



Judicial Council of California

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REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Item No.: 25-033

For business meeting on July 18, 2025

Title

Trial Court Budget: State Trial Court
Improvement and Modernization Fund
Allocations for Fiscal Year 2025–26

Report Type

Action Required

Effective Date

July 18, 2025

Rules, Forms, Standards, or Statutes Affected

None

Date of Report

June 10, 2025

Recommended by

Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee
Hon. Jonathan B. Conklin, Chair
Ms. Rebecca Fleming, Vice-Chair

Contact

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Executive Summary

The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends approving (1) allocations for fiscal year (FY) 2025–26 from the State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund in the amount of \$47.9 million, and (2) the delegation of authority to the Administrative Director of the Judicial Council to authorize baseline technical adjustments to Judicial Council–approved allocations. With the proposed allocations, the State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund is projected to end FY 2025–26 with a fund balance of \$31.3 million, of which approximately \$29.3 million will be unrestricted. The allocations will provide the necessary funding for specific programs and services for the trial courts, and the delegation of authority will allow for greater efficiency in the implementation of required budgetary adjustments.

Recommendation

The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee, with Judicial Branch Budget Committee approval on April 24, 2025, recommends that the Judicial Council, effective July 18, 2025:

1. Approve a total of \$47.9 million in allocations for FY 2025–26 from the State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund; and

2. Approve the delegation of authority to the Administrative Director to authorize baseline technical adjustments to Judicial Council–approved allocations, up to a maximum of 10 percent of specific allocations, to allow for the efficient implementation of required budgetary adjustments.

The requested allocations and difference from the FY 2024–25 allocation value, by Judicial Council office, are as follows:

- \$433,000 to Audit Services, an increase of \$34,000;
- \$305,000 to Branch Accounting and Procurement, an increase of \$3,000;
- \$8,000 to Budget Services, a decrease of \$10,000;
- \$5.5 million to Center for Families, Children & the Courts, an increase of \$66,000;
- \$2.8 million to Center for Judicial Education and Resources, an increase of \$638,000;
- \$9,000 to Criminal Justice Services, no change;
- \$23,000 to Human Resources, an increase of \$23,000;
- \$34.2 million to Information Technology, an increase of \$653,000;
- \$2.3 million to Legal Services, a decrease of \$439,000;
- \$2.3 million to Leadership Support Services, an increase of \$296,000; and
- \$9,000 to Research, Analytics, and Data, no change.

A list of the approved FY 2024–25 and proposed FY 2025–26 allocations is provided in Attachment A.

Relevant Previous Council Action

Since the inception of state trial court funding in 1996, the Judicial Council or the Executive and Planning Committee has allocated trial court–related funding every year from the State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund (IMF) or its predecessor fund, the Judicial Administration Efficiency and Modernization Fund.

Analysis/Rationale

Following are the proposed FY 2025–26 allocation requests. Additional details for each of the programs are included in Attachment B.

Audit Services – Conducts operational audits, risk assessments, and recommends improvements to all judicial branch entities.

Approve an allocation of \$433,000; an increase of \$34,000 from the FY 2024–25 allocation.

- a. The allocation is for conducting performance and compliance audits of the 58 trial courts.
- b. The adjustment is due to increased staffing and rent costs.

Branch Accounting and Procurement – Supports the trial courts’ financial and human resources Phoenix System.

Approve an allocation of \$305,000; an increase of \$3,000 from the FY 2024–25 allocation.

- a. The allocation is for two staff, one in the treasury unit and one in the accounting unit, and for providing contract-related services to produce statewide leveraged procurement agreements.
- b. The adjustment is due to increased staffing and rent costs.

Budget Services – Supports meetings of various budget committees and subcommittees related to trial court funding, policies, and other issues.

Approve an allocation of \$8,000; a decrease of \$10,000 from the FY 2024–25 allocation.

- a. The allocation is for the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee and subcommittee meetings, and annual revenue distribution and collections reporting trainings.
- b. The decrease reflects the transition from in-person meetings and trainings to remote forums.

Center for Families, Children & the Courts – Supports various programs within the courts for litigants.

Approve an allocation of \$5.5 million; an increase of \$66,000 from the FY 2024–25 allocation.

