#### INVITATION TO TENDER BONDS

(this "Invitation")

## describing an offer (the "Tender Offer") made by the STATE OF OHIO

(the "Issuer")

### Acting by and through the Ohio Public Facilities Commission

All terms used below with initial capitalization where not required by the rules of grammar and not otherwise defined herein have the meanings given to them in this Invitation.

The Issuer invites Bondowners, as described herein, of all or any portion of its bonds of the series designation with base CUSIP numbers identified below with maturity dates and CUSIP numbers listed on page (ii) hereof (the "**Target Bonds**") to offer to sell to the Issuer for cash:

## State of Ohio Common Schools General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A (Federally Taxable)

(Base CUSIP 677522)

## State of Ohio Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A (Federally Taxable)

(Base CUSIP 677522)

## THIS INVITATION WILL EXPIRE AT 5:00 P.M., NEW YORK CITY TIME ON DECEMBER 5, 2025, UNLESS EARLIER TERMINATED OR EXTENDED AS DESCRIBED HEREIN.

#### **Key Dates and Times**

All of these dates and times are subject to change. All times are New York City time. Notices of changes will be sent in the manner provided for in this Invitation.

| Launch Date   | November 21, 2025 |
|---|-------------------|
| Pricing Notice  |                   |
| Tender Expiration Date                                  |                   |
| Preliminary Notice of Acceptance                        |                   |
| Determination of Purchase Prices                        |                   |
| Notice of Target Bonds Purchase Prices                  |                   |
| Final Acceptance Date and Final Notice of Acceptance    |                   |
| Settlement Date (unless earlier terminated or extended) |                   |

To make an informed decision as to whether, and how, to offer Target Bonds, beneficial owners of Target Bonds ("**Bondowners**") must read this Invitation carefully and should consult with their broker-dealer, financial, legal, accounting, tax and/or other advisors and professionals in making this decision.

The Dealer Manager is: **Jefferies LLC** 

The Information Agent and Tender Agent is:

Globic Advisors Inc.

#### TARGET BONDS SUBJECT TO TENDER OFFER FOR CASH

#### STATE OF OHIO

#### Common Schools General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A (Federally Taxable)

| CUSIP<br>No.<br>(677522) <sup>1</sup> | Maturity<br>Date | Interest<br>Rate (%) | Outstanding<br>Principal Amount | Benchmark<br>Treasury<br>Security <sup>2</sup> | Indicative Fixed<br>Spreads <sup>3</sup> |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| 43.42                                 | 0/15/2020        | 1.500                | Φ10.020.000                     | F 37   | 27.1                                     |
| 4M3                                   | 9/15/2029        | 1.500                | \$19,920,000                    | 5-Year   | -35 bps                                  |
| 4N1                                   | 9/15/2030        | 1.580                | 43,500,000                      | 5-Year   | -30 bps                                  |
| 4P6                                   | 9/15/2031        | 1.730                | 22,670,000                      | 7-Year   | -28 bps                                  |
| 4Q4                                   | 9/15/2032        | 1.780                | 23,065,000                      | 7-Year   | -17 bps                                  |
| 4R2                                   | 9/15/2033        | 1.830                | 23,490,000                      | 10-Year  | -30 bps                                  |
| 4S0                                   | 9/15/2034        | 1.880                | 23,930,000                      | 10-Year  | -20 bps                                  |
| Total                                 |                  |                      | <u>\$156,575,000</u>            |  |  |

# STATE OF OHIO Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A (Federally Taxable)

| CUSIP<br>No.<br>(677522) <sup>1</sup> | Maturity<br>Date | Interest<br>Rate (%) | Outstanding<br>Principal Amount | Benchmark<br>Treasury<br>Security <sup>2</sup> | Indicative Fixed Spreads <sup>3</sup> |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| 3U6                                   | 8/1/2028         | 1.430                | \$285,000                       | 3-Year   | -25 bps                               |
| 3V4                                   | 8/1/2029         | 1.500                | 13,225,000                      | 5-Year   | -35 bps                               |
| 3W2                                   | 8/1/2030         | 1.580                | 13,430,000                      | 5-Year   | -30 bps                               |
| 3X0                                   | 8/1/2031         | 1.730                | 23,810,000                      | 7-Year   | -28 bps                               |
| 3Y8                                   | 8/1/2032         | 1.780                | 33,630,000                      | 7-Year   | -17 bps                               |
| 3Z5                                   | 8/1/2033         | 1.830                | 34,240,000                      | 10-Year  | -30 bps                               |
| 4A9                                   | 8/1/2034         | 1.880                | 11,055,000                      | 10-Year  | -20 bps                               |
| 4B7                                   | 8/1/2035         | 1.930                | 11,265,000                      | 10-Year  | -15 bps                               |
| Total                                 |                  |                      | <u>\$140,940,000</u>            |  |                                       |

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<sup>1</sup> CUSIP is a registered trademark of the American Bankers Association. CUSIP data herein is provided by CUSIP Global Services, managed on behalf of the American Bankers Association by FactSet Research Systems Inc. The CUSIP numbers are being provided solely for the convenience of the owners of the Target Bonds and the Issuer is not responsible for the selection or correctness of the CUSIP numbers printed herein and does not make any representation with respect to such numbers or undertake any responsibility for their accuracy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Each Benchmark Treasury Security (as defined herein) will be the most recently auctioned "on-the-run" United States Treasury Security for the maturity indicated as of the date and time that the Purchase Price for the Target Bonds is set, currently expected to be approximately 10:00 a.m. New York City time on December 9, 2025, unless extended pursuant to this Invitation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Indicative Fixed Spreads (as defined herein) are preliminary and subject to change. The Fixed Spreads for each CUSIP number will appear in the Pricing Notice.

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This Invitation and other information with respect to this Tender Offer are available from the Dealer Manager and the Information Agent and Tender Agent at www.globic.com/opfc. Bondowners wishing to offer their Target Bonds for purchase pursuant to this Invitation must follow the procedures more fully described herein. Pursuant to the terms of this Invitation as more fully described herein, the Issuer reserves the right to cancel or modify this Invitation at any time on or prior to the Expiration Date and reserves the right to make a future invitation to purchase Unpurchased Bonds (as defined herein) at prices different than the Offer Purchase Prices (defined herein and in the Pricing Notice) in its sole discretion. Except as described in this Invitation, the Issuer will have no obligation to purchase Target Bonds offered pursuant to this Invitation. The Issuer further reserves the right to waive any irregularities or defects in any offer received.

This Tender Offer is not being made to, and Target Bonds offered for purchase in response to this Invitation will not be accepted from or on behalf of, Bondowners in any jurisdiction in which this Tender Offer, the making of an offer to sell Target Bonds or the acceptance thereof would not be in compliance with the laws of such jurisdiction. In those jurisdictions whose laws require the Tender Offer to be made through a licensed or registered broker or dealer, the Tender Offer is being made on behalf of the Issuer by the Dealer Manager.

The Issuer, the Dealer Manager, and the Information Agent and Tender Agent are not recommending to any Bondowner whether or not to tender their Target Bonds for purchase in connection with this Tender Offer. Each Bondowner must make this decision for itself and should read this Invitation and the Refunding Bond POS (as defined herein), attached as **Appendix A**, and the Pricing Notice (as defined herein) in the form attached hereto as **Appendix B**, in their entirety and should consult with its broker-dealer, financial, legal, accounting, tax and other advisors and professionals in making this decision.

No dealer, salesperson or other person has been authorized to give any information or to make any representation not contained in this Invitation, including **Appendices A** and **B** hereto, and, if given or made, such information or representation may not be relied upon as having been authorized by the Issuer.

The delivery of this Invitation shall not under any circumstances create any implication that the information contained herein is correct as of any time subsequent to the date hereof or that there has been no change in the information set forth herein or in any attachments hereto or materials delivered herewith or in the affairs of the Issuer since the date hereof.

The Dealer Manager makes no representation or warranty, express or implied, as to the accuracy or completeness of the information contained herein, including **Appendix A**. The Dealer Manager has not independently verified any of the information contained herein, and assumes no responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of any such information. References to website addresses herein are for informational purposes only and may be in the form of a hyperlink solely for the reader's convenience. Unless specified otherwise, such websites and the information or links contained therein are not incorporated into, and are not a part of, this Invitation.

This Invitation contains statements relating to future results that are "forward-looking statements" as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. When used in this Invitation and other materials referred to or incorporated herein, the words "estimate", "anticipate", "forecast", "project", "intend", "propose", "plan", "expect", and similar expressions identify forward-looking statements. Such statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated in such forward-looking statements. Any forecast is subject to such uncertainties. Inevitably, some assumptions used to develop the forecasts will not be realized and unanticipated events and circumstances may occur. Therefore, there are likely to be differences between forecasts and actual results, and those differences may be material.

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Appendix A -- REFUNDING BOND PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT Appendix B -- FORM OF PRICING NOTICE

#### INVITATION TO TENDER BONDS

## made by the STATE OF OHIO

#### ACTING BY AND THROUGH THE OHIO PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMISSION

**Introduction.** This Invitation to Tender Bonds, dated November 21, 2025 (as it may be amended or supplemented, this "Invitation"), which includes the Appendices hereto, describes an offer (the "Tender Offer") made by the State of Ohio (the "Issuer") acting by and through the Ohio Public Facilities Commission to the beneficial owners (the "Bondowners") of the Issuer's outstanding (i) State of Ohio Common Schools General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A (Federally Taxable) (the "Common Schools Target Bonds") and (ii) State of Ohio Infrastructure General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A (Federally Taxable) (the "Infrastructure Target Bonds" and together with the Common Schools Target Bonds, the "Target Bonds"), maturing on the dates set forth in the table on page (ii) of this Invitation to tender such Target Bonds for cash purchase on the Settlement Date (as defined herein) by the Issuer at the applicable price (each an "Offer Purchase Price") to be determined as described herein based on a yield (each a "Purchase Yield") equal to the fixed spread (each a "Fixed Spread") to be added to the yield on the relevant benchmark United States Treasury Security (the "Benchmark Treasury Security"). See Section 2, "Information to Bondowners - Tender Consideration - Determination of Offer Purchase Prices" herein. Interest on purchased Target Bonds accruing to but not including the Settlement Date ("Accrued Interest") will also be paid on the Settlement Date. On or about November 28, 2025, the Issuer expects to publish the Pricing Notice (as it may be amended and supplemented, the "Pricing Notice") in the form attached hereto as **Appendix B**, which will confirm or amend the Fixed Spread as listed on page (ii) for each maturity and corresponding CUSIP of the respective Target Bonds. All times in this Invitation are local time in New York City. The Tender Offer is being made by the Issuer with the assistance of Jefferies LLC, as dealer manager (the "Dealer Manager"), and Globic Advisors Inc., as information agent and tender agent (the "Information Agent and Tender Agent").

The purchase of any of the Target Bonds of a series pursuant to this Invitation is contingent on the Issuer receiving sufficient net proceeds from the issuance of its State of Ohio Common Schools General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2025B (the "Common Schools Refunding Bonds") and the State of Ohio Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2025B (the "Infrastructure Refunding Bonds" and together with the Common Schools Refunding Bonds, the "Refunding Bonds") for the Common Schools Target Bonds and Infrastructure Target Bonds, respectively, and is also subject to the terms of this Invitation and certain other conditions as described herein, including satisfaction of the Financing Conditions (as defined herein). The Issuer's obligation to accept for purchase and to pay for Target Bonds validly tendered (and not withdrawn) pursuant to this Invitation is also subject to the satisfaction or waiver of certain conditions. See "Issuer's Obligation to Purchase Offered Target Bonds" below and Section 14, "Conditions to Purchase," for additional information regarding certain of such conditions.

**Purpose.** This Tender Offer is part of a plan by the Issuer to refinance certain of its outstanding indebtedness for debt service savings (the "**Refunding Plan**"), as described in the Preliminary Official Statement of the Issuer dated November 21, 2025, and attached hereto as **Appendix A** (the "**Refunding Bond POS**"). **The Issuer's outstanding bonds of any series that are not identified in the table on page** (ii) of this Invitation are not subject to this Tender Offer. As part of the Refunding Plan and subject to market conditions, it is the intention that a portion of the proceeds of the Common Schools Refunding Bonds will be used to refund certain bonds of the Issuer, which are not Target Bonds, that are callable on March 15, 2026, and as described in the Refunding Bond POS, that optional redemption is preliminary and subject to change. For additional information concerning the Issuer and its Refunding Plan, see the Refunding Bond POS attached hereto as **Appendix A**.

Offers by Bondowners. Pursuant to this Invitation, each Bondowner may submit an offer to tender to the Issuer for a cash purchase all or a part of its Target Bonds, in a denomination of \$5,000 principal amount (the "Minimum Authorized Denomination") or any integral multiple thereof, with respect to which the Bondowner has a beneficial ownership interest. The applicable Fixed Spread for each maturity and corresponding CUSIP of the Target Bonds at which such Target Bonds may be tendered by a Bondowner for purchase pursuant to this Invitation will be set forth in the Pricing Notice in the form of Appendix B expected to be published on or about November 28, 2025. The applicable Offer Purchase Price for each maturity and corresponding CUSIP of the Target Bonds will be determined as further described below in Section 2, "Information to Bondowners – Tender Consideration – Determination of Offer Purchase Prices" herein.

**Source of Funds.** The total amount paid to Bondowners to purchase the Target Bonds validly tendered and accepted for purchase pursuant to this Invitation (the "**Aggregate Purchase Price**"), plus Accrued Interest, is anticipated to be from net proceeds of the Refunding Bonds to be issued on the Settlement Date and other available funds of the Issuer.

Issuer's Obligation to Purchase Offered Target Bonds. Subject to the terms of this Invitation and the satisfaction of all conditions to the Issuer's obligation to purchase tendered Target Bonds as described herein, and provided that (i) a Bondowner's Target Bonds tendered for purchase have been validly tendered and not validly withdrawn by 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on December 5, 2025 (as may be extended from time to time in accordance with this Invitation, the "Expiration Date"), and (ii) accepted by the Issuer on or before December 9, 2025 (as may be extended from time to time in accordance with this Invitation, the "Final Acceptance Date"), the Issuer will purchase such Target Bonds tendered and accepted for purchase on December 23, 2025 (the "Settlement Date"). Accrued Interest on the Target Bonds purchased will also be paid on the Settlement Date.

The Issuer's obligation to accept for purchase any tendered Target Bonds and the Issuer's obligation to pay for Target Bonds validly tendered (and not validly withdrawn) and accepted pursuant to this Invitation is subject to the satisfaction of or waiver of the following conditions on or prior to the Settlement Date: (A) the successful completion by the Issuer of the issuance of the applicable series of Refunding Bonds, the proceeds of which will be sufficient, together with other available moneys of the Issuer, to (x) fund the Aggregate Purchase Price of all Target Bonds of the applicable series that are validly tendered and accepted for purchase pursuant to this Invitation, plus Accrued Interest, and (y) pay all fees and expenses associated with the issuance of the Refunding Bonds and this Tender Offer; (B) receipt of all certifications and opinions required by the "Dealer Manager Agreement" executed between the Issuer and the Dealer Manager in connection with this Tender Offer, and (C) when taken together with the issuance of the applicable series of Refunding Bonds, the Issuer, determining in its reasonable discretion that it will obtain a satisfactory and sufficient economic benefit as a result of market conditions, including (x) all or any portion of the maturities listed on page (ii) will produce sufficient debt service savings for the Issuer, (y) the expected or actual level of participation by Bondowners, or (z) any other factors not within the sole control of the Issuer, all on terms and conditions that are in the Issuer's best interest (collectively, the "Financing Conditions").

No assurances can be given that the Refunding Bonds will be issued or that any Target Bonds tendered for purchase by a Bondowner will be purchased. See Section 10, "Determination of Amounts to be Purchased; Acceptance of Offers; Final Notice of Acceptance", for more information on the selection of tendered Target Bonds to be purchased, if any. The Issuer reserves the right, subject to applicable law, to amend or waive any of the conditions to this Invitation, in whole or in part, any time prior to the Expiration Date or from time to time subject to the Financing Conditions and other conditions described in this Invitation. The Issuer also has the right to terminate this Tender Offer at any time up to and including the Expiration Date. See Section 15, "Extension, Termination and Amendment of Tender Offer", herein.

Any Target Bonds not tendered by Bondowners, or Target Bonds tendered by Bondowners pursuant to this Invitation but not accepted for purchase by the Issuer (the "**Unpurchased Bonds**"), will continue to be payable and secured by their terms until maturity or prior defeasance, purchase and cancellation, or redemption. Any Target Bonds tendered by Bondowners pursuant to this Invitation but not accepted for purchase by the Issuer will be returned to such Bondowners. If all conditions to this Invitation are not satisfied or waived by the Issuer on or prior to the Settlement Date, all Target Bonds tendered by Bondowners pursuant to this Invitation will be returned to the Bondowners and will continue to be payable and secured under their terms until maturity or prior defeasance, purchase and cancellation, or redemption. See Section 17, "Additional Considerations – *Potential Subsequent Transactions*" herein.

Future Refunding, Defeasance or Purchase of Unpurchased Bonds. The Issuer further reserves the right, in its sole discretion to refund, defease and/or purchase some or all of the Unpurchased Bonds in the future.

To make an informed decision as to whether, and how, to offer Target Bonds for purchase pursuant to this Invitation, a Bondowner must read this Invitation carefully and entirely, including the Refunding Bond POS attached hereto as Appendix A and the Pricing Notice in the form attached hereto as Appendix B. This Invitation, including the Refunding Bond POS and the Pricing Notice, and all other notices, amendments, and supplements thereto, if any, collectively shall constitute an invitation to Bondowners to offer to tender their Target Bonds for purchase.

None of the Issuer, the Dealer Manager, or the Information Agent and Tender Agent make any recommendation that any Bondowner tender or refrain from tendering all or any portion of such Bondowner's Target Bonds for purchase. Bondowners must make these decisions and should consult with their broker-dealer, account executive, and other financial, legal, accounting, tax, and other professionals.

#### 2. Information to Bondowners

*General*. The Issuer will provide additional information about this Tender Offer to Bondowners of the Target Bonds, including, without limitation, the information contained in the Pricing Notice in the form attached hereto as **Appendix B** expected to be delivered on or about November 28, 2025 and the information contained in **Appendix A** and any supplement to the Refunding Bond POS, by delivery of such information in the following ways (collectively, the "**Information Services**"):

- (a) to the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board through its Electronic Municipal Market Access system website, currently located at <a href="http://emma.msrb.org">http://emma.msrb.org</a> (the "EMMA Website"), using the CUSIP numbers for the Target Bonds;
- (b) to DTC (defined below) and to the DTC participants holding the Target Bonds; and
- (c) by posting electronically on the website of the Information Agent and Tender Agent at www.globic.com/opfc.

Delivery by the Issuer of information in the foregoing manner will be deemed to constitute delivery of the information to each Bondowner of the Target Bonds. The Issuer, the Dealer Manager, and the Information Agent and Tender Agent have no obligation to ensure that any such Bondowner actually receives any information provided by the Issuer in this manner. Any such Bondowner who would like to receive information furnished by or on behalf of the Issuer as described above must make appropriate arrangements with its broker-dealer, account executive or other financial advisor or representative.

**Pricing Notice and Fixed Spreads**. On or about November 28, 2025, the Issuer will provide the Pricing Notice in the manner described under the heading "General" above in the form attached hereto as **Appendix B**, which Pricing Notice will set forth the Fixed Spreads.

**Tender Consideration – Determination of Offer Purchase Prices.** The applicable Fixed Spread, expressed as an interest rate percentage, will be added to the yield on the relevant Benchmark Treasury Security (the "**Treasury Security Yield**") to arrive at the Purchase Yield used to calculate the Offer Purchase Price for each maturity and corresponding CUSIP of the Target Bonds. The Benchmark Treasury Security for each CUSIP is identified on page (ii) hereof and will also be identified in the Pricing Notice. The Treasury Security Yield will equal the bid-side yield of the Benchmark Treasury Security as quoted on the Bloomberg Bond Trader FIT1 series of pages at approximately 10:00 a.m., New York City time, on December 9, 2025, unless such time or date is extended by the Issuer.

The Purchase Yields will be used to calculate the Offer Purchase Prices expressed as a dollar amount per \$100 principal amount of the Target Bonds. The Offer Purchase Prices will be calculated using the market standard bond pricing formula as of the Settlement Date using the relevant Purchase Yield, the coupon of the relevant Target Bond and the maturity date for each Target Bond.

The Issuer expects to publish a Notice of Target Bonds Purchase Prices on December 9, 2025, unless such date is extended pursuant to this Invitation. The purchase price to be received on the Settlement Date by a Bondowner whose Target Bonds were validly tendered and accepted for purchase, in whole or in part, by the Issuer will equal the par amount of such Bondowners' purchased Target Bonds multiplied by the Offer Purchase Price of such Target Bonds divided by 100. In addition to the purchase price of the Target Bonds accepted for purchase by the Issuer, Accrued Interest on such Target Bonds will be paid by the Issuer on the Settlement Date.

3. Expiration Date; Offers Only Through Financial Institutions; Brokerage Commissions. This Tender Offer to tender Target Bonds will expire at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on December 5, 2025, the Expiration Date, unless earlier terminated, and Target Bonds received after 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the Expiration Date will not be considered. See Section 15, "Extension, Termination and Amendment of Tender Offer" herein for a discussion of the Issuer's ability to extend the Expiration Date and to terminate or amend this Invitation.

In the sole discretion of the Issuer, the Issuer may extend the Expiration Date, the Preliminary Acceptance Date (defined herein), the Final Acceptance Date, or the Settlement Date. See Section 15, "Extension, Termination and Amendment of Tender Offer".

All of the Target Bonds are held in book-entry-only form through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company of New York ("DTC"). The Information Agent and Tender Agent and DTC have confirmed that this Tender Offer is eligible for submission of tenders for purchase through DTC's Automated Tender Offer Program (known as the "ATOP" system). Bondowners of Target Bonds who want to tender Target Bonds for purchase pursuant to the Issuer's Invitation must do so through a DTC participant in accordance with the relevant DTC procedures for the ATOP system. The Issuer will not accept any tenders of Target Bonds for purchase that are not made through the ATOP system. A Bondowner that is not a DTC participant can only tender Target Bonds for purchase pursuant to this Invitation by making arrangements with and instructing the bank or brokerage firm through which it holds Target Bonds (sometimes referred to herein as a "custodial intermediary") to tender the Bondowner's Target Bonds on its behalf through the ATOP system. To ensure a Bondowner's Target Bonds are tendered through the ATOP system by 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the Expiration Date, the Bondowner must provide instructions to its custodial intermediary with sufficient time for such custodial intermediary to tender the Target Bonds in accordance with DTC procedures through the ATOP system by this deadline. Each Bondowner wishing to tender Target Bonds should contact its custodial intermediary for information

on when such custodial intermediary needs the Bondowner's instructions in order to tender the Bondowner's Target Bonds through the ATOP system by 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the Expiration Date. See also Sections 5, "Provisions Applicable to All Offers" below.

The Issuer, the Dealer Manager, and the Information Agent and Tender Agent are not responsible for making or transmitting any tender of Target Bonds or for the transfer of any tendered Target Bonds through the ATOP system or for any mistakes, errors or omissions in the making or transmission of any offer or transfer.

Bondowners will not be obligated to pay any brokerage commissions or solicitation fees to the Issuer, the Dealer Manager, or the Information Agent and Tender Agent in connection with this Tender Offer. However, Bondowners should check with their broker-dealer, account executive or other financial institution which maintains the account in which their Target Bonds are held to determine if it will charge any commission or fees.

#### 4. Minimum Denominations

Authorized Denominations for Offers. A Bondowner may tender, as aforesaid, all or a portion of its Target Bonds of a particular maturity and corresponding CUSIP in a principal amount of its choosing, but only in principal amounts equal to the Minimum Authorized Denomination or any integral multiple of \$5,000 in excess thereof.

5. Provisions Applicable to all Offers. A Bondowner should ask its financial advisor, investment manager, broker or account executive for advice in determining whether to tender Target Bonds for purchase and the principal amount of Target Bonds to be tendered. A Bondowner should also inquire as to whether its financial institution will charge a fee for submitting tenders. The Issuer, the Dealer Manager, and the Information Agent and Tender Agent will not charge fees to any tendering Bondowner for completing the purchase of Target Bonds.

A tender of Target Bonds cannot exceed the par amount of Target Bonds owned by the Bondowner. Target Bonds may be tendered and accepted for payment only in principal amounts equal to the Minimum Authorized Denomination and integral multiples of \$5,000 in excess thereof.

"All or none" tenders are not permitted. No alternative, conditional or contingent tenders will be accepted. All tenders shall survive the death or incapacity of the tendering Bondowner.

By tendering Target Bonds pursuant to this Invitation, each such Bondowner will be deemed to have represented and warranted to and agreed with the Issuer and the Dealer Manager that:

- (a) the Bondowner has received, and has had the opportunity to review, this Invitation (including the Refunding Bond POS attached as **Appendix A** hereto) and the Pricing Notice prior to making the decision as to whether or not it should tender its Target Bonds for purchase;
- (b) the Bondowner has full authority to tender, sell, assign and transfer such Target Bonds, and that, on the Settlement Date, the Issuer, as transferee, will acquire good title, free and clear of all liens, charges, encumbrances, conditional sales agreements or other obligations and not subject to any adverse claims, subject to payment to the Bondowner of the applicable Offer Purchase Price, plus payment of Accrued Interest on the Target Bonds;
- (c) the Bondowner has made an independent decision to tender, the appropriateness of the terms thereof, and whether the tender is appropriate for the Bondowner;

- (d) such decisions are based upon the Bondowner's judgment and upon advice from such advisors as the Bondowner has consulted;
- (e) the Bondowner is not relying on any communication from the Issuer, the Dealer Manager, or the Information Agent and Tender Agent as investment advice or as a recommendation to make the offer, it being understood that the information from any of the foregoing related to the terms and conditions of this Invitation shall not be considered investment advice or a recommendation to tender Target Bonds; and
- (f) the Bondowner is capable of assessing the merits of and understanding (on its own and/or through independent professional advice), and does understand and accept, the terms and conditions of this Invitation.
- 6. Transmission of Offers by Financial Institutions; DTC ATOP Procedures. Tenders of Target Bonds pursuant to this Invitation may only be made through DTC's ATOP system. Bondowners that are not DTC participants must make their tenders through their custodial intermediary. A DTC participant must tender the Target Bonds on behalf of the Bondowner for whom it is acting pursuant to this Invitation, by book-entry through the ATOP system. In so doing, such custodial intermediary and the Bondowner on whose behalf the custodial intermediary is acting, agree to be bound by DTC's rules for the ATOP system. In accordance with ATOP procedures, DTC will then verify receipt of the Tender Offer and send an Agent's Message (as described below) to the Information Agent and Tender Agent.

The term "Agent's Message" means a message transmitted by DTC to, and received by, the Information Agent and Tender Agent, forming a part of the book-entry confirmation stating that DTC has received an express acknowledgement from the DTC participant tendering Target Bonds for purchase that are the subject of such book-entry confirmation that includes: (i) the CUSIP number(s) and the par amount(s) of the Target Bonds that have been validly tendered by such DTC participant on behalf of the Bondowner pursuant to this Invitation, and (ii) that the Bondowner agrees to be bound by the terms of this Invitation, including the representations, warranties, agreements and affirmations deemed made by it as set forth in Section 5 above. By causing DTC to transfer Target Bonds into the Issuer's ATOP system, a financial institution warrants to the Issuer that it has full authority, and has received from the Bondowner(s) of such Target Bonds all direction necessary, to tender and sell such Target Bonds as set forth in this Invitation.

Agent's Messages must be transmitted to and received by the Information Agent and Tender Agent by not later than 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the Expiration Date. Target Bonds will not be deemed to have been tendered for cash purchase pursuant to this Invitation until an Agent's Message with respect thereto is received by the Information Agent and Tender Agent.

Each DTC participant is advised to submit each beneficial owner's instruction individually into DTC's ATOP system to ensure proper settlement.

The Issuer, the Dealer Manager, and the Information Agent and Tender Agent are not responsible for making or transmitting any tender of Target Bonds or for the transfer of any tendered Target Bonds through the ATOP system or for any mistakes, errors or omissions in the making or transmission of any offer or transfer.

7. Determinations as to Form and Validity of Tenders; Right of Waiver and Rejection. All questions as to the validity (including the time of receipt of Agent's Messages by the Information Agent and Tender Agent), eligibility, and acceptance of any tenders of Target Bonds will be determined by the Issuer in its sole discretion and will be final, conclusive and binding.

The Issuer reserves the right to waive any irregularities or defects in any tender. The Issuer, the Dealer Manager, and the Information Agent and Tender Agent are not obligated to give notice of any defects or irregularities in tenders, and they will have no liability for failing to give such notice.

8. Withdrawals of Tenders Prior to Expiration Date; Irrevocability of Tenders on Expiration Date. A Bondowner may withdraw its offer to tender of Target Bonds pursuant to this Invitation by causing a withdrawal notice to be transmitted via DTC's ATOP system to, and received by, the Information Agent and Tender Agent at or before 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the Expiration Date (as the date and time may have been changed as provided in this Invitation).

A Bondowner that is not a DTC participant can only withdraw its offer to tender by making arrangements with and instructing the custodial intermediary through which it holds its Target Bonds to submit the Bondowner's notice of withdrawal through the DTC ATOP system.

All tenders of Target Bonds will become irrevocable as of 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the Expiration Date.

- 9. Preliminary Acceptance Notice. On December 8, 2025, unless such time or date is extended by the Issuer (the "Preliminary Acceptance Date"), the Issuer will determine the preliminary principal amount, if any, of the Target Bonds for each CUSIP that it will purchase, based on satisfaction of the Financing Conditions. Notice of the preliminary principal amount of the Target Bonds, if any, for each CUSIP that the Issuer initially agrees to purchase pursuant to the Invitation will be provided to the Information Services on the Preliminary Acceptance Date via the publication of a "Preliminary Notice of Acceptance."
- 10. Determination of Amounts to be Purchased; Acceptance of Offers; Final Notice of Acceptance. This Tender Offer is part of the Refunding Plan as described in the Refunding Bond POS. The Refunding Bonds, if issued, will be used to finance the Refunding Plan and to pay the costs and expenses of the Tender Offer and issuing the Refunding Bonds. The Issuer intends to purchase each maturity of the Target Bonds validly tendered pursuant to this Invitation, though depending upon the results of this Tender Offer and other factors including the Financing Conditions, the Issuer, in its sole discretion, may elect to purchase less than all of the Target Bonds so tendered. The Issuer shall be under no obligation to accept any Target Bonds tendered for purchase pursuant to this Invitation. The Issuer, in its sole discretion, will select which, if any, Target Bonds validly tendered of a particular maturity and corresponding CUSIP are purchased based on its determination of the economic benefit from such purchase.

Should the Issuer decide to only purchase a portion of the Target Bonds being tendered for purchase of a certain CUSIP, the Issuer will accept such Target Bonds tendered for purchase on a pro rata basis. The principal amount of each individual offer will be adjusted, pro rata, based upon a proration factor for each such CUSIP (each a "**Proration Factor**"). In such event, should the principal amount of any individual offer, when adjusted by the Proration Factor, result in an amount that is not a multiple of \$5,000, the principal amount of such offer will be rounded up to the nearest multiple of \$5,000. If as a result of such adjustment, the principal amount of a Bondowner's unaccepted Target Bonds is less than the Minimum Authorized Denomination of \$5,000, the Issuer will reject such Bondowner's offer in whole. The Issuer will determine the Proration Factor that permits it to accept the amount of Target Bonds it has determined to purchase.

On the Final Acceptance Date (i.e., December 9, 2025 unless such date is extended by the Issuer - See Section 15, "Extension, Termination and Amendment of Tender Offer"), upon the terms and subject to the conditions of this Invitation, the Issuer will announce its acceptance for purchase of Target Bonds, if any, validly tendered by Bondowners pursuant to this Invitation via the publication of a "**Final Notice of Acceptance**," with acceptance subject to the satisfaction or waiver by the Issuer of the conditions to the

purchase of tendered Target Bonds. See Section 11, "Acceptance of Tenders Constitutes Irrevocable Agreement" and Section 14, "Conditions to Purchase."

The Final Notice of Acceptance will state: (i) the principal amount of the Target Bonds of each maturity and corresponding CUSIP number that the Issuer has accepted for purchase in accordance with this Invitation, which may be zero for a particular maturity and corresponding CUSIP, or (ii) that the Issuer has decided not to purchase any Target Bonds.

Any Target Bonds not accepted for purchase as a result of the procedures described herein will be returned to tendering institutions promptly in accordance with DTC's procedures.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Invitation, the obligation of the Issuer to accept for purchase and to pay for Target Bonds validly tendered (and not validly withdrawn) by Bondowners pursuant to this Invitation is subject to the satisfaction or waiver of the conditions set forth under Section 14, "Conditions to Purchase" below. The Issuer reserves the right, subject to applicable law, to amend or waive any of the conditions to this Invitation, in whole or in part, any time prior to the Expiration Date or from time to time subject to the Financing Conditions and other conditions described in this Invitation. This Tender Offer may be withdrawn by the Issuer at any time prior to the Expiration Date.

- 11. Acceptance of Tenders Constitutes Irrevocable Agreement. Acceptance by the Issuer of validly tendered Target Bonds will constitute an irrevocable agreement between the tendering Bondowner and the Issuer to sell and purchase such Target Bonds, subject to the conditions and terms of this Invitation, including the Conditions to Purchase set forth in Section 14.
- 12. Settlement Date; Purchase of Target Bonds. Subject to satisfaction of all conditions to the Issuer's obligation to purchase tendered Target Bonds, as described herein, the Settlement Date is the day on which Target Bonds accepted for purchase will be purchased and paid for at the applicable Offer Purchase Price, plus Accrued Interest. The Settlement Date has initially been set as December 23, 2025, unless extended by the Issuer, assuming all conditions to this Invitation have been satisfied or waived by the Issuer.

The Issuer may, in its sole discretion, change the Settlement Date by giving notice thereof in the manner described in Section 2 of this Invitation prior to the change. However, the Settlement Date may not be later than January 23, 2026. If the Issuer does not complete the purchase of the Target Bonds by 3:00 p.m., New York City time, on January 23, 2026, the right and obligation of the Issuer to purchase any Target Bonds will automatically terminate, without any liability to any Bondowner, and the Issuer will instruct DTC to release from the controls of the ATOP system all Target Bonds.

Subject to satisfaction of all conditions to the Issuer's obligation to purchase Target Bonds tendered for purchase pursuant to this Invitation, as described herein, payment by the Issuer will be made through DTC on the Settlement Date. The Issuer expects that, in accordance with DTC's standard procedures, DTC will transmit the Aggregate Purchase Price to be paid for the Target Bonds tendered for purchase (plus Accrued Interest) to DTC participants holding the Target Bonds accepted for purchase on behalf of Bondowners for subsequent disbursement to the Bondowners. The Issuer, the Dealer Manager, and the Information Agent and Tender Agent have no responsibility or liability for the distribution of the Aggregate Purchase Price and Accrued Interest paid by DTC to DTC participants or by DTC participants to tendering Bondowners.

Promptly following such deliveries and payments, the Issuer will instruct the paying agent/registrar for the purchased Target Bonds to cause such purchased Target Bonds to be cancelled and retired.

- 13. Source of Funds. The source of funds to purchase the Common Schools Target Bonds and the Infrastructure Target Bonds validly tendered for purchase pursuant to this Invitation and accepted by the Issuer (including Accrued Interest on such Target Bonds) is anticipated to be proceeds received by the Issuer from the sale of its Common Schools Refunding Bonds and Infrastructure Refunding Bonds, separately, expected to be issued on the Settlement Date, and other available funds of the Issuer. The Issuer's ability to settle the cash purchase of Target Bonds tendered for purchase is contingent upon the successful delivery of those respective Refunding Bonds and the other conditions set forth herein.
- 14. Conditions to Purchase. The consummation of the purchase of the Target Bonds pursuant to this Invitation is conditioned upon the satisfaction, or waiver by the Issuer, of the Financing Conditions and other conditions described in this Invitation. Furthermore, the Issuer will not be required to purchase any Target Bonds, and will incur no liability as a result, if, before payment for Target Bonds on the Settlement Date:
  - (a) The Issuer does not, for any reason, have sufficient funds on the Settlement Date from the proceeds of the respective Refunding Bonds to pay the Aggregate Purchase Price plus Accrued Interest of tendered applicable Target Bonds accepted for purchase pursuant to this Invitation and pay all fees and expenses associated with those Refunding Bonds and this Tender Offer;
  - (b) Litigation or another proceeding is pending or threatened which the Issuer believes may, directly or indirectly, have an adverse impact on this Tender Offer or the expected benefits of this Tender Offer to the Issuer or the Bondowners;
  - (c) A war, other hostilities, or the escalation thereof, public health or other national emergency, banking moratorium, suspension of payments by banks, a general suspension of trading by the New York Stock Exchange or a limitation of prices on the New York Stock Exchange exists and the Issuer believes this fact makes it inadvisable to proceed with the purchase of Target Bonds;
  - (d) A material change in the business or affairs of the Issuer has occurred which the Issuer believes makes it inadvisable to proceed with the purchase of Target Bonds;
  - (e) A material change in the net benefits of the transaction contemplated by this Tender Offer and the Refunding Bond POS has occurred due to a material change in market conditions that the Issuer reasonably believes makes it inadvisable to proceed with the purchase of Target Bonds;
  - (f) There shall have occurred a material disruption in securities settlement, payment or clearance services.

These conditions are for the sole benefit of the Issuer. They may be asserted by the Issuer prior to the time of payment for the Target Bonds on the Settlement Date. The conditions may be waived by the Issuer in whole or in part at any time and from time to time in its sole discretion and may be exercised independently for each maturity date and CUSIP number of the Target Bonds. The failure by the Issuer at any time to exercise any of these rights will not be deemed a waiver of any of these rights, and the waiver of these rights with respect to particular facts and other circumstances will not be deemed a waiver of these rights with respect to any other facts and circumstances. Each of these rights will be deemed an ongoing right of the Issuer that may be asserted at any time and from time to time. Any determination by the Issuer concerning the events described in this Section 14 will be final and binding upon all parties. If, prior to the time of payment of any Target Bonds any of the events described happens, the Issuer will have the absolute right to cancel its obligations to purchase Target Bonds without any liability to any Bondowner or any other person.

15. Extension, Termination and Amendment of Tender Offer. Through and including the Expiration Date, the Issuer has the right to extend this Tender Offer, to any date in its sole discretion. Notice of an extension of the Expiration Date will be given in the manner described in Section 2 of this Invitation, on or about 11:00 a.m., New York City time, on the first Business Day after the then current Expiration Date.

The Issuer also has the right, prior to the Final Acceptance Date to terminate this Invitation at any time by giving notice of such termination in the manner described in this Invitation.

The Issuer also has the right, prior to the Expiration Date, to amend or waive the terms of this Invitation in any respect and at any time by giving notice of the amendment or waiver in the manner described in Section 2 of this Invitation. The amendment or waiver will be effective at the time specified in such notice.

If the Issuer modifies or amends the terms of this Invitation, including a waiver of any term, in any material respect, or any change in the Fixed Spread for any Target Bonds, notice of such amendment or waiver will be given in the manner described in Section 2, to provide reasonable time for dissemination of such amendment or waiver to Bondowners and for Bondowners to respond. In the event of any such material amendment or change, any offers submitted with respect to the affected Target Bonds prior to such amendment or change will remain in full force and effect, and any Bondowner of such affected Target Bonds wishing to revoke its offer to tender must affirmatively withdraw its offer to tender of such Target Bonds prior to the Expiration Date in the manner described in Section 8 hereof.

