

## Governor's Proposed 2013 – 2014 Budget

Each year, the Governor submits a proposed budget for the next fiscal year to the Legislature. Although it identifies the Governor's priorities for funding, it is just that, a proposal; the Legislature can use all or parts of it, or toss it in file 13.

On January 31, Governor Scott released his "[Florida's Families First](#)" proposed 2013-2014 budget. The \$74.2 billion budget is the largest in Florida's history, a \$4+ billion (5.7 percent) increase over this year's \$69.9 billion budget.

Unlike the first budget he proposed in 2011 – a \$66 billion plan that included \$4.6 billion in cuts, partially in response to a projected \$3.6 billion deficit – the Florida's Families First budget makes "strategic investments" in the Governor's key priority areas. Among a multitude of others, the proposed budget includes:

- \$1.2 billion spending boost **for public education**.
  - \$418 million for **teacher pay raises** (\$2,500 for every full-time teacher).
  - \$300 million to reduce the unfunded liability in teachers' pensions.
- \$393.3 million increase for the **State University System**.
- \$315 million in **bonuses for state employees** and no raises (for the 7<sup>th</sup> year), and state workforce cut by 3,647 (3.1 percent).
- \$279 million for the **economic development incentives** (up from \$71.2 million this year).
- \$7.6 million to require every inmate on **work release** to wear an electronic monitor.
- \$75 million for the **Florida Forever** land-buying program.
- \$703.5 million for a mandatory increase in **Medicaid payment rates** for primary-care physicians.
- \$15 million to reduce the statewide waiting list for disabled adults who need **home and community-based care**.
- \$18.1 million to maintain current funding for **Healthy Families Florida**.
- \$3 million for the Teacher Education and Compensation Helps program (**T.E.A.C.H.**).
- \$1.5 million for **prevention services** to keep youths out of the juvenile justice system.
- \$145,360 for **juvenile health and mental health**, including psychiatric consultation and contract clinical specialists.
- \$1.5 million for **Kristi House**, a Miami program that serves sex-trafficking victims.