- a. The allocation is for providing domestic violence forms in languages other than English to all courts; enabling all courts to use Hotdocs document assembly applications while filing documents; court-based assistance to self-represented litigants; supporting the Beyond the Bench conference, Child & Family Focused Education conference, and Youth Summit; funding for legal services agencies and their court partners to provide representation to indigent persons; updating the Self-Represented Litigants Statewide Support Program and expanding the Self-Help Guide to the California Courts on the judicial branch website; and recruiting new court interpreters.
- b. The \$5 million for self-help centers comprises a majority of the allocation. Budget bill language requires unspent funds for self-help to revert to the General Fund.
- c. The \$66,000 increase is from the Shriver Civil Counsel Program cy pres funding. This funding is the available balance from class action lawsuits collected in FY 2019–20 and can only be used for this purpose. Minor revenue deposits have continued to be collected related to lawsuits from that year. The requested increase represents the use of the remaining balance of that revenue.

Center for Judicial Education and Resources (CJER) – Provides education to judges, court leaders, court staff, faculty, managers, supervisors, and lead staff.

Approve an allocation of \$2.8 million; an increase of \$638,000 from the FY 2024–25 allocation.

- a. The allocation is for faculty development, participant expenses, training for court leaders, the Court Clerk Training Institute, and for newly elected or appointed judges and subordinate judicial officers' education programs.
- b. Due to the recent increases in judicial appointments and the need to ensure that new judges meet the requirements of rule 10.462 of the California Rules of Court, CJER is

expanding its mandatory Judicial College by adding a second session. This expansion, coupled with rising costs for in-person education—including hotel accommodations, travel, and catering—necessitates a \$638,000 increase in the Judicial Education program allocation for FY 2025–26.

Criminal Justice Services – Supports the Judicial Council’s Criminal Jury Instructions Advisory Committee.

Approve an allocation of \$9,000; no change from the FY 2024–25 allocation.

- a. The allocation is for the criminal portion of the Jury Instructions and is funded by royalties generated from their sales, which are deposited in the IMF.

Human Resources – Supports the Trial Court Labor Relations Academy and Forum to assist trial court staff in addressing various labor issues.

Approve an allocation of \$23,000; an increase of \$23,000 from the FY 2024–25 allocation.

- a. The Academy and Forum is held every other year. There was no academy held in FY 2024–25; therefore, funding was not needed.

Information Technology – Supports information technology systems for the 58 trial courts.

Approve an allocation of \$34.2 million; an increase of \$653,000 from the FY 2024–25 allocation.

- a. The allocation is for the Data Center and Cloud Service to host services for the 58 trial courts, the appellate courts, and the Supreme Court; the distribution and mandated reporting of uniform civil fees collected by the 58 trial courts; the California Courts Protective Order Registry; for developing and supporting a standardized level of network infrastructure for the trial courts; the Enterprise Policy and Planning program, which provides a variety of Oracle products to the courts; data integration; and the Jury Management System.
- b. The increase is primarily due to costs associated with a hardware refresh cycle for telecom equipment. This refresh occurs over two fiscal years and is completed on average every five years.
- c. The adjustment also includes increased staffing and rent costs.

Legal Services – Supports the various Judicial Council offices and the courts, manages litigation, is responsible for maintaining the California Rules of Court and Judicial Council forms, and supports the Civil Jury Instructions Advisory Committee.

Approve an allocation of \$2.3 million; a decrease of \$439,000 from the FY 2024–25 allocation.

- a. The allocation is for the Regional Office Assistance Group of Legal Services to provide direct services to the trial courts; the Litigation Management Program, which manages litigation and provides for the defense and indemnification of all judicial branch entities,

bench officers, and employees; and for the civil portion of the Jury Instructions, which is funded by royalties generated from their sales.

- b. The adjustment is due to an anticipated decrease in settlement expenditures for the Litigation Management Program.

Leadership Support Services – Supports the trial court judicial officers for the Commission on Judicial Performance defense master insurance policy.

Approve an allocation of \$2.3 million; an increase of \$296,000 from the FY 2024–25 allocation.

- a. The allocation is for the Judicial Performance Defense Insurance program, which is used to pay the insurance premium for trial court judges and judicial officers for the Commission on Judicial Performance defense master insurance policy.
- b. The adjustment is due to increased premium, staffing, and rent costs.

Research Analytics and Data (formerly the Office of Court Research within Business Management Services) – As of July 1, 2025, Business Management Services will be dissolved, and the Data Analytics Advisory Committee will be supported by the Research, Analytics, and Data (RAD) office. The RAD supports the judicial branch’s research, data, and analytic functions and conducts the trial court workload study and judicial needs assessment.

