



**D.C. POLICY**  

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# Fiscal cliff and school funding

**Loss of one-time funding and tepid revenue growth**

# How much did we get from the feds?

## Federal legislation with D.C. recovery funding *Amount committed or disbursed*

Legislation	Education Provider	Health Provider	Household	Other	Small Business	State & Local Government
American Rescue Plan	\$4.5M		\$1,386.5M	\$1.1M	\$409.6M	\$4,185.6M
CARES Act		\$176.4M	\$1,487.3M			\$1,125.0M
CARES Act; PPP & Health Care Enhancement Act					\$57.3M	
Families First Act						\$1,113.9M
PPP & Health Care Enhancement Act		\$275.6M			\$1,389.2M	
Response & Relief Act	\$5.3M		\$595.4M	\$39.9M	\$80.4M	\$191.0M
Grand Total	\$9.8M	\$452.0M	\$3,469.2M	\$41.0M	\$1,936.5M	\$6,615.6M

Source: Covidmoneytracker.org



## ESSER FUNDS

- **D.C. was authorized to receive approximately \$600M in ESSER funds.** LEAs are getting \$540M out of this.
- This is approximately **\$1,307 in additional funding per student per year**, about a **10 percent bump** over the foundation level funding.
- **65 percent** of this funding is through ESSER III, which expires after the next school year (September 30, 2024).
- So far, schools have spent **\$228M** out of the \$540M they can receive. This means in the next school year they can use **\$312M** of federal funding to support various programs.

## How are schools spending ESSER Funds?

	Accelerate Learning	Safe Reopening	Student and Staff Wellbeing	Other Expenditures	Grand Total
CARES_Act	\$31M	\$3M	\$1M	\$3M	\$37M
ESSER_II	\$79M	\$19M	\$9M	\$3M	\$110M
ESSER_III_ARP	\$50M	\$16M	\$9M	\$5M	\$80M
Grand Total	\$159M	\$38M	\$19M	\$12M	\$228M

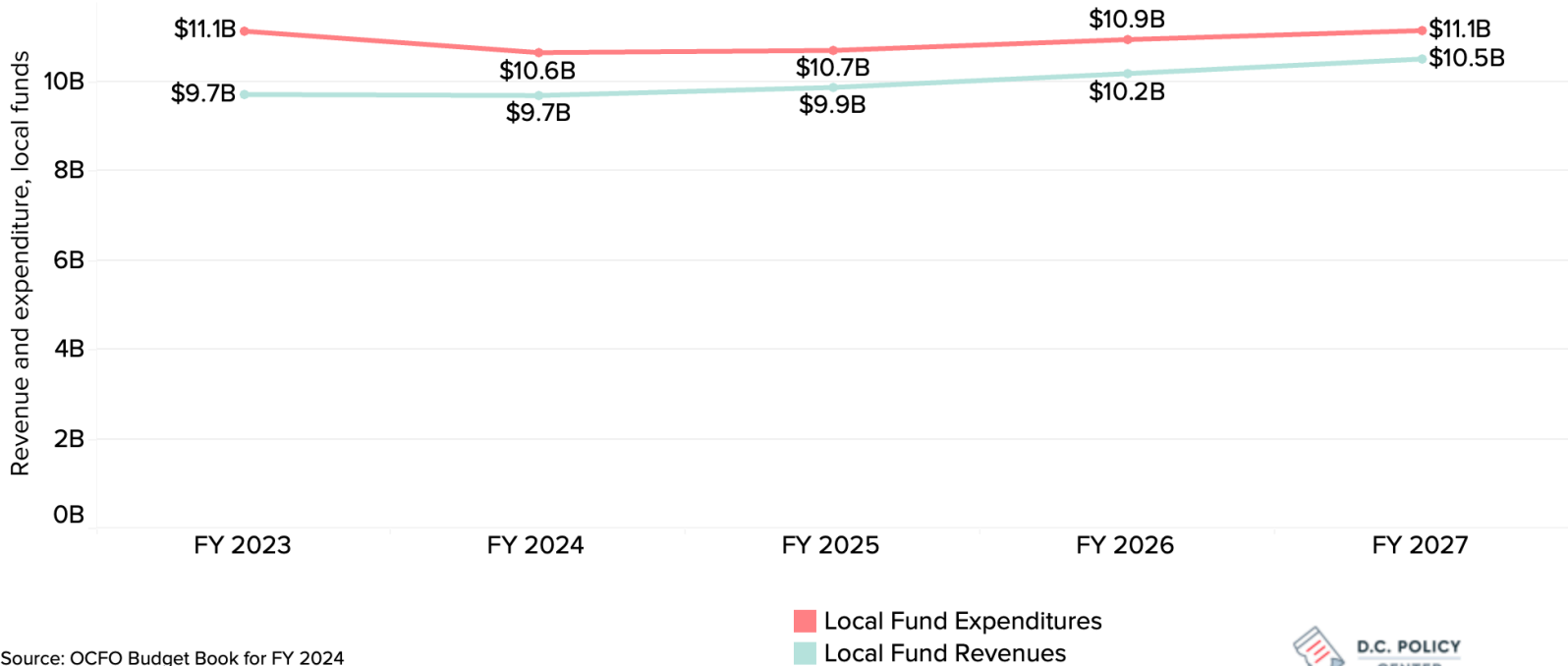
Source: OSSE, LEA ESSER Dashboard

## Risks for FY 2025

- **Funding risk**
  - **How to replace the ESSER Funds?** If schools fully use the remaining ESSER funds in the next school year (SY 23-24), what will they do to supplant this amount in the following year?
  - **DC government investments:** Some of the education related funding is from one-time resources. What happens to the programs supported by this funding in FY 2025?
  - **Per pupil funding?** Will there be sufficient growth?
- **Enrollment risk**
  - Half of the growth this year came from a combination of adult charter and alternative students, and high schools.
  - Enrollment in PK and Elementary are still below pre-pandemic levels.
- **Competing priorities and needs:** Metro? other human services? Downtown recovery?

