
Glossary of Budget Terms

December 17, 2018

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

ADOA

Arizona Department of Administration

ADC

Arizona Department of Corrections

ADE

Arizona Department of Education

ADOT

Arizona Department of Transportation

ADM

Average daily membership, a method of counting K-12 students which adjust for absences and withdrawals.

AHCCCS

Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (State Medicaid agency)

Appropriation

Money that is budgeted for a state agency or program.

ASRS

The Arizona State Retirement System, of which most state employees are members.

B

Billions

Baseline

JLBC Baseline annually compares a consensus revenue estimate to statutory funding requirements

BRB

Budget Reconciliation bill, it is commonly pronounced as “burb”. These series of bills include statutory changes necessary to enact the budget. They do not typically include appropriations.

Budget Stabilization Fund

Otherwise known as the “Rainy Day Fund”, it is essentially the state’s savings account. Statute limits the balance of the fund to 7 percent of total General Fund Revenues.

CORP

Correctional Officer Retirement Fund

DCS

Department of Child Safety

DES

Department of Economic Security

DEQ

Department of Environmental Quality

DHS

Department of Health Services

DPS

Department of Public Safety

DOR

Department of Revenue

Ending Balance

The amount of money a budget leaves unspent.

ERE

Employee related expenditures. This represents the state's share of the cost of employee benefits (i.e., health, life and dental).

Executive

Refers to the governor. (Usage: "The Executive budget was released.")

FAC

Financial Advisory Committee

Feed Bill

The general appropriations bill provides the annual funding level for each state agency in a single bill.

Fiscal Note

The JLBC Staff's estimate of the fiscal impact of a bill. (Usage: "Does this bill have a fiscal note?")

Fiscal Year

The state budget year, which runs from July 1 to June 30.

Footnote

Narrative statements in the General Appropriation Act that establish conditions for expenditures, reporting requirements, and legislative intent.

Formula Spending

Funding levels for state programs that are mandated by voter-approved ballot measures or other state law. These formulas define eligibility for a program and may also determine the spending per person.

FTE Positions

State employment is measured by Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Positions. Two 20-hour employees equal 1 FTE Position.

General Fund

The portion of state revenues that are not dedicated for a specific purpose. The money primarily comes from sales, individual income and corporate income tax.

HURF

Highway User Revenue Fund, which is used primarily for state transportation projects. The money primarily comes from gas taxes and license fees.

JLBC

May reference two entities, either the Joint Legislative Budget Committee itself, or the committee staff. The JLBC is a 16 member committee responsible for oversight of all facets of the state budget. Non-partisan JLBC staff members assist the committee in fulfilling its duties.

JCCR

Joint Committee on Capital Review is a 14 member committee responsible for oversight of capital projects. The JLBC Staff also provides support to this committee.

K

Thousands

Line-item Veto

A veto that strikes only an appropriation but allows the remainder of the bill to become law.

Lump Sum

An appropriation format where an agency is given a single amount of funding, which it can spend across line items without further legislative review.

M

Millions

Matching funds

Money given to the state by the federal government contingent upon state funding for a program. (Usage: “The state receives three-to-one matching funds for this appropriation.”)

One-time

Refers either to revenues or expenditures, and denotes budget items that will only have an impact for one fiscal year.

Ongoing

Refers either to revenues or expenditures. Ongoing items – sometimes called permanent – are expected to impact budgets for several years, if not indefinitely.

OSP

The Governor’s Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting.

Prop 105

Proposition 105 was an initiative passed by voters in 1998. The Legislature may only modify voter-approved ballot measures if it furthers the purpose of the initiative and 75% of each house approves the change.

Prop 108

Proposition 108 was an initiative passed by voters in 1992. It requires a two-thirds vote in both chambers to approve certain legislation that increases state revenues.

Rainy Day Fund

Technically called the Budget Stabilization Fund, it is essentially the state’s savings account. Statute limits the balance of the fund to 7 percent of total General Fund Revenues

SFB

School Facilities Board

SLI

Special Line Item, which delineates funds apart from normal agency operating expenditures for monies involved with programs that provide benefits to individuals or contracted services.

Structural Balance

A comparison of permanent revenues versus permanent spending in a given year. (Usage: “Funding that program will create a structural shortfall in three years”)

Supplemental

An appropriation that adds funding to an agency’s existing current fiscal year budget. (Usage: “The Legislature approved a supplemental for the Department of Corrections.”)

Trigger

A spending provision in the budget that will not occur unless revenues reach a specified level.

VLT

Vehicle License Tax

90/10

Pronounced “ninety-ten”, it is a regulatory board funded by user fees, with 90 percent of revenues retained by the board and 10 percent being transferred to the General Fund.