Approve an allocation of \$9,000; there is no change from the FY 2024–25 allocation.

- a. The allocation is for the Data Analytics Advisory Committee meeting expenses for court personnel and judges related to workload studies.

The FY 2025–26 allocation request of \$47.9 million from the IMF is reflected in the IMF Fund Condition Statement (Attachment C). Based on current revenue estimates, the fund is estimated to have a sufficient balance for the requested allocations (see Attachment C, row 25).

As approved by the Judicial Council at its June 24, 2016, business meeting, the IMF fund condition also includes a reserve of \$2 million to protect against possible declines in revenue and is available for expenditure if needed to support program operations (Link A). This reserve is not expected to be needed to support the FY 2025–26 allocation recommendations included in Attachment A.

Delegation of authority for technical adjustments

The annual allocations from the IMF approved by the Judicial Council are estimated based on available information at the time allocation requests are developed. Authority for technical baseline budget adjustments is necessary to address midyear revisions to budgets for funded personal services and rent increases approved by the Department of Finance and included in the annual Budget Act. Delegating authority to the Administrative Director to address these midyear adjustments up to a maximum of 10 percent of specific allocations will allow for greater efficiency in the implementation of required budgetary adjustments to ensure the programs have the necessary level of funding.

As approved by the Judicial Council at its August 23, 2013, business meeting, the Administrative Director currently has delegated authority to transfer allocations approved by the Judicial Council between projects and programs not to exceed 20 percent of the allocations to be reduced or augmented (Link B).

Policy implications

These recommendations are consistent with the annual process of allocating trial court–related funding from the IMF every fiscal year. The recommendation to delegate authority to the Administrative Director will require an update to the current delegation policy, and will result in process efficiencies and eliminate additional time spent to seek approval of necessary allocation adjustments.

Comments

This proposal was not circulated for public comment. However, the recommendations were considered at meetings that were open to the public, and no public comments were received.

Alternatives considered

If the recommendation to allocate funds is not approved, programmatic support to the trial courts will be affected. If the recommendation to delegate authority to the Administrative Director to authorize technical baseline adjustments is not approved, it will require the Judicial Council to separately consider and approve the technical adjustments throughout the year for previously approved allocations and result in continued process inefficiencies.

The recommendations are consistent with past practice or were thoroughly vetted through the Judicial Council governance process and deemed necessary and affordable. No other alternatives were considered.

Fiscal and Operational Impacts

No additional fiscal or operational costs are necessary to implement these recommendations.

Attachments and Links

1. Attachment A: Judicial Council of California Approved FY 2024–25 and Proposed FY 2025–26 Allocations, State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund, State Operations and Local Assistance Appropriations
2. Attachment B: State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund Summary of Programs
3. Attachment C: State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund, Fund Condition Statement FY 2025–26
4. Link A: Judicial Council of Cal., Advisory Com. Rep., *Trial Court Allocations: Fiscal Year 2016–2017 Allocations From Trial Court Trust Fund and State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund* (June 13, 2016),
<https://jcc.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=4496693&GUID=FE6C1F1D-A68F-4CB8-B4E7-0596B5A59994>

5. Link B: Judicial Council of Cal., Advisory Com. Rep., *Trial Courts: Allocations From the State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund and Trial Court Trust Fund for Court-Related Projects and Programs* (Aug. 23, 2013),
<https://courts.ca.gov/sites/default/files/courts/default/2024-10/jc-20130823-itemg.pdf>

Judicial Council of California
Approved FY 2024–25 and Proposed FY 2025–26 Allocations
State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund
State Operations and Local Assistance Appropriations