Notwithstanding the preceding paragraph, after the Expiration Date and prior to the Final Acceptance Date, any revisions to (i) the Preliminary Acceptance Date, (ii) the date and time set for determining the Treasury Security Yields and the Offer Purchase Prices, and (iii) the Final Acceptance Date, and the timing for delivery of any notices related thereto, shall not be deemed to constitute a material amendment to, or modification of, the this Invitation if the Settlement Date remains at December 23, 2025. At least one business day prior notice of any such non-material amendment will be given in the manner described in Section 2 to provide reasonable time for dissemination to Bondowners. In the event of any such non-material amendment or change, any offers submitted with respect to the affected Target Bonds prior to such non-material amendment or change will remain in full force and effect. As such, non-material amendments or changes, if any, can occur after the Expiration Date, and a Bondowner of such affected Target Bonds will not be able to withdraw its offer to tender of such Target Bonds.

No extension, termination or amendment of this Invitation (or waiver of any terms of this Invitation) will: (i) change the Issuer's right to decline to purchase any Target Bonds without liability; or (ii) give rise to any liability of the Issuer, the Dealer Manager, or the Information Agent and Tender Agent to any Bondowner or nominee.

#### 16. Summary of Certain Federal Income Tax Consequences.

General Matters. The following discussion summarizes certain U.S. federal income tax considerations generally applicable to U.S. Holders (as defined below) that tender their Target Bonds for cash. The discussion below is based upon laws, regulations, rulings, and decisions in effect and available on the date hereof, all of which are subject to change, possibly with retroactive effect. Prospective tendering investors should note that no rulings have been or are expected to be sought from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") with respect to any of the U.S. federal income tax considerations discussed below, and no assurance can be given that the IRS will not take contrary positions. Further, the following discussion does not address U.S. tax consequences applicable to any given investor, nor does it address the U.S. tax considerations applicable to all categories of investors, some of which may be subject to special taxing rules (regardless of whether or not such investors constitute U.S. Holders), such as certain U.S. expatriates, banks, REITs, RICs, insurance companies, tax-exempt organizations, dealers or traders in securities or

currencies, partnerships, S corporations, estates and trusts, investors that hold their Target Bonds as part of a hedge, straddle or an integrated or conversion transaction, or investors whose "functional currency" is not the U.S. dollar, or certain taxpayers that are required to prepare certified financial statements or file financial statements with certain regulatory or governmental agencies. Furthermore, it does not address: (i) alternative minimum tax consequences, (ii) the net investment income tax imposed under Section 1411 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code"), or (iii) the indirect effects on persons who hold equity interests in a holder. This summary also does not consider the taxation of the Target Bonds under state, local or non-U.S. tax laws. In addition, this summary generally is limited to U.S. tax considerations applicable to investors who will hold their Target Bonds as "capital assets" within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Code. The following discussion does not address tax considerations applicable to any investors in the Target Bonds other than investors that are U.S. Holders. As used herein, "U.S. Holder" means a Bondowner of a Target Bond that for U.S. federal income tax purposes is an individual citizen or resident of the United States, a corporation or other entity taxable as a corporation created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or any state thereof (including the District of Columbia), an estate the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source or a trust where a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust and one or more United States persons (as defined in the Code) have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust (or a trust that has made a valid election under U.S. Treasury Regulations to be treated as a domestic trust). If a partnership holds Target Bonds, the tax treatment of such partnership or a partner in such partnership generally will depend upon the status of the partner and upon the activities of the partnership. Partnerships holding Target Bonds, and partners in such partnerships, should consult their own tax advisors regarding the tax consequences of an investment in the Target Bonds (including their status as U.S. Holders).

Any federal income tax discussions in this Invitation are included for general information only and should not be construed as a tax opinion nor tax advice by the Issuer, the Dealer Manager, the Information Agent and Tender Agent, the Issuer's advisors, or agents to Bondowners. Such discussions also do not purport to address all aspects of federal income taxation that may be relevant to particular Bondowners (e.g., a foreign person, bank, thrift institution, personal holding company, tax exempt organization, regulated investment company, insurance company, or other broker or dealer in securities or currencies). Bondowners should not rely on such discussions and are urged to consult their own tax advisors to determine the particular federal, state, local and foreign tax consequences of sales made by them pursuant to purchase offers involving the Target Bonds, including the effect of possible changes in the tax laws. In addition to federal tax consequences, the sale of Target Bonds may be treated as a taxable event for state, local and foreign tax purposes. Bondowners are urged to consult their own tax advisors to determine the particular state, local and foreign tax consequences of sales made by them pursuant to purchase offers involving the Target Bonds, including the effect of possible changes in the tax laws.

Tendering U.S. Holders. The purchase by the Issuer of a Target Bond for cash will be a taxable event for U.S. federal income tax purposes. In such event, in general, a U.S. Holder will recognize gain or loss equal to the difference between (i) the amount of cash received (except to the extent attributable to accrued interest on the Target Bond, which will be taxed as ordinary interest income unless such interest is excludible from gross income under Section 103 of the Code) and (ii) the U.S. Holder's adjusted U.S. federal income tax basis in the Target Bond (generally, the purchase price paid by the U.S. Holder for the Target Bond, decreased by any amortized acquisition premium, and increased by the amount of any original issue discount previously included in income by such U.S. Holder with respect to such Target Bond or otherwise required to be added to the cost basis of the U.S. Holder in such Target Bond). Any such gain or loss generally will be capital gain or loss. In the case of a non-corporate U.S. Holder of the Target Bonds holding the Target Bond for a period exceeding one year, the maximum marginal U.S. federal income tax rate applicable to any such gain will be lower than the maximum marginal U.S. federal income tax rate applicable to ordinary income. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations.

**Backup Withholding.** Amounts paid to Bondowners may be subject to backup withholding by reason of the events specified by Section 3406 of the Code which include failure of a Bondowner to supply the broker, dealer, commercial bank or trust company acting on behalf of such Bondowner with such Bondowner's taxpayer identification number certified under penalty of perjury. Certification can be made by completing a substitute IRS Form W-9, a copy of which is available from the Information Agent and Tender Agent. Backup withholding may also apply to Bondowners who are otherwise exempt from such backup withholding if such Bondowners fail to properly document their status as exempt recipients.

17. Additional Considerations. In deciding whether to participate in this Tender Offer, each Bondowner should consider carefully, in addition to the other information contained in this Invitation, the following:

*Market for Target Bonds*. The Target Bonds are not listed on any national or regional securities exchange. To the extent that the Target Bonds are traded, their prices may fluctuate greatly depending on the trading volume and the balance between buy and sell orders. Bondowners may be able to effect a sale of the Target Bonds at a price higher than the Offer Purchase Price established pursuant to this Invitation.

Target Bonds Not Tendered for Purchase. Bondowners of Target Bonds who do not accept this Invitation will continue to hold their respective interests in such Target Bonds. If Target Bonds are purchased pursuant to this Invitation, the principal amount of Target Bonds for a particular maturity and corresponding CUSIP that remains outstanding will be reduced, which could adversely affect the liquidity and market value of the Target Bonds of that maturity and CUSIP that remain outstanding.

#### Target Bonds that remain outstanding will continue to be governed by their terms.

Potential Subsequent Transactions. To the extent Target Bonds are not purchased pursuant to this Invitation, the Issuer reserves the right to, and may in the future decide to, acquire some or all of the Unpurchased Bonds through open market purchases, privately negotiated transactions, subsequent tender offers, exchange offers or otherwise, upon such terms and at such prices as it may determine, which may be more or less than the consideration offered pursuant to this Invitation, and which could be cash or other consideration. Any future acquisition of Target Bonds may be on the same terms or on terms that are more or less favorable to Bondowners than the terms described in this Invitation. The Issuer also reserves the right in the future to refund or redeem any remaining portion of outstanding Target Bonds, pursuant to their terms, through the issuance of publicly offered or privately placed tax-exempt or taxable bonds. The decision to undertake any such future transactions will depend on various factors existing at that time. There can be no assurance as to which of these alternatives, if any, the Issuer may ultimately choose to pursue in the future.

**Ratings**. As of the date of this Invitation, the Target Bonds are rated "AAA" by Fitch Ratings, "Aaa" by Moody's Ratings and "AAA" S&P Global Ratings. The ratings of the Target Bonds by each rating agency reflect only the views of such organization and any desired explanation of the significance of such ratings and any outlooks or other statements given by such rating agency with respect thereto should be obtained from such rating agency.

There is no assurance that the current ratings assigned to the Target Bonds will continue for any given period of time or that any of such ratings will not be revised upward or downward, suspended or withdrawn entirely by any rating agency. Any such upward or downward revision, suspension or withdrawal of such ratings may have an effect on the availability of a market for or the market price of the Target Bonds. Each Bondowner should review these ratings and consult with its financial representatives concerning them. The Issuer has not applied for a rating confirmation or other action with respect to the Target Bonds in connection with the Tender Offer.

*Market Conditions*. The purpose of this Tender Offer is to provide the Issuer with the opportunity to purchase a portion of the Target Bonds. The final decision to purchase Target Bonds, and which Target Bonds will be accepted for purchase by the Issuer will, in part, be based upon market conditions and other factors outside of the control of the Issuer.

The Dealer Manager is not acting as a financial or municipal advisor to the Issuer in connection with this Tender Offer.

**18. The Dealer Manager**. References in this Invitation to the Dealer Manager are to Jefferies LLC only in its capacity as the Dealer Manager.

The Dealer Manager may contact Bondowners regarding this Tender Offer and may request brokers, dealers, custodian banks, depositories trust companies and other nominees to forward this Invitation to beneficial owners of the Target Bonds.

The Issuer, subject to the terms of the Dealer Manager Agreement, will pay the Dealer Manager a fee for its services in connection with this Tender Offer, and in addition, the Issuer will pay the Dealer Manager its reasonable out-of-pocket costs and expenses relating to this Tender Offer.

The Dealer Manager, including its affiliates, is a full-service financial institution engaged in various activities, which may include securities trading, commercial and investment banking, advisory, investment management, investment research, principal investment, hedging, market making, brokerage, and other financial and non-financial activities and services. The Dealer Manager and its affiliates have, from time to time, performed, and may in the future perform, a variety of these services for the Issuer, for which they received and or will receive customary fees and expenses. In the ordinary course of their various business activities, the Dealer Manager and its affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities, which may include credit default swaps) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own accounts and for the accounts of their customers and may at any time hold long and short positions in such securities and instruments. Such investment and securities activities of the Dealer Manager and/or its affiliates may involve securities and instruments of the Issuer, including but not limited to Target Bonds, whether or not tendered for purchase pursuant to this Invitation.

In addition to its role as Dealer Manager in connection with this Tender Offer, the Dealer Manager is currently expected to act as the lead book-running underwriter of the Refunding Bonds, anticipated to be issued by the Issuer as described in the Refunding Bond POS attached as **Appendix A** and, as such, they will receive compensation in connection with that transaction as well.

- 19. Information Agent and Tender Agent. The Authorized Officer has appointed, and hereby affirms such appointment by publication of this Invitation, Globic Advisors Inc. to act as the Information Agent and Tender Agent in connection with the Tender Offer and has authorized Jefferies LLC to engage the Information and Tender Agent to advise the Issuer and Dealer Manager as to such matters related to the Tender Offer. The Issuer will pay the Information Agent and Tender Agent customary fees for its services in connection with this Tender Offer, and in addition, the Issuer will pay the Information Agent and Tender Agent its reasonable out-of-pocket costs and expenses related to this Tender Offer, subject to the terms of the Dealer Manager Agreement.
- **20. Miscellaneous**. This Invitation is not being made to, and offers will not be accepted from or on behalf of, Bondowners in any jurisdiction in which this Invitation or the acceptance thereof would not be in compliance with the laws of such jurisdiction. In those jurisdictions whose laws require this Tender Offer to be made through a licensed or registered broker or dealer, this Tender Offer is being made on behalf of the Issuer by the Dealer Manager.

No one has been authorized by the Issuer, the Dealer Manager, or the Information Agent and Tender Agent to recommend to any Bondowners whether to tender Target Bonds for purchase pursuant to this Invitation. No one has been authorized to give any information or to make any representation in connection with this Tender Offer other than those contained in this Invitation. Any recommendation, information and representations given or made cannot be relied upon as having been authorized by the Issuer, the Dealer Manager, or the Information Agent and Tender Agent.

None of the Issuer, the Dealer Manager, or the Information Agent and Tender Agent makes any recommendation that any Bondowner tender or refrain from tendering all or any portion of such Bondowner's Target Bonds for purchase. Bondowners must make these decisions and should consult with their broker-dealer, account executive, financial advisor, attorney and/or other appropriate professionals.

21. Available Information; Contact Information. Certain information relating to the Target Bonds and the Issuer may be obtained by contacting the Dealer Manager or Information Agent and Tender Agent at the contact information set forth below. Such information is limited to (i) the Invitation, including the information set forth in the Refunding Bond POS, which is attached hereto as Appendix A, and (ii) information about the Issuer available through the EMMA Website.

Investors with questions about this Tender Offer should contact the Dealer Manager or the Information Agent and Tender Agent utilizing the contact information below:

The Dealer Manager for this Tender Offer is:

#### **JEFFERIES LLC**

Contact your Jefferies LLC Representative or Jefferies LLC's Municipal Syndicate Desk 520 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10022
Tel: (212) 336-7151
muni underwriting@jefferies.com

The Information Agent and Tender Agent for this Tender Offer is:

#### GLOBIC ADVISORS INC.

Attention: Robert Stevens 477 Madison Avenue, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10022 Tel.: (212) 227-9622 rstevens@globic.com

Document Website: www.globic.com/opfc

## Appendix A

## REFUNDING BOND PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT

#### PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT DATED NOVEMBER 21, 2025

**DAC Bond®** 

TWO NEW ISSUES

Ratings (See RATINGS) Moody's "Aaa" Fitch "Applied for" S&P "Applied for"

In the opinion of Bond Counsel, under existing law, (i) assuming continuing compliance with certain covenants and the accuracy of certain representations, interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes and is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax imposed on individuals, and (ii) interest on, and any profit made on the sale, exchange or other disposition of, the Bonds are exempt from all Ohio state and local taxation, except the estate tax, the domestic insurance company tax, the dealers in intangibles tax, the tax levied on the basis of the total equity capital of financial institutions, and the net worth base of the corporate franchise tax. Interest on the Bonds may be subject to certain federal taxes imposed only on certain corporations. (See TAX MATTERS herein.)

### OFFICIAL STATEMENT \$244,475,000\* STATE OF OHIO GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS

\$200,185,000\* Common Schools General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2025B

\$44,290,000\*
Infrastructure Improvement
General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2025B

**Dated:** Date of Initial Delivery **Due:** As shown on inside cover

The Bonds: The Common Schools General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2025B (the Common Schools Bonds) are general obligations of the State of Ohio (the State) issued by the Ohio Public Facilities Commission (the Commission) to refund bonds, by defeasance and redemption or by purchase and cancellation by means of a Tender Offer (as hereinafter defined), that were previously issued for the purpose of paying costs of capital facilities for a system of common schools throughout the State. The Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2025B (the Infrastructure Bonds, and together with the Common Schools Bonds, the Bonds) are general obligations of the State issued by the Commission to refund bonds, by purchase and cancellation by means of a Tender Offer, that were previously issued to finance or assist in the financing of the cost of public infrastructure capital improvement projects of local subdivisions.

**Security:** The Bonds are general obligations of the State. *The full faith and credit, revenue and taxing power of the State (with exceptions stated herein) are pledged to the payment of Debt Service on the Bonds.* (See **THE BONDS GENERALLY – Sources of Payment.**)

**Book-Entry Only:** The Bonds will be issued in the denomination of \$5,000 or in whole multiples of \$5,000 and will be initially issued only as fully-registered bonds, one for each maturity of a series with the same interest rate, issuable under a book-entry system, registered initially in the name of The Depository Trust Company or its nominee (DTC). There will be no distribution of the Bonds to the ultimate purchasers. The Bonds in certificated form as such will not be transferable or exchangeable, except for transfer to another nominee of DTC or as otherwise described in this Official Statement. (See **Appendix B**.)

**Payment:** (See **MATURITY SCHEDULE** on inside cover.) Principal and interest on the Bonds will be payable to the registered owner (DTC), principal on presentation and surrender at the office of the Bond Registrar (initially, the Treasurer of State of Ohio) and interest transmitted on each interest payment date (March 15 and September 15, beginning March 15, 2026\* for the Common Schools Bonds, and February 1 and August 1, beginning February 1, 2026\* for the Infrastructure Bonds), by the Bond Registrar to DTC as the registered owner as of the 15th day preceding that interest payment date.

**Prior Redemption\*:** The Bonds are subject to prior redemption at the option of the Commission as set forth herein. Term Bonds (if any) are subject to mandatory redemption as set forth herein. (See **THE BONDS – Prior Redemption**.)

This cover page includes certain information for quick reference only. It is not a summary of the bond issue. Investors should read the entire Official Statement to obtain information as a basis for making informed investment judgments.

The Bonds are offered when, as and if issued by the Commission and accepted by the Underwriters, subject to the opinions on certain legal matters relating to their issuance by Dinsmore & Shohl LLP, Bond Counsel, and certain other conditions. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the Underwriters by their counsel, Bricker Graydon LLP. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the Commission by Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP, which is also serving as Issuer and Disclosure Counsel to the Commission. The Bonds are expected to be available in definitive form for delivery through DTC on or about December 23, 2025\*.

Jefferies Academy Securities

J.P. Morgan

**Loop Capital Markets Oppenheimer & Co. Inc.** 

The date of this Official Statement is December \_\_\_\_, 2025, and the information speaks only as of that date.

<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary, subject to change.

## MATURITY SCHEDULE\*

## **\$200,185,000**\* STATE OF OHIO Common Schools General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2025B

| Due Date<br><u>September 15</u> | Par<br><u>Amount</u> * | Interest<br><u>Rate</u> | Yield | <u>Price</u> | CUSIP© <sup>(a)</sup> No. 677523 |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| 2029                            | \$19,010,000           |                         |       |              |                                  |
| 2030                            | 28,225,000             |                         |       |              |                                  |
| 2031                            | 22,045,000             |                         |       |              |                                  |
| 2032                            | 23,170,000             |                         |       |              |                                  |
| 2033                            | 24,360,000             |                         |       |              |                                  |
| 2034                            | 25,610,000             |                         |       |              |                                  |
| 2035                            | 18,300,000             |                         |       |              |                                  |
| 2036                            | 19,240,000             |                         |       |              |                                  |
| 2037                            | 20,225,000             |                         |       |              |                                  |

## \$44,290,000\* STATE OF OHIO Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2025B

| Due Date August 1 | Par<br>Amount* | Interest<br><u>Rate</u> | Yield | <u>Price</u> | CUSIP© <sup>(a)</sup><br>No. 677523 |
|-------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2029              | \$3,330,000    |                         |       |              |                                     |
| 2030              | 3,500,000      |                         |       |              |                                     |
| 2031              | 7,290,000      |                         |       |              |                                     |
| 2032              | 11,015,000     |                         |       |              |                                     |
| 2033              | 11,575,000     |                         |       |              |                                     |
| 2034              | 3,695,000      |                         |       |              |                                     |
| 2035              | 3,885,000      |                         |       |              |                                     |

 <sup>\*</sup> Preliminary, subject to change.
 (a) Copyright © 2025, CUSIP Global Services (see REGARDING THIS OFFICIAL STATEMENT).

#### REGARDING THIS OFFICIAL STATEMENT

This Official Statement does not constitute an offering of any security other than the original offering of the Bonds of the State identified on the Cover. No dealer, broker, sales or other person has been authorized by the State or the Commission to give any information or to make any representation other than that contained in this Official Statement, and if given or made such other information or representation must not be relied upon as having been given or authorized by the State or the Commission. This Official Statement does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy, and there shall be no sale of the Bonds by any person, in any jurisdiction in which it is unlawful to make such offer, solicitation or sale.

Upon issuance, the Bonds will not be registered by the State under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or any state securities law, and will not be listed on any stock or other securities exchange. Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any other federal, state or other governmental entity or agency, except the Commission, will have, at the request of the State or the Commission, passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this Official Statement or approved or disapproved the Bonds for sale.

This Official Statement contains statements that the State or the Commission believes may be "forward-looking statements." Words such as "plan," "estimate," "project," "budget," "anticipate," "expect," "intend," "believe" and similar terms are intended to identify forward-looking statements. The achievement of results or other expectations expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that are difficult to predict, may be beyond the control of the State or the Commission and could cause actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. The State and the Commission undertake no obligation, and do not plan, to issue any updates or revisions to any of the forward-looking statements in this Official Statement.

The information and expressions of opinion in this Official Statement are subject to change without notice and neither the delivery of this Official Statement nor any sale made hereunder, under any circumstances, shall create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs of the State since its date. The Underwriters have provided the following sentence for inclusion in this Official Statement. The Underwriters have reviewed the information in this Official Statement in accordance with, and as part of their respective responsibilities to investors under the federal securities laws as applied to the facts and circumstances of this transaction, but the Underwriters do not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of such information.

The information approved and provided by the State in this Official Statement is the information relating to the particular subjects provided by the State or State agencies for the purpose of this Official Statement. Reliance should not be placed on any other information publicly provided, in any format including electronic, by any State agency for other purposes, including general information provided to the public or to portions of the public.

In connection with this offering, the Underwriters may over allot or effect transactions that stabilize or maintain the market price of the Bonds at a level above that which might otherwise prevail in the open market. Such stabilizing transactions, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time without notice.

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#### SELECTED SUMMARY STATEMENT

#### \$200,185,000\* Common Schools General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2025B

# \$44,290,000\* Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2025B

The following summary supplements certain of the information on the Cover and summarizes selected other information in this Official Statement relating to the Bonds. It is not intended as a substitute for the more detailed discussions in this Official Statement to which reference should be made.

**ISSUER.** The State of Ohio (the State), acting by and through the Ohio Public Facilities Commission (the Commission). The Commission is a body politic and corporate constituting an agency and instrumentality of the State. Its members are five State executive officials holding elective office and the appointed Director of Budget and Management.

**AUTHORIZATION.** The Common Schools Bonds are authorized by Section 2n of Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution, and the Infrastructure Bonds are authorized by Sections 2k, 2m, 2p and 2s of Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution and each series of Bonds are authorized by Chapter 151 of the Ohio Revised Code (collectively, the Act).

**PURPOSE OF BONDS.** The Common Schools Bonds are issued to refund bonds, by defeasance and redemption or by purchase and cancellation by means of the Tender Offer (as hereinafter defined), that were previously issued for the purpose of paying costs of capital facilities for a system of common schools throughout the State and to pay costs associated with the issuance of the Common Schools Bonds. The Infrastructure Bonds are issued to refund bonds, by purchase and cancellation by means of the Tender Offer, that were previously issued to finance or assist in the financing of the cost of public infrastructure capital improvement projects of local subdivisions and to pay costs associated with the issuance of the Infrastructure Bonds.

**SECURITY AND SOURCES OF PAYMENT.** The Bonds are general obligations of the State. The full faith and credit, revenue and taxing power of the State are pledged to the payment of Debt Service. Excluded from that pledge are highway user receipts and net state lottery proceeds. (See **THE BONDS GENERALLY– Sources of Payment**.)

**PRIOR REDEMPTION\*.** The Common Schools Bonds maturing on and after September 15, 20\_\_ and the Infrastructure Bonds maturing on and after August 1, 20\_\_ are each subject to prior redemption at the option of the Commission in whole or in part at par plus accrued interest on any date on or after \_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_ for the Common Schools Bonds and \_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_ for the Infrastructure Bonds. (See **THE BONDS – Prior Redemption**.)

**FORM AND MANNER OF MAKING PAYMENTS.** The Bonds will be issued in the denomination of \$5,000 or in whole multiples of \$5,000 and will be originally issued only as fully-registered bonds, one for each maturity of a series with the same interest rate, under a book-entry only method, and registered initially in the name of The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, or its nominee (DTC). There will be no distribution of Bonds to the ultimate purchasers. The Bonds in book-entry form will not be transferable or exchangeable, except for transfer to another nominee of DTC or as otherwise described in this Official Statement. (See **Appendix B**.)

Principal and interest on the Bonds will be payable to the registered owner (DTC), principal on presentation and surrender at the office of the Bond Registrar (initially, the Treasurer of State of Ohio) and interest transmitted on each interest payment date (March 15 and September 15, beginning March 15,  $2026^*$  for the Common Schools Bonds, and February 1 and August 1, beginning February 1,  $2026^*$  for the Infrastructure Bonds), by the Bond Registrar to DTC as the registered owner as of the 15th day preceding that interest payment date.

TAX MATTERS. In the opinion of Bond Counsel, under existing law, (i) assuming continuing compliance with certain covenants and the accuracy of certain representations, interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes and is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax imposed on individuals, and (ii) interest on, and any profit made on the sale, exchange or other disposition of, the Bonds are exempt from all Ohio state and local taxation, except the estate tax, the domestic insurance company tax, the dealers in intangibles tax, the tax levied on the basis of the total equity capital of financial institutions, and the net worth base of the corporate franchise tax. Interest on the Bonds may be subject to certain federal taxes imposed only on certain corporations. (See TAX MATTERS.)

**BOND REGISTRAR.** Treasurer of State of Ohio, Columbus, Ohio.

\* -

<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary, subject to change.

BOND COUNSEL. Dinsmore & Shohl LLP.

ISSUER AND DISCLOSURE COUNSEL. Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP.

FINANCIAL ADVISOR. PFM Financial Advisors LLC.

**UNDERWRITERS**. Jefferies LLC, as representative of the Underwriters shown on the Cover. See **UNDERWRITING** for information on the purchase price of each series of the Bonds.

UNDERWRITERS' COUNSEL. Bricker Graydon LLP.

Questions regarding this Official Statement or the Bonds should be directed to Debt Management, Office of Budget and Management, via email at debtmanagement@obm.ohio.gov, 30 East Broad Street, 34th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3457. For additional information concerning the State of Ohio's bond issuances, visit obm.ohio.gov/bonds-and-investors. The information contained on that website is not incorporated as part of this Official Statement.

[Remainder of Page Intentionally Left Blank]

#### GENERAL INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

This Official Statement has been prepared by the Ohio Public Facilities Commission to provide certain information in connection with the original issuance and sale of:

- \$200,185,000\* Common Schools General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2025B (the Common Schools Bonds), and
- \$44,290,000\* Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2025B (the Infrastructure Bonds, and together with the Common Schools Bonds, the Bonds).

The Bonds are secured by a pledge of the full faith and credit, revenue and taxing power of the State (with stated exceptions described herein in **THE BONDS GENERALLY – Sources of Payment**), on parity with other State general obligation bonds. The Common Schools Bonds are issued to refund bonds, by defeasance and redemption or by purchase and cancellation by means of the Tender Offer, that were previously issued for the purpose of paying costs of capital facilities for a system of common schools throughout the State and to pay costs associated with the issuance of the Common Schools Bonds. The Infrastructure Bonds are issued to refund bonds, by purchase and cancellation by means of the Tender Offer, that were previously issued to finance or assist in the financing of the cost of public infrastructure capital improvement projects of local subdivisions and to pay costs associated with the issuance of the Infrastructure Bonds (see **PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM**).

All financial and other information presented in this Official Statement has been provided by the State from its records, except for information expressly attributed to other sources and except for certain information on the Cover and under **UNDERWRITING** and in **Appendix B**. The presentation of information, including tables of receipts from taxes and other sources, is intended to show recent historical information. It is not intended to indicate future or continuing trends in the financial or other positions of the State. No representation is made that past experience, as might be shown by that financial and other information, will necessarily continue in the future. Also see **REGARDING THIS OFFICIAL STATEMENT.** 

References to provisions of Ohio law or of the Ohio Constitution are to those provisions now in effect. Those provisions may from time to time be amended, repealed or supplemented.

As used in this Official Statement:

"Act" means Section 2n (for the Common Schools Bonds) and Sections 2k, 2m, 2p and 2s (for the Infrastructure Bonds) of Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution and Chapter 151 of the Ohio Revised Code.

"Beneficial Owner" means the owner of a book-entry interest in the Bonds, as defined in **Appendix B**.

"Commission" means the Ohio Public Facilities Commission.

"Cover" means the cover page and the inside cover pages of this Official Statement.

"Debt Service" means principal (including mandatory redemption payments, if any) of and interest and any redemption premium payable on the obligations referred to.

"Direct Participant" means a participant in the DTC system, as described in **Appendix B**.

"Fiscal Year" means a State Fiscal Year, currently the 12-month period from July 1 to June 30, and reference to a particular Fiscal Year (such as "Fiscal Year 2026") means the Fiscal Year ending on June 30 of that year.

"General Bond Resolution" means (i) for the Common Schools Bonds, Resolution No. 2000-11 adopted by the Commission on December 20, 2000, as amended by Commission Resolutions No. 2009-7 adopted on May 20, 2009, No. 2011-11 adopted on June 8, 2011, and No. 2012-10 adopted on March 21, 2012, and (ii) for the Infrastructure Bonds, Resolution No. 2005-13 adopted by the Commission on October 14, 2005, as amended by Commission Resolutions No. 2008-5 adopted on October 9, 2008, No. 2009-8 adopted on May 20, 2009, No. 2011-1 adopted on February 9, 2011, No. 2012-10 adopted on March 21, 2012, and No. 2014-7 adopted on September 4, 2014, each as the same may from time to time be further amended, supplemented or superseded.

"Revised Code" means the Ohio Revised Code.

"Series Resolution" means, (i) for the Common Schools Bonds, Resolution No. 2025-11, and (ii) for the Infrastructure Bonds, Resolution No. 2025-12, each adopted by the Commission on November 10, 2025.

"State" or "Ohio" means the State of Ohio.

"Underwriters" mean the underwriters of the Bonds shown on the Cover.

<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary, subject to change.

#### THE BONDS

#### General; Book-Entry System

The Bonds will be issued pursuant to the constitutional and statutory authorities described herein and the General Bond Resolutions and Series Resolutions adopted by the Commission. The Bonds are issuable in the form and denominations, and will be dated and mature, as described in this Official Statement. Interest will be computed on the basis of a 12-month, 360-day year.

The Treasurer of State of Ohio (the Treasurer), as Bond Registrar, will keep all books and records necessary for registration, exchange and transfer of the Bonds.

The Bonds will be issued in the denomination of \$5,000 or in whole multiples of \$5,000 and will be delivered in book-entry-only form and, when issued, registered in the name of The Depository Trust Company (DTC), New York, New York, or its nominee Cede & Co., which will act as securities depository for the Bonds. For discussion of the bookentry system and DTC and the replacement of the Bonds in the event that the book-entry system is discontinued (see **Appendix B**).

Principal and interest on the Bonds will be payable to the registered owner (DTC), principal on presentation and surrender at the office of the Bond Registrar (initially, the Treasurer of State of Ohio) and interest transmitted on each interest payment date (March 15 and September 15, beginning March 15, 2026\* for the Common Schools Bonds, and February 1 and August 1, beginning February 1, 2026\* for the Infrastructure Bonds) by the Bond Registrar to DTC as the registered owner as of the 15th day preceding that interest payment date.

#### **Prior Redemption\***

#### **Prior Optional Redemption of Bonds**

The Common Schools Bonds maturing on and after September 15, 20\_\_ and the Infrastructure Bonds maturing on and after August 1, 20\_\_ (the Callable Bonds) are each subject to redemption at the option of the Commission prior to their stated maturities in whole or in part (if in part, by lot) on any date on or after \_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_ for the Common Schools Bonds and \_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_ for the Infrastructure Bonds at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount redeemed plus accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption.

**Selection of Callable Bonds to be Redeemed.** If fewer than all outstanding Callable Bonds of a series are called for optional redemption at one time, the maturity or maturities of those series of Callable Bonds to be called will be selected by, and in a manner determined by, the Commission.

If less than all of an outstanding Callable Bond of one maturity and interest rate of a series under a book-entry system is to be called for redemption, the Bond Registrar will give notice of redemption only to DTC as registered owner. The selection of the book-entry interests in that Callable Bond to be redeemed, and notice of call to the owners of those interests called, is the sole responsibility of DTC and its Direct Participants and those working through those Direct Participants.

If Callable Bond certificates are issued to the ultimate owner, and if fewer than all of those Callable Bonds of a single maturity and interest rate of a series are to be redeemed, the selection of those Callable Bonds (or portions of Callable Bonds, in amounts of \$5,000 or any whole multiples of \$5,000) to be redeemed will be made by lot in a manner determined by the Treasurer as Bond Registrar.

If there is to be a partial redemption by lot when Callable Bonds of denominations greater than \$5,000 are then outstanding, each \$5,000 unit of principal will be treated by the Bond Registrar as if it were a separate bond of the denomination of \$5,000.

#### **Term Bonds and Mandatory Redemption**

Some or all of the Bonds may be offered and sold as term bonds, with mandatory sinking fund redemption in part by lot pursuant to the terms of the corresponding Series Resolution, at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount redeemed, plus interest accrued to the redemption date, on September 15 for the Common Schools Bonds and August 1 for the Infrastructure Bonds in the year or years as may be specified by the Underwriters at the time such Bonds are offered. Any term bonds redeemed by other than mandatory redemption, or purchased for cancellation, may be credited against the applicable mandatory redemption requirement for the corresponding term bonds.

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<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary, subject to change.

#### **Notice of Redemption; Effect**

The Bond Registrar is to cause notice of redemption, identifying the Callable Bonds or portions of those Callable Bonds to be redeemed, to be sent by first-class mail at least 30 days prior to the redemption date. Notice is to be sent to the registered owner (initially, DTC) of each Callable Bond to be redeemed at the address shown on the register on the 15th day preceding that mailing. Any defect in the notice or any failure to receive notice by mail as to any of the Callable Bonds will not affect the validity of any proceedings for the redemption of any other of the Callable Bonds.

If the Callable Bonds are redeemed and on the redemption date moneys for that redemption are held in the applicable Bond Service Fund (as hereinafter defined) or by the paying agent so as to be available for redemption, then on that redemption date those Callable Bonds redeemed will be due and payable, and from and after that redemption date the redeemed Callable Bonds (or portions of the Callable Bonds) will cease to bear interest and those Callable Bonds (or portions of those Callable Bonds) will not be deemed to be outstanding under the Callable Bond proceedings.

So long as all the Callable Bonds are held under a book-entry system by a securities depository (such as DTC) the redemption notice will be sent by the Bond Registrar to the depository or its nominee. Selection of book-entry interests in those Callable Bonds redeemed, and giving notice of the redemption to the owners of those interests redeemed, is the sole responsibility of the depository and of its Direct Participants and those working through those Direct Participants. Any failure of the depository to advise any Direct Participant or of any Direct Participant or any person acting through a Direct Participant to notify the Beneficial Owners, of any such notice and its content or effect will not affect the validity of any proceedings for the redemption of any of the Callable Bonds. See **THE BONDS** - **General; Book Entry System** and **Appendix B**.

#### THE BONDS GENERALLY

#### **Constitutional and Statutory Authorization**

The Common Schools Bonds are one issue in a continuing series of State of Ohio Common Schools General Obligation Bonds under Section 2n of Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution (approved by the voters in 1999) authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds or notes to pay costs of capital facilities for a system of common schools throughout the State. The Infrastructure Bonds are one issue in a continuing series of State of Ohio Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Bonds under Sections 2k, 2m, 2p and 2s of Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution (approved by the voters in 1987, 1995, 2010 and 2014), and will be in the future under Section 2t of Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution (approved by the voters in 2025) once the authority under Section 2s has been exhausted, authorizing the issuance of State general obligation bonds or notes for the purpose of financing or assisting in the financing of the cost of public infrastructure capital improvement projects of local subdivisions of the State. See **STATE DEBT** in **Appendix A**. Chapter 151 of the Revised Code implements the State bond issuing aspects of those constitutional provisions.

#### **Sources of Payment**

The Bonds are general obligations of the State. The full faith and credit, revenue and taxing power of the State are pledged to the timely payment of Debt Service. Excluded from that pledge are highway user receipts (fees, excises and license taxes relating to the registration, operation or use of vehicles on the public highways or to fuels used for propelling such vehicles) and net State lottery proceeds. Payment of Debt Service is not dependent on, subject to, or related in any manner to the progress on or the completion of or operation of any funded facilities or projects.

See **FISCAL MATTERS** in **Appendix A** for a discussion of State revenues, including the revenues excluded from the pledge. Some aspects of the committed State receipts are as follows:

- 50% of State income tax receipts must be returned to the political subdivision in which the receipts originate.
- The State currently does not levy any ad valorem taxes on real or tangible personal property. In any case, the Constitution has long limited the amount of the aggregate of those ad valorem property tax levies for all purposes (without an approving vote of the electors or municipal charter provisions) to 1% of a particular property's true value in money.
- Certain revenues and receipts of the State and State agencies are subject to prior pledges to State revenue and revenue-type financings.

The State has covenanted, in the Act, that the State and its applicable officers and agencies, including the General Assembly, shall, so long as the Bonds are outstanding in accordance with their terms, maintain statutory authority for and cause to be levied, collected and applied sufficient excises, taxes and revenues of the State so that the revenues will be sufficient to pay Debt Service when due, to establish and maintain any reserves and other requirements, and to pay

financing costs, all as provided for in the Bond proceedings. The Act expressly provides for the repeal and reduction of particular fees, excises or taxes, and the levy of any new or increased fees, excises or taxes, and the substitution of resources, to pay Debt Service. The rights of bondholders to such revenues are on parity with the rights of holders of other General Obligation Bonds and General Obligation Refunding Bonds of the State previously issued or to be issued.

The Common Schools Capital Facilities Bond Service Fund and the State Capital Improvements Bond Service Fund (each a Bond Service Fund) are each created by the Act as a trust fund pledged to the payment of Debt Service on the respective Bonds. A sufficient amount of revenues of the State are committed and, without necessity for further appropriation, shall be paid to the applicable Bond Service Fund to pay Debt Service on the Bonds when due. The Act requires the Commission, by July 15 of each Fiscal Year, to certify or cause to be certified to the Director of Budget and Management (the Director) the total amount of moneys required during that Fiscal Year to meet in full all Debt Service on outstanding obligations, including the Bonds, and any related financing costs payable from the Bond Service Fund (not from the proceeds of refunding obligations), and the Director is required to transfer from the General Revenue Fund to each Bond Service Fund, without necessity of appropriations by the General Assembly, the amount so certified for the payment of Debt Service, costs of any credit enhancement facilities, and other financing costs set forth in that certification. Under the Bond proceedings, the Commission is also to make supplemental certifications to the Director for each Debt Service payment date and as may be requested by the Director. If on the 10th calendar day prior to their due date, moneys to the credit of the Bond Service Fund are insufficient to meet in full all payments of Debt Service on that due date, no later than the 8th day before that Debt Service payment date the Director is to transfer to the Bond Service Fund from committed State receipts sufficient revenues to pay that Debt Service when due.

Moneys to the credit of the Bond Service Fund may be invested in one or more of the following:

- Notes, bonds or other direct obligations of the United States or of any agency or instrumentality of the United
  States, or in no-front-end-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of those obligations, or in
  repurchase agreements (including those issued by any fiduciary) secured by those obligations, or in
  collective investment funds consisting exclusively of those obligations.
- Obligations of the State or any political subdivision of the State.
- Certificates of deposit of any national bank located in Ohio and any State bank subject to inspection by the State superintendent of financial institutions.
- The Treasurer's pooled investment program.

The income from those investments is to be credited to the Bond Service Fund.

**STATE DEBT** under **Appendix A** generally describes other bonds of the State outstanding or currently authorized that are general obligations of the State or that are other direct State obligations payable from general State sources, including appropriated lease rental payments.

#### Defeasance

The Bonds will be deemed to have been paid or caused to be paid (including particular Bonds being refunded) and no longer deemed outstanding if there is held in trust, by the Bond Registrar or the Bond Registrar's agent, for and irrevocably committed to that purpose either of, or a combination of, the following: moneys or direct obligations of or obligations guaranteed as to payment of principal and interest by the United States or senior debt obligations of the U.S. government-sponsored enterprises rated on the date of purchase in the highest category for short-term or long-term debt as applicable, by any two nationally recognized rating organizations, verified by an independent public accounting firm of national reputation (or equivalent expert) to be of such maturities and interest payment dates and to bear such interest or other investment income as will be, without further investment or reinvestment of either the principal of or the interest earnings or other investment earnings from those obligations (likewise to be held in trust and committed, except as described below) sufficient for the payment at and to maturity of all Debt Service.

