

**State Treasurer  
Budget No. 120  
House Bill No. 1005**

	<b>FTE Positions</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Other Funds</b>	<b>Total</b>
2017-19 legislative appropriation	7.00	\$1,747,399	\$0	\$1,747,399
2015-17 legislative appropriation	<u>8.00</u>	<u>243,023,598<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>8,100,000<sup>2</sup></u>	<u>251,123,598</u>
2017-19 appropriation increase (decrease) to 2015-17 appropriation	(1.00)	(\$241,276,199)	(\$8,100,000)	(\$249,376,199)

<sup>1</sup>The 2015-17 legislative appropriation includes \$241,166,699 of one-time funding from the general fund. Excluding this amount, the agency's ongoing 2017-19 biennium general fund appropriation was \$1,856,899.

<sup>2</sup>The amount shown includes \$8.1 million of one-time funding from the strategic investment and improvements fund approved by the 2017 Legislative Assembly for the state-paid property tax relief program.

**Item Description**

**FTE position changes** - The 2017-19 biennium appropriation includes funding for 7 FTE positions, a decrease of 1 FTE position from the 2015-17 biennium. The 2017 Legislative Assembly removed 1 FTE deputy state treasurer position.

**State-paid property tax relief credits** - The 2017 Legislative Assembly discontinued the state-paid property tax relief program, which was in effect for the 2013-15 and 2015-17 bienniums, and provided for a state-paid economic assistance and social service pilot program. After the 2016 special legislative session, the funding available for the credits was less than the estimated amount of funding needed for the credits. As a result, the 2017 Legislative Assembly provided a deficiency appropriation of \$8.1 million from the strategic investment and improvements fund for state-paid property tax relief credits for total funding of \$241.5 million during the 2015-17 biennium.

**Coal severance tax revenue allocations** - In Section 4 of 2015 House Bill No. 1005, the Legislative Assembly adjusted the allocation of coal severance tax revenue by reducing the coal production limitation from 3.4 million tons to 3 million tons, and by reducing the reimbursement percentage for the coal severance shortfall payments, from 50 to 30 percent. The coal severance revenue from the first 3 million tons is distributed to Oliver County and Morton County, after which the remaining revenue is distributed to Oliver County. Oliver County is reimbursed for 30 percent of the amount distributed to Morton County.

**Status/Result**

The 1 FTE deputy state treasurer position, which was vacant, was removed and the duties of the position were reassigned to other staff.

Under the state-paid property tax relief program, the State Treasurer paid \$200,444,738 during the 2013-15 biennium and paid \$241,178,701 during the 2015-17 biennium.

The State Treasurer has implemented the necessary changes to the information technology software to process the formula changes. However, the changes to the coal severance tax revenue allocations become effective during calendar year 2018. As a result, the coal severance tax allocations and reimbursements through March 2018 were not impacted by the changes.

**State aid distribution withholding - Soil survey data** - North Dakota Century Code Section 57-02-27.2 requires the State Treasurer to withhold 5 percent of a county's allocation each quarter from the state aid distribution fund beginning with the first quarter of 2013 for any county that has not implemented the use of soil type and soil classification data from detailed or general soil surveys in assessing agricultural property. Allocations withheld from counties are to be deposited in the agricultural land valuation fund. After a county implements the use of soil type and soil classification data, the allocations withheld from the county are distributed by the State Treasurer from the agricultural land valuation fund to the county.

As of April 2018 the balance of the agricultural land valuation fund is approximately \$608,000, which reflects the state aid distribution payments that have been withheld from two counties--Dunn and Mountrail. These counties have not implemented the use of soil type and soil classification data and have had 5 percent of their allocations withheld.