#	Program Name and Adjustments	Office	FY 2024–25 Allocations	Recommended FY 2025–26 Allocations			\$ Change from FY 2024–25	% Change from FY 2024–25
			Judicial Council Approved Allocations	State Operations	Local Assistance	Total		
A	B	C	D	E	F	G = (E + F)	H = (G - D)	I = (H/D)
1	Audit Services	AS	\$ 399,000	\$ 433,000	-	\$ 433,000	\$ 34,000	8.5%
2	Treasury Services – Cash Management	BAP	105,000	109,000	-	109,000	\$ 4,000	3.8%
3	Trial Court Master Agreements	BAP	197,000	196,000	-	196,000	\$ (1,000)	-0.5%
4	Budget-Focused Training and Meetings	BS	13,000	-	5,000	5,000	\$ (8,000)	-61.5%
5	Revenue Distribution Training	BS	5,000	-	3,000	3,000	\$ (2,000)	-40.0%
6	Court Interpreter Testing, etc.	CFCC	143,000	-	143,000	143,000	\$ -	0.0%
7	Domestic Violence Forms Translation	CFCC	17,000	-	17,000	17,000	\$ -	0.0%
8	Interactive Software – Self-Rep Electronic Forms	CFCC	60,000	-	60,000	60,000	\$ -	0.0%
9	Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel – Cy Pres Funding	CFCC	27,000	-	93,000	93,000	\$ 66,000	244.4%
10	Self-Help Center	CFCC	5,000,000	-	5,000,000	5,000,000	\$ -	0.0%
11	Statewide Multidisciplinary Education	CFCC	67,000	-	67,000	67,000	\$ -	0.0%
12	Statewide Support for Self-Help Programs	CFCC	100,000	-	100,000	100,000	\$ -	0.0%
13	CJER Faculty	CJER	48,000	-	48,000	48,000	\$ -	0.0%
14	Essential Court Management Education	CJER	40,000	40,000	-	40,000	\$ -	0.0%
15	Essential Court Personnel Education	CJER	130,000	-	130,000	130,000	\$ -	0.0%
16	Judicial Education	CJER	1,973,000	-	2,611,000	2,611,000	\$ 638,000	32.3%
17	Jury System Improvement Projects	CJS	9,000	9,000	-	9,000	\$ -	0.0%
18	Trial Court Labor Relations Academies and Forums	HR	-	-	23,000	23,000	\$ 23,000	100.0%
19	California Courts Protective Order Registry (CCPOR)	IT	1,020,000	441,000	606,000	1,047,000	\$ 27,000	2.6%
20	Data Integration	IT	1,782,000	871,000	909,000	1,780,000	\$ (2,000)	-0.1%
21	Judicial Branch Technology Services (JBTS) Data Center and Cloud Service	IT	7,483,000	2,019,000	5,464,000	7,483,000	\$ -	0.0%
22	Jury Management System	IT	600,000	-	600,000	600,000	\$ -	0.0%
23	Statewide Planning and Dev Support	IT	2,032,000	466,000	1,566,000	2,032,000	\$ -	0.0%
24	Telecom	IT	5,681,000	1,330,000	4,384,000	5,714,000	\$ 33,000	0.6%
25	Telecommunications	IT	14,500,000	-	15,100,000	15,100,000	\$ 600,000	4.1%
26	Uniform Civil Filing Services	IT	472,000	424,000	43,000	467,000	\$ (5,000)	-1.1%
27	Jury System Improvement Projects	LS	10,000	-	10,000	10,000	\$ -	0.0%
28	Litigation Management Program	LS	1,700,000	-	1,200,000	1,200,000	\$ (500,000)	-29.4%
29	Regional Office Assistance Group	LS	1,030,000	1,091,000	-	1,091,000	\$ 61,000	5.9%
30	Judicial Performance Defense Insurance	LSS	1,980,000	2,000	2,274,000	2,276,000	\$ 296,000	14.9%
31	Data Analytics Advisory Committee	RAD	9,000	-	9,000	9,000	\$ -	0.0%
32	Total		\$ 46,632,000	\$ 7,431,000	\$ 40,465,000	\$ 47,896,000	\$ 1,264,000	2.7%

