STATE AID TO PUBLIC LIBRARIES

History of Municipal Appropriation Requirement Formulas

1890-1960
If the town’s assessed valuation was $1 million or over, the appropriation to the library had to be at least $50. If the town’s assessed valuation was $250,000 - $999,999, the appropriation had to be at least $25. If the town’s assessed valuation was less than $250,000, the appropriation had to be at least $15. The municipal appropriation requirement did not apply to cities.
- No waivers
- M.G.L. Ch.78, s.18. Repealed by Ch.429, s.5, Acts of 1960

1961-FY1970
If the prior year’s appropriation was less than the average of the preceding four years, the appropriation had to be at least $3 per capita.
- No waivers
- M.G.L. Ch.78, s.19A as amended by Ch.760, Acts of 1960

FY1971-FY1986
If the prior year’s appropriation was less than the average of the preceding four years, the appropriation had to be at least $6 per capita.
- No waivers
- M.G.L. Ch.78, s.19A as amended by Ch.636, Acts of 1970

FY1987
The prior year’s appropriation had to at least equal the average of the prior four years,
OR – the prior year’s appropriation had to be at least the average of the prior three years plus 2.5%,
OR – the current year’s appropriation had to be at least the average of the prior three years plus 2.5%.
- No waivers
- Board of Library Commissioners, minutes, August 14, 1986, (“in as much as appropriations based on legislative initiatives in S. 1746 have been authorized without enactment of that legislation, the Board is presented with problems in implementation, and must make certain interpretive decisions regarding disbursement of these monies.”)

FY1988-FY1991
The current year’s appropriation had to be at least the average of the prior three years plus 2.5%.
- 10 waivers
- M.G.L. Ch.78, s.19A as amended by Ch.478, Acts of 1987
FY1992-FY1993 The current year’s appropriation had to be at least 95% of the average of the prior three years.
  • 25 waivers
  • M.G.L. Ch.78, s.19A as amended by Ch.138, Acts of 1991, Ch.133 Acts of 1992

FY1994 The current year’s appropriation had to be at least the average of the prior three years.
  • 60 waivers
  • M.G.L. Ch.78, s.19A as amended by Ch.110, Acts of 1993.

FY1995 The current year’s appropriation had to be at least the average of the prior three years, increased by 2.5%
  • 60 waivers
  • M.G.L. Ch.78, s.19A as amended by Ch.60, Acts of 1994.

FY1996-FY2002 The current year’s appropriation had to be at least the average of the prior three years, increased by 2.5%.
  • 10 waivers
  • M.G.L. Ch.78, s.19A as amended by budget language

FY2003 The current year’s appropriation had to be at least the average of the prior three years, increased by 2.5%
  • 35 waivers
  • M.G.L. Ch.78, s.19A as amended by Ch.184, Acts of 2002

FY2004 The current year’s appropriation had to be at least the average of the prior three years, increased by 2.5%
  • waivers may exceed 10
  • M.G.L. Ch.78, s.19A as amended by Ch.26, Acts of 2003

FY2005-FY2009 The current year’s appropriation had to be at least the average of the prior three years, increased by 2.5%
  • 65 waivers
  • M.G.L. Ch.78, s.19A as amended by budget language

FY 2010-FY2017 The current year’s appropriation had to be at least the average of the prior three years, increased by 2.5%.
  • unlimited waivers, granted as needed
  • M.G.L. Ch.78, s.19A as amended by budget language

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