Any moneys held in cash may be invested only in direct obligations of the United States and obligations guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States or senior debt obligations of U.S. government-sponsored enterprises, the maturities or redemption (at the holder's option) dates of which will coincide as nearly as practicable with, but will not be later than, the times at which those moneys will be required for those payment purposes.

Any income or interest earned by those investments, to the extent not required for those payment purposes, may be transferred to the Bond Service Fund or the State's General Revenue Fund (GRF).

#### **Non-presentment**

If a Bond is not presented for payment when due or an interest payment check is uncashed, and if moneys for the purpose of paying and sufficient to pay that amount have been made available, all liability of the State to the holder for

the payment will cease and be completely discharged. A separate special subaccount in the applicable Bond Service Fund is to hold that money, without liability for interest on it, for the benefit of the registered owner of that Bond, who thereafter will be restricted exclusively to that money for any claim of whatever nature with respect to that Bond. The Bond Registrar is to keep a record of the amounts with respect to the Bonds so deposited in that subaccount.

#### Plan of Financing and Application of Proceeds\*

The Common Schools Bonds are being issued for the purpose of (i) refunding certain bonds set forth below and (ii) refunding certain bonds by purchasing such bonds pursuant to the Tender Offer, each previously issued for the purpose of paying costs of capital facilities for a system of common schools throughout the State or refunding bonds issued for such purpose. The Infrastructure Bonds are being issued for the purpose of refunding certain bonds, by purchasing such bonds pursuant to the Tender Offer, previously issued to finance or assist in the financing of the cost of public infrastructure capital improvement projects of local subdivisions or refunding bonds issued for such purpose. The term "Refunded Bonds" as used herein means any of the Refunding Candidates (as defined below) refunded by the Common Schools Bonds. The term "Common Schools Purchased Bonds" means any Common Schools General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A (Federally Taxable) purchased in connection with the issuance of the Common Schools Bonds. The term "Infrastructure Purchased Bonds" means any Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A (Federally Taxable) purchased in connection with the issuance of the Infrastructure Bonds. The term "Purchased Bonds" means, collectively, the Common Schools Purchased Bonds and the Infrastructure Purchased Bonds.

**Refunded Bonds.** As set forth above, a portion of the proceeds of the Common Schools Bonds will be used to refund the Refunded Bonds. The following maturities of outstanding bonds (the Refunding Candidates\*) are being considered for refunding from the proceeds of the Common Schools Bonds:

| Series | <b>Maturity Date</b> | <b>Interest Rate</b> | Par Amount   | Call Date  | Call Price |
|--------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|------------|------------|
| 2018A  | 06/15/2030           | 5.000%               | \$15,510,000 | 03/15/2026 | 100.0%     |
| 2018A  | 06/15/2031           | 5.000                | 16,285,000   | 03/15/2026 | 100.0      |
| 2018A  | 06/15/2032           | 5.000                | 17,100,000   | 03/15/2026 | 100.0      |
| 2018A  | 06/15/2033           | 5.000                | 17,955,000   | 03/15/2026 | 100.0      |
| 2018A  | 06/15/2034           | 5.000                | 18,850,000   | 03/15/2026 | 100.0      |
| 2018A  | 06/15/2035           | 5.000                | 19,795,000   | 03/15/2026 | 100.0      |
| 2018A  | 06/15/2036           | 5.000                | 20,785,000   | 03/15/2026 | 100.0      |
| 2018A  | 06/15/2037           | 5.000                | 21,825,000   | 03/15/2026 | 100.0      |
| 2018A  | 06/15/2038           | 5.000                | 22,915,000   | 03/15/2026 | 100.0      |

On the date of delivery and payment, a portion of the proceeds of the Common Schools Bonds will be used to purchase eligible securities (the Defeasance Obligations) to be held in trust by U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association (the Treasurer's agent for the purpose) to provide for payment of principal of and interest on the Refunded Bonds through their above-indicated redemption date. The mathematical accuracy of the computations of the adequacy of the maturing principal and interest earned on the Defeasance Obligations to be purchased to provide for the payment of the principal due and to be due on the Refunded Bonds will be verified by Causey Public Finance, LLC.

Upon the purchase and deposit of the Defeasance Obligations and receipt of the verification report, the Refunded Bonds will be deemed to have been paid and will no longer be considered outstanding debt of the State.

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<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary, subject to change. Refunding candidates may be added or removed from this list at pricing. The Refunding Candidates selected to be refunded and redeemed with the proceeds of the Common Schools Bonds shall be included in the final Official Statement and are herein referred to as the "Refunded Bonds".

**Purchased Bonds**. As set forth above, a portion of the proceeds of the Common Schools Bonds may be used to purchase any of the following bonds:

| Series | Maturity Date | Interest Rate | Par Amount<br>Outstanding Before<br>Refunding | Amount to be<br>Purchased | Amount<br>Outstanding<br>After Purchase |
|--------|---------------|---------------|---|---------------------------|---|
| 2020A  | 09/15/2029    | 1.500%        | \$19,920,000                                  | \$                        | \$                                      |
| 2020A  | 09/15/2030    | 1.580         | 43,500,000                                    |                           |   |
| 2020A  | 09/15/2031    | 1.730         | 22,670,000                                    |                           |   |
| 2020A  | 09/15/2032    | 1.780         | 23,065,000                                    |                           |   |
| 2020A  | 09/15/2033    | 1.830         | 23,490,000                                    |                           |   |
| 2020A  | 09/15/2034    | 1.880         | 23,930,000                                    |                           |   |

As set forth above, proceeds of the Infrastructure Bonds may be used to purchase any of the following bonds:

| Series | Maturity Date | Interest Rate | Par Amount<br>Outstanding Before<br>Refunding | Amount to be<br>Purchased | Amount<br>Outstanding<br>After Purchase |
|--------|---------------|---------------|---|---------------------------|---|
| 2020A  | 08/01/2028    | 1.430%        | \$285,000                                     | \$                        | \$                                      |
| 2020A  | 08/01/2029    | 1.500         | 13,225,000                                    |                           |   |
| 2020A  | 08/01/2030    | 1.580         | 13,430,000                                    |                           |   |
| 2020A  | 08/01/2031    | 1.730         | 23,810,000                                    |                           |   |
| 2020A  | 08/01/2032    | 1.780         | 33,630,000                                    |                           |   |
| 2020A  | 08/01/2033    | 1.830         | 34,240,000                                    |                           |   |
| 2020A  | 08/01/2034    | 1.880         | 11,055,000                                    |                           |   |
| 2020A  | 08/01/2035    | 1.930         | 11,265,000                                    |                           |   |

#### The Tender Offer\*

On or about November 21, 2025, the Commission released an Invitation to Tender Bonds for Purchase (the Invitation) inviting owners of certain of the Common Schools General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A (Federally Taxable) (the Common Schools Target Bonds) identified in the Invitation (and above) and Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A (Federally Taxable) identified in the Invitation (and above) (the Infrastructure Target Bonds and, together with the Common Schools Target Bonds, the Target Bonds) to tender Target Bonds for purchase (the Tender Offer), on the terms and conditions set forth in the Invitation. The purpose of the Tender Offer is to give the Commission the opportunity to purchase and cancel the Target Bonds on the date of issuance of the Bonds (the Settlement Date).

Pursuant to the Tender Offer as set forth in the Invitation, the owners of Target Bonds may tender their Target Bonds for cash. Subject to the conditions set forth in the Invitation, the Commission expects to effectuate the purchase of that portion of the Target Bonds that are tendered and accepted for purchase (the Purchased Bonds) at the purchase prices and according to the terms set forth in the Invitation. The Purchased Bonds purchased pursuant to the Tender Offer will be cancelled on the Settlement Date and shall no longer be deemed "outstanding" within the meaning of the General Bond Resolution. Funds to pay the purchase price of the Common Schools Purchased Bonds and the Infrastructure Purchased Bonds, including accrued interest thereon, and to pay the costs of the Tender Offer and related issuance costs of the Bonds, are expected to be provided by the Commission from the proceeds of the Common Schools Bonds and the Infrastructure Bonds, as applicable.

Information provided under this heading is not intended to summarize all of the terms of the Tender Offer and reference is made to the Invitation for a discussion of the terms of the Tender Offer and the conditions for purchase of the Purchased Bonds. The Commission may conduct additional tender and/or exchange offers in the future and reserves

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<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary, subject to change.

the right to redeem any of the Target Bonds not selected for purchase pursuant to the Tender Offer, or not identified as Target Bonds in the Invitation, in accordance with the terms of such outstanding bonds. For further reference and detail, the Invitation has been posted on, and can be viewed on, EMMA (as hereinafter defined).

#### OHIO FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION COMMISSION

The Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) is a body corporate and politic, constituting an agency and instrumentality of the State and performing essential functions of the State. The OFCC is responsible for administering the provision of State financial assistance to local school districts for the acquisition and construction of classroom facilities. The proceeds of Common Schools Bonds are used to fund the programs discussed in this section.

The OFCC is comprised of seven members, three of whom are voting members and four of whom are non-voting members. The voting members are the Director of Budget and Management, the Director of Administrative Services and an administrative department head appointed by the Governor, or their designees. The four non-voting members are two current members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate and two current members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House.

A chair and vice-chair are elected from among its voting members at the OFCC's first meeting each year. The voting members of the OFCC for 2025 are:

Kimberly Murnieks Director of Budget and Management (Chair)
Kathleen Madden Director of Administrative Services (Vice-Chair)
Mary Mertz Director of Department of Natural Resources

The two non-voting members of the OFCC from the Ohio Senate for 2025 are Sen. Andrew Brenner and Sen. Catherine Ingram. The two non-voting members from the House of Representatives for 2025 are Rep. Melanie Miller and Rep. Derrick Hall. The OFCC appoints an executive director to manage its programs. The executive director is assisted by a staff of approximately 115 employees.

The programs administered by the OFCC provide funds to pay costs of acquiring and improving capital facilities for use by qualifying public school districts for primary and secondary education purposes. Principal among these programs is the Classroom Facilities Assistance Program (CFAP) under which the OFCC provides assistance after performing onsite assessments of classroom facilities' needs. Each school district receiving assistance under CFAP must pay a portion of the total project cost, generally calculated based upon the district's wealth ranking at the time the project is approved.

Proposed projects must be approved by the OFCC based on the needs of the school district for additional classroom facilities, the number and cost of classroom facilities to be included in a project, the amount the school district can provide from available funds or by the issuance of its bonds, and the remaining amount to be supplied by the State. The proposed project must also conform to sound educational practice and be in keeping with the orderly process of school district reorganization and consolidation, and actual or projected enrollment in each facility to be included in the project must be at least 350 pupils. Exceptions may be authorized by OFCC only in districts where topography, scarcity of population, or other factors make larger schools impracticable.

A CFAP project approval must be accepted by the school district within 120 days, and the district's electors must, within 16 months, approve the issuance of school district bonds for the local portion of the cost or provide alternate equivalent funding as allowed by law. The district's electors must also approve a property tax levy of at least one-half mill to pay the cost of maintaining the classroom facilities included in the project or provide alternate equivalent funding as allowed by law. The OFCC and each school district then enter into a written agreement for the construction and funding of each project.

In addition to CFAP, the OFCC also administers:

- The School Building Expedited Local Partnership Program, under which school districts that are over two years away from eligibility for CFAP assistance may undergo a district-wide facilities assessment and may then make facilities improvements by expending local resources and by applying those expenditures toward meeting the district's portion of the basic project cost when it later becomes eligible for assistance under CFAP.
- The School Building Emergency Assistance Program, for making grants to eligible districts from moneys specifically appropriated to assist in the reconstruction, renovation or repair to classroom facilities made necessary because of damage due to an act of God.
- The Accelerated Urban School Building Assistance Program, created to assist and address the facilities needs of the largest urban school districts.
- The Exceptional Needs Program for districts that have exceptional needs for new facilities to protect the student's health and safety. This is the Commission's only needs-based program.

- The Vocational Facilities Assistance Program, for career technical school districts in Ohio. Like CFAP, districts develop a master facility plan for the entire needs of the district, are served in order of wealth, contribute a local share that varies depending on the relative wealth of the district, and are required to set aside maintenance funds.
- The Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Assistance Program, to provide classroom facilities for qualifying schools.
- The College-Preparatory Boarding School Assistance Program, to provide classroom facilities for qualifying schools.
- 1:1 School Facilities Option Program, to provide assistance to a district that chooses, in lieu of CFAP or the Vocational Facilities Assistance Program, for one-to-one matching funds up to 10% of the state portion of the basic project cost or \$1,000,000 whichever is greater. A district participating in this program is not eligible for participation in any other program for a period of 20 years after the district enters into an agreement with the OFCC.

#### PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

In order to implement Section 2s (and predecessor Sections 2k, 2m and 2p) of Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution, the General Assembly enacted Section 164.02, Revised Code, creating the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC). The OPWC is charged with recommending candidates to the Governor for appointment to the position of Director of the OPWC, providing oversight and advice to that Director in the development of policy guidelines for the implementation of the program and reporting to the General Assembly. The OPWC is also responsible for appointing the members of the Ohio Small Government Capital Improvements Commission (the OSGCIC).

The OPWC consists of seven members appointed as follows: two persons are appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; one person is appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives; two persons are appointed by the President of the Senate; one person is appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate; and one person from the private sector is appointed alternately by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate. Additionally, the Directors of the Departments of Transportation, Natural Resources and Development, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Chairman of the Ohio Water Development Authority are nonvoting, ex-officio members of the OPWC.

The current members of the OPWC, and their terms of office, are as follows:

| <u>Member</u>                  | <b>Term of Office Expires</b> |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| J. Howard Elstro, Chair        | 3/6/26                        |
| Brian M. Zimmerman, Vice Chair | 3/6/26                        |
| Halle Jones Capers, P.E.       | 12/31/25                      |
| Cheryl Subler                  | 12/31/27                      |
| Brion Rhodes, P.E., P.S.       | 1/24/28                       |
| Craig Butler                   | 10/30/28                      |
| Doug Cade, P.E., P.S.          | 10/30/28                      |

#### Ex Officio Members

| Director, Ohio Department of Development       |
|--|
| Chairman, Ohio Water Development Authority     |
| Director, Ohio Department of Transportation    |
| Director, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency |
| Director, Ohio Department of Natural Resources |
|  |

Linda S. Bailiff was appointed Director of the OPWC for a term beginning on March 19, 2021 and ending on March 18, 2029\* by Governor Mike DeWine.

For the purpose of allocating funds to finance public infrastructure capital improvement projects of local subdivisions, the State is divided into 19 Districts (the Districts) with a District Public Works Integrating Committee (DPWIC) established for each District. Each DPWIC appoints a subcommittee (the Village and Township Subcommittee) of its members to represent the interests of villages and townships with populations of the unincorporated areas of the

<sup>\*</sup>Ms. Bailiff is retiring on November 30, 2025. The Governor has not yet selected an appointee to replace the Director upon her retirement. If an appointment has been made before the pricing of the Bonds, the final Official Statement will be updated to include such appointment if it has been made as of the date of the Official Statement.

townships of less than 5,000 persons (Villages and Townships). The DPWICs accept project applications from local subdivisions and select the projects to be submitted to the Director. The Village and Township Subcommittees review and select eligible projects for the Villages and Townships and submit those projects to the Administrator of the OSGCIC. Eligible projects include improvements to roads, bridges, culverts, water supply and wastewater systems, storm water collection systems and solid waste disposal facilities.

Proceeds from new bond issuances are disbursed from the State Capital Improvement Fund for the purpose of providing loans and grants for selected eligible projects. The Revised Code, General Bond Resolution and Series Resolutions adopted by the Commission impose certain restrictions on the amount of such proceeds that may be used for loans, local debt support and credit enhancements, or new or expansion projects, and impose certain other restrictions. Each recipient of funds will be required, in writing, to agree:

- 1. To use Ohio products, materials, services and labor to the extent practicable.
- 2. As to a grant for repair or replacement of existing infrastructure, that such grant does not exceed 90% of the estimated total cost of the Capital Improvement Project.
- 3. As to a grant for new or expanded infrastructure, that such grant does not exceed 50% of the estimated cost of the new or expansion elements of the Capital Improvement Project.
- 4. To comply with the minority set-aside requirements listed in Section 164.07(A), Revised Code, to the extent permitted by applicable court decisions.
- 5. To comply with the prevailing wage requirements referenced in Section 164.07(B), Revised Code.
- 6. To use moneys for purposes outlined in the project application.
- 7. To do all things necessary to preserve the tax-exempt status of applicable Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Bonds.

The OPWC may, if necessary to comply with changes in applicable laws, modify, eliminate or add to the program requirements.

#### OHIO PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMISSION

The Commission is a body politic and corporate, constituting an agency and instrumentality of the State and performing essential functions of the State. It is comprised of six members, being the incumbents in the elective offices of Governor (Mike DeWine), Attorney General (Dave Yost), Auditor of State (Keith Faber), Secretary of State (Frank LaRose), and Treasurer of State (Robert Sprague), and the Director of Budget and Management (Kimberly Murnieks), appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Senate, and serving at the pleasure of the Governor. The Governor serves as the Chair, the Treasurer of State as the Treasurer and the Director of Budget and Management as the Secretary of the Commission. The current elective terms of the Governor, Attorney General, Auditor of State, Secretary of State and Treasurer of State run to January 2027. Commission members may, at Commission meetings, act through appointed designees.

#### TAX MATTERS

In the opinion of Bond Counsel, under existing law: (i) interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), and is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax imposed on individuals; and (ii) interest on, and any profit made on the sale, exchange or other disposition of, the Bonds are exempt from all Ohio state and local taxation, except the estate tax, the domestic insurance company tax, the dealers in intangibles tax, the tax levied on the basis of the total equity capital of financial institutions, and the net worth base of the corporate franchise tax. Bond Counsel expresses no opinion as to any other tax consequences regarding the Bonds.

The opinion on federal tax matters will be based on and will assume the accuracy of certain representations and certifications, and continuing compliance with certain covenants, of the Commission and the State contained in the transcript of proceedings and that are intended to evidence and assure the foregoing, including that the Bonds are and will remain obligations the interest on which is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes. Bond Counsel will not independently verify the accuracy of such certifications and representations or the continuing compliance with the covenants of the Commission and the State.

The opinion of Bond Counsel is based on current legal authority and covers certain matters not directly addressed by such authority. It represents Bond Counsel's legal judgment as to exclusion of interest on the Bonds from gross income for federal income tax purposes but is not a guaranty of that conclusion. The opinion is not binding on the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) or any court. Bond Counsel expresses no opinion about (i) the effect of future changes in the Code

and the applicable regulations under the Code or (ii) the interpretation and the enforcement of the Code or those regulations by the IRS.

The Code prescribes a number of qualifications and conditions for the interest on state and local government obligations to be and to remain excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes, some of which require future or continued compliance after issuance of the obligations. Noncompliance with these requirements by the Commission and the State may cause loss of such status and result in the interest on the Bonds being included in gross income for federal income tax purposes retroactively to the date of issuance of the Bonds. The Commission and the State have each covenanted to take the actions required of it for the interest on the Bonds to be and to remain excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes, and not to take any actions that would adversely affect that exclusion. After the date of issuance of the Bonds, Bond Counsel will not undertake to determine (or to so inform any person) whether any actions taken or not taken, or any events occurring or not occurring, or any other matters coming to Bond Counsel's attention, may adversely affect the exclusion from gross income for federal income tax purposes of interest on the Bonds or the market value of the Bonds.

Interest on the Bonds may be subject: (1) to a federal branch profits tax imposed on certain foreign corporations doing business in the United States; (2) to a federal tax imposed on excess net passive income of certain S corporations; and (3) to the alternative minimum tax imposed under Section 55(b) of the Code on "applicable corporations" (within the meaning of Section 59(k) of the Code). Under the Code, the exclusion of interest from gross income for federal income tax purposes may have certain adverse federal income tax consequences on items of income, deduction or credit for certain taxpayers, including financial institutions, certain insurance companies, recipients of Social Security and Railroad Retirement benefits, those that are deemed to incur or continue indebtedness to acquire or carry tax exempt obligations, and individuals otherwise eligible for the earned income tax credit. The applicability and extent of these and other tax consequences will depend upon the particular tax status or other tax items of the owner of the Bonds. Bond Counsel will express no opinion regarding those consequences.

Payments of interest on tax-exempt obligations, including the Bonds, are generally subject to IRS Form 1099-INT information reporting requirements. If a Bond owner is subject to backup withholding under those requirements, then payments of interest will also be subject to backup withholding. Those requirements do not affect the exclusion of such interest from gross income for federal income tax purposes.

Bond Counsel's engagement with respect to the Bonds ends with the issuance of the Bonds, and, unless separately engaged, Bond Counsel is not obligated to defend the Commission, the State or the owners of the Bonds regarding the tax status of interest thereon in the event of an audit examination by the IRS. The IRS has a program to audit tax-exempt obligations to determine whether the interest thereon is includible in gross income for federal income tax purposes. If the IRS does audit the Bonds, under current IRS procedures, the IRS will treat the State as the taxpayer and the beneficial owners of the Bonds will have only limited rights, if any, to obtain and participate in judicial review of such audit. Any action of the IRS, including but not limited to selection of the Bonds for audit, or the course or result of such audit, or an audit of other obligations presenting similar tax issues, may affect the market value of the Bonds.

Prospective purchasers of the Bonds upon their original issuance at prices other than the respective prices indicated on the Cover, and prospective purchasers of the Bonds at other than their original issuance, should consult their own tax advisors regarding other tax considerations such as the consequences of market discount, as to all of which Bond Counsel expresses no opinion.

#### Risk of Future Legislative Changes and/or Court Decisions

Legislation affecting tax-exempt obligations is regularly considered by the United States Congress and may also be considered by the State legislature. Court proceedings may also be filed, the outcome of which could modify the tax treatment of obligations such as the Bonds. There can be no assurance that legislation enacted or proposed, or actions by a court, after the date of issuance of the Bonds will not have an adverse effect on the tax status of interest or other income on the Bonds or the market value or marketability of the Bonds. These adverse effects could result, for example, from changes to federal or state income tax rates, changes in the structure of federal or state income taxes (including replacement with another type of tax), or repeal (or reduction in the benefit) of the exclusion of interest on the Bonds from gross income for federal or state income tax purposes for all or certain taxpayers.

For example, federal tax legislation that was enacted on December 22, 2017 reduced corporate tax rates, modified individual tax rates, eliminated many deductions, repealed the corporate alternative minimum tax that was in effect at that time, and eliminated the tax-exempt advance refunding of tax-exempt bonds and tax-advantaged bonds, among other things. Additionally, investors in the Bonds should be aware that future legislative actions might increase, reduce or otherwise change (including retroactively) the financial benefits and the treatment of all or a portion of the interest on the

Bonds for federal income tax purposes for all or certain taxpayers. In all such events, the market value of the Bonds may be affected and the ability of holders to sell their Bonds in the secondary market may be reduced.

Investors should consult their own financial and tax advisors to analyze the importance of these risks.

#### Original Issue Discount and Original Issue Premium

Certain of the Bonds (Discount Bonds) may be offered and sold to the public at an original issue discount (OID). OID is the excess of the stated redemption price at maturity (the principal amount) over the "issue price" of a Discount Bond. The issue price of a Discount Bond is the initial offering price to the public (other than to bond houses, brokers or similar persons acting in the capacity of underwriters or wholesalers) at which a substantial amount of the Discount Bonds of the same maturity is sold pursuant to that offering. For federal income tax purposes, OID accrues to the owner of a Discount Bond over the period to maturity based on the constant yield method, compounded semiannually (or over a shorter permitted compounding interval selected by the owner). The portion of OID that accrues during the period of ownership of a Discount Bond (i) is interest excluded from the owner's gross income for federal income tax purposes to the same extent, and subject to the same considerations discussed above, as other interest on the Bonds, and (ii) is added to the owner's tax basis for purposes of determining gain or loss on the maturity, redemption, sale or other disposition of that Discount Bond. A purchaser of a Discount Bond in the initial public offering at the issue price (described above) for that Discount Bond who holds that Discount Bond to maturity will realize no gain or loss upon the retirement of that Discount Bond.

Certain of the Bonds (Premium Bonds) may be offered and sold to the public at a price in excess of their stated redemption price at maturity (the principal amount). That excess constitutes bond premium. For federal income tax purposes, bond premium is amortized over the period to maturity of a Premium Bond, based on the yield to maturity of that Premium Bond (or, in the case of a Premium Bond callable prior to its stated maturity, the amortization period and yield may be required to be determined on the basis of an earlier call date that results in the lowest yield on that Premium Bond), compounded semiannually. No portion of that bond premium is deductible by the owner of a Premium Bond. For purposes of determining the owner's gain or loss on the sale, redemption (including redemption at maturity) or other disposition of a Premium Bond, the owner's tax basis in the Premium Bond is reduced by the amount of bond premium that is amortized during the period of ownership. As a result, an owner may realize taxable gain for federal income tax purposes from the sale or other disposition of a Premium Bond for an amount equal to or less than the amount paid by the owner for that Premium Bond. A purchaser of a Premium Bond in the initial public offering who holds that Premium Bond to maturity (or, in the case of a callable Premium Bond, to its earlier call date that results in the lowest yield on that Premium Bond) will realize no gain or loss upon the retirement of that Premium Bond.

Owners of Discount and Premium Bonds should consult their own tax advisors as to the determination for federal income tax purposes of the existence of OID or bond premium, the determination for federal income tax purposes of the amount of OID or bond premium properly accruable or amortizable in any period with respect to the Discount or Premium Bonds, other federal tax consequences in respect of OID and bond premium, and the treatment of OID and bond premium for purposes of state and local taxes on, or based on, income.

#### LITIGATION

There is no litigation pending contesting the validity of the Bonds or the proceedings for their authorization, issuance, sale, execution and delivery. A no-litigation certificate to that effect will be delivered to the Underwriters at the time of original delivery of the Bonds.

The State is a party to various legal proceedings seeking damages or injunctive relief and generally incidental to its operations, but unrelated to the Bonds or the security for the Bonds. The ultimate disposition of these proceedings is not presently determinable, but in the opinion of the Ohio Attorney General will not have a material adverse effect on the Bonds or the security for the Bonds.

#### **LEGAL OPINIONS**

Legal matters incident to the issuance of the Bonds and with regard to the tax-exempt status of the interest on the Bonds (see **TAX MATTERS**) are subject to the legal opinions of Dinsmore & Shohl LLP, Bond Counsel. The signed legal opinions dated as of, and premised on the transcript of proceedings examined and law in effect on, the date of original delivery, will be delivered to the Underwriters at the time of that original delivery. The text of the opinions for the Bonds will be printed on or appended to the Bonds.

The proposed text of Bond Counsel's legal opinions are set forth as **Exhibits A-1** and **A-2**. The legal opinions to be delivered may vary from that text if necessary to reflect facts and law on the date of delivery. The opinions will speak only as of their date, and subsequent distribution by recirculation of the Official Statement or otherwise should not create

any implication that Bond Counsel has reviewed or expressed any opinions concerning any of the matters referred to in the opinions subsequent to their date.

Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the Commission by its counsel Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP, which is also serving as Disclosure Counsel to the Commission. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the Underwriters by Bricker Graydon LLP.

## **RATINGS**

In response to the Commission's application, the Bonds have been rated Aaa (stable outlook) by Moody's Ratings ("Moody's"). The Commission has applied for a rating on the Bonds from Fitch Ratings (Fitch) and S&P Global Ratings, a division of S&P Global, Inc. (S&P), and those ratings have not been assigned as of this date. The Commission expects that the ratings will be available on or before the sale date of the Bonds.

The ratings and ratings outlooks assigned and to be assigned and in effect from time to time reflect only the views of the particular rating organization. The explanation of its views of the meaning and significance of its rating or outlook may be obtained from the respective rating agency. The Commission furnished to each rating agency certain information and materials, some of which may not be included in this Official Statement, relating to the Bonds and other obligations, the State and the Commission. Generally, rating agencies base their ratings on that information and materials, and on their own investigations, studies and assumptions.

There can be no assurance that the ratings or outlooks assigned or to be assigned will continue for any given time, or that a rating will not be lowered or withdrawn by a rating agency if in its judgment circumstances so warrant. Any downward change in or withdrawal of a rating, or change in rating outlook or other actions of a rating agency, may have an adverse effect on the marketability and market price of the Bonds.

A securities rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be subject to revision or withdrawal at any time.

#### UNDERWRITING

Jefferies LLC, as representative of the Underwriters, has agreed for and on behalf of the Underwriters, subject to certain conditions, to purchase from the Commission:

| • | The Common Schools Bonds at a price of \$  |
|---|--|
|   | issue premium/discount (\$,,) and less underwriters' discount (\$,,)).           |
| • | The Infrastructure Bonds at a price of \$  |
|   | issue premium/discount (\$ , , . ) and less underwriters' discount (\$ , , . )). |

The Underwriters are obligated to purchase all of the Bonds of a series if any Bonds of that series are purchased. The Underwriters may offer the Bonds to certain dealers (including dealers depositing the Bonds into unit investment trusts, certain of which may be sponsored or managed by one or more of the Underwriters) at prices different than the public offering prices, and may change the public offering prices from time to time.

The Underwriters have provided the following paragraphs for inclusion in this Official Statement:

The Underwriters and their respective affiliates are full service financial institutions engaged in various activities, which may include securities trading, commercial and investment banking, financial advisory, investment management, principal investment, hedging, financing and brokerage services. Certain of the Underwriters and their respective affiliates have, from time to time, performed, and may in the future perform, various financial advisory and investment banking services for the Commission, for which they received or will receive customary fees and expenses.

In the ordinary course of their various business activities, the Underwriters and their respective affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities, which may include credit default swaps) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers and may at any time hold long and short positions in such securities and instruments. Such investment and securities activities may involve securities and instruments of the Commission.

The Underwriters and their respective affiliates may also communicate independent investment recommendations, market color or trading ideas and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such assets, securities or instruments and may at any time hold, or recommend to clients that they should acquire, long and/or short positions in such assets, securities and instruments.

As described above under the heading **THE BONDS GENERALLY – The Tender Offer**, pursuant to the Invitation, the Commission is inviting owners of the Target Bonds to tender their bonds for cash payment. Jefferies LLC is serving

as dealer manager (the Dealer Manager) for the Tender Offer. For its services as Dealer Manager, the Dealer Manager will be compensated in an amount equal to a percentage of the aggregate principal amount of Purchased Bonds.

Academy Securities, Inc. has entered into third-party distribution agreements with various dealers for the retail distribution of certain municipal securities at the original issue prices. Pursuant to these third-party distribution agreements, Academy Securities may share a portion of its underwriting compensation with the respective dealers.

J.P. Morgan Securities LLC (JPMS), an Underwriter of the Bonds, has entered into negotiated dealer agreements (each, a Dealer Agreement) with each of Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. (CS&Co.) and LPL Financial LLC (LPL) for the retail distribution of certain securities offerings at the original issue prices. Pursuant to each Dealer Agreement, each of CS&Co. and LPL may purchase Bonds from JPMS at the original issue price less a negotiated portion of the selling concession applicable to any Bonds that such firm sells.

#### FINANCIAL ADVISOR

PFM Financial Advisors, LLC is serving as the financial advisor to the Commission in connection with the issuance and sale of the Bonds. The financial advisor is not obligated to undertake, and has not undertaken to make, an independent verification or to assume responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or fairness of the information contained in the Official Statement. PFM Financial Advisors, LLC is an independent advisory firm and is not engaged in the business of underwriting, trading or distributing municipal securities or other public securities.

#### TRANSCRIPT AND CLOSING CERTIFICATES

A complete transcript of proceedings and no-litigation certificate (as described above) for each series of the Bonds will be delivered by the Commission to the Underwriters. At that time, the Director of Budget and Management will also furnish to the Underwriters a certificate relating to the accuracy and completeness of this Official Statement (including matters set forth in or contemplated by it), and to its being a "final official statement" in the Commission's judgment for purposes of SEC Rule 15c2-12(b)(3).

#### CONTINUING DISCLOSURE AGREEMENTS

The Commission has agreed, for the benefit of the holders and Beneficial Owners of the Bonds, in accordance with SEC Rule 15c2-12 (the Rule), to provide or cause to be provided such financial information and operating data (Annual Information), audited financial statements and notices, in such manner, as may be required for purposes of paragraph (b)(5)(i) of the Rule for each series of Bonds (the Continuing Disclosure Agreements or each a Continuing Disclosure Agreement).

The Commission has complied in all material respects with its prior continuing disclosure agreements under the Rule during the past five years.

It will provide to the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (the MSRB) through its Electronic Municipal Market Access (EMMA) system:

- Annual Information for each State Fiscal Year (beginning with Fiscal Year in which the Bonds are delivered to the Underwriters in exchange for payment) not later than the 90th day following the end of the Fiscal Year (or, if that is not a State business day, the next State business day), consisting of annual financial information and operating data of the type included in Appendix A of this Official Statement under the captions FISCAL MATTERS, STATE DEBT, STATE EMPLOYEES AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS, RETIREMENT SYSTEMS, and TAX LEVELS AND TAX BASES. The Commission expects that Annual Information will be provided directly by the State (specifically, by OBM) and may be provided in part by cross-reference to other documents, such as the State's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, and subsequent final official statements.
- When and if available, audited general purpose financial statements of the State for each Fiscal Year. The
  Commission expects that those financial statements will be prepared, that they will be available separately from
  the Annual Information, and that the accounting principles to be applied in their preparation will, except as may
  otherwise then be stated, be as described under and by reference in Appendix A under FISCAL MATTERS Accounts and Controls; Financial Reports.

It will provide to the MSRB through the EMMA system, in a timely manner, notice of:

- The occurrence of any of the following events with respect to the Bonds, within the meaning of the Rule, within 10 business days of the occurrence of the event:
  - principal and interest payment delinquencies

- non-payment related defaults, if material
- unscheduled draws on any debt service reserves or on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties
- substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform
- adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the IRS of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notice of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701-TEB) or other material notices or determinations with respect to the tax status of the Bonds, or other material events affecting the tax-exempt status of the Bonds
- modifications to rights of registered owners or Beneficial Owners, if material
- Bond calls, if material, and tender offers
- defeasances
- release, substitution, or sale of property securing repayment of the Bonds, if material
- bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the obligated person
- consummation of a merger, consolidation or acquisition involving an obligated person or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the obligated person, other than in the ordinary course of business, or the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such actions, other than pursuant to its terms, if material
- appointment of a successor or additional trustee or the change of name of a trustee, if material
- rating changes
- incurrence of a financial obligation of the obligated person, if material, or agreement to covenants, events of default, remedies, priority rights, or other similar terms of a financial obligation of the issuer or obligated person, any of which affect Bond holders, if material
- default, event of acceleration, termination event, modification of terms, or other similar events under the terms of the financial obligation of the obligated person, any of which reflect financial difficulties Note: "financial obligation" means a (a) debt obligation, (b) derivative instrument entered into in connection with, or pledged as security or a source of payment for, an existing or planned debt obligation, or (c) guarantee of an obligation or instrument described in either clause (a) or (b). Financial obligation shall not include municipal securities as to which a final official statement has been provided to the MSRB consistent with the Rule.
- The failure to provide the Annual Information within the specified time.
- Any change in the accounting principles applied in the preparation of the annual financial statements or in the
  Fiscal Year, any failure of the General Assembly to appropriate moneys for the purpose of paying costs to be
  incurred by the State in performing the Continuing Disclosure Agreement for the applicable fiscal period
  (biennium), and termination of the Continuing Disclosure Agreement.

There are no debt service reserves, or credit enhancements or credit or liquidity providers, for the Bonds, or any property (except the Bond Service Fund) securing their repayment. There is no trustee for the Bonds.

The Commission acknowledges the amendments to the Rule that took effect on February 27, 2019. The Continuing Disclosure Agreements have been prepared to comply with the Rule, as amended. The Commission believes the State has put processes in place to ensure its future compliance with the Continuing Disclosure Agreements.

The Commission reserves the right to amend each Continuing Disclosure Agreement, and to obtain the waiver of noncompliance with any provision of such Continuing Disclosure Agreement, as may be necessary or appropriate:

- To achieve its compliance with any applicable federal securities law or rule.
- To cure any ambiguity, inconsistency or formal defect or omission.
- To address any change in circumstances arising from a change in legal requirements, change in law, or change in the identity, nature, or status of the Commission.

Any such amendment or waiver will not be effective unless that Continuing Disclosure Agreement (as amended or taking into account the waiver) would have complied with the requirements of the Rule at the time of the primary offering of the Bonds, after taking into account any applicable amendments to or official interpretations of the Rule, as well as any change in circumstances, and until the Commission shall have received either:

- A written opinion of bond, disclosure or other qualified independent special counsel selected by the Commission
  that the amendment or waiver would not materially impair the interest of holders or Beneficial Owners of the
  Bonds; or
- The written consent to the amendment, or waiver, by the holders of at least a majority of the aggregate outstanding principal amount of the Bonds.

Each Continuing Disclosure Agreement, by provisions in the bond proceedings, will be solely for the benefit of the holders and Beneficial Owners of the Bonds including holders of book-entry interests in them. The right to enforce the provisions of a Continuing Disclosure Agreement may be limited to a right of the holders or Beneficial Owners to enforce to the extent permitted by law (by mandamus, or other suit, action or proceedings at law or in equity) the obligations and duties under it.

In order to provide certain continuing disclosure with respect to the Bonds in accordance with the Rule, the State has entered into a Disclosure Dissemination Agent Agreement (Disclosure Dissemination Agreement) for the benefit of the holders of the Bonds with Digital Assurance Certification, L.L.C. (DAC), under which the State has designated DAC as Disclosure Dissemination Agent (Disclosure Dissemination Agent).

The Disclosure Dissemination Agent has only the duties specified in the Disclosure Dissemination Agreement. The Disclosure Dissemination Agent's obligation to deliver the information at the times and with the contents described in that Agreement is limited to the extent the State has provided that information to the Disclosure Dissemination Agent as required by that Disclosure Dissemination Agreement. The Disclosure Dissemination Agent has no duty with respect to the content of any disclosures or notice made pursuant to the terms of the Disclosure Dissemination Agreement or duty or obligation to review or verify any information in the Annual Report, Audited Financial Statements, notice of Notice Event or Voluntary Report (each as defined in the Disclosure Dissemination Agreement), or any other information, disclosure or notices provided to it by the State, and the Disclosure Dissemination Agent shall not be or be deemed to be acting in any fiduciary capacity for the State, the holders of the Bonds or any other party. The Disclosure Dissemination Agent has no responsibility for any failure to report to the State a Notice Event or a duty to determine the materiality thereof, or to determine or liability for failing to determine whether the State has complied with the Disclosure Dissemination Agreement, and the Disclosure Dissemination Agent may conclusively rely upon certification of the State at all times.

The performance by the State, as the only obligated person with respect to the Bonds, of the Continuing Disclosure Agreements will be subject to the biennial appropriation by the General Assembly of moneys for that purpose.

Each Continuing Disclosure Agreement will remain in effect only for such period that the Bonds are outstanding in accordance with their terms and the State remains an obligated person with respect to the Bonds within the meaning of the Rule.

# ELIGIBILITY FOR INVESTMENT AND AS PUBLIC MONEYS SECURITY

To the extent that the matter as to a particular investor is governed by Ohio law, and subject to any applicable limitations under other provisions of Ohio law, the Bonds are lawful investments for banks, savings and loan associations, credit union share guaranty corporations, trust companies, trustees, fiduciaries, insurance companies (including domestic for life and domestic not for life), trustees or other officers having charge of sinking and bond retirement or other funds of the State and its political subdivisions and taxing districts of the State, the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, the Administrator of Workers' Compensation, and State retirement systems (Teachers, Public Employees, Public School Employees, and Police and Fire), notwithstanding any other provisions of the Revised Code or rules adopted pursuant to those provisions by any State agency with respect to investments by them.

The Act also provides that the Bonds are acceptable under Ohio law as security for the repayment of the deposit of public moneys.

Beneficial Owners of the Bonds should make their own determination as to such matters as the legality of investment in or the pledgeability of book-entry interests.

