



FISCAL YEAR 2020 BUDGET PRIORITIES

At the DC Fiscal Policy Institute, we believe all DC residents should have the resources and opportunities they need to thrive. We envision a DC where all students leave our schools prepared for a lifetime of success, all residents have a safe and affordable place to call home, and everyone has access to quality health care.

Yet DC's history of racism and ongoing discrimination have created barriers to economic opportunity that prevent too many residents of color from enjoying the benefits of our city's growing prosperity.

By using the fiscal year 2020 budget to invest in schools, early education, housing, and health care—the building blocks of thriving communities— we can begin to create an equitable economy where all residents can succeed.

DC Needs a Budget that Supports Thriving Communities

OUR VISION

All residents have a safe and affordable place to call home



HOW WE GET THERE

- Build 1,300 affordable homes through the Housing Production Trust Fund: \$200 million
- Ensure that the Housing Production Trust Fund serves extremely low-income residents and makes up for recent shortfalls, by investing in the Local Rent Supplement Program: \$20 million
- Provide tenant vouchers to more than 500 families: \$11 million
- Repair and preserve public housing, so that residents have a safe place to live: \$25 million

Homelessness is rare, brief, and non-recurring



- Provide permanent homes to 1,140 individuals through Permanent Supportive Housing and Targeted Affordable Housing: \$30 million
- Provide permanent homes to 177 families through Permanent Supportive Housing, and expand Targeted Affordable Housing for families: at least \$5.9 million
- Fund street outreach and prevention programs: \$5.5 million
- Help survivors of domestic violence with emergency housing and supports: \$4 million
- Make progress towards ending youth homelessness: \$6.3 million
- Create more public restrooms: \$336,000





OUR VISION

All students have the resources they need to succeed, in our schools and beyond



HOW WE GET THERE

- Adjust the per-student funding formula to keep up with rising costs: at least \$35 million
- Increase funds to support English Language Learners and students at risk of falling behind: at least \$19 million
- Implement alternatives to suspension (Student Fair Access to School Act) by hiring 144 school-based counselors to serve DC's highest-need schools, and empowering schools to create a positive climate: \$23.5 million

Every child has a strong start and a high-quality education, beginning at birth



Begin implementing the "Birth to Three for All DC" Act:

- Invest in high-quality child care and better wages for early educators: \$22 million
- Improve health and well-being of young families by strengthening DC's home visiting programs: \$6 million
- Improve mental, physical, and nutritional health supports for infants and toddlers through the Healthy Futures and Healthy Steps programs: \$2 million

DC residents, regardless of income and immigration status, have access to high-quality, affordable health coverage and mental health services



- Improve mental health services for students by placing 95 more mental health professionals in DC schools: \$11 million
- Eliminate barriers that keep thousands of immigrants from accessing the DC Healthcare Alliance: \$17 million
- Maintain rehabilitative services and build on community support services for DC residents with behavioral health needs: \$5 million

OUR VISION

Everyone pays their fair share
to support a thriving DC



HOW WE GET THERE

- Remove loopholes in DC's tax code that give tax subsidies to corporations without benefiting DC's economy
- Update the DC tax code so that all DC taxes- not just income taxes- are progressive, ensuring that those who are able to pay the most do so

Our economic
development investments
reflect our shared values
and priorities



- Support economic development by investing in the things that matter to businesses, like education and transportation
- Hold companies receiving subsidies accountable to their commitments and require them to pay back the District if they fail to do so

We believe in a DC

where all residents have the tools they need to build a secure future for themselves and their families, and where government is a tool for creating equity and promoting widespread opportunity.

The DC Fiscal Policy Institute works to make the District the city we know it can be- an equitable and thriving community for all residents. DCFPI and our partners advocate for the fundamentals that everyone in our city deserves. Whether it's testifying before the DC Council, bringing diverse advocacy groups together, or conducting thorough, independent research, we tell the story of what's really happening in DC and work to make DC a city where everyone can thrive.



DC Fiscal Policy Institute

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