



Investing in New York's Youngest Constituents and Their Educators

New York State Early Intervention and 4410/853 Special Education Budget Priorities for SFY 2026-2027

New York stands on the threshold of a generational transformation in early childhood education—but a system that structurally disadvantages children with disabilities is not 'universal.' **It is exclusionary.** To fulfill the promise of a brighter future for all, we must **stabilize the essential infrastructure** of Early Intervention (EI) and 4410/853 Special Education Schools.

Early Intervention (DOH)

INVEST NOW OR PAY LATER

The EI system has a capacity crisis. New York ranks **48th in the nation** for meeting its legal obligations to provide timely evaluations and services to infants and toddlers and their families.



Keep the Promise: Implement SFY2025 5% Rate Increase

NYS must immediately implement the state share of the promised SFY2025 5% increase, retroactive to October 1, 2024.



8% Stabilization Investment

Current reimbursement rates are often lower than in the 1990s. We request an additional 8% to approach actual costs.



Systemic Reform A.283-A (Paulin)/S.1222-A (Rivera)

Include the Early Intervention Reform Bill A.283-A (Paulin)/S.1222-A (Rivera) in the final budget to mandate a comprehensive review of reimbursement rates and adequacy.



Administrative Stabilization

Support a moratorium on new and planned regulatory changes (including EI-Hub) to allow the system to stabilize.



ABOUT CP STATE and THE INTER AGENCY COUNCIL (IAC)

CP State and IAC represent nonprofit agencies across NYS serving more than one hundred thousand New Yorkers with intellectual and developmental disabilities statewide. We urge the Legislature to prioritize these investments to ensure no child is denied the support they need to thrive.

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NYS 4410/853 Schools Budget Priorities for SFY 2026-2027

New York's 4410 preschool and 853 school-age special education schools serve public school students with disabilities who have the highest support needs, yet they remain structurally underfunded compared to public schools. Failure to fund these schools drives staff turnover and forces reliance on far more expensive alternatives, including out-of-state placements and NYC "Carter Cases" **(\$1.2B in 2024)**.

4410 Preschool/853 School-Age Special Education Programs (SED)

CLOSE THE GAP: INVEST IN EQUITY FOR 4410 & 853 SCHOOLS

A truly universal education system cannot leave its most vulnerable students behind. We urge the Legislature to make these essential investments to ensure that every child in New York receives the equitable, high-quality education they are guaranteed by law.

Fund FAPE 22



Amend State Education Law to codify and fully fund services through the end of the school year in which a student turns 22, aligning New York with federal mandates and relieving the fiscal burden on local school districts. Closes a \$65M+ gap.

Invest in the Workforce (ETTPP)



Increase the Excessive Teacher Turnover Prevention Program by \$10M. Reduce high turnover by adding \$5M to ETTPP, which has been flat since 2019. Invest an additional \$5M to expand ETTPP eligibility to include instructional support roles (TAs, 1:1 aides, OT, PT, Speech therapists, etc.).

Establish Centers of Excellence



Allocate \$2M to establish three Centers of Excellence in the Care and Treatment of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders and Other Complex Disabilities.

The Bottom Line

We shouldn't pay teachers who are asked to do more, less. Fund our schools, support our workforce, and uphold the promise of a free and appropriate public education for all.