## CONCLUDING STATEMENT

All quotations in this Official Statement from, and summaries and explanations of, the Ohio Constitution, the Revised Code, and the bond proceedings do not purport to be complete. Reference is made to the pertinent provisions of the Constitution, Revised Code and those documents for all complete statements of their provisions. Copies of the bond proceedings are available upon request to the Office of Budget and Management, 30 East Broad Street, 34<sup>th</sup> Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3457.

To the extent that any statements in this Official Statement involve matters of opinion or estimates (whether or not expressly stated to be such) those statements are made as such and not as representations of fact or certainty. No representation is made that any of those statements will be realized. Information in this Official Statement has been derived by the Commission from official and other sources and is believed by the Commission to be accurate and reliable, but information other than that obtained from State official records has not been independently confirmed or verified by the State or Commission and its accuracy is not guaranteed.

This Official Statement is not to be construed as a contract or agreement between the State or the Commission and the Underwriters or subsequent holders or Beneficial Owners of any of the Bonds.

This Official Statement has been prepared, approved and delivered by the Commission, and signed for and on its behalf and in her official capacity by the official indicated below.

| OHIO PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMIS | SIC | Oľ | ٧ |
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By: \_\_\_\_\_

Kimberly A. Murnieks
Director of Budget and Manage

Director of Budget and Management, and Secretary of the Commission

# **APPENDIX A**

# INFORMATION CONCERNING THE STATE OF OHIO

The following discusses certain matters relating to the general State of Ohio (State) finances and debt, and the State's economy, employment, population, agriculture, resources, tax bases, and related subjects. This information is from the State's official records, except for information expressly attributed to other sources, and summarizes and describes current and recent historical data. It is not intended to indicate future or continuing trends in the financial or other positions of the State. No representation is made that past experience, as might be shown by this financial, economic, and other information, will necessarily continue in the future.

#### **FISCAL MATTERS**

#### General

Consistent with the constitutional provision that no appropriation may be made for a period longer than two years, the State operates based on a fiscal biennium for its appropriations and expenditures. Under current law, the biennium for operating purposes runs from July 1 in an odd-numbered year to June 30 in the next odd-numbered year (e.g., the current fiscal biennium began July 1, 2025, and ends June 30, 2027). Conversely, the biennium for general capital appropriations purposes runs from July 1 in an even-numbered year to June 30 in the next even-numbered year (e.g., July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2026). Within a fiscal biennium, the State operates based on a July 1 to June 30 fiscal year.

The Governor is required to submit the Executive Budget to the General Assembly no later than four weeks after the General Assembly convenes in January of each odd-numbered year. In years of a new Governor's inauguration, the budget must be submitted by March 15. Appropriations legislation reflecting that Executive Budget is then introduced for committee hearings and review first in the House and then in the Senate and finally in Conference Committee, with that appropriations legislation as approved by the General Assembly then presented to the Governor for approval (with possible line-item vetoes). See **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Current Biennium** for discussion of the enacted budget for the 2026-2027 fiscal biennium.

Authority for appropriating state moneys subject to appropriation rests in the bicameral General Assembly, which consists of a 99-member House of Representatives (elected to two-year terms) and a 33-member Senate (elected to overlapping four-year terms). Members of both houses are subject to term limits, with a maximum of eight consecutive years in either. The Governor has veto power, including the power to make line-item vetoes in bills making appropriations. A three-fifths vote of each house may override vetoes.

The Ohio Constitution, Article XII, Section 4, requires the General Assembly to "provide for raising revenue, sufficient to defray the expenses of the state, for each year, and also a sufficient sum to pay the principal and interest as they become due on the state debt." Therefore, the State is effectively precluded by law from ending a fiscal year or a biennium in a "deficit" position. State borrowing to meet casual deficits or failures in revenues or to meet expenses not otherwise provided for is limited by the Ohio Constitution to \$750,000 (Article VIII, Section 1).

The General Revenue Fund (GRF) is the largest fund in the State. Personal income and sales and use taxes are the primary sources of GRF tax revenue. The last complete fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, with an unobligated GRF fund balance of \$1.1 billion, \$898 million above the statutory target of one-half of one percent of the preceding year's GRF revenue. H.B. 96 of the 136<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, the operating budget for FYs 2026 and 2027 did not include surplus transfers and requires the FY 2025 ending balance to carry forward to FY 2026.

The State also has a "rainy day" fund (the Budget Stabilization Fund (BSF)), which, by law, is intended to carry a balance of up to 10 percent of the GRF revenue for the preceding fiscal year. The BSF balance as of June 30, 2025, was \$3.9 billion, which equals 8.9 percent of FY 2025 GRF revenue. Recent fiscal year-end BSF balances and their percent of GRF revenue for that fiscal year were:

| Fiscal Year-Ending | BSF Balance<br>(\$ in millions) | Percent of GRF Revenue |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| 2021               | \$2,692                         | 6.8%                   |
| 2022               | 2,706 <sup>(a)</sup>            | 6.7                    |
| 2023               | 3,501 <sup>(a)(b)</sup>         | 8.2                    |
| 2024               | 3,787 <sup>(a)</sup>            | 9.2                    |
| 2025               | 3,943 <sup>(a)</sup>            | 8.9                    |

- (a) H.B. 110 of the 134<sup>th</sup> General Assembly authorized the BSF to retain any interest credited to the fund instead of allocating these funds to the GRF beginning in fiscal year 2022. As a result, the BSF accrued \$14.6 million in interest during fiscal year 2022, \$67.7 million during fiscal year 2023, \$135.7 million during fiscal year 2024, and \$156 million during fiscal year 2025. H.B. 96 of the 136<sup>th</sup> General Assembly requires the transfer of interest earned in the BSF to the GRF beginning in the second quarter of FY 2026.
- (b) Does not include year-end transfer of \$150 million into BSF that occurred in the following fiscal year, includes approximately \$727.3 million in transfers that occurred during FY 2023.

Listed in the tables below under **Recent Receipts and Disbursements** are the major categories of state revenue sources, including taxes and excises, and the amounts received from those categories. There is no present constitutional limit on the rates of those state levied taxes and excises (except for taxes on intangible property, which the State does not currently levy).

At present, the State does not levy ad valorem taxes on real or tangible personal property. Ad valorem taxes on tangible personal property of public utilities and real property are levied by political subdivisions and local taxing districts, and State law does not currently allow the imposition of a general ad valorem tax on tangible personal property other than that of public utilities. Since 1934, the Ohio Constitution has limited the amount of the aggregate levy of ad valorem property taxes on particular property, without a vote of the electors or municipal charter provision, to 1 percent of true value in money. Statutes limit the amount of that aggregate levy without a vote or charter provision to 10 mills per \$1 of assessed valuation -- commonly referred to in the context of Ohio local government finance as the "ten-mill limitation." See **TAX LEVELS AND TAX BASES** for a discussion of the phase-out of local tangible personal property taxes in 2006 through 2009.

The Ohio Constitution directs or restricts the use of certain revenues. Highway fees and excises, including gasoline taxes, are limited in use to highway-related purposes. Not less than 50 percent of the receipts from state income taxes must be returned to the originating political subdivisions and school districts. State net lottery profits are allocated to elementary, secondary, vocational, and special education program purposes, including application to debt service on obligations issued to finance capital facilities for a system of common schools.

Ohio constitutional amendments relating to taxation, revenues, expenditures, debt, or other subjects may be proposed by action of three-fifths of the members elected to each house of the General Assembly or by initiative petition signed by electors numbering at least 10 percent of the total number of votes last cast for the Office of Governor. Adoption of a proposed amendment requires approval by a majority of electors voting on it at a statewide election. The Ohio Constitution expressly provides that the General Assembly has no power to pass laws impairing the obligation of existing contracts.

# **Accounts and Controls; Financial Reports**

With each office performing specific functions relating to State expenditures, the Office of Budget and Management (OBM) and the Treasurer of State account for and report on the State's fiscal affairs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> H.B. 33 of the 135th General Assembly raised the threshold from 8.5 percent to 10 percent.

OBM maintains records of appropriations made by the General Assembly, and its director, appointed by the Governor, certifies the availability of unencumbered appropriations as a condition of contract validity. OBM fiscal functions include the development and oversight of operating and capital budgets as well as the review, processing, and reporting of financial transactions for most state departments and agencies (excluding, among others, institutions of higher education). The OBM Director's certification is required for all expenditure vouchers before OBM may issue state warrants. OBM maintains accounting records that reflect the level of vouchered expenditures. The Treasurer of State maintains the cash and investments that comprise the State treasury and invests State funds, including proceeds of State debt obligations. The Treasurer redeems the warrants issued by OBM when presented for payment by financial institutions and monitors the timing and amount of payments to determine the State's cash flow position for investment purposes.

State financial reporting practices have been and are in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Each Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) includes the State's Basic Financial Statements (BFS) for that fiscal year as examined by the Auditor of State. The most recent ACFRs are accessible via OBM's web page at <a href="https://obm.ohio.gov/reports-and-resources/01-acfr-and-pafr">https://obm.ohio.gov/reports-and-resources/01-acfr-and-pafr</a>.

The BSF is presented in accordance with a fund classification system prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. The GAAP basis financial statement presentation is comprehensive in scope and includes organizations and activities defined within Ohio's reporting entity that are not subject to the State's appropriation process. The "General Fund" as reported in the BFS includes more than just the GRF; it also encompasses the Budget Stabilization Fund and those reimbursement-supported funds that account for activities administered by state agencies and departments and for which special revenue or proprietary fund classifications are considered inappropriate.

# **Recent Receipts and Disbursements**

The following summary statements, prepared by OBM based on its accounting records, include (i) governmental and proprietary appropriated funds, cash receipts and cash disbursements, and (ii) GRF cash basis activity. The governmental and proprietary appropriated funds encompass the General Fund (which includes the GRF and BSF) as well as special revenue, debt service, capital projects, and enterprise fund types.

# Summary Statement Governmental and Proprietary Appropriated Funds (\$ in millions)

| Cash Receipts                         |            |            |             |            |            |  |  |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|------------|--|--|
| Source of Receipts                    |            |            | Fiscal Year |            |            |  |  |
| Taxes                                 | 2021       | 2022       | 2023        | 2024       | 2025       |  |  |
| Personal Income <sup>(a)</sup>        | \$10,662.8 | \$11,247.0 | \$11,306.6  | \$10,025.4 | \$10,990.4 |  |  |
| Sales and Use                         | 12,639.1   | 13,611.1   | 14,404.4    | 14,419.3   | 14,784.8   |  |  |
| Financial Institutions Tax            | 226.4      | 202.8      | 239.2       | 205.1      | 200.6      |  |  |
| Commercial Activity Tax               | 1,972.6    | 2,366.9    | 2,543.6     | 2,381.8    | 2,255.0    |  |  |
| Gasoline <sup>(b)</sup>               | 2,481.3    | 2,571.4    | 2,504.2     | 2,614.0    | 2,598.6    |  |  |
| Public Utilities and Kilowatt Hour    | 791.8      | 876.6      | 950.0       | 925.9      | 962.3      |  |  |
| Cigarette <sup>(c)</sup>              | 926.9      | 884.6      | 827.4       | 750.4      | 712.0      |  |  |
| Foreign Insurance                     | 351.8      | 357.0      | 394.8       | 438.5      | 471.7      |  |  |
| Highway Use                           | 45.3       | 55.3       | 54.7        | 51.2       | 47.9       |  |  |
| Estate <sup>(d)</sup>                 | 0.1        | 0.1        | 0.1         | 0.1        | 0.1        |  |  |
| Alcoholic Beverages                   | 63.7       | 59.7       | 66.8        | 61.6       | 61.0       |  |  |
| Liquor Gallonage                      | 57.6       | 57.9       | 57.3        | 56.6       | 54.4       |  |  |
| Domestic Insurance Franchise          | 314.9      | 318.8      | 392.6       | 355.8      | 361.4      |  |  |
| Other <sup>(e)</sup>                  | 189.5      | 199.3      | 205.9       | 111.4      | 168.2      |  |  |
| Total Taxes                           | 30,723.8   | 32,807.9   | 33,647.7    | 32,396.4   | 33,668.3   |  |  |
| Licenses, Permits and Fees            | 4,804.9    | 5,189.5    | 5,531.7     | 5,693.8    | 5,765.0    |  |  |
| Sales, Services and Charges           | 1,902.8    | 1,958.3    | 1,944.9     | 2,016.5    | 1,978.5    |  |  |
| Federal Government <sup>(f)</sup>     | 34,047.2   | 38,300.7   | 35,713.9    | 36,812.3   | 36,772.1   |  |  |
| Other <sup>(g)</sup>                  | 8,239.9    | 9,676.3    | 10,540.1    | 11,122.6   | 12,932.2   |  |  |
| Proceeds from Sale of Bonds and Notes | 1,552.6    | 553.1      | 380.0       | 328.0      | 1,215.2    |  |  |
| Total Cash Receipts                   | \$81,271.2 | \$88,485.7 | \$87,758.3  | \$88,369.7 | \$92,331.5 |  |  |

- (a) The State has incrementally reduced personal income tax rates commencing calendar year 2013 (see FISCAL MATTERS Recent and Current Finances Recent Biennia –2020-2021, 2022-2023, 2024-2025, and Current Biennium and TAX LEVELS AND TAX BASES Personal Income Tax).
- (b) Beginning July 1, 2019, the gasoline tax and diesel tax were increased from 28 cents to 38.5 cents and 47 cents per gallon, respectively (see **TAX LEVELS AND TAX BASES**).
- (c) Beginning October 1, 2019, the minimum age to purchase cigarettes increased from 18 to 21, and a 10 cents per milliliter tax was imposed on vapor products (see FISCAL MATTERS Recent and Current Finances Recent Biennia 2020-2021).
- (d) Eliminated effective January 1, 2013; receipts in all years reflect delayed filings or payments.
- (e) Includes residual payments under the corporate franchise tax for FY 2022.
- (f) FY 2020 and FY 2021 increases were associated with the enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage authorized in the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (see FISCAL MATTERS Recent and Current Finances Outbreak of COVID-19).
- (g) Largest components consist of various reimbursements, loan repayments, unclaimed funds, and investment income. Totals may not foot due to rounding.

| Cash Disbursements                   |             |            |            |            |            |  |  |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--|--|
| Fund Type                            | Fiscal Year |            |            |            |            |  |  |
| General Fund                         | 2021        | 2022       | 2023       | 2024       | 2025       |  |  |
| General Revenue Fund                 | \$35,630.0  | \$35,760.3 | \$37,781.7 | \$40,617.8 | \$43,566.9 |  |  |
| General Services Fund                | 6,638.8     | 7,339.8    | 7,643.4    | 8,705.4    | 10,153.8   |  |  |
| Special Revenue Fund <sup>(h)</sup>  | 29,873.7    | 37,020.4   | 37,097.6   | 38,815.3   | 39,727.6   |  |  |
| Capital Projects Fund <sup>(i)</sup> | 456.3       | 445.8      | 515.0      | 627.9      | 647.9      |  |  |
| Debt Service Fund <sup>(j)</sup>     | 1,052.5     | 1,288.8    | 1,310.0    | 1,138.8    | 1,090.2    |  |  |
| Enterprise Fund <sup>(k)</sup>       | 1,000.4     | 814.0      | 977.9      | 903.9      | 972.8      |  |  |
| Total Cash Disbursements             | \$74,651.7  | \$82,669.0 | \$85,325.6 | \$90,809.0 | \$96,159.0 |  |  |

- (h) Includes local government support disbursements.
- i) Includes amounts disbursed from proceeds of special obligation bonds and highway general obligation bonds.
- (j) Includes several bond retirement funds for general obligation bonds secured by a pledge of taxes and excises.
- (k) Includes workers' compensation, industrial commission, and lottery, including deferred prizes, among others. Totals may not foot due to rounding.

# Summary Statement General Revenue Fund Cash Basis Activity (\$\text{in millions})

|   | Fiscal Year |           |                |           |           |
|---|-------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|-----------|
|   | 2021        | 2022      | 2023           | 2024      | 2025      |
| Beginning Cash Balance                                | \$1,270.2   | \$4,721.5 | \$6,547.0      | \$8,990.7 | \$2,141.6 |
|   |             |           | Cash Receipts  |           |           |
| Taxes   |             |           |                |           |           |
| Personal Income <sup>(a)</sup>                        | 10,201.3    | 10,752.2  | 10,797.2       | 9,519.3   | 10,461.5  |
| Sales and Use   | 12,190.6    | 13,029.6  | 13,483.1       | 13,700.5  | 14,021.0  |
| Financial Institutions Tax                            | 226.4       | 202.8     | 239.1          | 204.9     | 200.6     |
| Commercial Activity Tax                               | 1,666.8     | 1,995.5   | 2,151.9        | 2,366.0   | 2,240.2   |
| Public Utilities and Kilowatt Hour                    | 492.9       | 516.8     | 528.9          | 520.7     | 550.1     |
| Cigarette and Other Tobacco <sup>(b)</sup>            | 926.9       | 884.6     | 827.4          | 750.4     | 712.0     |
| Domestic Insurance                                    | 309.7       | 312.6     | 386.7          | 349.7     | 353.8     |
| Foreign Insurance                                     | 324.4       | 328.4     | 362.8          | 402.1     | 431.4     |
| Other <sup>(c)</sup>                                  | 127.8       | 130.1     | 138.4          | 130.9     | 125.8     |
| Total Taxes   | 26,466.9    | 28,152.5  | 28,915.5       | 27,944.5  | 29,096.4  |
| Federal Government                                    | 12,727.2    | 11,897.3  | 12,931.4       | 12,645.7  | 14,182.7  |
| Licenses, Permits and Fees                            | 88.4        | 99.2      | 117.1          | 126.6     | 139.3     |
| Investment Income                                     | 57          | 52.8      | 304.5          | 454.3     | 398.7     |
| Other   | 108.9       | 401.2     | 225.8          | 146.5     | 130.4     |
| Total Cash Receipts                                   | 39,448.3    | 40,603.1  | 42,494.5       | 41,317.6  | 43,947.5  |
|   |             | Cas       | h Disburseme   | nts       |           |
| Primary, Secondary and Other Education <sup>(d)</sup> | 7,954.2     | 8,298.4   | 8,538.6        | 9,581.3   | 9,960.0   |
| Higher Education                                      | 2,368.5     | 2,417.6   | 2,447.6        | 2,575.9   | 2,708.6   |
| Public Assistance and Medicaid                        | 18,094.4    | 17,079.3  | 18,483.7       | 19,329.5  | 21,917.8  |
| Health and Human Services                             | 1,381.3     | 1,519.9   | 1,625.3        | 1,784.7   | 1,962.4   |
| Justice and Public Protection                         | 2,387.0     | 2,652.8   | 2,758.9        | 2,963.7   | 3,128.3   |
| General Government <sup>(e)</sup>                     | 421.8       | 499.4     | 559.6          | 1,204.0   | 644.4     |
| Property Tax Reimbursements <sup>(f)</sup>            | 1,806.1     | 1,818.2   | 1,821.1        | 1,873.7   | 1,956.9   |
| Debt Service  | 1,216.8     | 1,474.8   | 1,547.0        | 1,304.8   | 1,288.4   |
| Total Cash Disbursements                              | 35,630.0    | 35,760.3  | 37,781.7       | 40,617.7  | 43,566.8  |
|   |             |           | Cash Transfers |           |           |
| Transfers-in <sup>(g)</sup>                           | 97.8        | 57.1      | 20.7           | 15.4      | 247.6     |
| Transfers-out <sup>(h)</sup>                          | (465.0)     | (3,074.3) | (2,289.9)      | (7,564.3) | (757.3)   |
| Ending Cash Balance                                   | \$4,721.5   | \$6,547.0 | \$8,990.7      | \$2,141.6 | \$2,012.6 |

- (a) Beginning January 1, 2013, the State has incrementally reduced personal income tax rates (see FISCAL MATTERS Recent and Current Finances Recent Biennia –2020-2021, 2022-2023, 2024-2025, and Current Biennium; TAX LEVELS AND TAX BASES Personal Income Tax).
- (b) Beginning October 1, 2019, a 10 cents per milliliter tax was imposed on vapor products (see **FISCAL MATTERS Recent and Current Finances Recent Biennia 2020-2021**).
- (c) Includes alcoholic beverage tax, liquor gallonage, petroleum activity tax, other business and property tax, and residual payments under the corporate franchise tax and estate tax, which are both repealed but may apply to prior tax periods.
- (d) Mainly subsidies to school districts for primary and secondary education.
- (e) Includes amounts for non-highway transportation purposes, including mass transit, rail, and aviation.
- (f) State reimbursements to taxing subdivisions for the 12.5 percent property tax rollback granted to homeowners of real property, for partial real property homestead tax exemptions for the elderly and handicapped (expanded commencing in July 2007), and for revenue reductions resulting from the phase-out of local taxes on tangible personal property.
- (g) FY 2025 transfers include \$123.8 million from the Expanded Sales Tax Holiday Fund and \$81.7 million from the Petroleum Activity Tax Public Highways Fund.
- (h) FY 2021 included a transfer of \$400 million to the Foundation Funding All Students Fund. FY 2022 included several prior year surplus balance transfers totaling \$1.5 billion to various funds, including \$1.2 billion to the Health and Human Services Reserve Fund. FY 2023 included \$837.2 million in transfers to several capital funds, authorized in H.B. 687 of the 134th General Assembly, and \$727 million to the Budget Stabilization Fund, authorized in H.B. 45 of the 134th General Assembly. FY 2024 included prior year surplus transfers of \$4.7 billion to various funds for one-time purposes, and several additional transfers totaling \$2 billion to capital funds, authorized in H.B. 687 of the 134th General Assembly. FY 2025 transfers totaled \$757.3 million and included a \$600 million transfer to the Foundation Funding All Students Fund. Totals may not foot due to rounding.

# **Recent and Current Finances**

# **Introductory Information**

The summary statements above identify receipts from specific taxes and excises that are sources of significant amounts of revenue to the State, and particularly to the GRF. As noted, there are constitutional limitations on the use of some taxes and excises, and mandated allocations of portions of some others. As the statements portray, a substantial amount of total State-level revenue is distributed to local governments and school districts under ongoing programs, including local property tax relief.

The GRF ending cash and fund balances for FY 2025 were \$2 billion and \$1.1 billion, respectively. Recent biennium-ending GRF balances were:

| Biennium  | Cash Balance<br>(\$ in millions) | Fund Balance <sup>(a)</sup><br>(\$ in millions) | Fund Balance less<br>Designated Transfers <sup>(b)</sup><br>(\$ in millions) |
|-----------|----------------------------------|---|--|
| 2016-2017 | \$557.1                          | \$170.9   | \$170.9  |
| 2018-2019 | 1,538.0                          | 1,146.4   | 834.0  |
| 2020-2021 | 4,721.5                          | 4,032.3   | 2,534.0  |
| 2022-2023 | 8,990.7                          | 7,357.1   | 2,684.2  |
| 2024-2025 | 2,012.6                          | 1,119.0   | 1,119.0  |

<sup>(</sup>a) Reflects the ending cash balance less amounts encumbered to cover financial commitments made before the end of the fiscal year.

Actions have been and may be taken by the State to ensure revenue/expenditure balance (particularly in the GRF), some of which are described below. None of those actions has been applied to appropriations or expenditures needed for debt service, lease payments, or other payments involving any State debt-related obligations.

The appropriations acts for the 2026-2027 biennium included all necessary appropriations for debt service on State obligations and lease payments relating to lease rental obligations issued by the Treasurer of State and for certificates of participation (see **FISCAL MATTERS – Recent and Current Finances – Current Biennium** and **State Debt – General**).

The Revised Code imposes a limitation on most GRF appropriations commencing with the 2008-09 fiscal biennium. This statutory limitation initially used FY 2007 GRF appropriations as a baseline (excluding appropriations for debt service, tax relief and refunds, and specific appropriations reflecting moneys received from the federal government) and then applies an annual growth factor equal to the greater of 3.5 percent or the sum of the inflation rates and rate of state population change. Every fourth fiscal year thereafter becomes a new base year. All GRF appropriations since FY 2007 have complied with this limitation.

The following is a general discussion of State finances, particularly GRF receipts and expenditures, for recent and current biennia. As evidenced by the paragraphs below, the State administrations and both houses of the General Assembly have been and remain committed to taking actions that ensure a balance of GRF resources and expenditures.

# **Recent Biennia**

#### 2020-2021

The 2020-2021 Biennial Appropriations Act, preceded by a 17-day Interim Appropriations Act, was passed by the General Assembly and signed by the Governor (with selective vetoes) on July 18, 2019. Reflecting the tax law changes described herein and an underlying economic forecast prepared in the first half of 2019, that Act provided

<sup>(</sup>b) Reflects the ending fund balance less any amounts designated for transfer to other funds, including the BSF.

for the GRF appropriations outlined below. The underlying economic forecast did not consider the economic effects of the pandemic as described below under **Outbreak of COVID-19**.

**GRF Appropriations 2020-2021 Biennium (\$ in billions)** 

| - 1 |              |                  |              |                  | •                |                |
|-----|--------------|------------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
|     |              |                  | Percent      |                  |                  |                |
|     |              |                  | Change Over  |                  | Percent Change   |                |
|     | Fiscal Year  |                  | Fiscal Year  |                  | Over Fiscal Year | 2020-2021      |
|     | 2019         | Fiscal Year 2020 | 2019         | Fiscal Year 2021 | 2020             | Biennium Total |
|     | Expenditures | Appropriations   | Expenditures | Appropriations   | Appropriations   | Appropriations |
|     | \$32.7       | \$34.0           | 4.0%         | \$36.0           | 6.0%             | \$70.0         |

Major program categories reflected the following GRF appropriation changes (excluding GRF debt service appropriations):

- *Medicaid* FY 2020 appropriations increased 3.3 percent over FY 2019 expenditures, and FY 2021 appropriations increased 11.8 percent over FY 2020 appropriations.
- Elementary and Secondary Education including transfers from the GRF in support of student wellness and success, FY 2020 appropriations increased 3.9 percent over FY 2019 expenditures, and FY 2021 appropriations increased 0.2 percent over FY 2020 appropriations.
- *Higher Education* FY 2020 appropriations increased 4.6 percent over FY 2019 expenditures, and FY 2021 appropriations increased 2.6 percent over FY 2020 appropriations.
- Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities excluding Medicaid program services, FY 2020 appropriations decreased 1.4 percent over FY 2019 expenditures, and FY 2021 appropriations increased 2.8 percent over FY 2020 appropriations.
- Corrections and Youth Services FY 2020 appropriations increased 4 percent over FY 2019 expenditures, and FY 2021 appropriations increased 3.5 percent over FY 2020 appropriations.

The 2020-2021 Biennial Appropriations Act also created the H2Ohio fund to support water quality projects in Lake Erie and across Ohio's rivers, lakes, and waterways. The H2Ohio fund was initially seeded by a \$172 million transfer from the FY 2019 ending GRF fund balance.

The Executive Budget, 17-day Interim Appropriations Act, the 2020-2021 Biennial Appropriations Act, and separate appropriations acts for the biennium all included necessary debt service and lease rental or other payment appropriation authority related to State debt obligations for the entire biennium.

The foregoing appropriations were based upon available balances and estimated GRF revenue for the biennium and have been adjusted with updated revenue forecasts as of June 10, 2020, as follows:

Estimated State and Federal GRF Revenue 2020-2021 Biennium (\$ in billions)

| Fiscal Year<br>2019 Actual<br>Revenue | Fiscal Year<br>2020 Est.<br>Revenue | Percent Change<br>Over Fiscal Year<br>2019 Actual<br>Revenue | Fiscal Year<br>2021 Est.<br>Revenue | Percent Change<br>Over Fiscal Year<br>2020 Est.<br>Revenue | 2020-2021<br>Biennium Total<br>Est. Revenue |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| \$33.8                                | \$33.2                              | -1.6%  | \$36.0                              | 8.5%   | \$69.3                                      |

The 2020-2021 Biennial Appropriations Act reflected the following tax policy and allocation changes, among others, which resulted in a net GRF revenue decrease of \$410 million in FY 2020 and \$177 million in FY 2021:

• An across-the-board 4 percent reduction in state personal income tax rates and elimination of the bottom two income tax brackets (effective in tax year 2019), coupled with a freeze on the indexing of the income tax brackets (through tax year 2020). The tax bracket changes eliminated any tax liability for individuals with taxable income less than \$21,750 (see TAX LEVELS AND TAX BASES – Personal Income Tax).

- Modified eligibility for various means-tested state personal income tax credits such that high-income taxpayers with little non-business income are not eligible for the tax credits (effective tax year 2019).
- Created two new non-refundable tax credits, one for lead abatement expenses capped at \$5 million annually (effective in tax year 2020) and one for Qualified Opportunity Zone investments that is limited to no more than \$50 million per fiscal biennium (effective in tax year 2019).
- Increased the legal age to purchase tobacco products from 18 to 21 years old and created a tax on the volume of nicotine-containing vapor products (effective October 2019).
- Modified the presumption of a seller having a substantial nexus with Ohio in accordance with *South Dakota v. Wayfair, Inc.* for purposes of collecting the sales and use tax on retail sales through "marketplace facilitators" (effective October 2019).
- Temporarily increased the percent of GRF tax revenues deposited into the local government fund from 1.66 percent to 1.68 percent in each of FY 2020 and FY 2021.
- Temporarily increased the percent of GRF tax revenues deposited into the public library fund from 1.66 percent to 1.70 percent in each of FY 2020 and FY 2021.

OBM updated the FY 2021 GRF revenue forecast to reflect economic assumptions (influenced by the COVID-19 Pandemic) and actual FY 2020 revenue performance. For further information relating to the updated FY 2021 GRF revenue forecast see **Outbreak of COVID-19** below.

FY 2021 Financial Results: The State ended FY 2021 with GRF cash and fund balances of \$4.7 billion and \$4 billion, respectively. As authorized in the 2022-2023 Biennial Appropriations Act, the entire fund balance was carried forward into FY 2022, including \$197.7 million reserved to maintain the statutory target of one-half of one percent of FY 2021 GRF revenues as an ending fund balance, and \$1.2 billion transferred to the Health and Human Services Fund, \$132 million transferred to the H2Ohio Fund, \$100 million transferred to the Investing in Ohio Fund, and \$66.3 million transferred across three other smaller purposes.

FY 2021 GRF tax revenues were greater than both the original forecast derived in July 2019 for the enacted FY 2020-2021 operating budget as well as the updated forecast issued with the FY 2022-2023 Executive operating budget. Tax revenues for the fiscal year were \$1.5 billion above the original forecast. Of the \$1.5 billion positive variance, \$774.6 million occurred during the last quarter of the fiscal year, with sales tax revenues exceeding estimates by large margins in each month of the quarter.

#### **Outbreak of COVID-19**

The outbreak of COVID-19 was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization. Governor DeWine and the Director of the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) issued a declaration of a state of emergency on March 9, 2020. The order was rescinded, thereby ending the state-declared public health emergency, on June 17, 2021. During that period, the Governor and the General Assembly took specific actions to mitigate the economic effects of the COVID-19 outbreak on the State's financial position.

On March 27, 2020, President Trump signed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) to address the economic disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Under the CARES Act, the State was directly allocated a minimum of \$2.5 billion of the total \$4.5 billion granted by the Federal Government to the State and its eligible local governments. These funds were used for necessary expenditures incurred due to COVID-19. The State maintains a comprehensive presentation of financial and transactional data online, The Ohio Checkbook (<a href="https://checkbook.ohio.gov">https://checkbook.ohio.gov</a>/, and more information on Federal Funding for COVID-19 in Ohio can be found at <a href="https://checkbook.ohio.gov/Coronavirus/">https://checkbook.ohio.gov/Coronavirus/</a>.

To balance the State budget in fiscal year 2020 (due to anticipated declines in revenue and increased costs relating to the State's response to the COVID-19 pandemic), Governor DeWine directed spending cuts of approximately \$775 million for the remainder of the fiscal year (June 30, 2020) and continued the previously announced hiring freezes, travel limitations, and contracting restrictions. Because initial revised FY 2021 revenue projections indicated that available state revenue receipts and balances in the GRF were projected to be \$36 billion,

approximately \$2.4 billion less than initially estimated (and \$200 million less than the reserve held in the BSF as stated above), OBM and the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) implemented cost savings measures to further reduce expenditures in April 2021. On January 22, 2021, Governor DeWine signed an executive order formally finalizing the FY 2021 budget reductions at \$390 million across all agencies, less than previously expected, thus allowing additional funding for the Department of Education and the Department of Higher Education.

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA). This \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus and COVID-19 relief package was aimed at providing emergency assistance to individuals, businesses, and state and local governments affected by COVID-19, among other measures. Under ARPA, the Federal Government allocated approximately \$10.7 billion to the State and local governments with an additional \$268.6 million allocated specifically for use in state capital projects to continue efforts to mitigate the fiscal effects stemming from COVID-19.

In the initial months of the COVID-19 pandemic, unemployment insurance claims increased significantly from an average of 7,915 claims per week during the first 11 weeks of 2020 to 274,288 during the week ending March 28, 2020. Between January and June 2020, the State's Unemployment Trust Fund balance dropped from \$1.3 billion to zero. On June 16, 2020, the State received an advance from the federal government to continue to pay the increased unemployment insurance claims. On September 3, 2021, the State paid off its \$1.5 billion loan using ARPA funds.

Like other states, Ohio is investigating allegations of overpayment or fraud for unemployment claims during the pandemic. The State reported known fraud and non-fraud unemployment compensation overpayments totaling \$72.8 million to the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) as of June 30, 2023. Of the total overpayments reported to the DOL, \$31.6 million was attributed to fraud, and \$41.2 million was attributed to non-fraud. These overpayments were federal pandemic unemployment benefits. The federal government granted states the discretion to waive repayment of pandemic funding for non-fraudulent purposes. Due to the nature of these known overpayments along with federal waiver discretion, most of these monies have not been subject to a collection process. Additionally, the State has flagged as possible overpayments specific claims with one or more fraud identifiers. These flagged claims were both regular unemployment and federal pandemic unemployment benefits, with an accumulated amount of \$1.36 billion. Ohio is working diligently to adjudicate all claims flagged as potential overpayments. Such potential overpayment or fraud, and repayment thereof, will have no material effect on the State's ability to pay debt service on its bonded indebtedness. The State has improved preventative safeguards to limit overpayments or fraudulent payments of unemployment compensation.

# 2022-2023

The 2022-2023 Biennial Appropriations Act was passed by the General Assembly and signed by the Governor (with selective vetoes) on June 30, 2021. Reflecting the tax law changes described below and a conservative underlying economic forecast, that Act provided for the following GRF appropriations:

GRF Appropriations 2022-2023 Biennium (\$ in billions)

| Fiscal Year<br>2021<br>Expenditures | Fiscal Year 2022<br>Appropriations | Percent<br>Change Over<br>Fiscal Year<br>2021<br>Expenditures | Fiscal Year 2023<br>Appropriations | Percent Change<br>Over Fiscal Year<br>2022<br>Appropriations | 2022-2023<br>Biennium Total<br>Appropriations |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|---|
| \$35.6                              | \$34.9                             | -2.0%   | \$39.3                             | 12.6%  | \$74.3  |

Major program categories reflected the following GRF appropriation changes (excluding GRF debt service appropriations):

- *Medicaid* FY 2022 appropriations decreased 11.7 percent over FY 2021 expenditures, and FY 2023 appropriations increased 26.1 percent over FY 2022 appropriations.
- Elementary and Secondary Education including transfers from the GRF in support of student wellness and success, FY 2022 appropriations increased 5.8 percent over FY 2021 expenditures, and FY 2023 appropriations increased 2 percent over FY 2022 appropriations.
- *Higher Education* FY 2022 appropriations increased 2.7 percent over FY 2021 expenditures, and FY 2023 appropriations increased 0.1 percent over FY 2022 appropriations.

The 2022-2023 Biennial Appropriations Act revised the school funding formula to consider resident income levels in addition to property tax values (see **SCHOOLS AND MUNICIPALITIES – Schools**). The Act also authorized the BSF to retain interest earnings.

The foregoing appropriations were based upon available balances and estimated GRF revenue for the biennium as follows:

Estimated State and Federal GRF Revenue 2022-2023 Biennium (\$ in billions)

|                        |                      | Percent<br>Change Over |                      | Percent<br>Change Over |                                |
|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Fiscal Year            | Fiscal Year          | Fiscal Year            | Fiscal Year          | Fiscal Year            | 2022-2023                      |
| 2021 Actual<br>Revenue | 2022 Est.<br>Revenue | 2021 Actual<br>Revenue | 2023 Est.<br>Revenue | 2022 Est.<br>Revenue   | Biennium Total<br>Est. Revenue |
| \$39.5                 | \$36.6               | -7.5%                  | \$39.9               | 9.3%                   | \$76.6                         |

Because of an extension in the filing date for tax year 2019 returns, an estimated \$719 million in income tax revenue was received in FY 2021 rather than in FY 2020, thereby impacting the FYs 2021-2022 growth rate.

H.B. 110, the biennial budget for FYs 2022-2023, included several transfers from the GRF. Estimated FY 2022 transfers from the GRF totaled \$3 billion, the largest of which is \$1.2 billion for the Health and Human Services Fund.

The 2022-2023 Biennial Appropriations Act reflected the following tax policy and allocation changes, among others, which were estimated to result in a net GRF revenue decrease of \$1 billion in FY 2022 and \$977 million in FY 2023:

- Made an across-the-board 3 percent reduction in state personal income tax rates on non-business income, except for consolidating the top two income brackets and setting the new top rate at 3.99 percent.
- Increased the threshold for zero tax liability, in which filers with taxable incomes below \$25,000 are no longer subject to Ohio personal income tax.
- Contained a one-year (tax year 2021) suspension of bracket indexing, and a two-year (tax years 2021 and 2022) suspension of personal exemption indexing.
- Established new non-refundable tax credits for home-schooling expenses, for tuition paid to non-chartered private schools, and for contributions made to non-profit scholarship-granting organizations.
- Repealed sales and use tax on employment services; also enacted an exemption for sales of investment coins and bullion.
- Continued the increase, temporarily, of the percent of GRF tax revenues deposited into the public library fund from 1.66 percent to 1.70 percent in each of FY 2022 and FY 2023.

On January 21, 2022, Governor Mike DeWine announced Intel Corporation's plan to invest \$20 billion to construct a new semiconductor manufacturing plant in Ohio for which the State appropriated \$691 million for state and

local infrastructure improvement, \$600 million for onshoring incentive grants, and an estimated \$650 million 30-year job creation tax credit. Incentives included performance benchmarks allowing the State to recover proceeds disbursed should the company fail to meet contracted obligations. The State's assistance is from available resources and not funded by debt proceeds. The positive impact of this development on Ohio is expected to lead to 20,000 additional jobs – 3,000 direct Intel jobs, 7,000 construction jobs throughout the build period, and 10,000 or more indirect and support jobs.

Since enactment of the operating budget for the FY 2022-2023 biennium, the Ohio General Assembly passed several tax law changes. These included:

- Income tax credit to assist new farmers.
- Income tax credit for employers of students enrolled in a career-technical education program.
- Temporary increase in the total amount of issued historic building rehabilitation tax credits, and modifications to the Ohio opportunity zone tax credit program.
- Define capital gains from sales of investment in a business as "business income" and therefore eligible for either the Ohio business income deduction or subject to the 3 percent income tax rate.
- Establish a tax on pass-through entities, wherein an individual investor's share of such tax is not subject to the \$10,000 limit of the federal income tax deduction on state and local taxes paid.

FY 2023 Financial Results. Fiscal year 2023 ended with the largest GRF cash balance in Ohio history. The State ended FY 2023 with GRF cash and fund balances of \$9 billion and \$7.4 billion, respectively. As authorized in the 2024-2025 budget bill, the entire fund balance was carried forward into FY 2024, including \$212.6 million reserved to maintain the statutory target of one-half of one percent of FY 2023 GRF revenues. The FY 2024-2025 budget bill also included several FY 2023 ending balance transfers, including \$741 million to the Expanded Sales Tax Holiday fund, \$700 million to the One-Time Strategic Community Investments Fund, and \$667 million to the All Ohio Future Fund.