# The projected recurring revenue forecast is below the projected recurring expenditures this fiscal year and in the next four fiscal years

Local fund revenue and expenditure, FY 2024-2027

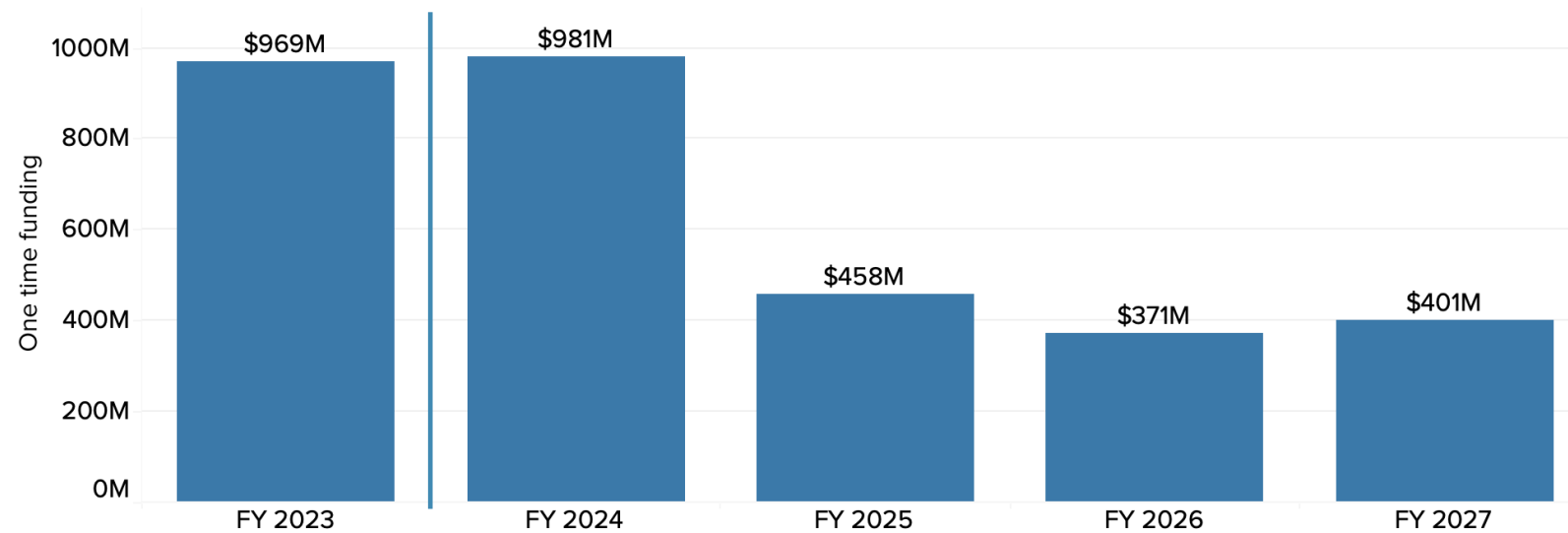


Source: OCFO Budget Book for FY 2024



# Relying on a lot of one-time funding to balance the budget

Projected one-time funding needed to balance the budget



Source: OCFO



## Risks to revenue

- **Commercial property:**
  - The OCFO put forward a more pessimistic scenario with a 2 percent increase in vacancy over baseline assumptions. This could mean a \$143M reduction in revenue annually.
  - Risk to the banking system: If values go below loans, then landlords will turn the keys in back to banks.
- **Recession**
  - A decline in resident employment due to recession could threaten income and sales taxes.
  - According to the OCFO, this could reduce revenue by about \$200M each year over baseline projections for the FY2024-27 period..



## Risks to economic activity

- **Remote work**

- Employment picture looks strong, but this does not capture where job activity takes place.
- In five occupational groups where DC has been particularly competitive, job activity moved out of the city, mostly to exurbs. For example, in business and finance, D.C. was home to 30 percent of the job activity in the region; now it is down to 19 percent. In legal occupations, it is down from 54 percent to 37 percent. Also losses in life sciences, computer and math, and management.
- Service sector is following: We now have 28 percent of job activity in entertainment, arts, sports, and media, compared to 40 percent pre-pandemic. And 12 percent of food prep, compared to 18 percent pre-pandemic.

## What next?

- **Revenue side**
  - Should we have a different taxing regime?
- **Spending side**
  - How do we know what works and what can be cut?
    - **Executive:** impact and effectiveness analyses.
    - **Legislative:** Oversight