

State of Alaska
Department of Health
Division of Public Assistance
FY2026 Budget Overview
House HSS Finance Subcommittee

Deb Etheridge, Director
Ciara Meek, Accountant

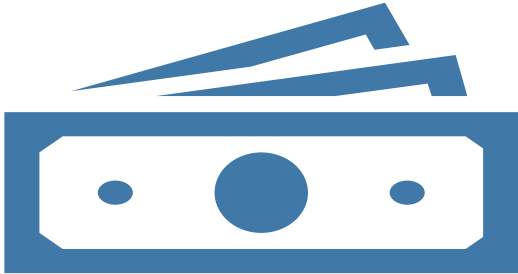


Thursday, February 20, 2025

Public Assistance Programs



Mission: To promote self-sufficiency and provide for basic living expenses to Alaskans in need



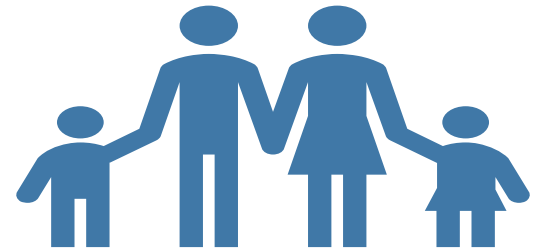
Payment Assistance



Health Care



Food



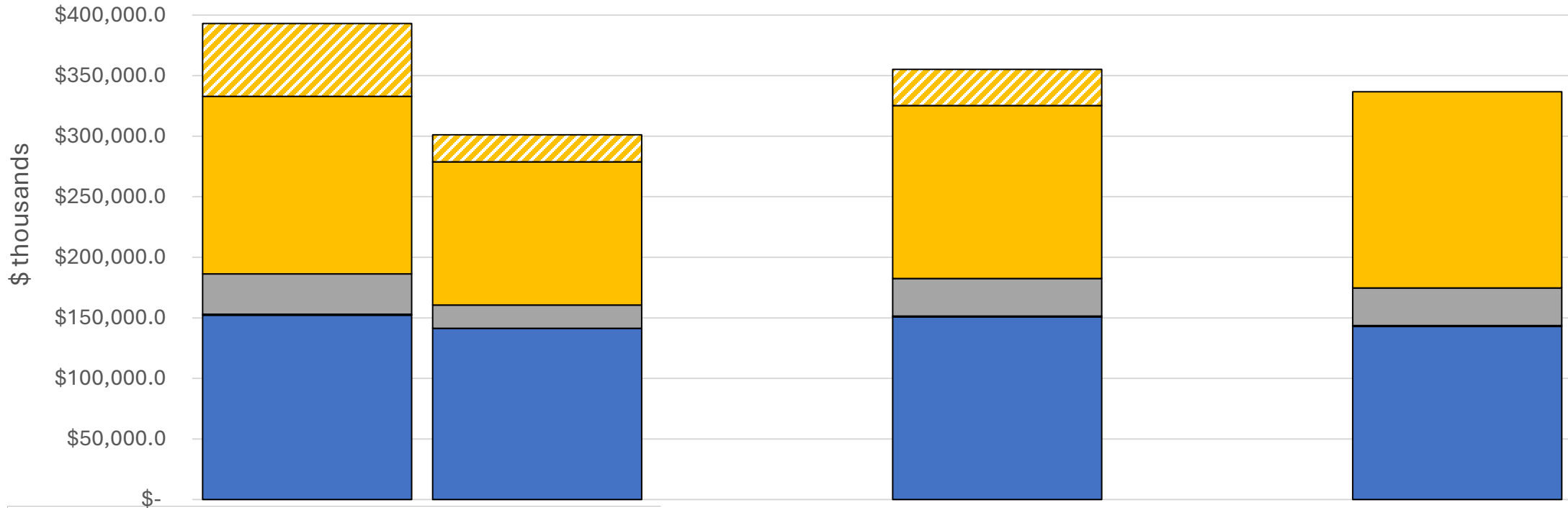
Child Care

Division of Public Assistance Budget



Operating Budget (FY2024-FY2026)

\$ thousands



	FY2024	
	Final Authorized	Actuals
UGF	\$ 152,250.3	\$ 141,293.4
DGF	\$ 814.7	\$ -
Other	\$ 33,295.4	\$ 19,210.4
Federal	\$ 146,600.1	\$ 118,275.4
Federal (COVID-19)	\$ 60,145.8	\$ 22,299.0
Total	\$ 393,106.3	\$ 301,078.2

	FY2025
	Management Plan
UGF	\$ 150,637.2
DGF	\$ 814.7
Other	\$ 31,027.9
Federal	\$ 142,861.5
Federal (COVID-19)	\$ 29,726.8
Total	\$ 355,068.1

	FY2026
	Governor Amended
UGF	\$ 142,838.1
DGF	\$ 814.7
Other	\$ 31,069.4
Federal	\$ 161,952.4
Federal (COVID-19)	\$ -
Total	\$ 336,674.6

* Including Senior Benefits Payment Program

Public Assistance



FY2026 Budget Changes

Child care tax credits, SB189 fiscal note	\$6,092.2
Reverse one-time funding for child care and food security	(\$9,000.0)
Reverse multi-year funding for Medicaid eligibility redeterminations	(\$8,632.2)
Reverse multi-year funding for addressing SNAP backlog	(\$8,829.2)
Extend Senior Benefits	\$470.8
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Federal Receipts for Child Care Benefit Block Grant	\$1,200.0
Federal Receipts to enhance access and quality childcare in Alaska	\$14,000.0
Federal Receipts for Heating Assistance Program	\$5,000.0
Maintain the Virtual Contact Center	\$8,200.0
Add 15 full-time Eligibility Technician positions	\$1,629.8

Division Achievements



Simplified Engagement

- Launched online client portal & client upload portal
- Launched SNAP interim report & change report forms
- Simplified SNAP applications for elderly populations
- Began text messaging for SNAP & Medicaid recipients

Improved Operations

- Achieved federal compliance with SNAP interview requirements
- Reopened all offices to offer same-day, direct client services

Questions and Comments



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