FY 2023 GRF tax revenues were greater than both the original forecast derived in July 2021 for the enacted FY 2022-2023 operating budget as well as the updated forecast issued in August 2022. Tax revenues for the fiscal year were \$994.2 million above the updated forecast. This variance was driven by the personal income tax, which was \$645.1 above the estimate in fiscal year 2023. In addition, sales and use taxes were \$149.2 million above the estimate, and the commercial activity tax outperformed the forecast by \$82.9 million.

#### 2024-2025

The 135<sup>th</sup> General Assembly passed, and the Governor signed four bills that provided appropriations to operate the State government through FYs 2024 and 2025. H.B.s 23, 31, 32, and 33, collectively referred to as the "2024-2025 budget", provided the following GRF appropriations:

**GRF Appropriations 2024-2025 Biennium (\$ in billions)** 

| - | (1)          |                  |              |                  |                  |                |  |  |  |
|---|--------------|------------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|--|--|--|
|   |              |                  | Percent      |                  |                  |                |  |  |  |
|   |              |                  | Change Over  |                  | Percent Change   |                |  |  |  |
| ١ | Fiscal Year  |                  | Fiscal Year  |                  | Over Fiscal Year | 2024-2025      |  |  |  |
| ١ | 2023         | Fiscal Year 2024 | 2023         | Fiscal Year 2025 | 2024             | Biennium Total |  |  |  |
|   | Expenditures | Appropriations   | Expenditures | Appropriations   | Appropriations   | Appropriations |  |  |  |
| ĺ | \$37.8       | \$41.5           | 9.7%         | \$44.8           | 8.0%             | \$86.2         |  |  |  |

Major program categories reflected the following GRF appropriation changes (excluding GRF debt service appropriations):

• *Medicaid* – FY 2024 appropriations increased 10.8 percent over FY 2023 expenditures, and FY 2025 appropriations increased 13.9 percent over FY 2024 appropriations.

- Elementary and Secondary Education included transfers from the GRF in support of student wellness and success, FY 2024 appropriations increased 10.4 percent over FY 2023 expenditures, and FY 2025 appropriations increased 3.6 percent over FY 2024 appropriations.
- *Higher Education* FY 2024 appropriations increased 6.8 percent over FY 2023 expenditures, and FY 2025 appropriations increased 2 percent over FY 2024 appropriations.

The foregoing appropriations were based upon available balances and the estimated GRF revenue for the biennium as follows:

Estimated State and Federal GRF Revenue 2024-2025 Biennium (\$ in billions)

| Fiscal Year<br>2023 Actual<br>Revenue | Fiscal Year<br>2024 Est.<br>Revenue | Percent<br>Change Over<br>Fiscal Year<br>2023 Est.<br>Revenue | Fiscal Year<br>2025 Est.<br>Revenue | Percent<br>Change Over<br>Fiscal Year<br>2024 Est.<br>Revenue | 2024-2025<br>Biennium Total<br>Est. Revenue |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| \$42.5                                | \$41.3                              | -2.8%   | \$43.2                              | 4.6%  | \$84.5                                      |

The FY 2024-2025 biennial budget was conservatively crafted with several transfers from the GRF to use one-time resources for one-time investments. Estimated FY 2024 transfers from the GRF totaled \$5.6 billion, including \$667 million for the All Ohio Future Fund and \$700 million for the One-Time Strategic Community Investments Fund.

The 2024-2025 biennial budget included the following tax policy changes:

- The number of businesses subject to the commercial activities tax was dramatically reduced by 90 percent by excluding up to \$3 million in gross receipts per business in 2024 and up to \$6 million in gross receipts per business in 2025.
- The sports gaming tax rate increased to 20 percent with proceeds dedicated to the school funding formula.
- Personal income tax reductions in the budget reduced the number of personal income tax brackets. In 2024, the state personal income tax had two rate brackets (one consisting of taxable income between \$26,051 and \$100,000, and the other consisting of income above \$100,000), with marginal tax rates of 2.75 percent and 3.5 percent, respectively. There remains no tax liability if taxable income is \$26,050 or below.
- A new expanded sales tax holiday used surplus revenue to provide tax relief to consumers in August 2024 and will use surplus revenue in future years if tax receipts exceed budgeted estimates.
- The state sales tax on baby products, such as diapers, wipes, car seats, and strollers, was eliminated, expected to save Ohio families \$16 million per year.
- The supply of affordable single-family housing was and will be supported by a new tax credit totaling \$200 million over four years.
- New low-income housing tax credits of \$100 million per fiscal year, allocated over four years, were and
  can be used for the development and rehabilitation of low-income, multi-family rental housing projects
  that increase the affordable housing supply.
- Ohioans planning to purchase a home were and are able to open a home ownership savings account.
   Qualifying contributions to such accounts shall receive tax-favored treatment. Contributions of up to
   \$5,000 per year for individuals and \$10,000 per year for couples filing jointly, may be deducted from the
   contributor's Ohio personal income tax return (with a lifetime maximum \$25,000 deduction per
   contributor per account).

As is customary at the beginning of the second year of the fiscal biennium, OBM revised its FY 2025 GRF revenue forecast to reflect updated economic assumptions and actual FY 2024 revenue performance. During FY 2024, tax receipts totaled \$27.9 billion and were \$484.7 million (-1.7%) below the estimate. Personal income tax accounted for \$457.8 million of the variance. As a result, in August 2024, OBM revised the FY 2025 revenue estimates that were developed in June 2023, when the current operating budget was enacted. The revised FY 2025 estimates assumed total GRF tax revenues of \$27.6 billion. Total GRF tax revenues in FY 2025 were estimated to be slightly lower than

FY 2024 actual receipts, declining by \$348.3 million (-1.2%). The revised FY 2025 estimates also included positive updates to non-tax categories, notably to Investment Earnings and Other Income.

FY 2025 Financial Results. The State ended FY 2025 with GRF cash and fund balances of \$2.0 billion and \$1.1 billion, respectively. As authorized in the 2024-2025 budget, the entire fund balance was carried forward into FY 2026, including \$221.0 million reserved to maintain the statutory target of one-half of one percent of FY 2025 revenues.

FY 2025 GRF tax revenues were greater than both the original forecast derived in July 2023 for the enacted FY 2024-2025 budget as well as the updated forecast issued in August 2024. Tax revenues for the FY 2025 were \$1.5 billion above the updated forecast. The first expanded sales tax holiday occurred during FY 2025, with the foregone GRF tax revenue reimbursed by a transfer from the expanded sales tax holiday fund. The actual foregone revenue was substantially lower than initially anticipated, so the transfer to the GRF was also below estimate. The combined GRF tax revenue and expanded sales tax holiday fund transfer exceeded the forecast by \$1.04 billion. Personal income tax receipts accounted for \$691.3 million of this variance. All other primary tax sources also exceeded forecast: the non-auto sales tax with the sales tax holiday transfer was \$200.7 million above estimate, the auto sales tax outperformed the estimate by \$83.6 million, and the commercial activity tax exceeded its mark by \$43.2 million.

#### **Current Biennium**

The 136th General Assembly passed, and the Governor signed four bills that provide appropriations to operate the State government through FYs 2026 and 2027. H.B.s 54, 80, 81, and 96, collectively referred to as the "2026-2027 budget", provide the following GRF appropriations:

**GRF Appropriations 2026-2027 Biennium (\$ in billions)** 

|   |              |                  | Percent<br>Change Over |                  | Percent Change   |                |
|---|--------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| ١ | Fiscal Year  |                  | Fiscal Year            |                  | Over Fiscal Year | 2026-2027      |
| ١ | 2025         | Fiscal Year 2026 | 2025                   | Fiscal Year 2027 | 2026             | Biennium Total |
| ١ | Expenditures | Appropriations   | Expenditures           | Appropriations   | Appropriations   | Appropriations |
|   | \$43.6       | \$44.4           | 2.0%                   | \$46.1           | 3.7%             | \$90.5         |

Major program categories reflect the following GRF appropriation changes (excluding GRF debt service appropriations):

- *Medicaid* FY 2026 appropriations increase 1.8 percent over FY 2025 expenditures, and FY 2027 appropriations increase 4.8 percent over FY 2026 appropriations.
- Elementary and Secondary Education including transfers from the GRF in support of student wellness and success, FY 2026 appropriations increase 1.1 percent over FY 2025 expenditures, and FY 2027 appropriations increase 3.4 percent over FY 2026 appropriations.
- *Higher Education* FY 2026 appropriations increase 2.1 percent over FY 2025 expenditures, and FY 2027 appropriations increase 0.7 percent over FY 2026 appropriations.

The foregoing appropriations were based upon available balances and the estimated GRF revenue for the biennium as follows:

Estimated State and Federal GRF Revenue 2026-2027 Biennium (\$ in billions)

|             |             |              |             | Percent     |                |
|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|
|             |             | Percent      |             | Change Over |                |
| Fiscal Year | Fiscal Year | Change Over  | Fiscal Year | Fiscal Year | 2026-2027      |
| 2025 Actual | 2026 Est.   | Fiscal Year  | 2027 Est.   | 2026 Est.   | Biennium Total |
| Revenue     | Revenue     | 2025 Revenue | Revenue     | Revenue     | Est. Revenue   |
| \$44.2      | \$45.2      | 2.2%         | \$45.9      | 1.6%        | \$91.1         |

The 2026-2027 biennial budget includes the following tax policy changes:

- Personal income tax reductions will establish a single personal income tax bracket structure: the budget reduces the top marginal rate in 2025 and repeals it in 2026. In 2024, there were two income tax brackets, with marginal tax rates of 2.75 percent on income between \$26,051 and \$100,000 and 3.5 percent on income above \$100,000. In 2025, the top rate (on income exceeding \$100,000) becomes 2.125 percent. Beginning in 2026, the state personal income tax will equal \$332.00 plus 2.75 percent on taxable income exceeding \$26,050. There remains no tax liability if a taxpayer's taxable income is \$26,050 or below.
- The annual cap will increase from \$50 million to \$75 million on the amount of historic building rehabilitation tax credits that the Department of Development may approve.
- The sunset date for the transformational mixed-use development tax credit program changes from the end of FY 2025 to the end of FY 2027. In addition, the annual cap on authorized credits increases from \$100 million to \$150 million.
- Proceeds from the non-medical marijuana tax ("adult use cannabis tax") are allocated as follows: 64 percent to the GRF; and 36 percent to the Host Community Cannabis Fund. Under prior law, the GRF did not receive any portion of that tax revenue, while the same 36 percent share was in place for the Host Community Cannabis Fund.
- Vendors will receive a modified allowance for collecting sales and use taxes. The allowance previously equaled 0.75 percent of the vendor's sales tax or use tax collections. It now becomes the lesser of 0.75 percent or \$750.
- Several sales and use tax exemptions will no longer remain in Ohio law. The budget repeals exemptions for sales of: telecommunications services used to perform the functions of a qualified call center; digital audio on juke boxes and similar devices in commercial establishments; and tangible personal property used to acquire, edit, store, and disseminate data or information by electronic publishing. Also repealed is an exemption for sales of refrigerated food vending machines, sales of advertising material or catalogs that price and describe property offered for retail sale, and purchases by direct marketers of items used in printing advertising material and equipment used to accept orders. The budget also repeals a provision that allows a 25 percent refund of the sales and use tax paid by providers of electronic information services.

H.B. 110 of the 134<sup>th</sup> General Assembly authorized the BSF to retain any interest credited to the fund instead of allocating these funds to the GRF beginning in fiscal year 2022. H.B. 33 of the 135<sup>th</sup> General Assembly raised the cap on the balance of the BSF to 10 percent of the GRF. H.B. 96 of the 136<sup>th</sup> General Assembly requires the transfer of interest earned in the BSF to the GRF beginning in the second quarter of FY 2026.

# **Cash Flow**

Because GRF cash receipts and disbursements do not precisely coincide, temporary GRF cash flow deficiencies can occur periodically throughout the fiscal year. The Ohio Revised Code provides for effective management of

cash flow by permitting the adjustment of payment schedules and the use of the Total Operating Fund. The State has not done and does not do external revenue anticipation borrowing.

The Total Operating Fund includes the total consolidated cash balances, revenues, disbursements, and transfers of the GRF and several other specified funds (including the BSF). Total Operating Fund cash balances are consolidated only to meet cash flow requirements, and, except for the GRF, a positive cash balance must be maintained for each discrete fund included in the Total Operating Fund. The GRF is permitted to incur a temporary cash deficiency by drawing upon the available consolidated cash balance in the Total Operating Fund. The amount of that permitted GRF cash deficiency at any time is limited by statute to 10 percent of GRF revenues for the then preceding fiscal year. The State plans for and manages monthly GRF cash flow deficiencies within each fiscal year, and those deficiencies have been within the limitations discussed above.

#### STATE DEBT

#### General

The incurrence or assumption of debt by the State without a popular vote is, with limited exceptions, prohibited by the Ohio Constitution. The State is authorized to incur debt limited in amount to \$750,000 to cover casual deficits or to address failures in revenues or to meet expenses not otherwise provided for. The Constitution also expressly precludes the State from assuming the debts of any county, city, town, or township, or of any corporation. An exception, however, exists in both cases, for debts incurred to repel invasion, suppress insurrection, or defend the State in war. The Constitution further provides that "Except the debts above specified...no debt whatever shall hereafter be created by, or on behalf of the State."

By 21 constitutional amendments approved from 1921 to present, Ohio voters have authorized the incurrence of State general obligation debt and the pledge of taxes or excises to its payment, all related to the financing of capital facilities, except for three that funded bonuses for veterans, one to fund coal technology research and development, and one to fund specified research and development activities. Currently, tax-supported general obligation debt of the State is authorized to be incurred for the following purposes: highways, local infrastructure, coal development, natural resources and parks, higher education, common schools, conservation, and research and development. Authorizations for site development and veterans' compensation purposes have been fully exhausted or expired. Although supported by the general obligation pledge, highway debt is also backed by a pledge of and has always been paid from the State's motor fuel taxes and other highway user receipts that are constitutionally restricted in use to highway related purposes.

State special obligation debt, the owners, or holders of which are not given the right to have excises or taxes levied by the General Assembly to pay principal and interest, is authorized for purposes specified by Section 2i of Article VIII of the Constitution. The Treasurer of State currently issues the special obligations authorized under that section for parks and recreation and mental health facilities, and for facilities to house branches and agencies of state government and their functions, including: state office buildings and facilities for the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) and others, the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), correctional and juvenile detention facilities for the Departments of Rehabilitation and Correction (DRC) and Youth Services (DYS), and various cultural facilities, and has issued previously for the Department of Public Safety (DPS). Debt service on all these special obligations is paid from GRF appropriations, except for debt issued for ODOT and DPS facilities which is paid from highway user receipts. All those debt service payments are subject to biennial appropriations by the General Assembly pursuant to leases or other agreements entered into by the State.

Certificates of Participation (COPs). State agencies have also improved buildings/equipment, information systems, and non-highway transportation projects with local and State use, in connection with which the State has entered into lease-purchase agreements with terms ranging from 8 to 20 years. Certificates of Participation (COPs) have been issued with regard to those agreements that represent fractionalized interests in, and are payable from, the State's anticipated lease payments. The maximum annual payment from GRF appropriations under those existing agreements is \$37.5 million in FY 2026, and the total GRF-supported principal amount outstanding is \$90.6 million

as of November 21, 2025. Payments by the State are subject to biennial appropriations by the General Assembly, with the lease terms subject to automatic renewal for each biennium for which those appropriations are made. The approval of the OBM Director and either the General Assembly or the State Controlling Board is required if COPs are to be publicly offered in connection with those agreements.

Revenue Bonds. Certain state agencies issue revenue bonds that are payable from revenues from or relating to revenue-producing facilities, such as those issued by the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission. As confirmed by judicial interpretation, such revenue bonds do not constitute "debt" under the constitutional provisions described above. The Constitution authorizes state bonds for certain economic development and housing purposes (the latter issued by the Ohio Housing Finance Agency) to which tax moneys may not be obligated or pledged. See the discussion of expanded housing finance authority, and permitted pledges to it, below under **Additional Authorizations**.

Tax Credits in Support of Other Long-Term Obligations. The State has authorized the issuance of fully refundable tax credits in support of "credit-collateralized bonds" issued from time to time by the Columbus-Franklin County Finance Authority to provide funding for the Ohio Capital Fund to promote venture capital investment in Ohio. Those tax credits may be claimed by the bond trustee for the purpose of restoring the bond reserve fund for those credit-collateralized bonds in the event it is drawn upon and its required balance is not restored from other sources. Those credits may not be claimed after June 30, 2036, and the maximum amount of tax credits that may be claimed is \$20 million in any fiscal year. The bond trustee has filed such tax credit claims in connection with the payment of Bond Service Charges each February and August from February 15, 2017, through August 15, 2025. Tax credit payments made with respect to those tax credit claims (exclusive of certain required repayments to the State) totaled \$7.5 million in FY 2017, \$15.4 million in FY 2018, \$13.5 million in FY 2019, \$15.2 million in FY 2020, \$10.7 million in FY 2021, \$10 million in FY 2022, \$8.8 million in FY 2023, \$15.8 million in FY 2024, \$13.4 million in FY 2025, and \$3.5 million so far in FY 2026 (related to the draw made on the bond reserve fund to pay a portion of the Bond Service Charges due and paid on August 15, 2025). Total outstanding principal on the credit-collateralized bonds after the August 15, 2025, payment is \$25.3 million, with the highest annual debt service payment due on the outstanding credit-collateralized bonds occurring in FY 2027 in the amount of approximately \$15.1 million. Proceeds of the Ohio Capital Fund bonds fund investments in venture capital funds to promote investment in seed and early-stage Ohio-based business enterprises.

Prior Economic Development and Revitalization Obligations. Before the February 1, 2013 granting of a 25-year franchise on the State's spirituous liquor system to JobsOhio, there were \$725 million of outstanding state bonds and notes secured by a pledge of the State's profits from the sale of spirituous liquor. In connection with the granting of that franchise, provision was made for the payment of all the debt service on those bonds and notes which are now defeased and no longer outstanding obligations of the State. Those bonds and notes were initially issued to fund a statewide economic development program that assisted in the financing of facilities and equipment for industry, commerce, research, and distribution, including technology innovation, by providing loans and loan guarantees. Under its franchise agreement with JobsOhio, the State may not issue additional obligations secured by a pledge of profits from the sale of spirituous liquor during the 25-year term of that franchise; that franchise agreement was extended in 2025 for an additional 15 years, now terminating on February 1, 2053, also extending the prohibition on the issuance of debt secured by a pledge of the State's profits from the sale of spiritous liquor to that date.

Obligations and Funding Commitments for Highway Projects Payable from Highway-Related Non-GRF Funds. As described above, the State issues general obligations for highway infrastructure and special obligations for ODOT and DPS transportation facilities that are paid from the State's motor fuel tax and other highway user receipts that are constitutionally restricted in use to highway-related purposes. In addition, the State has and expects to continue financing selected highway infrastructure projects by issuing federal highway grant anticipation revenue (GARVEE) bonds and entering into agreements that call for debt service payments to be made from federal Title 23 transportation funds allocated to the State, subject to biennial appropriations by the General Assembly. As of June 30, 2025, the highest annual State payment under those agreements in the current or any future fiscal year is \$122.1 million in FY 2029. In the event of any insufficiency in the anticipated federal allocations to make

payments on GARVEE bonds, the payments are to be made from any lawfully available moneys appropriated to ODOT for the purpose.

In December 2014, ODOT entered into its first public-private agreement to provide "availability payments" in support of the development and operation of a state highway improvement project. Those availability payments commenced in December 2018 and are paid from non-GRF funds available to ODOT remaining after the payment of debt service on highway general obligations, ODOT special obligations, and GARVEE bonds. The availability payment in FY 2025 was \$27.7 million, with availability payments estimated to increase modestly each year from \$28.1 million in FY 2026 to a maximum payment of \$40.1 million in FY 2053. Availability payments are subject to biennial appropriation by the General Assembly, with the public-private agreement subject to automatic renewal for each biennium if and when those availability payments are appropriated for that biennium.

# Variable Rate Debt

The State currently has \$427,090,000 in outstanding variable rate debt as follows, with liquidity provided by the State for all these issues:

| Dated Date | Outstanding  | Purpose/Series                       | Rate<br>Period | Final Maturity |
|------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 6/7/2006   | \$13,620,000 | Common Schools, 2006B/C              | Weekly         | 6/15/2026      |
| 10/26/2016 | 53,950,000   | DRC Prison Facilities, 2016B/C       | Weekly         | 10/1/2036      |
| 8/7/2019   | 45,000,000   | DRC Prison Facilities, 2019C         | Weekly         | 10/1/2039      |
| 8/12/2020  | 57,000,000   | Parks & Recreation Facilities, 2020B | Weekly         | 12/1/2040      |
| 4/21/2021  | 57,000,000   | DRC Prison Facilities, 2021B         | Weekly         | 10/1/2040      |
| 1/5/2022   | 75,000,000   | Parks & Recreation Facilities, 2022B | Weekly         | 12/1/2041      |
| 9/24/2025  | 125,520,000  | DRC Prison Facilities, 2025B         | Weekly         | 10/1/2045      |

# **Interest Rate Swaps**

As part of its debt management, the State is also party to the following floating-to-fixed interest rate swap agreements with a total notional amount currently outstanding of \$13,620,000:

| Outstanding<br>Notional<br>Amount | Related Bond<br>Series    | State<br>Pays | State<br>Receives | Counterparty | Effective<br>Date | Termination<br>Date |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| \$13,620,000                      | Common Schools<br>2006B/C | 3.202%        | SOFR <sup>a</sup> | US Bank/ RBC | 6/15/2006         | 6/15/2026           |

<sup>(</sup>a) Variable interest rate based on a percentage of one-month Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) plus a fixed increment beginning July 1, 2023.

For all its swap agreements, the State has established minimum uncollateralized counterparty rating thresholds of A2/A. Under each of these agreements, the counterparty is required to progressively post collateral securing the State's position if the counterparty's credit ratings fall below these minimum thresholds.

# **Constitutional Limitation on Annual Debt Service**

A 1999 constitutional amendment provides an annual debt service "cap" applicable to most future issuances of State general obligations and other State direct obligations payable from the GRF or net State lottery proceeds. Generally, new obligations may not be issued if debt service for any future fiscal year on those new and then outstanding obligations of those categories would exceed 5 percent of the total of estimated GRF revenues (excluding GRF receipts from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009) plus net State lottery proceeds for the fiscal year of issuance. Those direct obligations of the State include general obligations and special obligations that are paid from the State's GRF but exclude (i) general obligation debt for third frontier

research and development, development of sites and facilities, and veterans' compensation, and (ii) general obligation debt payable from non-GRF funds, such as highway bonds that are paid from highway user receipts. Pursuant to the implementing legislation, the Governor has designated the OBM Director as the state official responsible for making the 5 percent determinations and certifications. Application of the 5 percent cap may be waived in a particular instance by a three-fifths vote of each house of the Ohio General Assembly.

The following table presents a current summary of State debt authorizations and the principal that has been issued and is outstanding against those authorizations, excluding the Bonds. The General Assembly has appropriated sufficient moneys to meet debt service requirements for the current biennium (ending June 30, 2027) on all the obligations included in this and the accompanying tables.

|  | Authorized by                   |                       | Authorized But |                            |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
|  | General Assembly <sup>(a)</sup> | Issued <sup>(b)</sup> | Not Yet Issued | Outstanding <sup>(c)</sup> |
| Obligations from the GRF                     |                                 |                       |                |                            |
| <b>General Obligations</b>                   |                                 |                       |                |                            |
| Coal Development <sup>(d)</sup>              | \$256,266,487                   | \$254,000,000         | \$2,266,487    | \$10,015,000               |
| Infrastructure <sup>(e)(f)</sup>             | 5,440,000,000                   | 5,068,696,136         | 371,303,864    | 1,714,450,000              |
| Natural Resources <sup>(g)</sup>             | 509,000,000                     | 484,620,000           | 24,380,000     | 36,135,000                 |
| Common School Facilities <sup>(f)</sup>      | 6,420,100,000                   | 5,911,200,000         | 508,900,000    | 1,698,610,000              |
| Higher Education Facilities                  | 5,264,000,000                   | 5,187,030,000         | 76,970,000     | 1,936,135,000              |
| Conservation <sup>(h)</sup>                  | 832,750,000                     | 727,455,000           | 105,295,000    | 250,115,000                |
| Research & Development <sup>(i)</sup>        | 1,200,000,000                   | 1,031,000,000         | 169,000,000    | 147,420,000                |
| Site Development                             | 150,000,000                     | 150,000,000           | -              | -                          |
| Veterans Compensation <sup>(j)</sup>         | 200,000,000                     | 83,910,000            | -              | 945,000                    |
|  |                                 |                       | Total:         | \$5,793,825,000            |
| <b>Special Obligations</b>                   |                                 |                       |                |                            |
| DAS Facilities                               | \$2,623,500,000                 | \$2,265,350,000       | \$358,150,000  | \$536,160,000              |
| DRC Prison Facilities <sup>(f)</sup>         | 2,915,000,000                   | 2,584,275,000         | 330,725,000    | 575,145,000                |
| DYS Facilities                               | 705,800,000                     | 400,000,000           | 305,800,000    | 50,135,000                 |
| Cultural & Sports Facilities                 | 896,035,524                     | 815,935,000           | 80,100,524     | 172,520,000                |
| Mental Health Facilities                     | 2,131,700,000                   | 1,817,085,000         | 314,615,000    | 149,190,000                |
| Parks & Recreation Facilities <sup>(f)</sup> | 1,466,133,513                   | 1,089,000,000         | 377,133,513    | 467,215,000                |
|  |                                 |                       | Total:         | \$1,950,365,000            |
| Obligations Payable from Non                 | -GRF Sources <sup>(k)</sup>     |                       |                |                            |
| Highway User Receipts                        |                                 |                       |                |                            |
| G.O. Highway <sup>(l)</sup>                  | \$4,286,500,000                 | \$3,579,595,000       | 706,905,000    | \$606,360,000              |
| ODOT Facilities                              | 385,000,000                     | 379,455,000           | 5,545,000      | 135,065,000                |
|  |                                 |                       | Total:         | \$741,425,000              |
| Federal Transportation Gra                   | nnts                            |                       |                |                            |
| ODOT GARVEE Highway <sup>(m)</sup>           | n/a                             | \$3,083,500,000       |                | \$678,935,000              |

- (a) Section 529.10 of H.B. 687 of the 134th General Assembly authorized the Director of Budget and Management to transfer GRF cash balances to support capital appropriations in fiscal years 2023 and 2024. The same legislation also provided bond authority for those appropriations. Therefore, the issuance authority for some bond programs in section 529.10 of H.B. 2 of the 135th General Assembly is adjusted down in the amount that was supported through GRF cash transfer in fiscal years 2023 and 2024. As of June 30, 2025, GRF cash transfers in the amounts of \$1,414,983,513 for General Obligation programs and \$1,322,530,963 for Special Obligation programs have occurred.
- (b) Excludes refunding bonds; includes bonds refunded; reflects payments of amounts due as of November 21, 2025. Excludes \$89,590,000\* State of Ohio (Treasurer of State) Capital Facilities Lease-Appropriation Bonds, Series 2025A (Mental Health Facilities Improvement Fund Projects), \$58,055,000\* Capital Facilities Lease-Appropriation Refunding Bonds, Series 2025A (Parks and Recreation Improvement Fund Projects), \$26,175,000\* Capital Facilities Lease-Appropriation Refunding Bonds, Series 2025C (Adult Correctional Building Fund Projects), and \$38,245,000\* Capital Facilities Lease-Appropriation Bonds, Series 2025C Administrative Building Fund Projects), (collectively, the "TOS Series 2025 Bonds"), as set forth in the Preliminary Official Statement dated November 13, 2025 for such bonds which are scheduled to price on December 3, 2025.
- (c) Excludes refunded bonds; includes refunding bonds; reflects payments of amounts due as of November 21, 2025. Excludes the TOS Series 2025 Bonds as set forth in the Preliminary Official Statement dated November 13, 2025 for such bonds which are scheduled to price on December 3, 2025.
- (d) Not more than \$100 million may be outstanding at any time.
- (e) Not more than \$5.625 billion may be issued with the annual issuance currently limited to no more than \$175 million in each fiscal year beginning in FY 2018 through FY 2022, \$200,000,000 in each fiscal year beginning in FY 2023 through FY 2027, and \$250,000,000 in each fiscal year beginning in FY 2028 through FY 2037, plus any obligations unissued from previous fiscal years.
- (f) Includes adjustable-rate bonds.
- (g) Not more than \$50 million may be issued in any fiscal year, and not more than \$200 million may be outstanding at any time.
- (h) Not more than \$50 million may be issued in any fiscal year, plus any obligations unissued from previous fiscal years, and not more than \$400 million may be outstanding at any time.
- (i) Not more than \$1.2 billion may be issued, with the annual issuance now limited to no more than \$175 million in any fiscal year plus any obligations unissued from previous fiscal years.
- (j) Constitutional authorization was self-implementing and did not require further General Assembly authorization. No more new obligations may be issued under this authorization.
- (k) See discussion above of "availability payments" under ODOT's first public-private agreement, which payments are expected to be made from biennial appropriations of non-GRF funds available to ODOT and remaining after the payment of debt service on highway general obligations, special obligations, and GARVEE bonds shown above.
- (l) Not more than \$220 million may be issued in any fiscal year, plus any amount unissued from previous fiscal years, and not more than \$1.2 billion may be outstanding at any time.

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(m) Debt service on these "GARVEE" bonds is paid from federal transportation grants apportioned to the State (Title 23 of the U.S. Code).

The following table shows total debt service by fiscal year on State obligations payable from the GRF, excluding the Bonds:

# Annual Debt Service Requirements on State Obligations Paid from the GRF

|      | General Obligations            |                                  |                             | Special Obligations           |                                  |                    |
|------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| FY   | Education <sup>(a)(b)(e)</sup> | Infrastructure <sup>(b)(e)</sup> | All Other <sup>(c)(e)</sup> | DAS Facilities <sup>(e)</sup> | DRC Facilities <sup>(b)(e)</sup> | All Other(b)(d)(e) |
| 2026 | \$511,137,583                  | \$224,942,621                    | \$105,322,444               | \$ 42,053,633                 | \$46,447,603                     | \$139,364,419      |
| 2027 | 443,844,345                    | 222,638,258                      | 93,539,667                  | 57,879,563                    | 59,735,643                       | 129,843,950        |
| 2028 | 410,976,033                    | 205,591,508                      | 91,440,443                  | 58,144,862                    | 59,693,103                       | 123,461,094        |
| 2029 | 415,609,486                    | 212,434,471                      | 69,825,858                  | 58,000,032                    | 55,998,556                       | 113,107,281        |
| 2030 | 425,228,699                    | 197,608,051                      | 54,583,577                  | 53,670,016                    | 53,144,131                       | 108,601,125        |
| 2031 | 422,983,251                    | 179,513,930                      | 39,576,150                  | 50,926,138                    | 53,153,062                       | 102,167,750        |
| 2032 | 377,817,954                    | 156,486,911                      | 30,199,850                  | 51,254,027                    | 47,838,295                       | 68,617,219         |
| 2033 | 332,267,851                    | 149,289,148                      | 21,504,325                  | 48,837,166                    | 47,738,680                       | 49,307,645         |
| 2034 | 328,424,553                    | 151,734,920                      | 21,574,200                  | 45,174,223                    | 48,014,348                       | 36,374,190         |
| 2035 | 303,314,692                    | 128,041,207                      | 12,908,375                  | 45,177,536                    | 44,848,576                       | 36,369,006         |
| 2036 | 266,154,750                    | 125,387,957                      | 5,693,875                   | 39,586,297                    | 44,877,322                       | 36,375,252         |
| 2037 | 211,589,275                    | 103,349,150                      | -                           | 39,585,277                    | 41,287,627                       | 27,314,386         |
| 2038 | 167,522,300                    | 92,949,700                       | -                           | 33,947,250                    | 35,973,453                       | 27,320,658         |
| 2039 | 119,571,400                    | 86,101,375                       | =                           | 33,947,000                    | 28,245,008                       | 27,315,302         |
| 2040 | 108,842,600                    | 67,232,750                       | =                           | 28,455,250                    | 28,243,366                       | 16,694,910         |
| 2041 | 100,373,425                    | 42,670,750                       | -                           | 21,990,875                    | 21,106,709                       | 16,694,014         |
| 2042 | 76,708,500                     | 44,946,250                       | -                           | 15,775,250                    | 14,528,897                       | 8,678,601          |
| 2043 | 76,706,125                     | 30,841,500                       | -                           | 15,779,000                    | 14,527,288                       | -                  |
| 2044 | 76,707,500                     | 16,490,250                       | -                           | 15,774,625                    | 14,530,646                       | -                  |
| 2045 | 51,884,375                     | -                                | -                           | 15,775,500                    | 14,526,916                       | -                  |
| 2046 | 23,549,375                     | -                                | -                           | 15,774,750                    | 14,530,313                       | -                  |

|      | Total GRF Debt Service   |                            |                         |  |  |  |  |
|------|--------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| FY   | Principal <sup>(e)</sup> | Interest <sup>(b)(e)</sup> | Total <sup>(b)(e)</sup> |  |  |  |  |
| 2026 | \$734,260,000            | \$335,008,303              | \$1,069,268,303         |  |  |  |  |
| 2027 | 658,825,000              | 348,656,427                | 1,007,481,427           |  |  |  |  |
| 2028 | 646,135,000              | 303,172,042                | 949,307,042             |  |  |  |  |
| 2029 | 652,550,000              | 272,425,684                | 924,975,684             |  |  |  |  |
| 2030 | 651,155,000              | 241,680,598                | 892,835,598             |  |  |  |  |
| 2031 | 637,005,000              | 211,315,281                | 848,320,281             |  |  |  |  |
| 2032 | 548,840,000              | 183,374,255                | 732,214,255             |  |  |  |  |
| 2033 | 489,765,000              | 159,179,815                | 648,944,815             |  |  |  |  |
| 2034 | 492,950,000              | 138,346,434                | 631,296,434             |  |  |  |  |
| 2035 | 453,210,000              | 117,449,392                | 570,659,392             |  |  |  |  |
| 2036 | 421,415,000              | 96,660,453                 | 518,075,453             |  |  |  |  |
| 2037 | 345,080,000              | 78,045,715                 | 423,125,715             |  |  |  |  |
| 2038 | 294,855,000              | 62,858,362                 | 357,713,362             |  |  |  |  |
| 2039 | 245,480,000              | 49,700,085                 | 295,180,085             |  |  |  |  |
| 2040 | 209,890,000              | 39,578,876                 | 249,468,876             |  |  |  |  |
| 2041 | 172,720,000              | 30,115,773                 | 202,835,773             |  |  |  |  |
| 2042 | 138,105,000              | 22,532,498                 | 160,637,498             |  |  |  |  |
| 2043 | 121,720,000              | 16,133,913                 | 137,853,913             |  |  |  |  |
| 2044 | 113,240,000              | 10,263,021                 | 123,503,021             |  |  |  |  |
| 2045 | 77,370,000               | 4,816,791                  | 82,186,791              |  |  |  |  |
| 2046 | 52,680,000               | 1,174,438                  | 53,854,438              |  |  |  |  |
|      | \$8,157,250,000          | \$2,722,488,154            | \$10,879,738,154        |  |  |  |  |

<sup>(</sup>a) Consists of common schools and higher education general obligation bonds.

<sup>(</sup>b) Includes estimated debt service on adjustable-rate bonds.

<sup>(</sup>c) Includes natural resources, coal development, conservation, research and development, and veterans' compensation general obligation bonds.

<sup>(</sup>d) Includes lease-rental bonds for mental health, parks and recreation, cultural and sports facilities, and facilities for the Department of Youth Services.

<sup>(</sup>e) Excludes refunded bonds; includes refunding bonds; as of November 21, 2025. Excludes the TOS Series 2025 Bonds as set forth in the Preliminary Official Statement dated November 13, 2025 for such bonds which are scheduled to price on December 3, 2025.

The following table shows total debt service by fiscal year on certain State obligations payable from the indicated non-GRF revenues:

# Annual Debt Service Requirements on State Obligations Paid from Non-GRF Revenues

|      | Highway User Receipts |                           |                      | GARVEE Federal        |
|------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
|      | Highway               | ODOT/DPS                  |                      | Transportation        |
| FY   | G.O.                  | Facilities <sup>(a)</sup> | Total <sup>(b)</sup> | Grants <sup>(c)</sup> |
| 2026 | \$118,223,000         | \$21,143,250              | \$139,366,250        | \$122,101,375         |
| 2027 | 114,483,250           | 21,138,750                | 135,622,000          | 122,094,875           |
| 2028 | 110,698,000           | 21,143,500                | 131,841,500          | 122,095,750           |
| 2029 | 76,546,500            | 21,140,250                | 97,686,750           | 122,101,500           |
| 2030 | 73,931,250            | 21,137,500                | 95,068,750           | 98,002,250            |
| 2031 | 70,970,250            | 13,443,250                | 84,413,500           | 56,715,000            |
| 2032 | 52,814,500            | 13,445,000                | 66,259,500           | 56,720,125            |
| 2033 | 50,618,750            | 13,445,000                | 64,063,750           | 36,327,375            |
| 2034 | 34,798,000            | 5,067,000                 | 39,865,000           | 26,128,750            |
| 2035 | 20,808,500            | 5,068,500                 | 25,877,000           | 26,121,375            |
| 2036 | 15,347,750            | 5,070,000                 | 20,417,750           | 13,453,375            |
| 2037 | 14,680,500            | 5,066,000                 | 19,746,500           | 13,453,125            |
| 2038 | 8,563,500             | 5,066,250                 | 13,629,750           | _                     |
| 2039 | 8,174,250             | -                         | 8,174,250            | -                     |

<sup>(</sup>a) Lease rental payments are paid from highway user receipts for these Ohio Department of Transportation and Department of Public Safety facilities.

The following table shows the principal amount of those obligations that are currently scheduled to be outstanding as of July 1 of the indicated years, as of November 21, 2025, excluding the Bonds:

|      | Oblig                    | Non-GRF Obligations     |                                       |   |
|------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Year | Education <sup>(a)</sup> | Other GO <sup>(b)</sup> | Special<br>Obligations <sup>(c)</sup> | Highway User<br>Receipts <sup>(d)</sup> |
| 2026 | \$3,523,935,000          | \$2,046,345,000         | \$1,852,710,000                       | \$653,055,000                           |
| 2031 | 2,092,650,000            | 1,041,330,000           | 1,043,340,000                         | 222,890,000                             |
| 2036 | 844,435,000              | 414,590,000             | 512,115,000                           | 38,230,000                              |
| 2041 | 272,275,000              | 85,025,000              | 145,815,000                           | -                                       |

<sup>(</sup>a) Includes bonds for common school and higher education capital facilities.

<sup>(</sup>b) As of November 21, 2025.

<sup>(</sup>c) Debt service paid from federal transportation grants apportioned to the State under Title 23 of the U.S. Code. Totals may not foot due to rounding.

<sup>(</sup>b) Includes natural resources, coal development, infrastructure improvement, conservation, research and development, and veterans' compensation general obligation bonds.

<sup>(</sup>c) Includes lease-rental bonds for various state capital facilities. Excludes the TOS Series 2025 Bonds as set forth in the Preliminary Official Statement dated November 13, 2025 for such bonds which are scheduled to price on December 3, 2025.

<sup>(</sup>d) Includes general obligations for highways and lease-rental bonds for ODOT and DPS facilities.