Totals by Office		Office	Judicial Council Approved Allocations	State Operations	Local Assistance	Total	\$ Change from FY 2024–25	% Change from FY 2024–25
Legend		C	D	E	F	G = (E + F)	H = (G - D)	I = (H/D)
33	Audit Services	AS	\$ 399,000	\$ 433,000	\$ -	\$ 433,000	\$ 34,000	8.5%
34	Branch Accounting and Procurement	BAP	302,000	305,000	-	305,000	\$ 3,000	1.0%
35	Budget Services	BS	18,000	-	8,000	8,000	\$ (10,000)	-55.6%
36	Center for Families, Children & the Courts	CFCC	5,414,000	-	5,480,000	5,480,000	\$ 66,000	1.2%
37	Center for Judicial Education and Resources	CJER	2,191,000	40,000	2,789,000	2,829,000	\$ 638,000	29.1%
38	Criminal Justice Services	CJS	9,000	9,000	-	9,000	\$ -	0.0%
39	Human Resources	HR	-	-	23,000	23,000	\$ 23,000	100.0%
40	Information Technology	IT	33,570,000	5,551,000	28,672,000	34,223,000	\$ 653,000	1.9%
41	Legal Services	LS	2,740,000	1,091,000	1,210,000	2,301,000	\$ (439,000)	-16.0%
42	Leadership Support Services	LSS	1,980,000	2,000	2,274,000	2,276,000	\$ 296,000	14.9%
43	Research Analytics and Data	RAD	9,000	-	9,000	9,000	\$ -	0.0%
Total Allocations			\$ 46,632,000	\$ 7,431,000	\$ 40,465,000	\$ 47,896,000	\$ 1,264,000	2.7%

**State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund
Summary of Programs**

Row #	Program Name	Office	Program Description
A	B	C	D
1	Audit Services	AS	Conducts performance and compliance audits of the state's 58 trial courts per the annual audit plan.
2	Treasury Services - Cash Management	BAP	Used for the compensation, operating expenses, and equipment costs for two accounting staff.
3	Trial Court Master Agreements	BAP	Pays for personal services, phone services, and rent allocation for one position in Branch Accounting and Procurement to provide contract-related services for the production of statewide leveraged procurement agreements.
4	Budget-Focused Training and Meetings	BS	Supports meetings of the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee and associated subcommittees on the preparation, development, and implementation of the budget for trial courts and provides input to the Judicial Council on policy issues affecting Trial Court Funding.
5	Revenue Distribution Training	BS	Pays for annual training on Revenue Distribution to all the collection programs as well as annual CRT training.
6	Court Interpreter Testing, etc.	CFCC	Pays for the testing, orientation, and recruitment of new interpreters.
7	Domestic Violence Forms Translation	CFCC	This program makes available to all courts translation of domestic violence protective order forms in languages other than English. Since 2000, these forms have been translated into Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese, and Korean based on data from various language needs studies.
8	Interactive Software - Self-Rep Electronic Forms	CFCC	This program enables all courts to use HotDocs document assembly applications, which present court users with a Q&A format that automatically populates fields across all filing documents.
9	Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel - Cy Pres Funding	CFCC	This program provides funding for legal services agencies and their court partners to represent indigent persons in cases involving housing, child custody, guardianship, conservatorships, and domestic violence.
10	Self-Help Center	CFCC	Provides court-based assistance to self-represented litigants.
11	Statewide Multidisciplinary Education	CFCC	Supports the biannual Beyond the Bench conference, biannual Child & Family Focused Education Conference, and annual Youth Summit.
12	Statewide Support for Self-Help Programs	CFCC	The Self-represented Litigants Statewide Support Program updates and expands the Self-Help Guide to the California Courts on the public website of the judicial branch and facilitates the translation of over 50 Judicial Council forms that are used regularly by self-represented litigants.
13	CJER Faculty	CJER	Lodging, meals, and travel for faculty development participants. Primarily, this program supports development of pro bono judge and court staff faculty who will teach all CJER programs for the trial courts.
14	Essential Court Management Education	CJER	National and statewide training for court leaders, including Institute for Court Management courses, CJER Core 40 and Core 24 courses, and other local and regional courses for managers, supervisors, and lead staff.
15	Essential Court Personnel Education	CJER	The Court Clerks Training Institute—courtroom and court legal process education in civil, traffic, criminal, probate, family, juvenile, and appellate. Regional and local court personnel courses. The biennial Trial Court Judicial Attorneys Institute.
16	Judicial Education	CJER	Programs for all newly elected or appointed judges and subordinate judicial officers required by California Rules of Court, rule 10.462(c)(1) to complete the new judge education programs offered by CJER; Judicial Institutes, courses for experienced judges; and programs for presiding judges, court executive officers, and supervising judges.
17	Jury System Improvement Projects	CJS	This program is related to Jury Instructions and is a "self-funding" PCC. Funds in this account are generated by royalties from sales of criminal and civil jury instructions. The funds are deposited pursuant to the Government Code.
18	Trial Court Labor Relations Academies and Forums	HR	The Judicial Council's Human Resources office has updated its Trial Court Labor Relations Training Program to align with its biennial funding model. The program includes a one-day, in-person session in spring for seasoned court professionals in labor relations, focusing on current trends and strategies. The funding allocation will be used to pay for conference rooms, materials, lunch for participants, and lodging for trial court attendees on a limited basis. Additionally, a three-day virtual Labor Relations Academy I is held annually in summer, aimed at court managers and human resources staff new to labor negotiations. This program reflects a comprehensive effort to enhance trial court employees' skills and knowledge in the field of labor relations within the judicial branch.
19	California Courts Protective Order Registry (CCPOR)	IT	The California Courts Protective Order Registry (CCPOR) is a statewide repository of protective orders containing both data and scanned images of orders that can be accessed by judges, court staff, and law enforcement officers. CCPOR allows judges and law enforcement officers to view orders issued by other court divisions and across county lines.
20	Data Integration	IT	Data Integration provides system interfaces between Judicial Council systems and the computer systems of our justice partners, such as courts, law enforcement agencies, the Department of Justice, and others. Without the Integrated Services Backbone, the current systems for sharing protective orders, for example, would not function.

