs



# State scholarship spending grew 57% in FY 2024 due primarily to universal eligibility for EdChoice

Annual Growth in Scholarship Program Spending



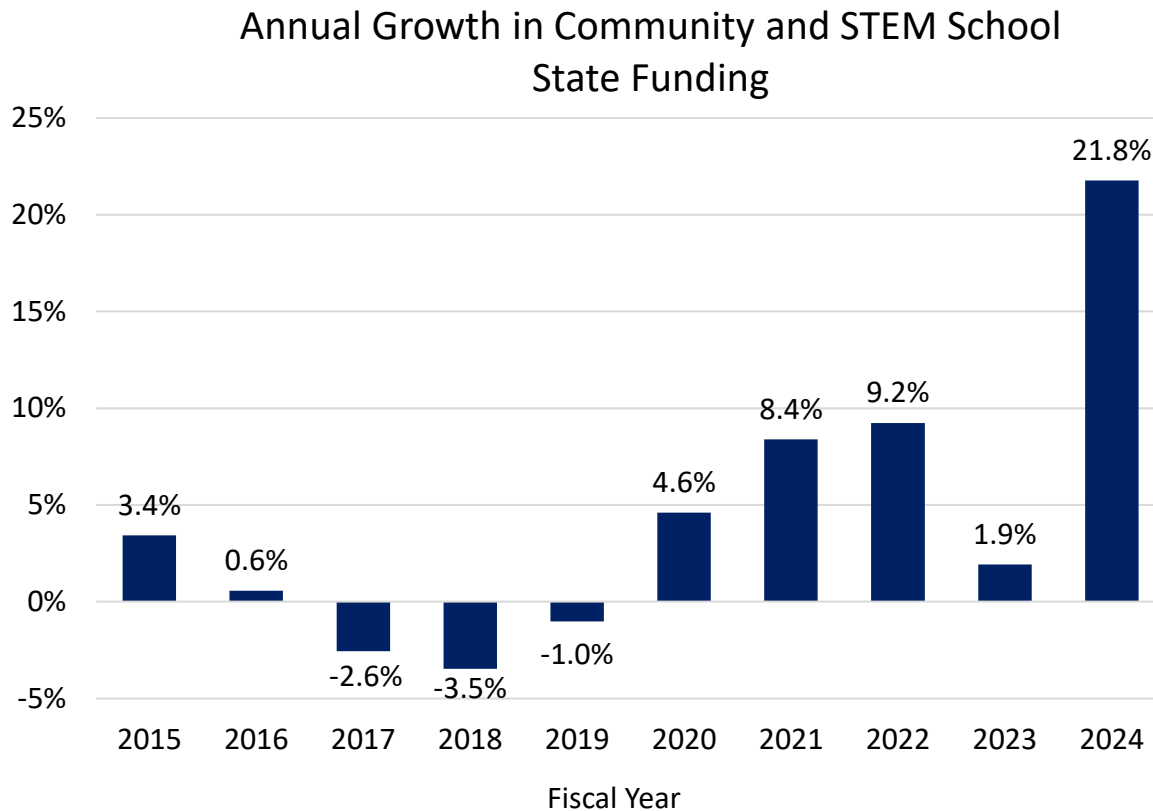
Source: Department of Education and Workforce

- Total spending on state scholarships to attend K-12 private schools increased by \$350.3 million (57.4%) in FY 2024, to \$960.6 million.
  - Of this growth, \$280.2 million (80.0%) was due to the EdChoice Expansion Program.
  - In FY 2024, the EdChoice Expansion Program became open to all students, regardless of income, with means-tested award amounts.
  - Formerly, only students at or below 250% of the federal poverty level were eligible.
  - Total spending on other scholarship programs increased by \$70.2 million (14.4%).
- In FY 2024, 147,400 full-time equivalent students received a scholarship, an increase of 67,400 students (84.2%) from FY 2023.
  - EdChoice Expansion was responsible for nearly all (95.4%) of this growth, increasing by 64,300 students.

State Scholarship Spending by Program, FY 2024

Program	Students	Spending (millions)	Share of Spending
EdChoice Expansion scholarships	86,850	\$404.6	42.1%
Traditional EdChoice scholarships	40,273	\$272.1	28.3%
Autism scholarships	4,572	\$135.3	14.1%
Jon Peterson Special Needs scholarships	7,914	\$95.2	9.9%
Cleveland scholarships	7,769	\$53.3	5.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>147,378</b>	<b>\$960.6</b>	<b>100%</b>

# Community and STEM school state funding increased 22% in FY 2024



Source: Department of Education and Workforce

- State funding for community and STEM schools increased by \$244.1 million (21.8%) in FY 2024, to a total of \$1.37 billion.
  - Community and STEM schools are public schools governed independently from any school district.
  - “State funding” represents the three major sources of state funding for the schools: (1) foundation aid, (2) quality schools support, and (3) facilities support funded in the operating budget.
- Most of the growth was from foundation aid, which increased \$165.5 million (16.1%) mainly due to funding formula changes.
- Additional aid for facilities and for schools meeting certain quality standards grew by a combined \$78.6 million (81.9%) largely due to increased per-pupil amounts for each program.
- About 120,800 students (7.5% of public school enrollment) were enrolled in community and STEM schools in FY 2024, an increase of 4,900 (4.3%) from FY 2023.

Community and STEM School State Funding by Source, FY 2024		
Source	Funding (millions)	Share of Funding
Foundation aid	\$1,191.2	87.2%
Quality schools support	\$87.6	6.4%
Facilities funding	\$87.1	6.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,365.9</b>	<b>100%</b>