The following tables show certain historical debt information and comparisons. These tables include only outstanding obligations of the State for which debt service is paid from the GRF.

|             | Principal Amount | Outstanding Debt Per | Outstanding Debt as Percent of Annual |
|-------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Fiscal Year | Outstanding      | Capita               | Personal Income                       |
| 1990        | \$3,707,055,058  | \$341                | 1.94%                                 |
| 2000        | 6,308,680,025    | 555                  | 2.05                                  |
| 2010        | 8,586,655,636    | 744                  | 2.09                                  |
| 2020        | 9,432,955,000    | 799                  | 1.51                                  |
| 2021        | 9,818,225,000    | 834                  | 1.46                                  |
| 2022        | 9,153,950,000    | 777                  | 1.33                                  |
| 2023        | 8,200,030,000    | 694                  | 1.13                                  |
| 2024        | 7,408,070,000    | 623 <sup>(a)</sup>   | 0.97                                  |
| 2025        | 7,405,810,000    | 623 <sup>(a)</sup>   | 0.97 <sup>(b)</sup>                   |

| Fiscal Year | Debt Service<br>Payable      | Total GRF Revenue<br>and Net State Lottery<br>Proceeds | Debt Service as<br>Percent of GRF<br>Revenue and Lottery<br>Proceeds | Debt Service as<br>Percent of Annual<br>Personal Income |
|-------------|------------------------------|--|--|---|
| 1990        | \$488,676,826                | \$12,230,682,298                                       | 4.00%  | 0.26%   |
| 2000        | 871,313,814                  | 20,711,678,217   | 4.21   | 0.28  |
| 2010        | 710,284,236 <sup>(c)</sup>   | 24,108,466,000 <sup>(d)</sup>                          | 2.95   | 0.17  |
| 2020        | 1,411,388,593                | 34,551,772,000   | 4.08   | 0.23  |
| 2021        | 1,176,720,278 <sup>(c)</sup> | 40,723,295,400   | 2.88   | 0.17  |
| 2022        | 1,435,175,069                | 41,894,141,300   | 3.41   | 0.21  |
| 2023        | 1,503,565,816                | 43,979,421,000   | 3.42   | 0.21  |
| 2024        | 1,260,786,513                | 42,847,032,000   | 2.94   | 0.17 <sup>(b)</sup>                                     |
| 2025        | 1,245,140,365                | 45,642,859,000   | 2.73   | 0.16 <sup>(b)</sup>                                     |

- (a) Based on U.S. Census Bureau midyear population estimates.
- (b) Based on U.S. Department of Commerce Bureau of Economic Analysis 2024 personal income data.
- (c) Reduction is due in large part to the restructuring of certain GRF debt service payments, resulting in net savings of \$416.8 million in FY 2010 and \$363.7 million in FY 2021.
- (d) Excludes federal funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

#### **Debt Authorizations**

For the FYs 2025-2026 capital biennium, the General Assembly approved \$3.5 billion in new capital appropriations, with \$2.9 billion of those new capital appropriations to be funded by GRF-supported debt authorizations, and \$283 million to be funded from other sources.

Section 529.10 of H.B. 687 of the 134th General Assembly authorized the Director of Budget and Management to transfer GRF cash balances to support capital appropriations in fiscal years 2023 and 2024. The same legislation also provided bond authority for those appropriations. Therefore, the issuance authority for some bond programs in section 529.10 of H.B. 2 of the 135th General Assembly is adjusted down in the amount that was supported through GRF cash transfers in fiscal years 2023 and 2024. As of June 30, 2025, GRF cash transfers in the amounts of \$1,414,983,513 for General Obligation programs and \$1,322,530,963 for Special Obligation programs have occurred. These amounts are reflected in the current summary of State debt authorizations described in a prior table.

On May 6, 2025, Ohio voters approved an amendment to the Ohio Constitution, specifically Section 2t of Article VIII, which authorizes an additional \$2.5 billion of general obligation debt for public infrastructure as a ten-year

extension of the existing local government infrastructure program authorized in 2005 and 2014 with an increase in the annual issuance amount from \$200 million to \$250 million in each of the ten fiscal years of issuance.

# The following additional GRF-supported debt authorizations reflect the most recent capital appropriations:

# **General Obligation**

- \$555,000,000 for capital improvements for elementary and secondary public schools.
- \$215,000,000 for local infrastructure projects.
- \$473,000,000 for higher education facilities.
- \$30,000,000 for natural resources facilities.
- \$65,000,000 for conservation purposes.

# **Special Obligation**

- \$317,000,000 for prisons and local jails.
- \$176,000,000 for youth services facilities.
- \$521,100,000 for state administrative facilities.
- \$102,000,000 for cultural facilities (including both arts and sports facilities).
- \$206,000,000 for mental health facilities (including local projects).
- \$273,000,000 for parks and recreation facilities (including local projects).

#### Past constitutional authorizations are:

- 2025 Additional \$2.5 billion of general obligation debt for public infrastructure as a ten-year extension of the existing local government infrastructure program authorized in 2005, with an increase in the annual issuance amount of \$250 million in each year for ten fiscal years.
- 2014 Additional \$1.875 billion of general obligation debt for public infrastructure as a 10-year extension of the existing local government infrastructure program authorized in 2005, with an increase in the annual issuance amount from \$150 million to \$175 million in the first five fiscal years and \$200 million in each fiscal year thereafter.
- 2010 \$700 million of State general obligation debt to renew and continue programs for research and development in support of Ohio industry, commerce, and business, with those obligations not subject to the 5 percent debt service cap described above. The authorization is in addition to the below-referenced 2005 constitutional amendment for the same purpose. The amount of all State general obligations that may be issued for, and the amounts of proceeds from those State general obligations that may be committed to, those research and development purposes, are limited to no more than \$450 million total for the period including State FY 2006 through FY 2011, no more than \$225 million in FY 2012 and no more than \$175 million in any fiscal year thereafter, plus any amounts that in any prior fiscal year could have been but were not issued.
- 2009 Provides compensation to persons who have served in active duty in the United States armed
  forces at any time during the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, and Iraq conflicts, with those general obligation
  bonds not subject to the 5 percent direct obligation debt service cap described above. No more than \$200
  million may be issued, and no obligations may be issued later than December 31, 2013.
- 2008 Land conservation and revitalization purposes (including statewide brownfields clean-up). Each of the two purposes is authorized up to \$50 million in principal amount in any fiscal year, plus any amount unissued from previous fiscal years, with not more than \$200 million to be outstanding at any time. The bonds for conservation purposes are general obligations, and those for revitalization purposes are special obligations payable from revenues and receipts designated by the General Assembly (previously a portion of the State's net liquor profits. The authorization is in addition to the 2000 constitutional amendment for the same purposes.
- 2005 \$500 million over ten years of State general obligation debt in support of research and development, and \$150 million over ten years of State general obligation debt for the development of

sites for industry, commerce, distribution, and research and development, with those obligations not subject to the 5 percent debt service cap described above. Also authorizes an additional \$1.35 billion of general obligation debt for public infrastructure as a 10-year extension of the existing local government infrastructure program, with an increase in the annual issuance amount from \$120 million to \$150 million in the last five fiscal years, which continues to be subject to the 5 percent debt service cap.

- 2000 Land conservation and revitalization purposes (including statewide brownfields clean-up) each authorized up to \$50 million in principal amount in any fiscal year, plus any amount unissued from previous fiscal years, with not more than \$200 million to be outstanding at any time. The bonds for conservation purposes are general obligations, and those for revitalization purposes are special obligations payable from revenues and receipts designated by the General Assembly (previously a portion of the State's net liquor profits.
- 1999 Facilities for a system of common schools throughout the state and for state-supported and state-assisted institutions of higher education. The amendment also provides for the 5 percent direct obligation debt service cap described above.
- 1995 Additional highway bonds and extension of the local infrastructure bond program. For the latter, it authorized an additional \$1.2 billion of the State's full faith and credit obligations to be issued over 10 years, with not more than \$120 million issued in any fiscal year. The highway finance portion authorizes not more than \$1.2 billion to be outstanding at any time and not more than \$220 million to be issued in any fiscal year.
- 1994 Pledges the State's full faith and credit and taxing power to meet certain guarantees under the
  State's tuition credit program. Through this program, individuals purchase tuition credits that are
  guaranteed to cover a specified amount when applied to tuition and other eligible higher education
  costs. Under the amendment, to secure the tuition guarantees, the General Assembly shall appropriate
  money sufficient to offset any deficiency that occurs in the trust fund, at any time necessary to make
  payment of the full amount of any tuition payment or refund required by a tuition payment contract.
- 1990 Supplements the previous constitutionally authorized loans-for-lenders and other housing assistance programs, financed in part with State revenue bonds. The amendment authorizes the General Assembly to provide for State assistance for housing in a variety of ways, including State borrowing for the purpose by the issuance of obligations secured by a pledge of all or such portion of State revenues or receipts as it authorizes (but not by a pledge of the State's full faith and credit).
- 1985 Finance grants or make or guarantee loans for research and development of coal technology that will encourage the use of Ohio coal. Those grants or loans are available to any individual, association, or corporation doing business in the state or to any educational or scientific institution located in the state. Not more than \$100 million of general obligation bonds may be outstanding at any time.

## **ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT**

Ohio has a diverse economy. While Ohio has a strong manufacturing presence in chemicals, food and beverages, motor vehicles, and fabricated metal products, the most significant growth in Ohio's economy in recent years has been in the non-manufacturing sectors. Ohio's 2024 economic output, as measured by gross state product (GSP), totaled \$927.7 billion, 3.20 percent of the national GDP and seventh largest among the states. The State ranks fifth within the manufacturing sector (\$137.8 billion) and also fifth in durable goods (\$70.6 billion). As a percentage of Ohio's 2024 GSP, 15 percent was attributable to manufacturing, with 22 percent attributable to the goods-producing sectors and 34.5 percent to the business services sectors, including finance, insurance, and real estate. Ohio is the 10th largest exporting state with 2024 merchandise exports totaling \$56.6 billion. The State's leading export products are machinery (including electrical machinery), motor vehicles (including parts), aircraft/spacecraft, and plastics, which together accounted for more than half of the total.

Non-farm payroll employment in Ohio, in a diversifying employment base, decreased from 2001 through 2003, increased from 2004 through 2006, decreased from 2007 through 2010, and increased from 2011 through 2024. In the last three decades, there has been a shift toward the services industry, with manufacturing employment decreasing since its 1969 peak. The non-manufacturing sector employs approximately 88.0 percent of all non-

farm payroll workers in Ohio. The changing mix of employment sectors nationally and in Ohio are shown in the following tables.

# Ohio Nonfarm Payroll Jobs by Industry Type Not Seasonally Adjusted (in thousands)

|  | 1990  | 2000  | 2010  | 2020  | 2024  |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Mining & Logging                         | 18    | 13    | 11    | 9     | 9     |
| Construction                             | 192   | 246   | 169   | 219   | 248   |
| Manufacturing                            | 1,060 | 1,021 | 621   | 653   | 684   |
| Trade, Transportation & Public Utilities | 963   | 1,115 | 945   | 1,006 | 1,055 |
| Financial Activities                     | 255   | 305   | 277   | 303   | 314   |
| Professional & Business Services*        | 455   | 647   | 629   | 694   | 731   |
| Educational & Health Services*           | 539   | 679   | 839   | 895   | 969   |
| Leisure & Hospitality*                   | 400   | 483   | 475   | 466   | 569   |
| Information & Other Services*            | 279   | 331   | 284   | 253   | 280   |
| Government                               | 722   | 785   | 786   | 759   | 790   |
| Total                                    | 4,882 | 5,624 | 5,036 | 5,256 | 5,650 |

Data prior to 1990 in these categories were classified as a single "Services" category under the 1987 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system. All data in table reflects the current North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

Totals may not foot due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, National and State Current Employment Statistics.

Distribution of Nonfarm Payroll Jobs by Industry Type (%)

|  | 1990 |      | 2000 |      | 2010 |      | 2020 |      | 2024 |      |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|  | Ohio | U.S. |
| Mining & Logging                         | 0.4  | 0.7  | 0.2  | 0.5  | 0.2  | 0.5  | 0.2  | 0.4  | 0.2  | 0.4  |
| Construction                             | 3.9  | 4.8  | 4.4  | 5.1  | 3.4  | 4.2  | 4.2  | 5.1  | 4.4  | 5.2  |
| Manufacturing                            | 21.7 | 16.2 | 18.2 | 13.1 | 12.3 | 8.8  | 12.4 | 8.6  | 12.1 | 8.1  |
| Trade, Transportation & Public Utilities | 19.7 | 20.7 | 19.8 | 19.9 | 18.8 | 18.9 | 19.1 | 18.7 | 18.7 | 18.3 |
| Financial Activities                     | 5.2  | 6.0  | 5.4  | 5.9  | 5.5  | 5.9  | 5.8  | 6.1  | 5.6  | 5.8  |
| Professional & Business Services         | 9.3  | 9.9  | 11.5 | 12.6 | 12.5 | 12.8 | 13.2 | 14.2 | 12.9 | 14.3 |
| Educational & Health Services            | 11.0 | 10.1 | 12.1 | 11.6 | 16.7 | 15.3 | 17.0 | 16.3 | 17.2 | 16.8 |
| Leisure & Hospitality                    | 8.2  | 8.5  | 8.6  | 9.0  | 9.4  | 10.0 | 8.9  | 9.4  | 10.1 | 10.7 |
| Information & Other Services             | 5.7  | 6.3  | 5.9  | 6.7  | 5.6  | 6.2  | 4.8  | 5.7  | 4.9  | 5.6  |
| Government                               | 14.8 | 16.8 | 14.0 | 15.7 | 15.6 | 17.3 | 14.4 | 15.4 | 14.0 | 14.8 |

Totals may not foot due to rounding.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, National and State Current Employment Statistics. The distribution percentages are as calculated by OBM.

Ohio and U.S. unemployment rates have been as follows:

Average Monthly Unemployment Rates (Seasonally Adjusted)

| Year         | Ohio (%) | U.S. (%) |
|--------------|----------|----------|
| 1990         | 5.6      | 5.6      |
| 2000         | 4.0      | 4.0      |
| 2005         | 5.9      | 5.1      |
| 2006         | 5.4      | 4.6      |
| 2007         | 5.6      | 4.6      |
| 2008         | 6.4      | 5.8      |
| 2009         | 10.3     | 9.3      |
| 2010         | 10.3     | 9.6      |
| 2011         | 8.8      | 8.9      |
| 2012         | 7.4      | 8.1      |
| 2013         | 7.5      | 7.4      |
| 2014         | 5.8      | 6.2      |
| 2015         | 5.0      | 5.3      |
| 2016         | 5.1      | 4.9      |
| 2017         | 4.9      | 4.4      |
| 2018         | 4.5      | 3.9      |
| 2019         | 4.1      | 3.7      |
| 2020         | 8.3      | 8.1      |
| 2021         | 5.2      | 5.4      |
| 2022         | 4.0      | 3.6      |
| 2023         | 3.6      | 3.6      |
| 2024         | 4.3      | 4.0      |
| 2025 January | 4.6      | 4.0      |
| February     | 4.7      | 4.1      |
| March        | 4.8      | 4.2      |
| April        | 4.9      | 4.2      |
| Мау          | 4.9      | 4.2      |
| June         | 4.9      | 4.1      |
| July         | 5.0      | 4.2      |
| August       | 5.0*     | 4.3      |

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary

The following are the private sector employers that had the highest number of full-time equivalent employees (estimated and rounded) in Ohio:

**Ohio's Top 25 Private Sector Employers** 

|   | Employment  |                              |
|---|-------------|------------------------------|
|   | Headcount   |                              |
| Company                                       | (Estimated) | Sector                       |
| Cleveland Clinic Health System                | 58,433      | Health Care                  |
| Walmart Inc.                                  | 56,010      | Retail: General Merchandise  |
| Amazon.com, Inc.                              | 45,000      | Retail: General Merchandise  |
| The Kroger Co.                                | 42,926      | Retail: Food Stores          |
| Ohio Health                                   | 35,000      | Health Care                  |
| University Hospitals Medical System           | 32,165      | Health Care                  |
| Bon Secours Mercy Health                      | 28,285      | Health Care                  |
| JPMorgan Chase & Co.                          | 20,228      | Finance: Bank                |
| Giant Eagle Inc.                              | 17,400      | Retail: Food Stores          |
| Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical System | 15,795      | Health Care                  |
| Honda Motor Co., Ltd.                         | 15,600      | Manufacture: Motor Vehicles  |
| FedEx Corporation                             | 15,250      | Transportation: Air Delivery |
| United Parcel Service, Inc.                   | 14,800      | Transportation: Air Delivery |
| Kettering Health                              | 14,413      | Health Care                  |
| Nationwide Children's Hospital                | 14,027      | Health Care                  |
| Premier Health                                | 13,603      | Health Care                  |
| Progressive Corp.                             | 13,504      | Finance: Insurance           |
| Target Corporation                            | 12,410      | Retail: General Merchandise  |
| TriHealth, Inc.                               | 12,003      | Health Care                  |
| Nationwide Mutual Insurance Co.               | 12,000      | Finance: Insurance           |
| ProMedica Health System                       | 11,778      | Health Care                  |
| CVS Health Corp.                              | 11,768      | Retail: Drug Stores          |
| Proctor & Gamble Co.                          | 11,500      | Manufacture: Consumer Goods  |
| Meijer Stores L.P.                            | 11,492      | Retail: General Merchandise  |
| Cedar Fair, L.P.                              | 11,200      | Entertainment: Theme Parks   |

Boldface indicates headquartered in Ohio.

Source: Department of Development, Office of Research, June 30. 2025.

# **POPULATION**

Ohio's 2020<sup>†</sup> decennial census population of 11,798,292 indicated a 2.3 percent population growth over 2010 and ranked Ohio seventh among the states in population. The following tables show selected census figures:

Ohio Population — Total and by Age Group

|      |            | Rank   |                    |            |             |             |
|------|------------|--------|--------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
|      |            | Among  | Decennial          |            |             |             |
| Year | Total      | States | <b>Growth Rate</b> | 0-19 Years | 20-64 Years | 65 and over |
| 1990 | 10,847,115 | 7      | 0.5%               | 3,141,000  | 6,299,100   | 1,407,000   |
| 2000 | 11,353,140 | 7      | 4.7                | 3,216,000  | 6,629,400   | 1,507,800   |
| 2010 | 11,536,504 | 7      | 1.6                | 3,067,126  | 6,847,363   | 1,622,015   |
| 2020 | 11,798,292 | 7      | 2.3                | 2,937,770  | 6,803,218   | 2,057,304   |

July 2024 Census population estimate is 11,883,304.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Web Site, Metropolitan Area Population Estimates v.2024

# **Population of Ohio Metropolitan Areas**

|                          | 1990                     | 2000                     | 2010                     | 2020                     | 2024                     |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Cleveland <sup>(a)</sup> | 2,202,069 <sup>(a)</sup> | 2,250,871 <sup>(a)</sup> | 2,075,478 <sup>(a)</sup> | 2,184,232 <sup>(a)</sup> | 2,171,877 <sup>(a)</sup> |
| Cincinnati               | 1,526,092 <sup>(b)</sup> | 1,646,395 <sup>(b)</sup> | 2,140,715 <sup>(c)</sup> | 2,252,077 <sup>(d)</sup> | 2,302,815 <sup>(d)</sup> |
| Columbus                 | 1,345,450 <sup>(e)</sup> | 1,540,157 <sup>(e)</sup> | 1,836,536 <sup>(e)</sup> | 2,142,023 <sup>(e)</sup> | 2,225,377 <sup>(e)</sup> |
| Dayton                   | 951,270 <sup>(f)</sup>   | 950,558 <sup>(f)</sup>   | 979,835 <sup>(f)</sup>   | 814,231 <sup>(g)</sup>   | 821,740 <sup>(g)</sup>   |
| Akron                    | 657,575                  | 694,960                  | 703,031                  | 701,689                  | 702,209                  |
| Toledo                   | 614,128                  | 618,203                  | 651,372                  | 605,777 <sup>(h)</sup>   | 601,396 <sup>(h)</sup>   |
| Youngstown-Warren        | 600,895 <sup>(i)</sup>   | 594,746 <sup>(i)</sup>   | 564,826 <sup>(i)</sup>   | 429,699 <sup>(i)</sup>   | 426,086 <sup>(i)</sup>   |
| Canton-Massillon         | 394,106                  | 406,934                  | 404,422                  | 401,254                  | 400,551                  |
| Hamilton-Middletown      | 291,479                  | 332,807                  | (c)                      | (d)                      | (d)                      |
| Lima                     | 154,340                  | 155,084                  | 106,331                  | 102,137                  | 100,866                  |
| Mansfield                | 174,007                  | 175,818                  | 124,475                  | 124,988                  | 124,853                  |
| Steubenville             | 142,523 <sup>(j)</sup>   | 132,008 <sup>(j)</sup>   | 124,454 <sup>(j)</sup>   | 116,713 <sup>(k)</sup>   | 113,239 <sup>(k)</sup>   |
| Springfield              | (f)                      | (f)                      | (f)                      | 135,894                  | 134,985                  |
| Sandusky                 | (1)                      | (l)                      | (l)                      | 115,780                  | 113,533                  |

- (a) Cleveland includes Lorain-Elyria.
- (b) Includes 12 counties (two in Indiana and six in Kentucky).
- (c) Includes 15 counties (three in Indiana and seven in Kentucky); includes Hamilton-Middletown.
- (d) Includes 16 counties (four in Indiana and seven in Kentucky); includes Hamilton-Middletown.
- (e) Newark added.
- (f) Dayton includes Springfield.
- (g) Springfield removed; Dayton includes Beavercreek.
- (h) Includes three counties (one in Pennsylvania).
- (i) Ottawa County removed.
- (j) Mercer County, PA removed.
- (k) Weirton added; includes two counties in West Virginia.
- (I) Included in Fremont Micropolitan Statistical Area.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Web Site, Metropolitan Area Population Estimates v.2024

#### AGRICULTURAL AND RESOURCES BASES

With 13.5 million acres (of a total land area of 26.4 million acres) in farmland and an estimated 77,800 individual farms, agriculture and related sectors are an essential segment of Ohio's economy. Ohio's 2023 crop production value of \$8.9 billion ranked ninth among states and represented 3.1 percent of the U.S. total value. Ohio's 2023 livestock production value of \$5.8 billion ranked nineteenth among states and represented 2.3 percent of the U.S. total value. As of 2023, Ohio accounts for 5.1 percent of total U.S. cash receipts for corn and 8.2 percent for soybeans. In 2023, Ohio's agricultural sector output (consisting of crops, livestock, poultry, dairy, services and forestry, and all farm-related income) totaled \$16.3 billion and represented 2.6 percent of the U.S. total value. Ohio farm expenses and purchased inputs (feed, seed, chemicals, fertilizer, livestock, utilities, labor, and machinery) totaled \$10.5 billion. The net farm income on Ohio farms in 2023 was \$5.3 billion.

The availability of natural resources, such as water and energy, is a nationwide concern. With Lake Erie and the Ohio River on the State's borders, and many lakes and streams throughout the State, water is accessible and abundant throughout Ohio. With the launch of the H2Ohio program in 2019, the state is investing in water quality initiatives to ensure this precious resource continues to benefit Ohioans for generations to come. Additionally, Ohio is a strong energy-producing state. As of 2023, Ohio ranks seventh in consumer-grade natural gas production, generating 2.2 million cubic feet, and has sizable coal resources, ranking sixteenth in both coal production and coal reserves among the states in 2023.

# STATE EMPLOYEES AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS

Since 1985, the number of regular state employees (excluding employees who are not paid by state warrant, such as state university employees) has ranged from a low of 48,639 in March 2022 to a high of 68,573 in 1994. The State engages in collective bargaining with five employee unions representing 14 bargaining units. The duration of each

of the collective bargaining agreements is typically three years. In July 2024, the State concluded negotiations with its largest union, AFSCME/OCSEA, on a new collective bargaining agreement that expires February 28, 2027. Currently, the State has completed the negotiation process for the 2024-2027 round of collective bargaining and has finalized successor agreements with the other four unions.

#### **RETIREMENT SYSTEMS**

The State has established five public retirement systems to provide retirement, disability retirement, and survivor benefits, and other post-employment benefits such as retiree health care. None of these benefits is guaranteed under the Ohio Constitution or State law, or subject to bargaining under the State's current public employee collective bargaining law.

The Public Employees Retirement System (PERS), the largest of the five, covers both state and local public employees and non-teaching employees at public higher education institutions. Effective 2024, the Ohio Public Employees Deferred Compensation Program (ODC) became a fiduciary component unit of PERS; and, effective 2025, ODC merged with PERS. The State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) covers teaching employees at school districts and public higher education institutions. The School Employees Retirement System (SERS) covers non-teaching employees at school districts and community colleges. The Highway Patrol Retirement System (HPRS) covers State troopers, and the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund (OP&F) covers local safety forces. Complete financial information for each retirement system can be found on its website as part of its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and/or annual report.

The five retirement systems began reporting pensions in accordance with GASB Statement No. 67, Financial Reporting for Pension Plans, in FY 2014, and the State started reporting pensions in accordance with GASB Statement No. 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions, in FY 2015. The retirement systems also began reporting in accordance with GASB Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans, in FY 2017, and the State started reporting in accordance with GASB Statement No. 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions, in FY 2018.

The retirement systems were created by and operate pursuant to state law. As reflected in the 2012 pension reform acts discussed below, the General Assembly has the power to amend the structure and benefit levels, impose or revise contribution rates or amounts, and make other changes. The systems have never been subject to the funding and vesting requirements of the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA). Federal law requires employees hired on or after April 1, 1986, to participate in the Medicare program, with matching employer and employee contributions, each now 1.45 percent of the wage base. Otherwise, state employees covered by a state retirement system are not currently covered under the federal Social Security Act. Congress has from time to time considered legislation relating to public sector retirement funds and other aspects of public employee retirement.

Funding for the retirement systems is provided by a combination of public employer and employee contributions based on percentages of each employee's compensation, with the employees' contributions being deducted from their paychecks. Employee contribution percentages are either established in state law or by the retirement system board, subject to a maximum contribution amount established in state law. Except for employee contributions for PERS law enforcement and public safety personnel, the current contribution percentages for each system (outlined in the following table under **Pension Benefits**) reflect the maximums permitted under state law.

In 1968, the Ohio General Assembly created the Ohio Retirement Study Council (ORSC) to oversee the state's five public retirement systems and to advise and inform the legislature on all matters relating to the benefits, funding, investment, and administration of those systems. The ORSC consists of nine voting members: three members of the House appointed by the Speaker; three members of the Senate appointed by the President; and three members appointed by the Governor (one representing the State, one representing local governments, and the

third representing public education institutions). The five executive directors of the retirement systems also serve as nonvoting members of the ORSC.

Under state law, each retirement system's board is required to establish not more than 30 years to amortize its unfunded actuarial accrued pension liability (UAAL). If in any year the period required to amortize that UAAL exceeds thirty years, the board must prepare and submit to the ORSC and the applicable committees in the Ohio General Assembly a plan to reduce that amortization period to not more than 30 years. Based on their most recent reporting years reflected in the table below under **Pension Benefits**, all of the retirement systems meet the 30year funding requirement, with the number of years to fully amortize UAAL at 11 years for STRS, 15 years for PERS, 20 years for SERS, 19 years for HPRS, and 30 years for OP&F. Prior to the 2012 pension reform acts described below, the board of each of the five retirement systems had approved and submitted to the ORSC and the Ohio General Assembly a plan to reduce or maintain its amortization period at not more than thirty years. Pursuant to this continuing requirement, the OP&F board increased (effective January 1, 2014) contributions to its pension fund by reducing from 2.85 percent to 0.5 percent the amount of employer contributions directed to health care and redirecting the 2.35 percent difference to pensions. Likewise, the STRS board increased (effective July 1, 2014) contributions to its pension fund by redirecting to pensions the 1 percent of employer contributions previously directed to healthcare. The HPRS board also increased (effective January 1, 2018) contributions to its pension fund by reducing from 4 percent to 3.5 percent the amount of employer contributions directed to its health care fund. The PERS board also increased (effective January 1, 2018) contributions to its pension fund by reducing from 1 percent to 0 percent (for the Traditional Pension and Combined plans) the amount of employer contributions directed to its health care fund. Effective July 1, 2022, PERS increased the portion of the 14 percent employer contribution rate allocated to health care funding from 0 percent to 2 percent for the Combined Plan only.

After extensive review, the General Assembly enacted, and the Governor signed into law effective January 7, 2013, five pension reform acts to implement, with modifications, plans previously submitted by the five retirement systems to reduce or maintain their UAAL periods to not more than thirty years. The reform act for PERS made changes including increasing the years of service and eligibility age necessary to retire with full benefits, increasing from three to five the number of years used in determining "final average salary" for purposes of calculating retirement benefits, reducing the post-retirement cost of living adjustment, and increasing the minimum salary threshold required to earn full-time service credit for public employee eligibility to participate in the system. The other reform acts made similar changes to STRS, SERS, OP&F, and HPRS, and enacted phased increases in the employee contribution rate for STRS (from 10 percent to a maximum of 14 percent in July 2016) and OP&F (from 10 percent to a maximum of 12.25 percent in July 2015). The HPRS board was authorized to increase employee contributions up to a maximum of 14 percent from 10 percent beginning in July 2013, and it has implemented this authorization by increasing the employee contribution rate to 11.5 percent for 2014, 12.5 percent for 2015 to 2017, and 14 percent for 2018 and thereafter. Except for PERS, the reform acts also authorize each retirement system's board to adjust certain pension benefits levels within limits without General Assembly approval. Under this authority, the post-retirement cost-of-living adjustment for retirees was eliminated by the STRS board (from 2 percent to 0 percent beginning July 1, 2017) and reduced by the HPRS board (phased down from 3 percent to 1.25 percent beginning January 1, 2015). In March 2022, the STRS Retirement Board unanimously approved a one-time cost-of living-adjustment of 3 percent and resolved to review future cost-ofliving benefit payments during 2023. As reflected above, these reform acts did not change the requirement that each system establish not more than 30 years to amortize its pension UAAL and prepare and submit to the ORSC and the Ohio General Assembly a plan to reduce that amortization period if it exceeds 30 years.

#### **Retirement Contributions**

The State makes its employer contributions based on a percentage of salary for each State employee who is an active member of a state retirement system. Currently, just over 93 percent of state employees are members of PERS, about 3.6 percent are in HPRS, and less than 1 percent are in STRS. The following table summarizes state employer and employee contributions to those retirement systems with state employee members (\$ in millions):

| State  | PER:<br>Employer\E | _                     | STRS<br>yee Employer\Emp |            | HPRS<br>Employer\Employee |           | Total<br>Employer∖<br>Employee |  |
|--------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------|---------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|--|
| Fiscal |                    | Percent of            |                          | Percent of |                           | Percent   |                                |  |
| Year   | Amount             | Salary <sup>(a)</sup> | Amount                   | Salary     | Amount                    | of Salary | Contributions                  |  |
| 2020   | \$440.6/\$314.7    | 14.0/10.0             | \$6.1/\$6.1              | 14.0/14.0  | \$32.8/\$16.3             | 26.5/14.0 | \$479.5/\$337.1                |  |
| 2021   | 447.9/319.9        | 14.0/10.0             | 6.3/6.3                  | 14.0/14.0  | 32.1/17.0                 | 26.5/14.0 | 486.3/343.2                    |  |
| 2022   | 460.0/328.6        | 14.0/10.0             | 6.5/6.5                  | 14.0/14.0  | 30.6/16.2                 | 26.5/14.0 | 497.1/351.2                    |  |
| 2023   | 480.8/343.4        | 14.0/10.0             | 6.6/6.6                  | 14.0/14.0  | 32.4/16.5                 | 26.5/13.0 | 519.5/366.3                    |  |
| 2024   | 507.6/362.6        | 14.0/10.0             | 6.8/6.8                  | 14.0/14.0  | 33.9/17.2                 | 26.5/14.0 | 548.3/386.6                    |  |
| 2025   | 545.1/389.4        | 14.0/10.0             | 7.1/7.1                  | 14.0/14.0  | 36.3/19.2                 | 26.5/14.0 | 588.5/415.7                    |  |

<sup>(</sup>a) Reflects PERS state and local contribution rates only. PERS law enforcement employer/employee contribution rate is 18.1/13 percent, and public safety is 18.1/12 percent.

Source: Contributions based on percentage of payroll expenses from the State of Ohio accounting system records.

The State also has funded and continues to fund a subsidy to the OP&F system to pay for survivor benefits provided in law and not otherwise funded. The aggregate subsidies were \$71.8 million in the 2024-2025 biennium and are appropriated at \$80.3 million in the 2026-2027 biennium. All state employer contributions are subject to appropriation in each state budget and are included in the appropriations for each department or agency's personnel costs.

#### **Pension Benefits**

The following table summarizes state and local membership and financial data for each of the retirement systems for the most recent year reported by the system (\$ in millions):

|  | PERS                     | STRS        | SERS <sup>(a)</sup> | OP&F(b)    | HPRS       |
|--|--------------------------|-------------|---------------------|------------|------------|
| Valuation as of:                                 | 12/31/23                 | 06/30/23    | 06/30/24            | 1/1/24     | 12/31/23   |
| Active Members                                   | 297,963                  | 175,032     | 163,350             | 30,291     | 1,399      |
| Retirees and Beneficiaries                       | 220,415                  | 156,511     | 82,490              | 31,425     | 1,887      |
| Employer/Employee Contributions                  |                          |             |                     |            |            |
| (percent of Salary) <sup>(c)</sup>               | 14.0/10.0 <sup>(d)</sup> | 14.0/14.0   | 14.0/10.0           | (e)        | 26.5/13.0  |
| Active Member Payroll                            | \$17,504.6               | \$14,211.9  | \$4,547.3           | \$2,750.6  | \$118.4    |
| Market Value of Assets (MVA) <sup>(f)</sup>      | \$99,595.6               | \$86,248.0  | \$18,704.5          | \$16,903.2 | \$952.9    |
| Actuarial Value of Assets (AVA) <sup>(g)</sup>   | \$105,132.5              | \$87,580.4  | \$18,516.0          | \$17,961.9 | \$969.1    |
| Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) <sup>(h)</sup> | \$125,472.7              | \$107,782.9 | \$23,438.1          | \$26,362.1 | \$1,301.5  |
| Funding Ratio (AVA to AAL percent, (MVA to       |                          |             |                     |            |            |
| AAL percent))                                    | 83.8(79.4)               | 81.3(80.0)  | 79.0(79.8)          | 68.1(64.1) | 74.5(73.2) |
| Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability             |                          |             |                     |            |            |
| (UAAL)   | \$20,340.2               | \$20,202.6  | \$4,922.1           | \$8,400.1  | \$332.4    |
| UAAL to Active Member Payroll Percent            | 116.2                    | 142.2       | 108.2               | 305.4      | 280.7      |
| UAAL Funding Period (years) <sup>(i)</sup>       | 15                       | 11          | 20                  | 30         | 19         |

- (a) SERS information excludes Medicare Part B reimbursement which is considered a post-employment healthcare benefit reported in accordance with GASB Statement 43 for all data except MVA.
- (b) OP&F deferred retirement option plan balances are included in MVA, AVA, and AAL.
- (c) For PERS and SERS, the maximum employer and employee contribution rates under law are 14 percent and 10 percent. For STRS and HPRS, the maximum employer and employee contributions rates are 14/14 percent and 26.5/14 percent, respectively. Each system's board annually determines the portion of the employer contribution, if any, that is directed to fund post-employment health care benefits.
- (d) PERS state employer/employee contribution rate is 14/10 percent, local is 14/10 percent, law enforcement is 18.1/13 percent, and public safety is 18.1/12 percent. PERS state and local employer and employee contribution rates increased to their current statutory maximum of 14 percent and 10 percent, respectively, in calendar year 2008.
- (e) OP&F employer and employee contribution rates increased to their current statutory maximum of 19.5/12.25 percent for police and 24/12.25 percent for fire in July 2015.
- (f) Defined contribution plan assets are generally excluded for PERS and included for STRS.
- (g) Recognizes assumed investment returns fully each year (6.9 percent for PERS, 7.2 percent HPRS, 7 percent for STRS, 7 percent for SERS, and 7.5 percent for OP&F). Differences between actual and assumed investment returns, subject to each system's market corridor limitation, are phased in over a closed four-year period.
- (h) Reflects an individual entry age normal actuarial cost method.
- (i) UAAL funding period is calculated based on a closed period as a level percent of payroll, except for the portion of PERS members who participate in the member directed plan which uses a closed period as a level dollar of payroll.

Sources: Retirement systems' Annual Comprehensive Financial Reports and annual actuarial valuations.

The following table summarizes financial and funding information for each of the retirement systems for the past five years as reported by the system (\$ in millions):

| Retirement<br>System<br>Valuation<br>Year-End | Actuarial<br>Value of<br>Assets<br>(AVA) <sup>(a)</sup> | Actuarial<br>Accrued<br>Liability<br>(AAL) <sup>(b)</sup> | Unfunded<br>Actuarial<br>Accrued<br>Liability<br>(UAAL) | Funding<br>Ratio<br>(AVA to<br>AAL) | Market<br>Value of<br>Assets<br>(MVA) <sup>(c)</sup> | Funding<br>Ratio<br>(MVA to<br>AAL) | Active<br>Member<br>Payroll | UAAL Percent of Active Member Payroll |
|---|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| PERS  | (/  | (/  | (/  |                                     | (/   | /                                   |                             |                                       |
| 12/31/23                                      | \$105,132.5   | \$125,472.7   | \$20,340.2  | 83.8%                               | \$99,595.6   | 79.4%                               | \$17,504.6                  | 116.2%                                |
| 12/31/22                                      | 102,851.7   | 122,463.0   | 19,611.3  | 84.0                                | 93,151.2   | 76.1                                | 16,500.8                    | 118.8                                 |
| 12/31/21                                      | 99,710.2  | 118,517.0   | 18,806.8  | 84.1                                | 110,210.9  | 93.0                                | 15,463.7                    | 121.6                                 |
| 12/31/20*                                     | 93,969.1  | 115,241.5   | 21,272.4  | 81.5                                | 98,852.8   | 85.8                                | 14,998.1                    | 141.8                                 |
| 12/31/19                                      | 88,571.7  | 111,371.3   | 22,799.6  | 79.5                                | 91,814.5   | 82.4                                | 14,987.6                    | 152.1                                 |
| STRS  |   |   |   |                                     |  |                                     |                             |                                       |
| 06/30/23                                      | \$87,580.4  | \$107,782.9   | \$20,202.6  | 81.3%                               | \$86,248.0   | 80.0%                               | \$14,211.9                  | 142.2%                                |
| 06/30/22                                      | 85,141.8  | 105,264.3   | 20,122.5  | 80.9                                | 83,034.2   | 78.9                                | 13,624.9                    | 147.7                                 |
| 06/30/21                                      | 83,761.4  | 104,591.4   | 20,830.0  | 80.1                                | 91,805.5   | 87.8                                | 12,929.8                    | 161.1                                 |
| 06/30/20                                      | 76,357.7  | 98,672.3  | 22,314.6  | 77.4                                | 74,475.8   | 75.5                                | 12,671.2                    | 176.1                                 |
| 06/30/19                                      | 74,411.8  | 97,840.9  | 23,429.1  | 76.1                                | 75,726.5   | 77.4                                | 12,296.8                    | 190.5                                 |
| SERS <sup>(d)</sup>                           |   |   |   |                                     |  |                                     |                             |                                       |
| 06/30/24                                      | \$18,516.0  | \$23,438.1  | \$4,922.1   | 79.0%                               | \$18,704.5   | 79.8%                               | \$4,547.3                   | 108.2%                                |
| 06/30/23                                      | 17,415.0  | 22,698.3  | 5,283.3   | 76.7                                | 17,558.9   | 77.4                                | 4,299.0                     | 122.9                                 |
| 06/30/22                                      | 16,641.0  | 21,981.5  | 5,340.5   | 75.7                                | 16,962.7   | 77.2                                | 3,994.7                     | 133.7                                 |
| 06/30/21                                      | 15,809.0  | 21,138.4  | 5,329.4   | 74.8                                | 17,840.0   | 84.4                                | 3,622.1                     | 147.1                                 |
| 06/30/20                                      | 14,838.0  | 20,640.5  | 5,802.5   | 71.9                                | 14,419.6   | 69.9                                | 3,477.6                     | 166.9                                 |
| OP&F <sup>(e)</sup>                           |   |   |   |                                     |  |                                     |                             |                                       |
| 1/1/24  | \$17,961.9  | \$26,362.1  | \$8,400.1   | 68.1%                               | \$16,903.2   | 64.1%                               | \$2,750.6                   | 305.4%                                |
| 1/1/23  | 17,758.8  | 25,363.4  | 7,604.7   | 70.0                                | 16,107.6   | 63.5                                | 2,596.2                     | 292.9                                 |
| 1/1/22  | 17,095.8  | 24,517.6  | 7,421.7   | 69.7                                | 18,776.9   | 76.6                                | 2,443.6                     | 303.7                                 |
| 1/1/21  | 16,112.1  | 22,628.6  | 6,516.5   | 71.2                                | 16,411.1   | 72.5                                | 2,381.8                     | 273.6                                 |
| 1/1/20  | 15,360.1  | 22,044.3  | 6,684.2   | 69.7                                | 15,636.6   | 70.9                                | 2,313.6                     | 288.9                                 |
| HPRS  |   |   |   |                                     |  |                                     |                             |                                       |
| 12/31/23                                      | \$969.1   | \$1,301.5   | \$332.4   | 74.5%                               | \$952.9  | 73.2%                               | \$118.4                     | 280.7%                                |
| 12/31/22                                      | 934.5   | 1,263.8   | 329.3   | 73.9                                | 861.1  | 68.1                                | 112.5                       | 292.7                                 |
| 12/31/21                                      | 894.4   | 1,233.5   | 339.1   | 72.5                                | 1,000.3  | 81.1                                | 111.6                       | 303.9                                 |
| 12/31/20                                      | 844.7   | 1,203.9   | 359.1   | 70.2                                | 907.4  | 75.4                                | 118.0                       | 304.3                                 |
| 12/31/19                                      | 796.3   | 1,173.2   | 376.9   | 67.9                                | 817.9  | 67.9                                | 118.4                       | 318.3                                 |

<sup>(</sup>a) Recognizes the assumed long-term investment return fully for each particular year. Differences between actual and assumed investment returns, subject to each system's market corridor limitation, are phased in over a closed four-year period.