**State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund
Summary of Programs**

Row #	Program Name	Office	Program Description
A	B	C	D
21	Judicial Branch Technology Services (JBTS) Data Center and Cloud Service	IT	<p>The JBTS hosts services for the 58 California superior courts, all the Courts of Appeal, and the Supreme Court and has over 10,000 supported users. Major installations in the JBTS include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Appellate Court Case Management System (ACCMS) * California Court Protective Order Registry (CCPOR) * Phoenix (Trial Court Financial and Human Resources System) * Sustain Interim Case Management System (ICMS) * Computer Aided Facilities Management (CAFM) System * Civil, Small Claims, Probate, and Mental Health Trial Court Case Management System (V3) * Integrated Services Backbone (ISM) <p>This program provides consistent, cost-effective, and secure hosting services, including ongoing maintenance and operational support, data network management, desktop computing and local server support, tape back-up and recovery, help desk services, email services, and a disaster recovery program.</p>
22	Jury Management System	IT	<p>The allocation for the Jury Program is to distribute funds to the trial courts in the form of grants to improve court jury management systems. All trial courts are eligible to apply for the jury funding. The number of courts receiving grants varies according to the amount of grant funding available and the number of jury grant requests received.</p>
23	Statewide Planning and Dev Support	IT	<p>This program provides the trial courts access to a variety of Oracle products (e.g., Oracle Enterprise Database, Real Application Clusters, Oracle Security Suite, Oracle Advanced Security, Diagnostic Packs, Oracle WebLogic Application Server) without cost to the courts.</p>
24, 25	Telecommunications Support	IT	<p>This program develops and supports a standardized level of network infrastructure for the California superior courts. This infrastructure provides a foundation for local systems (email, jury, CMS, VOIP, etc.) and enterprise system applications such as Phoenix, provides operational efficiencies via shared services at the CCTC, and secures valuable court information resources.</p>
26	Uniform Civil Filing Services	IT	<p>This program supports the distribution and mandated reporting of uniform civil fees collected by all 58 superior courts, with an average of \$52 million distributed per month. The system generates reports for the State Controller's Office and various entities that receive the distributed funds. There are over 200 fee types collected by each court, distributed to 31 different entities (e.g., Trial Court Trust Fund, County, Equal Access Fund, Law Library, etc.), requiring 65,938 corresponding distribution rules that are maintained by Uniform Civil Fee System (UCFS). UCFS benefits the public by minimizing the amount of penalties paid to the state for incorrect or late distributions and ensuring that the entities entitled to a portion of the civil fees collected, as mandated by law, receive their correct distributions.</p>
27	Jury System Improvement Projects	LS	<p>This program is related to Jury Instructions and is a "self-funding" PCC. Funds in this account are generated by royalties from sales of criminal and civil jury instructions. The funds are deposited under the Government Code.</p>
28	Litigation Management Program	LS	<p>This program provides for the defense and indemnification of all judicial branch entities, their bench officers, and employees. Defense of these parties is for government claims, pre-litigation claims, and litigation, as well as for various risk reduction measures, as required by Government Code sections 810–811.9, 825–825.6, 900.3, and 995–996.6 and California Rules of Court, rules 10.201 and 10.202.</p>
29	Regional Office Assistance Group	LS	<p>The allocation for the Regional Office Assistance Group is used to pay for attorneys and support personnel to provide direct legal services to the trial courts in the areas of transactions/business operations, legal opinions, ethics, and labor and employment law.</p>
30	Judicial Performance Defense Insurance	LSS	<p>The allocation for the Judicial Performance Defense program is used to pay the insurance premium for trial court judges and judicial officers for the Commission on Judicial Performance (CJP) defense master insurance policy and associated costs to provide for online enrollment and submission of compliance information. The program (1) covers defense costs in CJP proceedings related to CJP complaints, (2) protects judicial officers from exposure to excessive financial risk for acts committed within the scope of their judicial duties, and (3) lowers the risk of conduct that could lead to complaints through required ethics training for judicial officers.</p>
31	Data Analytics Advisory Committee	RAD	<p>Pays for meeting expenses of the Data Analytics Advisory Committee and travel expenses for court personnel and judges related to workload studies.</p>

