Maryland’s Commitment to Public Education Faces a Revenue Problem that Threatens Our Future

The Blueprint for Maryland’s Future, enacted by the Maryland General Assembly in 2021, outlines a comprehensive plan that is an ambitious but achievable vision for strengthening our schools so they can provide every Maryland child the opportunity for a world-class education. A high-caliber education system is essential to giving our young people the tools they need to go on to college, launch a career and earn a family-sustaining wage. The Blueprint is also vital to the state’s economic future.

Today, Maryland does not have the resources it needs to support community needs, with major budget shortfalls projected in only a few years. These problems threaten our ability to fully fund the Blueprint, which will hurt the quality of day-to-day educational activities. Our young people will miss out and our economy will suffer.

- The Blueprint requires the state to increase its education investment by $3.8 billion annually when it is fully implemented, a critically needed investment in our children and the state’s future.
- The Blueprint is a major commitment by the Maryland General Assembly and governor to building a world-class education system. Failing to fully fund it will make it impossible to achieve the Blueprint’s full vision and hurt our young people’s chances to succeed.
- Additional state funding is needed to provide new resources to schools serving high-poverty communities and equitably distribute the resources and services children need to thrive. Salary increases will help recruit and retain well-trained, racially diverse teachers, expand access to high-quality pre-K instruction and improve services for children with special needs, English language learners and more.
- A fully funded Blueprint will enhance efforts to prepare all students to engage with 21st century college, career, and apprenticeship opportunities in high school, which will strengthen the state’s workforce and bolster a shared, prosperous economy.

Making our Tax System Fairer; Generating Revenue to Make Maryland Stronger

Maryland is facing a major revenue shortfall, thanks to a tax system that is upside-down and unfair. For decades, wealthy corporations have manipulated the rules to avoid paying taxes, placing too much responsibility for funding the things we care about — our schools, health care, transportation, child care, social services and public safety — on working families and our small businesses.

We can create a fairer tax system, deliver tax cuts to help children in poverty, and raise the revenue the state needs to build a Maryland that works for everyone.

The Fair Share for Maryland Plan will:
- Raise $1.6 billion in revenue each year to support good schools, health care, transportation, and the state workforce needed to deliver high-quality services.
- Cut taxes for more than 1 million Marylanders with a family income of $80,000 or less. Boosting working families’ incomes will reduce child poverty and strengthen our economy.
- Create an income tax increase of $302 per year on average for some households with income between $250,000 and $775,000.
- Ensure the wealthiest 1% of households in Maryland pay their fair share in taxes (those earning ~$775,000/year or more). They would see an average increase of less than 1% of their income.
- Support local, Maryland-based businesses by ensuring a level playing field so that their large corporate competitors are also paying their fair share in state and local taxes.
- Advance economic and racial justice by addressing aspects of Maryland’s tax system that disproportionately benefit wealthy, white households at the expense of Marylanders of color.

FairShareMaryland.org