Sources: Retirement systems' Annual Comprehensive Financial Reports and annual actuarial valuations.

<sup>(</sup>b) Reflects an individual entry age actuarial cost method.

<sup>(</sup>c) Defined contribution plan assets are excluded for PERS, except for annuitized defined contribution assets, and included for STRS.

<sup>(</sup>d) Excludes Medicare Part B reimbursement, which is considered a post-employment health care benefit reported in accordance with GASB 43 for all data except MVA.

<sup>(</sup>e) OP&F deferred retirement option plan balances are included in AVA, AAL, and MVA.

Reflects revised actuarial assumptions based on a change in discount rate from 7.2 percent to 6.9 percent.

GASB Statements No. 67 & 68. GASB Statement No. 67 replaced prior accounting standards for reporting pension plan information beginning in FY 2014. Under this accounting standard, the reporting of unfunded actuarial accrued liability (UAAL) has been replaced by the net pension liability/net pension asset (NPL/NPA). The NPL/NPA represents the excess of the total pension liability over fiduciary net position. The components of the NPL/NPA and the sensitivity of the NPL/NPA to changes in the single discount rate for each of the retirement systems for the most recent year are as follows (\$ in millions):

|   | PERS <sup>(a)</sup>        | STRS        | SERS       | OP&F                      | HPRS                      |
|---|----------------------------|-------------|------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Valuation as of:                          | 12/31/23                   | 06/30/23    | 06/30/24   | 1/1/24                    | 12/31/23                  |
| Total Pension Liability <sup>(b)(c)</sup> | \$125,457.5 <sup>(e)</sup> | \$107,782.9 | \$23,820.1 | \$26,564.6 <sup>(f)</sup> | \$1,3488.5 <sup>(g)</sup> |
| Fiduciary Net Position <sup>(d)</sup>     | \$99,595.6                 | \$86,248.0  | \$18,704.5 | \$16,903.2                | \$952.9                   |
| Net Pension Liability/Net Pension         |                            |             |            |                           |                           |
| Asset (NPL/NPA)                           | \$25,861.9                 | \$21,534.9  | \$5,115.6  | \$9,661.4                 | \$435.6                   |
| Fiduciary Net Position as a               |                            |             |            |                           |                           |
| Percentage of Total Pension Liability     | 79.4%                      | 80.0%       | 78.5%      | 63.6%                     | 68.6%                     |
| NPL/NPA Calculated With 1 Percent         |                            |             |            |                           |                           |
| Decrease in Discount Rate                 | \$41,021.3                 | \$33,116.0  | \$7,826.2  | \$12,797.2                | \$693.1                   |
| NPL/NPA Calculated With 1 Percent         |                            |             | _          |                           |                           |
| Increase in Discount Rate                 | \$13,258.9                 | \$11,740.6  | \$2,833.5  | \$7,053.6                 | \$304.2                   |

- (a) For PERS, figures reflect the traditional plan, the defined benefit portion of the combined plan, and the defined benefit annuities portion of the member-directed plan.
- (b) Reflects a single discount rate of 6.9 percent for PERS, 7 percent for STRS and SERS, and 7.50 percent for OP&F. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that employee and employer contributions are made at the actuarially determined rates under state law. Based on those assumptions, the fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine total pension liability. Also reflects an individual entry age actuarial cost method.
- (c) For HPRS, the fiduciary net position was not projected to be sufficient to make all projected future benefit payments and, therefore, a blended discount rate of 7.25 percent was used. The blended discount rate represents the long-term expected rate of return for the funded benefit payments and a tax-exempt, high-quality municipal bond rate for the unfunded benefit payment.
- (d) Based on the market value of assets.
- (e) Total pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of 01/01/22 and updated with roll-forward procedures to 1/1/23.
- (f) Total pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of 12/31/22 and updated with roll-forward procedures to 12/31/23.
- (g) Total pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of 01/01/23 and updated with roll-forward procedures to 1/1/24. Sources: Retirement systems' Annual Comprehensive Financial Reports, annual reports, and annual actuarial valuations.

GASB Statement No. 68 replaced prior accounting standards for state and local governments' reporting of pension plan information beginning in FY 2015. This accounting standard requires employers and non-employer contributing entities to report a proportionate share of their NPL/NPA in their financial statements. Employers determine their proportionate share of NPL/NPA by comparing their current year contributions to the plan to the current year contributions to the plan made by all employers and non-employer entities, based on information provided to them by their retirement system(s). The State's proportionate share of the NPL/NPA and the sensitivity of the NPL/NPA to changes in the single discount rate for PERS, STRS, and HPRS for the most recent year are as follows (\$ in millions):

|  | PERS <sup>(a)</sup> | STRS        | HPRS                     |
|--|---------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| Valuation as of:   | 12/31/23            | 06/30/23    | 12/31/23                 |
| Total Pension Liability <sup>(b)</sup>                   | \$125,457.5         | \$107,782.9 | \$1,348.5 <sup>(d)</sup> |
| Fiduciary Net Position <sup>(c)</sup>                    | \$99,595.6          | \$86,248.0  | \$952.9                  |
| Net Pension Liability/Net Pension Asset (NPL/NPA)        | \$25,861.9          | \$21,534.9  | \$435.6                  |
| State Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability (PSL) | \$5,245.3           | \$76.2      | \$435.6                  |
| PSL as a Percentage of NPL/NPA                           | 20.3%               | 0.35%       | 100.0%                   |
| PSL Calculated With 1 Percent Decrease in Discount Rate  | \$8,591.0           | \$117.2     | \$593.1                  |
| PSL Calculated With 1 Percent Increase in Discount Rate  | \$2,688.4           | \$41.5      | \$304.2                  |

<sup>(</sup>a) For PERS, figures reflect the traditional plan, the defined benefit portion of the combined plan, and the defined benefit annuities portion of the member-directed plan.

- (b) Reflects a single discount rate of 6.9 percent for PERS, 7 percent for STRS, and 7.25 percent for HPRS.
- (c) Based on the market value of assets.
- (d) Total pension liability determined by actuarial valuation as of 12/31/22 and updated with roll-forward procedures to 12/31/23. Sources: State of Ohio Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and retirement systems' Annual Comprehensive Financial Reports, and annual actuarial valuations.

### **Other Post-Employment Benefits**

Each of the State's public retirement systems also offers post-employment health care benefits to its members. Contributions to and benefits under these health care programs are not vested and, as reflected by the recent actions of the OP&F and STRS boards described above, are subject to future adjustment by their respective boards. In this regard, PERS adopted, beginning in 2004, a series of health care preservation plans to adjust benefits and contributions by employers, employees, and retirees. In 2017, STRS implemented benefit adjustments that, when coupled with strong investment returns and positive claims experience, had a positive effect on its health care program. In 2019, OP&F replaced its health care plan with a new stipend-based health care model that also had a positive impact on its health care program. In 2015 and 2020, the PERS board of trustees modified the discretionary health care program for Medicare and non-Medicare retirees, respectively. The changes primarily included replacing the group health care programs with a percentage (based on age and service at retirement) of a monthly allowance to select a health care plan with the assistance of a vendor consultant. The base allowance was \$1,200 per month for non-Medicare retirees and \$350 per month for Medicare retirees throughout 2024. The base allowance for Medicare retirees increased to \$400 per month in January 2025. Monthly allowances range between 51% and 90% of the base allowance and are determined using a percentage based on years of service and the age when the individual is first eligible, multiplied by the base allowance as determined by the respective retirement system board.

The following table presents a summary of assets and actuarial accrued liabilities for post-employment healthcare benefits for each of the State's public retirement systems (\$ in millions):

|  | PERS       | STRS      | SERS                | OP&F <sup>(a)</sup> | HPRS     |
|--|------------|-----------|---------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Valuation as of:                                 | 12/31/23   | 06/30/23  | 06/30/24            |                     | 12/31/23 |
| Value of Assets <sup>(b)</sup>                   | \$12,823.3 | \$4,783.4 | \$816.5             | n/a                 | \$123.0  |
| Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) <sup>(c)</sup> | 10,808.2   | 2,838.5   | 1,325.7             | n/a                 | 175.1    |
| Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability             |            |           |                     |                     |          |
| (UAAL) <sup>(d)</sup>                            | (2,015.1)  | (1,944.9) | 509.2               | n/a                 | 49.1     |
| Funding Ratio (Assets to AAL Percent)            | 118.6%     | 168.5%    | 61.6%               | n/a                 | 70.2%    |
| Employer Contribution (Percent of Salary)(e)     | 0.0%       | 0.0%      | 0.0% <sup>(f)</sup> | 0.5%                | 0.0%     |

- (a) OP&F is no longer reporting unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities under prior accounting standards. See GASB Statement No. 74 table below for information on the reporting of post-employment benefit plans other than pension plans.
- (b) For PERS and HPRS, investment returns are recognized fully each year with the differences between actual and assumed investment returns (assumed at 6.0 percent for PERS and 7.25 percent for HPRS), subject to each system's market corridor limitation, phased in over a closed four-year period. For STRS and SERS, reflects market value. For PERS, includes assets for member-directed plan participants.
- (c) Reflects an individual entry age normal actuarial cost method.
- (d) UAAL is calculated based on an open period as a level percent of payroll.
- (e) Each system's board annually determines the portion of the employer contribution, if any, that is directed to fund post-employment health care benefits. See discussion above for recent adjustments by PERS, OP&F, STRS, and HPRS boards to employer contribution directed to fund health care benefits.
- (f) SERS also collects a health care surcharge from employers for employees who earn less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount. This amount is in addition to the amount allocated to health care from the employer contributions.

Sources: Retirement systems' Annual Comprehensive Financial Reports, and annual actuarial valuations.

The following table presents a summary of assets and actuarial accrued liabilities for post-employment healthcare benefits for the past four years for each of the State's public retirement systems (\$ in millions).

| Retirement<br>System<br>Valuation Year- | Value of    | Actuarial<br>Accrued<br>Liability | Unfunded<br>Actuarial<br>Accrued | Funding Ratio   | Employer<br>Contribution<br>(Percent of |
|---|-------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|---|
| End                                     | Assets(a)   | (AAL) <sup>(b)</sup>              | Liability                        | (Assets to AAL) | Salary) (c)(d)                          |
|   |             | PEF                               | RS <sup>(e)</sup>                |                 |   |
| 12/31/23                                | \$12,8423.3 | \$10,808.2                        | (\$2,015.1)                      | 118.6%          | 0.0%                                    |
| 12/31/22                                | 12,841.2    | 11,119.4                          | (1,721.8)                        | 115.5           | 0.0                                     |
| 12/31/21                                | 12,712.9    | 11,037.0                          | (1,675.9)                        | 115.2           | 0.0                                     |
| 12/31/20                                | 12,385.8    | 11,215.5                          | (1,170.3)                        | 110.4           | 0.0                                     |
|   |             | ST                                | RS                               |                 |   |
| 06/30/23                                | \$4,783.4   | \$2,838.5                         | (\$1,944.9)                      | 168.5%          | 0.0%                                    |
| 06/30/22                                | 4,570.0     | 1,980.7                           | (2,589.3)                        | 230.7           | 0.0                                     |
| 06/30/21                                | 4,929.7     | 2,821.3                           | (2,108.4)                        | 174.7           | 0.0                                     |
| 06/30/20                                | 3,897.3     | 2,139.8                           | (1,757.5)                        | 182.1           | 0.0                                     |
|   |             | SE                                | RS                               |                 |   |
| 06/30/24                                | \$816.5     | \$1,325.7                         | \$509.2                          | 61.6%           | 0.0%                                    |
| 06/30/23                                | 706.8       | 1,531.7                           | 824.9                            | 46.1            | 0.0                                     |
| 06/30/22                                | 611.6       | 1,348.3                           | 736.7                            | 45.4            | 0.0                                     |
| 06/30/21                                | 600.3       | 1,289.4                           | 689.1                            | 46.6            | 0.0                                     |
|   |             | OP                                | &F <sup>(f)</sup>                |                 |   |
|   |             | НР                                | RS                               |                 |   |
| 12/31/23                                | \$123.0     | \$175.1                           | \$49.1                           | 70.2%           | 0.0%                                    |
| 12/31/22                                | 115.1       | 217.7                             | 92.8                             | 52.9            | 0.0                                     |
| 12/31/21                                | 130.1       | 229.2                             | 112.9                            | 56.8            | 0.0                                     |
| 12/31/20                                | 118.6       | 285.3                             | 174.6                            | 41.6            | 0.0                                     |

<sup>(</sup>a) For PERS & HPRS, recognizes investment returns fully each year (PERS at 6 percent, HPRS assumed at 7.25 percent) with the differences between actual and assumed investment returns, subject to each system's market corridor limitation, phased in over a closed four-year period. For STRS, SERS, and OP&F, reflects market value.

Sources: Retirement systems' annual actuarial valuations.

<sup>(</sup>b) Reflects an individual entry age normal actuarial cost method.

<sup>(</sup>c) Each system's board annually determines the portion of the employer contribution, if any, that is directed to fund post-employment health care benefits.

<sup>(</sup>d) SERS also collects a health care surcharge from employers for employees who earn less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount. This amount is in addition to the amount allocated to health care from the employer contributions.

<sup>(</sup>e) Effective 7/1/2022, the employer contribution to healthcare for the PERS Combined Plan was raised to 2 percent; the Traditional Pension Plan employer contribution remained at 0 percent.

<sup>(</sup>f) OP&F is no longer reporting unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities under prior accounting standards. See GASB Statement No. 74 table below for information on the reporting of post-employment benefit plans other than pension plans.

GASB Statements No. 74 & 75. GASB Statement No. 74 replaced prior accounting standards for reporting postemployment benefit plans other than pension plans (OPEB) beginning in FY 2017. Under this accounting standard, the reporting of unfunded actuarial accrued liability has been replaced by the net OPEB liability (NOL). The NOL represents the excess of the total OPEB liability over fiduciary net position. The components of the NOL and the sensitivity of the NOL to changes in the single discount rate for those retirement systems that have reported information for the most recent year are as follows (\$ in millions):

| Valuation as of:                          | PERS<br>12/31/23          | STRS<br>06/30/23 | SERS<br>06/30/24 | OP&F<br>1/1/24           | HPRS<br>12/31/23       |
|---|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Total OPEB Liability <sup>(a)(b)</sup>    | \$11,628.0 <sup>(d)</sup> | \$2,838.5        | \$1,834.9        | \$1,517.5 <sup>(e)</sup> | \$342.1 <sup>(d)</sup> |
| Fiduciary Net Position <sup>(c)</sup>     | \$12,530.5                | \$4,783.4        | \$816.5          | \$787.4                  | \$123.9                |
| Net OPEB Liability (NOL)                  | (\$902.5)                 | (\$1,944.9)      | \$1,018.5        | \$730.1                  | \$218.2                |
| Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of |                           |                  |                  |                          |                        |
| Total OPEB Liability                      | 107.8%                    | 168.5%           | 44.5%            | 51.9%                    | 36.2%                  |
| NOL Calculated With 1 Percent Decrease    |                           |                  |                  |                          |                        |
| in Discount Rate                          | \$495.7                   | (\$1,646.1)      | \$1,358.1        | \$899.3                  | \$282.7                |
| NOL Calculated With 1 Percent Increase    |                           |                  |                  |                          |                        |
| in Discount Rate                          | (\$2,061.2)               | (\$2,205.1)      | \$748.6          | \$587.6                  | \$168.3                |
| NOL Calculated With 1 Percent Decrease    |                           |                  |                  |                          |                        |
| in Cost Trend Rate                        | (\$940.2)                 | (\$2,217.2)      | \$688.5          | n/a                      | \$162.6                |
| NOL Calculated With 1 Percent Increase    |                           |                  |                  |                          |                        |
| in Cost Trend Rate                        | (\$859.8)                 | (\$1,616.9)      | \$1,452.3        | n/a                      | \$291.6                |

<sup>(</sup>a) For SERS, OP&F, and HPRS, the fiduciary net position was not projected to be sufficient to make all projected future benefit payments and, therefore, single or blended discount rates of 4.88 percent, 4.27 percent, and 4.51 percent, respectively, were used. The blended discount rates represent the long-term expected rate of return for the funded benefit payments and a tax-exempt, high-quality municipal bond rate for the unfunded benefit payment. For PERS and STRS, the fiduciary net position was projected to be sufficient to make all projected future benefit payments, and, therefore, a discount rate of 6 percent and 7 percent, respectively, representing the long-term expected rate of return on assets, was used.

- (b) For all retirement systems, reflects an individual entry age normal actuarial cost method as a level percent of payroll.
- (c) Based on the market value of assets.
- (d) Total OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of 12/31/22 and updated with roll-forward procedures to 12/31/23.
- (e) Total OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of 1/1/23 and updated with roll-forward procedures to 1/1/24. Sources: Retirement systems' Annual Comprehensive Financial Reports and annual reports.

GASB Statement No. 75 replaced prior accounting standards for state and local governments' reporting of postemployment benefit plans other than pensions beginning in FY 2018. This accounting standard requires employers and non-employer contributing entities to report a proportionate share of their NOL in their financial statements. Employers determine their proportionate share of NOL by comparing their current year contributions to the plan to current year contributions to the plan made by all employers and non-employer entities, based on information provided to them by their retirement system(s). The State's proportionate share of the NOL and the sensitivity of the NOL to changes in the single discount rate for PERS, STRS, and HPRS for the most recent year are as follows (\$ in millions):

|   | PERS                     | STRS                     | HPRS                   |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Valuation as of:  | 12/31/23                 | 06/30/23                 | 12/31/23               |
| Total OPEB Liability <sup>(a)</sup>                       | \$11,628.0 <sup>c)</sup> | \$2,838.5 <sup>(d)</sup> | \$342.1 <sup>(c)</sup> |
| Fiduciary Net Position <sup>(b)</sup>                     | \$12,530.5               | \$4,783.4                | \$123.9                |
| Net OPEB Liability (NOL)                                  | (\$902.5)                | (\$1,944.9)              | \$218.2                |
| State Proportionate Share of Net OPEB Liability (PSL)     | \$182.9                  | (\$6.9)                  | \$218.2                |
| PSL as a Percentage of NOL                                | (7.8%)                   | 0.4%                     | 100.0%                 |
| PSL Calculated With 1 Percent Decrease in Discount Rate   | \$100.5                  | (\$5.8)                  | \$282.7                |
| PSL Calculated With 1 Percent Increase in Discount Rate   | (\$417.7)                | (\$7.8)                  | \$168.3                |
| PSL Calculated With 1 Percent Decrease in Cost Trend Rate | (\$190.5)                | (\$7.8)                  | \$162.6                |
| PSL Calculated With 1 Percent Increase in Cost Trend Rate | (\$744.3)                | (\$5.7)                  | \$291.6                |

<sup>(</sup>a) The fiduciary net position was not projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments, and, therefore, a blended discount rate of 4.51 percent for HPRS was used. The blended discount rate represents the long-term expected rate of return for the funded benefit payments and a tax-exempt, high-quality municipal bond rate for the unfunded benefit payment.

- (b) Based on the market value of assets.
- (c) Total OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of 12/31/22 and updated with roll-forward procedures to 12/31/23.
- (d) Total OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of 06/30/24.

Sources: State of Ohio Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and retirement systems' Annual Comprehensive Financial Reports and annual reports.

## **TAX LEVELS AND TAX BASES**

The variety of taxes and excises levied by the State is indicated in several tables in this Appendix. According to the Federation of Tax Administrators, citing the U.S. Census Bureau as its source, Ohio ranked 43<sup>rd</sup> in state taxes per capita in 2022. It ranked 33<sup>rd</sup> in combined state and local taxes in 2022, according to figures published by the Ohio Department of Taxation based on U.S. Census Bureau data. Three major tax bases, personal income (taxed by the State and municipalities and, with voter approval, by specific school districts), retail sales and use (taxed by the State and by counties and several transit authorities), and all taxable real property as well as the tangible personal property of public utilities (taxed by local governments and school districts), are described below. The State also levies a commercial activity tax on business activities as described below.

The State also imposes a tax on the use, distribution, or sale of motor vehicle fuel. This excise tax was raised by 10.5 cents per gallon effective July 1, 2019, to 38.5 cents per gallon of gasoline. At the same time, the rate imposed on diesel fuel also increased from 28 cents per gallon to 47 cents per gallon.

#### Sales and Use Tax

The state sales and use tax rate increased one-quarter percent from 5.5 percent to 5.75 percent beginning September 1, 2013. Prior to this increase, the rate had been 5.5 percent since July 1, 2005. The sales and use tax is levied uniformly across counties on retail sales of tangible personal property that are not specifically exempt. Retail sales include the rental and storage of tangible personal property, the rental of hotel rooms, and certain specified services, including, but not limited to, repair and installation services, data processing, computer and electronic information services, telecommunication, and certain personal care services.

Counties and transit authorities are authorized to levy permissive sales and use taxes at rates of 0.25 percent to 1.5 percent in one-twentieth percent increments. The highest potential aggregate of state and permissive local sales taxes is 8.75 percent, and the highest currently levied in any county is 8 percent. The State collects the combined state and local tax and returns the local share directly to the counties and transit authorities.

#### **Personal Income Tax**

State personal income tax rates apply to federal adjusted gross income plus or minus adjustments and personal exemptions. When compared to the immediately preceding year, personal income tax rates on non-business income were reduced by 8.5 percent in calendar year 2013, 1.5 percent in calendar year 2014, 6.3 percent in calendar year 2015, and 4 percent in calendar year 2019 (see FISCAL MATTERS - Recent Biennia - 2020-2021). In calendar year 2021, tax rates were reduced by 3 percent compared to the rates imposed in calendar year 2020, except that the highest tax bracket (on income exceeding \$221,300) was repealed and what became the highest Ohio tax rate was reduced by 9.6 percent from its previous level and provided a 16.8 percent reduction from the previous (repealed) top-bracket tax rate. In calendar year 2023, tax brackets were restructured, and tax rates were reduced, followed by fully phased-in bracket and rate changes in calendar year 2024. During calendar year 2021, there were four rate brackets whose rates ranged from 2.765 percent to 3.99 percent; in 2024, the state personal income tax had two rate brackets (one consisting of taxable income between \$26,051 and \$100,000, and the other consisting of income above \$100,000), with marginal rates of 2.75 percent and 3.5 percent, respectively, with no tax liability if taxable income was \$26,050 or below. For 2025, the tax brackets have been revised such that the top tax bracket (on taxable income exceeding \$100,000) is 3.125 percent; beginning in 2026, the State personal income tax will equal \$332.00 plus 2.75 percent on taxable income exceeding \$26,050. There remains no tax liability if taxable income is \$26,050 or below. Prior legislation also established a deduction for pass-through entities and sole proprietorships' annual business net income of 75 percent in tax years 2014 and 2015, and 100 percent in tax year 2016 and beyond, up to \$250,000 per taxpayer. Previously, personal income tax rates were reduced by 21 percent across five installments (4.2 percent annually in each of the tax years 2005 through 2008, with the final 4.2 percent reduction delayed from tax year 2009 to tax year 2011).

The Ohio Constitution requires 50 percent of state income tax receipts to be returned to the counties in which those receipts originate. There is no constitutional limit on income tax rates.

Municipalities, school districts, and joint economic development districts and zones may also levy certain income taxes. Any municipal rate (applying to wages, salaries, and business net income) over 1 percent, and any school district income tax (applying to the state income tax base for individuals and estates), requires voter approval. Most cities and villages levy a municipal income tax. The highest municipal rate as of July 2025 is 3 percent. A school district income tax is currently in effect in 209 districts. Each joint economic development district or zone may also levy an income tax (which, like municipal income taxes, applies to wages and salaries and business net income) with the rate of that tax limited to the highest income tax rate of a municipal member of the district or zone. Effective July 1, 2005, there may also be proposed for voter approval municipal income taxes to be shared with school districts, but those taxes may not be levied on the income of nonresidents.

Since 1970, the ratio of Ohio to U.S. aggregate personal income has declined, with Ohio's ranking among the states moving from fifth in 1970 to seventh in 1990, and eighth since 2000. This movement, portrayed below, in significant measure reflects "catching up" by several other states and a trend in Ohio toward more service sector employment.

## Personal Income (\$ in billions)

|      |            |           |         | Ohio Percent of |                         |
|------|------------|-----------|---------|-----------------|-------------------------|
|      |            | U.S       | Ohio    | U.S.            | State Rank <sup>*</sup> |
| 1990 | Total      | \$4,897.3 | \$203.0 | 4.1%            | 7                       |
| 1990 | per capita | 19,619    | 18,682  | 95.2            | 21                      |
| 2000 | Total      | 8,620.2   | 323.8   | 3.8             | 8                       |
| 2000 | per capita | 30,551    | 28,496  | 93.3            | 26                      |
| 2010 | Total      | 12,547.5  | 422.2   | 3.3             | 8                       |
| 2010 | per capita | 40,557    | 36,580  | 90.2            | 33                      |
| 2020 | Total      | 19,600.9  | 623.4   | 3.2             | 8                       |
| 2020 | per capita | 59,114    | 52,839  | 89.4            | 31                      |
| 2021 | Total      | 21,404.0  | 674.6   | 3.1             | 8                       |
| 2021 | per capita | 64,450    | 57,330  | 88.5            | 34                      |
| 2022 | Total      | 22,077.2  | 686.7   | 3.1             | 8                       |
| 2022 | per capita | 66,096    | 58,301  | 88.2            | 38                      |
| 2023 | Total      | 23,380.2  | 724.8   | 3.1             | 8                       |
| 2023 | per capita | 69,418    | 61,297  | 88.1            | 37                      |
| 2024 | Total      | 24,632.7  | 763.2   | 3.1             | 8                       |
| 2024 | per capita | 72,425    | 64,225  | 88.7            | 36                      |

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis.

The retail sales base is an important indicator of sales and use tax receipts.

## Retail Sales (\$ in billions)

| Fiscal Year | Ohio Retail Sales | U.S. Retail Sales | Ohio Percent of the U.S. |
|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 1990        | \$66.93           | \$1,719.05        | 3.9%                     |
| 2000        | 120.44            | 2,909.85          | 4.1                      |
| 2010        | 136.82            | 3,739.95          | 3.7                      |
| 2020        | 195.25            | 5,436.82          | 3.6                      |
| 2021        | 226.71            | 6,390.40          | 3.5                      |
| 2022        | 244.84            | 6,915.25          | 3.5                      |
| 2023        | 248.32            | 7,082.52          | 3.5                      |
| 2024        | 247.71            | 7,242.72          | 3.4                      |

Source: Calculated by S&P Global Market Intelligence (formerly IHS Markit) based on data from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, and other sources.

### **Commercial Activity Tax**

The State implemented a new commercial activity tax (CAT) on taxable gross receipts in excess of \$1,000,000 from doing business in Ohio, phased-in over FY 2006 through FY 2010 until levied at the current rate of 0.26 percent. Beginning calendar year 2014, the State established a variable minimum tax on the CAT for businesses with taxable gross receipts greater than \$1 million. Over the same period, Ohio phased out its corporate franchise tax in equal annual increments from 2006 to 2010, except as applied to financial institutions and certain affiliates of insurance companies and financial institutions, which was replaced with a new financial institutions tax effective tax year 2014. On December 7, 2012, the Supreme Court of Ohio upheld the application of the CAT to gross receipts from the sales of motor fuels but ordered that the proceeds of the CAT derived from those gross receipts—estimated by OBM at \$100 million annually—could not be applied to non-highway purposes in the future. Under provisions enacted in the Biennial Appropriations Act for the 2014-2015 biennium and other legislation, the State phased out the CAT on the sale of motor vehicle fuel and replaced it with a "petroleum activity tax" (PAT), computed based on the average price of a gallon of gasoline or diesel fuel. Following the Supreme Court of Ohio's ruling, PAT receipts are required to be used for highway purposes.

Excludes District of Columbia.

As described below, the receipts from the CAT are directed in part to make compensating payments to school districts and other local taxing units in connection with the phase-out of the tangible personal property tax in 2006 through 2009. Beginning in FY 2012, the State accelerated the phase-out of compensating payments to school districts and local governments, resulting in an increased share of the CAT being deposited into the GRF (see **Property Tax** below and **FISCAL MATTERS** – **Recent and Current Finances** – **Recent Biennia** – **2018-2019**).

The share of the CAT revenue credited to the GRF increased in FY 2024. After making required deposits to the CAT administration fund, the GRF now receives all remaining CAT receipts.

Effective in calendar year 2024, the CAT minimum tax was repealed. CAT liability (before credits) is entirely based upon multiplying the tax rate by taxable gross receipts, and there is no longer a flat-dollar minimum tax. In addition, the amount of annual gross receipts excluded from the CAT increased from the existing \$1 million level to a \$3 million amount effective January 2024. The exclusion increased to \$6 million in January 2025.

#### **Property Tax**

The following table lists, for informational purposes only, the non-exempt real and tangible personal property tax base in the State and taxes levied on that base (on a calendar year basis). Only local taxing subdivisions, and not the State, currently tax the real and tangible personal property included in this table. Reported figures for 2024 show that these property taxes represent 3.14 percent of Ohio personal income.

|      |                                  |                                   | Percent of True      |                                |
|------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
|      |                                  | Assessed Value <sup>(a)</sup>     | Value <sup>(b)</sup> | Taxes Charged                  |
|      | Real <sup>(c)</sup>              | \$93,857,482,000                  | 35.0%                | \$4,593,147,000 <sup>(e)</sup> |
| 1990 | Tangible <sup>(d)</sup>          | 18,473,055,000                    | 28.0                 | 1,149,643,000                  |
|      | Public Utility <sup>(c)(f)</sup> | 12,934,191,000                    | 88.6                 | 799,396,000                    |
|      | Real <sup>(c)</sup>              | 167,857,657,350                   | 35.0                 | 8,697,809,112 <sup>(e)</sup>   |
| 2000 | Tangible <sup>(d)</sup>          | 23,298,302,564                    | 25.0                 | 1,720,740,378                  |
|      | Public Utility <sup>(c)(f)</sup> | 13,635,709,860                    | 67.0                 | 967,674,709                    |
|      | Real <sup>(c)</sup>              | 238,264,394,249                   | 35.0                 | 14,486,087,962 <sup>(e)</sup>  |
| 2010 | Tangible <sup>(d)</sup>          | 320,961,400                       | 5.0 <sup>(b)</sup>   | 18,432,832                     |
|      | Public Utility <sup>(c)(f)</sup> | 10,096,712,600 <sup>(g)</sup>     | 52.9                 | 747,237,219                    |
|      | Real <sup>(c)</sup>              | 260,947,879,749                   | 35.0                 | 17,321,071,684 <sup>(e)</sup>  |
| 2019 | Tangible <sup>(d)</sup>          | -                                 | _(b)                 | =                              |
|      | Public Utility <sup>(c)(f)</sup> | 25,436,220,050 <sup>(g)(h)</sup>  | 64.7                 | 1,971,197,491                  |
|      | Real <sup>(c)</sup>              | 279,933,910,561                   | 35.0                 | 18,265,118,632 <sup>(e)</sup>  |
| 2020 | Tangible <sup>(d)</sup>          | -                                 | _(b)                 | -                              |
|      | Public Utility <sup>(c)(f)</sup> | 26,794,513,946 <sup>(g)(h)</sup>  | 65.1                 | 2,079,346,945                  |
|      | Real <sup>(c)</sup>              | 293,266,914,053                   | 35.0                 | 18,456,058,751 <sup>(e)</sup>  |
| 2021 | Tangible <sup>(d)</sup>          | -                                 | _(b)                 | -                              |
|      | Public Utility <sup>(c)(f)</sup> | 28,165,092,620 <sup>(g)(h)</sup>  | 65.0                 | 2,166,453,013                  |
|      | Real <sup>(c)</sup>              | 303,790,908,195 <sup>(g)(h)</sup> | 35.0                 | 18,941,781,058                 |
| 2022 | Tangible <sup>(d)</sup>          | -                                 | _(b)                 | -                              |
|      | Public Utility <sup>(c)(f)</sup> | 29,735,371,080 <sup>(g)(h)</sup>  | 65.2                 | 2,323,687,123                  |
|      | Real <sup>(c)</sup>              | 356,429,525,439                   | 35.0                 | 20,244,263,730                 |
| 2023 | Tangible <sup>(d)</sup>          | -                                 | _(b)                 | -                              |
|      | Public Utility <sup>(c)(f)</sup> | 30,604,715,480 <sup>(g)(h)</sup>  | 64.7                 | 2,409,984,291                  |
|      | Real <sup>(c)</sup>              | 388,640,659,590                   | 35.0                 | 21,391,182,464                 |
| 2024 | Tangible <sup>(d)</sup>          | -                                 | _(b)                 | -                              |
|      | Public Utility <sup>(c)(f)</sup> | 31,866,944,200 <sup>(g)(h)</sup>  | 64.4                 | 2,538,684,011                  |

- (a) Increases in assessed value of "Real" are in part products of reappraisals.
- (b) Regular annual reductions for "Tangible" (except for most public utility tangible) reached 0 percent in 2009; only telecommunication and telephone personal property was taxable in 2009 and 2010.
- (c) Includes public utility personal property owned and located within Ohio and railroad real property; excludes public utility real property.
- (d) Includes machinery, inventories, fixtures; effective tax year 2007 includes telephone company property. Excludes public utility tangible property. Effective tax year 2009 includes only telephone company property.
- (e) Includes the statutory 10 percent non-business credit (formerly the 10 percent rollback) (or 12.5 percent for owner-occupied residences) and elderly/handicapped partial exemption amounts, paid by the State to local taxing entities to compensate for statutory reductions in local tax collections. Effective for tax year 2005 and thereafter, the 10 percent rollback was eliminated for real property used in business, with exceptions for specific property used in farming or for housing. (10 percent) non-business credit and the (2.5 percent) owner-occupancy credit were eliminated for new voter-approved tax levies approved after September 29, 2013.
- (f) Beginning in 1990, the true value of most public utility property is based on annual composite allowances that vary according to the type and age of property.
- (g) Beginning in 2001, the statutory assessment rate for electric and gas utilities decreased from 88 percent to 25 percent.
- (h) The statutory assessment rate for waterworks utilities is 88 percent, except for specific property first subject to taxation in 2017 is 25 percent.

Source: Ohio Department of Taxation.

Effective July 1, 2005, and as reflected in the above table, the tangible personal property tax (TPPT) (including that tax on inventories) was phased out over tax years 2006 through 2009, with that tax eliminated beginning in tax year 2009. The corresponding legislation provided for the State to make replacement distributions to school districts and other local taxing units from revenue generated by the state commercial activity tax (CAT). Distributions are based on the taxable value of tangible personal property as reported in 2004 and property tax levies in effect for 2005. In FY 2012, the State began phasing out those TPPT replacement payments to schools and local governments. Replacement payments to schools were reduced by two percent of each district's total resources in each of FY 2012 and FY 2013 for a total reduction of four percent. Replacement payments to local

governments were reduced by two percent of total resources for tax years 2011, 2012, and 2013, for a total reduction of six percent. Replacement payments were then frozen in FY 2014 and FY 2015. The phasing out of these replacement payments resumed beginning in FY 2016. Payments to school districts were reduced in FY 2016 and FY 2017 by between one percent and two percent of each district's total resources. The variance was based on district wealth levels, with guarantees in both FY 2016 and FY 2017 that no district would fall below 100 percent and 96 percent, respectively, of its FY 2015 total funding level. Replacement payments to other local governments in FY 2016 and thereafter are reduced annually by two percent of their total resources.

Beginning July 2007, the State's homestead exemption program, which takes the form of a credit on local residential real property tax bills, was expanded to allow all senior citizens and disabled Ohioans, regardless of income, to exempt from tax the first \$25,000 of the market value of their home. Previously, eligibility was restricted, and benefits were tiered based on income. Beginning July 1, 2013, eligibility for new applicants is based on income. The total cost of the homestead exemption program was \$337.8 million in FY 2023, \$323.6 million in FY 2024, and \$318.5 million in FY 2025.

Real property tax relief payments by the State to school districts and local subdivisions—consisting of the homestead exemption program, the 10 percent credit for non-business property, and the 2.5 percent credit for owner-occupied homes—totaled \$3.6 billion for the 2020-2021 biennium, \$3.64 billion for the 2022-2023 biennium, and \$3.83 billion for the 2024-2025 biennium.

#### **SCHOOLS AND MUNICIPALITIES**

#### **Schools**

Litigation was commenced in the Ohio courts in 1991, questioning the constitutionality of Ohio's system of school funding and compliance with the constitutional requirement that the State provide a "thorough and efficient system of common schools." On December 11, 2002, the Supreme Court of Ohio, in a 4-3 decision on a motion to reconsider its own decision rendered in September 2001, concluded (as it previously had in its 1997 and 2000 opinions) that the State did not comply with that requirement, even after again noting and crediting significant steps in preceding years.

In its prior decisions, the Supreme Court of Ohio stated as general base threshold requirements that every school district have enough funds to operate, an appropriate number of teachers, sound and safe buildings, and equipment sufficient for all students to be afforded an educational opportunity. With respect to funding sources, the Court concluded in its 1997 and 2000 decisions that property taxes may no longer be the primary means of school funding in Ohio.

On March 4, 2003, the plaintiffs filed with the original trial court a motion to schedule and conduct a conference to address compliance with the orders of the court in that case, the State petitioned the Ohio Supreme Court to issue a writ prohibiting that conference on compliance, and the trial court subsequently petitioned the Ohio Supreme Court for guidance as to the proper course to follow. On May 16, 2003, the Ohio Supreme Court granted that writ and ordered the dismissal of the motion before the trial court. On October 20, 2003, the United States Supreme Court declined to accept the plaintiffs' subsequent petition requesting further review of the case.

In the years following this litigation, the General Assembly has taken steps, including significantly increasing state funding for public schools, as discussed below. In addition, at the November 1999 election, electors approved a constitutional amendment authorizing the issuance of State general obligation debt for school buildings and higher education facilities (see discussion under **STATE DEBT**). December 2000 legislation also addressed specific mandated programs and reserves, characterized by the plaintiffs and the Court as "unfunded mandates."

Before fiscal years 2009 and 2010, Ohio's 613 public school districts and 49 joint vocational school districts received a significant portion (but less than 50 percent) of their operating moneys from state subsidy appropriations (the primary portion of which is known as the Foundation Program) distributed following statutory

formulae that consider both local needs and local taxing capacity. The Foundation Program amounts have steadily increased in most recent years, including small aggregate increases even in those fiscal years in which appropriation reductions were imposed.