State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund
Fund Condition Statement
FY 2025–26

Updated: April 30, 2025

#	Description	Estimated					
		2021–22 (Year-End Financial Statement)	2022–23 (Year-End Financial Statement)	2023–24 (Year-End Financial Statement)	2024–25	2025–26	2026–27
		A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Beginning Balance	16,886,288	23,242,054	38,128,109	38,371,462	37,031,345	31,317,345
2	Prior-Year Adjustments	8,176,338	8,638,611	-284,477	0	0	0
3	Adjusted Beginning Balance	25,062,626	31,880,665	37,843,632	38,371,462	37,031,345	31,317,345
4	REVENUES:¹						
5	Jury Instructions Royalties	538,154	429,853	453,482	471,000	471,000	471,000
6	Interest from Surplus Money Investment Fund	210,218	1,550,086	3,133,621	2,396,000	1,917,000	1,917,000
7	Escheat-Unclaimed Checks, Warrants, Bonds	0	1,000	3,088	1,000	1,000	1,000
8	50/50 Excess Fines Split Revenue	4,986,200	7,504,000	2,862,000	3,302,000	3,137,000	3,137,000
9	2% Automation Fund Revenue	8,455,157	8,327,104	7,419,361	7,462,000	7,044,000	7,044,000
10	Other Revenues/State Controller's Office Adjustments	285,925	171,078	84,495	2,000	2,000	2,000
11	Class Action Residue	952,317	329,186	118,425	2,000	0	0
12	Subtotal Revenues	15,428,439	18,311,387	14,074,472	13,636,000	12,572,000	12,572,000
13	Transfers and Other Adjustments						
14	To Trial Court Trust Fund (Gov. Code, § 77209(j))	-13,397,000	-13,397,000	-13,397,000	-13,397,000	-13,397,000	-13,397,000
15	To Trial Court Trust Fund (Budget Act)	-594,000	-594,000	-594,000	-594,000	-594,000	-594,000
16	General Fund Transfer (Gov. Code, § 20825.1)	-270,000	0	0	0	0	0
17	Total Revenues, Transfers, and Other Adjustments	1,167,439	4,320,387	83,472	-355,000	-1,419,000	-1,419,000
18	Total Resources	26,230,065	36,201,052	37,927,104	38,016,462	35,612,345	29,898,345
19	EXPENDITURES:						
20	Judicial Branch Total State Operations	5,217,956	5,319,495	6,726,611	7,235,000	7,431,000	7,930,000
21	Judicial Branch Total Local Assistance	44,734,883	36,857,436	37,105,883	37,654,117	40,465,000	42,157,000
22	Pro Rata and Other Adjustments	307,171	180,012	117,148	314,000	617,000	617,000
23	Less funding provided by General Fund (Local Assistance)	-47,272,000	-44,284,000	-44,394,000	-44,218,000	-44,218,000	-44,218,000
24	Total Expenditures and Adjustments	2,988,011	-1,927,057	-444,358	985,117	4,295,000	6,486,000
25	Fund Balance	23,242,054	38,128,109	38,371,462	37,031,345	31,317,345	23,412,345
26	Fund Balance - less restricted funds	19,677,611	35,519,627	36,080,861	35,031,345	29,317,345	21,412,344
27	Structural Balance	-1,820,572	6,247,444	527,830	-1,340,117	-5,714,000	-7,905,000

¹ Revenue estimates are as of FY 2025–26 Governor's Budget