

It's a Deal—Lawmakers Send Jerry Brown a Jam-Packed Budget

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California lawmakers passed a spending plan for the coming fiscal year Thursday, meeting the state's budget approval deadline with a \$183.2 billion package that raises school funding, expands a tax credit for the working poor and gives the Capitol a greater say over University of California finances.

Education

School spending would total \$74.5 billion in the coming budget year, up 4.2 percent – about \$3.1 billion – from the current year. The plan allocates another \$50 million to the state-funded After School and Education and Safety program. And it includes \$200 million to continue preschool and child care provider rate increases included in last year's budget pact.

The package increased University of California funding by \$131.2 million, and sets a target for UC to enroll 1,500 more students in the coming year. It reflects Brown's proposal to hold back \$50 million until the system carries out recommendations of a recent state audit that criticized the UC Office of the President.

The California State University would receive an additional \$162.3 million. CSU leaders, though, have to find space for students denied entry to their [preferred campus or program](#).