School districts also rely upon receipts from locally voted taxes. In part because of provisions of some state laws, such as partially limiting the increase (without further vote of the local electorate) in voted property tax collections that would otherwise result from increased assessed valuations, some school districts have experienced varying degrees of difficulty in meeting mandated and discretionary increased costs. Local electorates have largely determined the total money available for their schools. Locally elected boards of education and their school administrators are responsible for managing school programs and budgets within statutory requirements.

The State's school subsidy formulas that were used until fiscal year 2009 were structured to encourage both program quality and local taxing effort. Until the late 1970s, although there were some temporary school closings, most local financial difficulties that arose were successfully resolved by the local districts themselves by some combination of voter approval of additional property tax levies, adjustments in program offerings, or other measures. For more than 20 years, requirements of law and levels of state funding have sufficed to prevent school closings for financial reasons, which in any case are prohibited by current law.

Legislation was enacted in 1996 to address school districts in financial straits. A current listing of school districts in fiscal emergency or watch status can be found on the Auditor of State's website at http://www.auditor.state.oh.us.

To broaden the potential local tax revenue base, school districts also may submit, for voter approval, income taxes on the district income of individuals and estates. Many districts have submitted the question of the proposed income tax to their respective electors, and income taxes are currently approved in 209 districts.

Biennial school funding state appropriations from the GRF (including property tax reimbursements) and Lottery Profits Education Fund (LPEF) (but excluding federal and special revenue funds) for recent biennia were:

- 2016-2017 \$20 billion (a 9.3 percent increase over the previous biennium).
- 2018-2019 \$20.7 billion (a 3.5 percent increase over the previous biennium).
- 2020-2021 \$21.9 billion (a 5.7 percent increase over the previous biennium).
- 2022-2023 \$23 billion (a 4.9 percent increase over the previous biennium).
- 2024-2025 \$26.7 billion (a 16.1 percent increase over the previous biennium).

The appropriations for school funding for the 2026-2027 biennium are \$27.7 billion (a 4.1 percent increase from the previous biennium), representing an increase of 1.5 percent in FY 2026 over FY 2025 and an increase of 2.5 percent in FY 2027 over FY 2026.

The amount of lottery profits transferred to the LPEF totaled \$1.17 billion in FY 2018, \$1.15 billion in FY 2019, \$1.13 billion in FY 2020, \$1.36 billion in FY 2021, \$1.41 billion in FY 2022, \$1.46 billion in FY 2023, \$1.51 billion in FY 2024, \$1.45 billion in FY 2025, and is currently estimated to be \$1.47 billion in FY 2026 and \$1.47 billion in FY 2027. Ohio's participation in the multi-state lottery commenced in May 2002. A constitutional provision requires that net lottery profits be paid into LPEF be used solely for the support of elementary, secondary, vocational, and special education purposes, including application to debt service on general obligation bonds to finance common school facilities. The 2010-2011 Biennial Appropriations Act also authorized the implementation of video lottery terminals (VLTs) at Ohio's seven horse racing tracks.

The 2016-2017 Biennial Appropriations Act modified specific components of the funding formula to distribute new resources to districts with less capacity to raise revenue through local sources. Under the modified formula, each school district's education aid was based on a per pupil funding amount of \$5,900 in FY 2016 and \$6,000 in FY 2017, multiplied by each school district's "state share index," which used a three-year average of adjusted property

valuation per pupil and the median income of that school district to calculate the percentage of the per-pupil amount to be paid by the State and the amount assumed to be contributed by the school district through local sources. The 2016-2017 Biennial Appropriations Act also supplemented transportation funds for low-density districts and continued to provide additional funds for students with exceptional needs, including those with special needs and the disabled, and those with limited English proficiency, and for economically disadvantaged and gifted students. Funding was also provided based on the number of K-3 students at each school district to help school districts comply with Ohio's 3rd-grade reading guarantee. The Act continued funding for the "Straight A Fund" to develop and implement creative and innovative instructional models to inspire learning and student growth.

The 2018-2019 Biennial Appropriations Act maintained all components of the 2016-2017 funding formula with minor modifications. School district's education aid continued to be paid based on a per-pupil funding amount (increasing to \$6,010 in FY 2018 and \$6,020 in FY 2019) multiplied by each school district's state share index. The 2018-2019 Biennial Appropriations Act reduced the minimum share of transportation funding to better target school districts with lower capacity to raise revenue locally and increased the multiplier in the formula for computing capacity aid to provide additional aid to low-wealth school districts and those with small populations and low property valuation. The Act also modified the calculations for temporary transitional aid and the gain cap to consider changes in student population. Funding also continued for other education initiatives including Early Childhood Education, EdChoice Expansion Scholarships, and the Community Connectors grant program.

The 2020-2021 Biennial Appropriations Act provided each school district with the same amount of core funding and pupil transportation funding as it received under the funding formula for FY 2019, along with other limited payments and adjustments, such as preschool special education payments and catastrophic cost reimbursements. The 2020-2021 Biennial Appropriations Act also provided additional payments to school districts for student wellness and success to provide support for mental health counseling, wraparound supports, mentoring, and after-school programs. The Act also provided for additional payments to qualifying school districts that experienced an increase in enrollment between FY 2016 and FY 2019.

The 2022-2023 Biennial Appropriations Act implemented a new funding formula known as the Fair School Funding Plan. The new formula established a base cost methodology based on student-to-teacher ratios, minimum staffing levels, and actual costs for schools. Under the new formula, each school district has a unique base cost amount, which replaced the prior Opportunity Grant amount of \$6,020 per pupil. The formula revised categorical funding and implemented a new state and local cost share methodology using property and income factors for all districts. Community schools, STEM schools, educational choice scholarship programs, and open enrollment were directly funded. Instead of a Gain Cap, most components of the formula were subject to a general phase-in percentage of 16.67 percent in FY 2022 and 33.33 percent in FY 2023. The Act also provided for additional payments to support school bus purchases, community school facilities, and quality community schools.

The 2024-2025 Biennial Appropriations Act continued the phase-in of the school funding formula enacted in FY 2022. The phase-in percentage increased to 50 percent in FY 2024 and 66.67 percent in FY 2025. The formula continued the base cost methodology based on student-to-teacher ratios, minimum staffing levels, and actual costs for schools. Data for calculating base cost and local capacity was updated. Several factors increased, including gifted professional development funding, career awareness funding, and the transportation minimum state share percentage. The minimum state share percentage of base cost increased from 5 percent to 10 percent. The Act also provided for additional payments to support literacy initiatives, career-technical education programs, community school facilities, quality community and STEM schools, and an equity supplement to brick-and-mortar community schools. The Act also established universal eligibility for the EdChoice Expansion Scholarship Program, providing full scholarships for families with income up to 450 percent of the federal poverty level. Families with income above 450 percent received partial scholarship amounts with a minimum scholarship of 10 percent.

The 2026-2027 Biennial Appropriations Act continues the phase-in of the school funding formula enacted in FY 2022. The phase-in percentage will increase to 83.33 percent in FY 2026 and 100 percent in FY 2027. The formula

continues the base cost methodology based on student-to-teacher ratios, minimum staffing levels, and actual costs for schools. Data for calculating local capacity will be updated, and the transportation minimum state share percentage will increase from 41.67 percent in FY 2025 to 45.83 percent in FY 2026 and 50 percent in FY 2027. The Act also continues support for literacy initiatives, career-technical education programs, community school facilities, quality community and STEM schools, school bus safety grants, and a performance supplement to traditional public school districts. The Act also continues universal eligibility for the EdChoice Expansion Scholarship, which provides full scholarships for families with income up to 450 percent of the federal poverty level and partial scholarships to families with income above 450 percent of the federal poverty level. On January 4, 2022, the Ohio Coalition for Equity and Adequacy of School Funding, among others, filed a complaint with the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas alleging that the EdChoice Scholarship Program was unconstitutional. On June 24, 2025, the court agreed, finding that the EdChoice Scholarship Program unconstitutionally provided funding to private schools at the expense of public schools and enjoined the program. However, in recognition of the impact of this ruling on school funding and the high likelihood of an appeal, the judgment was stayed pending such appeal, a notice of which was subsequently filed by the State. It is not currently expected that there will be a ruling on that appeal until at least 2026. Consequently, notwithstanding the court ruling, the EdChoice Scholarship Program will continue as currently implemented until a final court determination is made.

#### **Municipalities**

Ohio has a mixture of urban and rural population, with approximately three-quarters urban. There are 926 incorporated cities and villages (municipalities with populations under 5,000) in the State. Six cities have populations of more than 100,000 and 17 cities exceed 50,000. Ohio has designated a portion of state revenues to share with local governments since 1935, although the structure of that revenue sharing has changed over time.

A 1979 Act established procedures for identifying and assisting those few cities and villages experiencing defined "fiscal emergencies." A commission composed of state and local officials and private sector members experienced in business and finance, appointed by the Governor, monitors the fiscal affairs of a municipality facing substantial financial problems. The Act requires the municipality to develop, subject to approval and monitoring by its commission, a financial plan to eliminate deficits and cure any defaults and otherwise remedy fiscal emergency conditions and to take other actions required under its financial plan. It also provides enhanced protection for the municipality's bonds and notes and, subject to the Act's stated standards and controls, permits the State to purchase limited amounts of the municipality's short-term obligations (used only once, in 1980).

The fiscal emergency legislation has been amended to extend its potential application to all Ohio counties and townships. This extension is on an "if and as needed" basis and is not aimed at particularly identified existing fiscal problems of those subdivisions. A current listing of governments in each status can be found on the Auditor of State's website at <a href="http://www.auditor.state.oh.us">http://www.auditor.state.oh.us</a>.



## **Book-Entry System; DTC**

## **Book-Entry System**

The information set forth in the following numbered paragraphs is based on information provided by The Depository Trust Company in its "Sample Offering Document Language Describing DTC and Book-Entry-Only Issuance" (labeled BLOR 09-2024). As such, the State and the Commission believe it to be reliable, but take no responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of that information. It has been adapted to the Bonds by substituting "Bonds" for "Securities," "Commission" for "Issuer" and "Bond Registrar" for "registrar", and by the addition of the italicized language set forth in the text. See also the additional information following those numbered paragraphs.

- 1. The Depository Trust Company (DTC), will act as securities depository for the Bonds. The Bonds will be issued as fully-registered securities registered in the name of Cede & Co. (DTC's partnership nominee) or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. One fully-registered Bond certificate will be issued for each maturity of the Bonds, each in the aggregate principal amount of such maturity (*or portion thereof*), and will be deposited with DTC.
- DTC, the world's largest securities depository, is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a "banking organization" within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a "clearing corporation" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a "clearing agency" registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. DTC holds and provides asset servicing for over 3.5 million issues of U.S. and non-U.S. equity issues, corporate and municipal debt issues, and money market instruments (from over 100 countries) that DTC's participants ("Direct Participants") deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the post-trade settlement among Direct Participants of sales and other securities transactions in deposited securities, through electronic computerized book-entry transfers and pledges between Direct Participants' accounts. This eliminates the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct Participants include both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation ("DTCC"). DTCC is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, and clearing corporations that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly ("Indirect Participants"). DTC has a Standard & Poor's rating of AA+. The DTC Rules applicable to its Participants are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. More information about DTC can be found at www.dtcc.com. (This internet site is included for reference only, and the information in this internet site is not incorporated by reference in this Official Statement.)
- 3. Purchases of Bonds under the DTC system must be made by or through Direct Participants, which will receive a credit for the Bonds on DTC's records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each Bond ("Beneficial Owner") is in turn to be recorded on the Direct and Indirect Participants' records. Beneficial Owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchase. Beneficial Owners are, however, expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the Direct or Indirect Participant through which the Beneficial Owner entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in the Bonds are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of Direct and Indirect Participants acting on behalf of Beneficial Owners. Beneficial Owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in Bonds, except in the event that use of the book-entry system for the Bonds is discontinued.

- 4. To facilitate subsequent transfers, all Bonds deposited by Direct Participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC's partnership nominee, Cede & Co., or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. The deposit of Bonds with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other DTC nominee do not effect any change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual Beneficial Owners of the Bonds; DTC's records reflect only the identity of the Direct Participants to whose accounts such Bonds are credited, which may or may not be the Beneficial Owners. The Direct and Indirect Participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.
- 5. Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to Direct Participants, by Direct Participants to Indirect Participants, and by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Beneficial Owners of Bonds may wish to take certain steps to augment the transmission to them of notices of significant events with respect to the Bonds, such as redemptions, tenders, defaults and proposed amendments to the Bond documents. For example, Beneficial Owners of Bonds may wish to ascertain that the nominee holding the Bonds for their benefit has agreed to obtain and transmit notices to Beneficial Owners. In the alternative, Beneficial Owners may wish to provide their names and addresses to the Bond Registrar and request that copies of notices be provided directly to them.
- 6. Redemption notices shall be sent to DTC. If less than all of the Bonds within an issue are being redeemed, DTC's practice is to determine by lot the amount of the interest of each Direct Participant in such issue to be redeemed.
- 7. Neither DTC nor Cede & Co. (nor any other DTC nominee) will consent or vote with respect to Bonds unless authorized by a Direct Participant in accordance with DTC's MMI Procedures. Under its usual procedures, DTC mails an Omnibus Proxy to the Commission as soon as possible after the record date. The Omnibus Proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to those Direct Participants to whose accounts the Bonds are credited on the record date (identified in a listing attached to the Omnibus Proxy).
- 8. Redemption proceeds, distributions and dividend payments (*debt charges*) on the Bonds will be made to Cede & Co., or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. DTC's practice is to credit Direct Participants' accounts, upon DTC's receipt of funds and corresponding detail information from the Commission or the Bond Registrar, on payable date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's records. Payments by Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name," and will be the responsibility of such Participant and not of DTC, the Bond Registrar, the State or the Commission, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payment of redemption proceeds, distributions and dividend payments (*debt charges*) to Cede & Co. (or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC) is the responsibility of the Commission or the Bond Registrar, disbursement of such payments to Direct Participants will be the responsibility of DTC, and disbursement of such payments to the Beneficial Owners will be the responsibility of Direct and Indirect Participants.

## 9. (*Not Applicable to the Bonds.*)

- 10. DTC may discontinue providing its services as depository with respect to the Bonds at any time by giving reasonable notice to the Commission or the Bond Registrar. Under such circumstances, in the event that a successor depository is not obtained, Bond certificates are required to be printed (*or otherwise produced*) and delivered.
- 11. The Commission may decide to discontinue use of the system of book-entry-only transfers through DTC (or a successor securities depository). In that event, Bond certificates will be

printed (or otherwise produced) and delivered to DTC. (See also Revision of Book-Entry System; Replacement Bonds.)

12. The information (*above*) in this section concerning DTC and DTC's book-entry system has been obtained from sources that the State and Commission believe to be reliable, but the State and Commission take no responsibility for the accuracy thereof.

Direct Participants and Indirect Participants may impose service charges on Beneficial Owners in certain cases. Purchasers of book-entry interests should discuss that possibility with their brokers.

The State, the Commission and the Bond Registrar have no role in the purchases, transfers or sales of book-entry interests. The rights of Beneficial Owners to transfer or pledge their interests, and the manner of transferring or pledging those interests, may be subject to applicable state law. Beneficial Owners may want to discuss with their legal advisors the manner of transferring or pledging their bookentry interests.

The State, the Commission and the Bond Registrar have no responsibility or liability for any aspects of the records or notices relating to, or payments made on account of, beneficial ownership, or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to that ownership.

The State, the Commission and the Bond Registrar cannot and do not give any assurances that DTC, Direct Participants, Indirect Participants or others will distribute to the Beneficial Owners payments of debt charges on the Bonds made to DTC as the registered owner, or redemption, if any, or other notices, or that they will do so on a timely basis, or that DTC, Direct Participants or Indirect Participants will serve or act in a manner described in this Official Statement.

For all purposes under the Bond proceedings (except the Continuing Disclosure Agreement for each series under which others as well as DTC may be considered an owner or holder of the Bonds, see **Continuing Disclosure Agreements**), DTC will be and will be considered by the State, the Commission and the Bond Registrar to be the owner or holder of the Bonds.

Beneficial Owners will not receive or have the right to receive physical delivery of Bonds, and, except to the extent they may have rights as Beneficial Owners or holders under the Continuing Disclosure Agreement for each series will not be or be considered by the State, the Commission and the Bond Registrar to be, and will not have any rights as, owners or holders of Bonds under the Bond proceedings.

Reference herein to "DTC" includes when applicable any successor securities depository and the nominee of the depository.

## **Revision of Book-Entry System; Replacement Bonds**

The Bond proceedings for each series provide for issuance of fully-registered Bonds (Replacement Bonds) directly to owners of Bonds other than DTC only in the event that DTC (or a successor securities depository) determines not to continue to act as securities depository for the Bonds. Upon occurrence of this event, the Commission may in its discretion attempt to have established a securities depository book-entry relationship with another securities depository. If the Commission does not do so, or is unable to do so, and after the Bond Registrar has made provision for notification of the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds by appropriate notice to DTC, the Commission and the Bond Registrar will authenticate and deliver Replacement Bonds of any one maturity, in authorized denominations, to or at the direction of any persons requesting such issuance, and, if the event is not the result of Commission action or inaction, at the expense (including legal and other costs) of those requesting.

Debt charges on Replacement Bonds will be payable when due without deduction for the services of the Bond Registrar as paying agent. Principal of and any premium on Replacement Bonds

will be payable when due to the registered owner upon presentation and surrender at the designated office of the Bond Registrar. Interest on Replacement Bonds will be payable on the interest payment date by the Bond Registrar by transmittal to the registered owner of record on the Bond Register as of the 15th day preceding the interest payment date. Replacement Bonds will be exchangeable for other Replacement Bonds of authorized denominations, and transferable, at the designated office of the Bond Registrar without charge (except taxes or governmental fees). Exchange or transfer of then-redeemable Replacement Bonds is not required to be made: (i) between the 15th day preceding the mailing of notice of redemption of Replacement Bonds and the date of that mailing, or (ii) of a particular Replacement Bond selected for redemption (in whole or part).

## <u>Text of Legal Opinion</u> (Common Schools General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2025B)

We have served as bond counsel to our client the Ohio Public Facilities Commission (the Commission) and not as counsel to any other person in connection with the issuance of \$200,185,000\* Common Schools General Obligation Bonds, Series 2025B (the Series 2025B Bonds), dated the date of this letter. The Series 2025B Bonds are obligations of the State of Ohio (the State), issued by the Commission, for the purpose of refunding certain bonds previously issued for the purpose of paying costs of capital facilities for a system of common schools throughout the State.

The Series 2025B Bonds are issued under and pursuant to Section 2n of Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution and Sections 151.01, 151.02 and 151.03 of the Ohio Revised Code and other authorizations by the Ohio General Assembly (collectively, the Act), and resolutions of the Commission (collectively, the Bond Resolution).

In our capacity as bond counsel, we have examined the transcript of proceedings relating to the issuance of the Series 2025B Bonds, a copy of the signed and authenticated Series 2025B Bond of the first maturity and such other documents, matters and law as we deem necessary to render the opinions set forth in this letter.

Based on that examination and subject to the limitations stated below, we are of the opinion that under existing law:

- 1. The Series 2025B Bonds constitute valid and binding general obligations of the State, and the full faith and credit, revenue and taxing power of the State are pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on (Debt Service) the Series 2025B Bonds.
- 2. Debt Service on the Series 2025B Bonds and on bonds or other obligations issued or to be issued and outstanding pursuant to the Act (collectively, the Bonds) are payable from and secured by (i) a pledge of the excises, taxes and revenues of the State as provided for in the Bond Resolution (collectively, the Committed State Receipts), and (ii) moneys deposited in the Common Schools Capital Facilities Bond Service Fund created under the Act and further provided for in the Bond Resolution. Fees, excises and license taxes relating to the registration, operation or use of vehicles on the public highways, or to fuels used for propelling such vehicles, and net State lottery proceeds, are not pledged to pay that Debt Service.
- 3. The State is required to charge and collect Committed State Receipts in an amount sufficient to pay when due the Debt Service on the Bonds, and the State has covenanted to maintain statutory authority for and to cause to be levied, collected and applied excises, taxes and revenues so that those Committed State Receipts, including deposits of them to the Common Schools Capital Facilities Bond Service Fund, will be sufficient in time and amount to pay that Debt Service when due and

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<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary, subject to change.

certain other costs (including Debt Service on other State obligations). Provision has been made by law for setting aside each year in the Common Schools Capital Facilities Bond Service Fund a sufficient amount of the Committed State Receipts, without other or further appropriation, to pay when due the Debt Service on the Bonds.

4. Interest on the Series 2025B Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax imposed on individuals. Interest on, and any profit made on the sale, exchange or other disposition of, the Series 2025B Bonds are exempt from all Ohio state and local taxation, except the estate tax, the domestic insurance company tax, the dealers in intangibles tax, the tax levied on the basis of the total equity capital of financial institutions, and the net worth base of the corporate franchise tax. We express no opinion as to any other tax consequences regarding the Series 2025B Bonds.

The opinions stated above are based on an analysis of existing laws, regulations, rulings and court decisions and cover certain matters not directly addressed by such authorities. In rendering all such opinions, we assume, without independent verification, and rely upon (i) the accuracy of the factual matters represented, warranted or certified in the proceedings and documents we have examined, and (ii) the due and legal authorization, execution and delivery of those documents by, and the valid, binding and enforceable nature of those documents upon, any parties other than the Commission and the State.

In rendering those opinions with respect to the treatment of the interest on the Series 2025B Bonds under the federal tax laws, we further assume and rely upon compliance with the covenants in the proceedings and documents we have examined, including those of the Commission for itself and the State. Failure to comply with certain of those covenants subsequent to issuance of the Series 2025B Bonds may cause interest on the Series 2025B Bonds to be included in gross income for federal income tax purposes retroactively to their date of issuance.

The rights of the owners of the Series 2025B Bonds and the enforceability of the Series 2025B Bonds are subject to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, fraudulent conveyance or transfer, and other laws relating to or affecting the rights and remedies of creditors generally; to the application of equitable principles, whether considered in a proceeding at law or in equity; to the exercise of judicial discretion, and to limitations on legal remedies against public entities.

No opinions other than those expressly stated herein are implied or shall be inferred as a result of anything contained in or omitted from this letter. The opinions expressed in this letter are stated only as of the time of its delivery and we disclaim any obligation to revise or supplement this letter thereafter. Our engagement as bond counsel in connection with the original issuance and delivery of the Series 2025B Bonds is concluded upon delivery of this letter.

Respectfully submitted,

## <u>Text of Legal Opinion</u> (Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2025B)

We have served as bond counsel to our client the Ohio Public Facilities Commission (the Commission) and not as counsel to any other person in connection with the issuance of \$44,290,000\* Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2025B (the Series 2025B Bonds), dated the date of this letter. The Series 2025B Bonds are obligations of the State of Ohio (the State), issued by the Commission, for the purpose of refunding certain bonds previously issued for the purpose of financing or assisting in the financing of the cost of public infrastructure capital improvement projects of local subdivisions.

The Series 2025B Bonds are issued under and pursuant to Section 2k, 2m, 2p and 2s of Article VIII of the Ohio Constitution and Sections 151.01, 151.02 and 151.08 of the Ohio Revised Code and other authorizations by the Ohio General Assembly (collectively, the Act), and resolutions of the Commission (collectively, the Bond Resolution).

In our capacity as bond counsel, we have examined the transcript of proceedings relating to the issuance of the Series 2025B Bonds, a copy of the signed and authenticated Series 2025B Bond of the first maturity and such other documents, matters and law as we deem necessary to render the opinions set forth in this letter.

Based on that examination and subject to the limitations stated below, we are of the opinion that under existing law:

- 1. The Series 2025B Bonds constitute valid and binding general obligations of the State, and the full faith and credit, revenue and taxing power of the State are pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on (Debt Service) the Series 2025B Bonds.
- 2. Debt Service on the Series 2025B Bonds and on bonds or other obligations issued or to be issued and outstanding pursuant to the Act (collectively, the Bonds) are payable from and secured by (i) a pledge of the excises, taxes and revenues of the State as provided for in the Bond Resolution (collectively, the Committed State Receipts), and (ii) moneys deposited in the State Capital Improvements Bond Service Fund created under the Act and further provided for in the Bond Resolution. Fees, excises and license taxes relating to the registration, operation or use of vehicles on the public highways, or to fuels used for propelling such vehicles, and net State lottery proceeds, are not pledged and may not be used to pay that Debt Service.
- 3. The State is required to charge and collect Committed State Receipts in an amount sufficient to pay when due the Debt Service on the Bonds, and the State has covenanted to maintain statutory authority for and to cause to be levied, collected and applied excises, taxes and revenues so that those Committed State Receipts, including deposits of them to the State Capital Improvements Bond Service Fund, will be sufficient in time and amount to pay that Debt Service when due and certain

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<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary, subject to change.

other costs (including Debt Service on other State obligations). Provision has been made by law for setting aside each year in the State Capital Improvements Bond Service Fund a sufficient amount of the Committed State Receipts, without other or further appropriation, to pay when due the Debt Service on the Bonds.

4. Interest on the Series 2025B Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax imposed on individuals. Interest on, and any profit made on the sale, exchange or other disposition of, the Series 2025B Bonds are exempt from all Ohio state and local taxation, except the estate tax, the domestic insurance company tax, the dealers in intangibles tax, the tax levied on the basis of the total equity capital of financial institutions, and the net worth base of the corporate franchise tax. We express no opinion as to any other tax consequences regarding the Series 2025B Bonds.

The opinions stated above are based on an analysis of existing laws, regulations, rulings and court decisions and cover certain matters not directly addressed by such authorities. In rendering all such opinions, we assume, without independent verification, and rely upon (i) the accuracy of the factual matters represented, warranted or certified in the proceedings and documents we have examined, and (ii) the due and legal authorization, execution and delivery of those documents by, and the valid, binding and enforceable nature of those documents upon, any parties other than the Commission and the State.

In rendering those opinions with respect to the treatment of the interest on the Series 2025B Bonds under the federal tax laws, we further assume and rely upon compliance with the covenants in the proceedings and documents we have examined, including those of the Commission for itself and the State. Failure to comply with certain of those covenants subsequent to issuance of the Series 2025B Bonds may cause interest on the Series 2025B Bonds to be included in gross income for federal income tax purposes retroactively to their date of issuance.

The rights of the owners of the Series 2025B Bonds and the enforceability of the Series 2025B Bonds are subject to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium, fraudulent conveyance or transfer, and other laws relating to or affecting the rights and remedies of creditors generally; to the application of equitable principles, whether considered in a proceeding at law or in equity; to the exercise of judicial discretion, and to limitations on legal remedies against public entities.

No opinions other than those expressly stated herein are implied or shall be inferred as a result of anything contained in or omitted from this letter. The opinions expressed in this letter are stated only as of the time of its delivery and we disclaim any obligation to revise or supplement this letter thereafter. Our engagement as bond counsel in connection with the original issuance and delivery of the Series 2025B Bonds is concluded upon delivery of this letter.

Respectfully submitted,

## Appendix B

#### FORM OF PRICING NOTICE

#### PRICING NOTICE

## RELATING TO THE INVITATION TO TENDER BONDS DATED NOVEMBER 21, 2025

describing an offer (the "Tender Offer") made by the

#### STATE OF OHIO

Acting by and through the Ohio Public Facilities Commission to the Bondowners described herein of all or any portion of the maturities listed on page (ii) of the Invitation (hereinafter defined)

## State of Ohio Common Schools General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A (Federally Taxable)

(Base CUSIP 677522)

## State of Ohio Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A (Federally Taxable)

(Base CUSIP 677522)

The purpose of this Pricing Notice dated November 28, 2025 (the "Pricing Notice") is to publish the Fixed Spreads for the Target Bonds. All other terms relating to the Invitation (hereinafter defined) and the Tender Offer remain unchanged.

Pursuant to the Invitation to Tender Bonds dated November 21, 2025 (as it may be amended or supplemented, the "Invitation"), the State of Ohio (the "Issuer") invited Bondholders to tender Target Bonds for cash at the applicable Offer Purchase Prices based on a Fixed Spread to be added to the yields on certain benchmark United States Treasury Securities set forth in this Pricing Notice, plus Accrued Interest on the Target Bonds tendered for purchase to but not including the Settlement Date. All terms used herein and not otherwise defined are used as defined in the Invitation.

As set forth in the Invitation, the Issuer retains the right to extend the Tender Offer, or amend the terms of the Tender Offer (including a waiver of any term) in any material respect, provided, that the Issuer shall provide notice thereof at such time and in such manner to allow reasonable time for dissemination to Bondowners and for Bondowners to respond. In such event, any tenders of Target Bonds prior to such change, including any change in the Fixed Spreads for such Target Bonds, pursuant to the Invitation will remain in full force and effect and any Bondowner of such affected Target Bonds, wishing to revoke its tender of such Target Bonds for purchase must affirmatively withdraw such offer prior to the Expiration Date, as extended.

The Tender Offer Refunding Bond POS is available: (i) at the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board through its Electronic Municipal Market Access website, currently located at http://emma.msrb.org, using the CUSIP numbers for the Target Bonds, and (ii) on the website of the Information Agent and Tender Agent at www.globic.com/opfc.

Any questions are to be directed to the Information Agent and Tender Agent at (212) 227-9622.

Dated: December \_\_\_, 2025

## TENDER OFFER - FIXED SPREADS

Pursuant to the Tender Offer, the Fixed Spreads for the Target Bonds are listed below.

## STATE OF OHIO Common Schools General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A (Federally Taxable)

| CUSIP<br>No.<br>(677522) <sup>1</sup> | Maturity<br>Date | Interest<br>Rate (%) | Outstanding<br>Principal Amount | Benchmark<br>Treasury<br>Security <sup>2</sup> | Fixed Spreads |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|--|---------------|
| 4M3                                   | 9/15/2029        | 1.500                | \$19,920,000                    | 5-Year   |               |
| 4N1                                   | 9/15/2030        | 1.580                | 43,500,000                      | 5-Year   |               |
| 4P6                                   | 9/15/2031        | 1.730                | 22,670,000                      | 7-Year   |               |
| 4Q4                                   | 9/15/2032        | 1.780                | 23,065,000                      | 7-Year   |               |
| 4R2                                   | 9/15/2033        | 1.830                | 23,490,000                      | 10-Year  |               |
| 4S0                                   | 9/15/2034        | 1.880                | 23,930,000                      | 10-Year  |               |
| Total                                 |                  |                      | \$156,575,000                   |  |               |

# STATE OF OHIO Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A (Federally Taxable)

| CUSIP        |          |          |                      | Benchmark             |               |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| No.          | Maturity | Interest | Outstanding          | Treasury              |               |
| $(677522)^1$ | Date     | Rate (%) | Principal Amount     | Security <sup>2</sup> | Fixed Spreads |
|              |          |          |                      |                       |               |
| 3U6          | 8/1/2028 | 1.430    | \$285,000            | 3-Year                |               |
| 3V4          | 8/1/2029 | 1.500    | 13,225,000           | 5-Year                |               |
| 3W2          | 8/1/2030 | 1.580    | 13,430,000           | 5-Year                |               |
| 3X0          | 8/1/2031 | 1.730    | 23,810,000           | 7-Year                |               |
| 3Y8          | 8/1/2032 | 1.780    | 33,630,000           | 7-Year                |               |
| 3Z5          | 8/1/2033 | 1.830    | 34,240,000           | 10-Year               |               |
| 4A9          | 8/1/2034 | 1.880    | 11,055,000           | 10-Year               |               |
| 4B7          | 8/1/2035 | 1.930    | 11,265,000           | 10-Year               |               |
| Total        |          |          | <u>\$140,940,000</u> |                       |               |

The yields on the Benchmark Treasury Securities will be determined at approximately 10:00 a.m., New York City time, on December 9, 2025, unless such date is extended pursuant to the Invitation.

<sup>2</sup> Each Benchmark Treasury Security (as defined in the Invitation) will be the most recently auctioned "on-the-run" United States Treasury Security for the maturity indicated as of the date and time that the Purchase Price for the Target Bonds is set, currently expected to be approximately 10:00 a.m. New York City time on December 9, 2025, unless extended pursuant to the Invitation.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> CUSIP is a registered trademark of the American Bankers Association. CUSIP data herein is provided by CUSIP Global Services, managed on behalf of the American Bankers Association by FactSet Research Systems Inc. The CUSIP numbers are being provided solely for the convenience of the owners of the Target Bonds and the Issuer is not responsible for the selection or correctness of the CUSIP numbers printed herein and does not make any representation with respect to such numbers or undertake any responsibility for their accuracy.

#### Illustrative Offer Purchase Price Calculations: Treasury Security Yields as of November , 2025

The tables below provide illustrative Offer Purchase Prices that would be paid by the Issuer based on the following yields for the Benchmark Treasury Securities assuming such yields were determined as of 10 a.m., New York City time on December \_\_\_, 2025 and the Fixed Spreads. This example is being provided for convenience only and is not to be relied upon by a Bondowner as an indication of the Purchase Yields or the Offer Purchase Prices that may be paid by the Issuer.

STATE OF OHIO
Common Schools General Obligation Refunding Bonds,
Series 2020A (Federally Taxable)

| CUSIP<br>(677522) <sup>1</sup> | Maturity<br>Date | Interest<br>Rate (%) | Outstanding<br>Principal<br>Amount | Benchmark<br>Treasury<br>Security <sup>2</sup> | Fixed Spread | Illustrative<br>Benchmark<br>Yield | Illustrative<br>Purchase<br>Yield* | Illustrative<br>Purchase<br>Price* |
|--------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|--|--------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 4M3                            | 9/15/2029        | 1.500                | \$19,920,000                       | 5-Year   |              |                                    |                                    |                                    |
| 4N1                            | 9/15/2030        | 1.580                | 43,500,000                         | 5-Year   |              |                                    |                                    |                                    |
| 4P6                            | 9/15/2031        | 1.730                | 22,670,000                         | 7-Year   |              |                                    |                                    |                                    |
| 4Q4                            | 9/15/2032        | 1.780                | 23,065,000                         | 7-Year   |              |                                    |                                    |                                    |
| 4R2                            | 9/15/2033        | 1.830                | 23,490,000                         | 10-Year  |              |                                    |                                    |                                    |
| 4S0                            | 9/15/2034        | 1.880                | 23,930,000                         | 10-Year  |              |                                    |                                    |                                    |
| <b>Total</b>                   |                  |                      | <u>\$156,575,000</u>               |  |              |                                    |                                    |                                    |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> CUSIP is a registered trademark of American Bankers Association. CUSIP data herein is provided by CUSIP Global Services, managed on behalf of the American Bankers Association by FactSet Research Systems Inc. The CUSIP number are being provided solely for the convenience of the owners of the Target Bonds and the Issuer is not responsible for the selection or correctness of the CUSIP numbers printed herein and does not make any representation with respect to such numbers or undertake any responsibility for their accuracy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Each Benchmark Treasury Security (as defined in the Invitation) will be the most recently auctioned "on-the-run" United States Treasury Security for the maturity indicated as of the date and time that the Purchase Price for the Target Bonds is set, currently expected to be approximately 10:00 a.m. New York City time on December 9, 2025, unless extended pursuant to the Invitation.

<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary, subject to change.

# STATE OF OHIO Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A (Federally Taxable)

| CUSIP<br>(677522) <sup>1</sup> | Maturity<br>Date | Interest<br>Rate (%) | Outstanding<br>Principal<br>Amount | Benchmark<br>Treasury<br>Security <sup>2</sup> | Fixed Spread | Illustrative<br>Benchmark<br>Yield | Illustrative<br>Purchase<br>Yield* | Illustrative<br>Purchase<br>Price* |
|--------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|--|--------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 3U6                            | 8/1/2028         | 1.430                | \$285,000                          | 3-Year   |              |                                    |                                    |                                    |
| 3V4                            | 8/1/2029         | 1.500                | 13,225,000                         | 5-Year   |              |                                    |                                    |                                    |
| 3W2                            | 8/1/2030         | 1.580                | 13,430,000                         | 5-Year   |              |                                    |                                    |                                    |
| 3X0                            | 8/1/2031         | 1.730                | 23,810,000                         | 7-Year   |              |                                    |                                    |                                    |
| 3Y8                            | 8/1/2032         | 1.780                | 33,630,000                         | 7-Year   |              |                                    |                                    |                                    |
| 3Z5                            | 8/1/2033         | 1.830                | 34,240,000                         | 10-Year  |              |                                    |                                    |                                    |
| 4A9                            | 8/1/2034         | 1.880                | 11,055,000                         | 10-Year  |              |                                    |                                    |                                    |
| 4B7                            | 8/1/2035         | 1.930                | 11,265,000                         | 10-Year  |              |                                    |                                    |                                    |
| Total                          |                  |                      | \$140,940,000                      |  |              |                                    |                                    |                                    |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> CUSIP is a registered trademark of American Bankers Association. CUSIP data herein is provided by CUSIP Global Services, managed on behalf of the American Bankers Association by FactSet Research Systems Inc. The CUSIP number are being provided solely for the convenience of the owners of the Target Bonds and the Issuer is not responsible for the selection or correctness of the CUSIP numbers printed herein and does not make any representation with respect to such numbers or undertake any responsibility for their accuracy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Each Benchmark Treasury Security (as defined in the Invitation) will be the most recently auctioned "on-the-run" United States Treasury Security for the maturity indicated as of the date and time that the Purchase Price for the Target Bonds is set, currently expected to be approximately 10:00 a.m. New York City time on December 9, 2025, unless extended pursuant to the Invitation.

<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary, subject to change.

## Illustrative Offer Purchase Price Calculations: Interest Rate Sensitivity

As a measure of the sensitivity of the Offer Purchase Price to changes in the yield on the Benchmark Treasury Securities, the following table shows the impact on the Offer Purchase Price of a 0.10% (10 basis point) movement in the yield of the Benchmark Treasury Securities.

## State of Ohio Common Schools General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A (Federally Taxable)

|                                |                  | Illustrative   | Illustrative Purchase Prices*                                  |                                       |   |  |  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| CUSIP<br>(677522) <sup>1</sup> | Maturity<br>Date | Purchase Yield Based on Benchmark Treasury Yields as of [ ], 2025* | Assuming a 0.10%<br>Increase in<br>Treasury<br>Security Yields | Current<br>Treasury<br>Security Yield | Assuming a 0.10% Decrease in Treasury Security Yields |  |  |
| 4M3                            | 9/15/2029        |  |  |                                       |   |  |  |
| 4N1                            | 9/15/2030        |  |  |                                       |   |  |  |
| 4P6                            | 9/15/2031        |  |  |                                       |   |  |  |
| 4Q4                            | 9/15/2032        |  |  |                                       |   |  |  |
| 4R2                            | 9/15/2033        |  |  |                                       |   |  |  |
| 4S0                            | 9/15/2034        |  |  |                                       |   |  |  |

## State of Ohio Infrastructure Improvement General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020A (Federally Taxable)

|   |                                |                  | Illustrative   | Illustrative Purchase Prices*                                  |                                       |   |  |  |
|---|--------------------------------|------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|--|
|   | CUSIP<br>(677522) <sup>1</sup> | Maturity<br>Date | Purchase Yield<br>Based on<br>Benchmark<br>Treasury Yields as<br>of [ ], 2025* | Assuming a 0.10%<br>Increase in<br>Treasury<br>Security Yields | Current<br>Treasury<br>Security Yield | Assuming a 0.10% Decrease in Treasury Security Yields |  |  |
| _ | 3U6                            | 8/1/2028         | 2 2/   | •  | •                                     | •   |  |  |
|   | 3V4                            | 8/1/2029         |  |  |                                       |   |  |  |
|   | 3W2                            | 8/1/2030         |  |  |                                       |   |  |  |
|   | 3X0                            | 8/1/2031         |  |  |                                       |   |  |  |
|   | 3Y8                            | 8/1/2032         |  |  |                                       |   |  |  |
|   | 3 <b>Z</b> 5                   | 8/1/2033         |  |  |                                       |   |  |  |
|   | 4A9                            | 8/1/2034         |  |  |                                       |   |  |  |
|   | 4B7                            | 8/1/2035         |  |  |                                       |   |  |  |

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<sup>\*</sup>Preliminary, subject to change.