

**DEPARTMENT 303 - DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
2025-27 BASE-LEVEL BUDGET**

Base Budget - Summary

	<u>Base Level</u>
Salaries and wages	\$38,756,030
Operating expenses	15,457,832
Capital assets	1,013,500
Grants	<u>37,198,118</u>
Total all funds	\$92,425,480
Less other funds	<u>76,074,697</u>
Total general fund	\$16,350,783
Full-time equivalent (FTE) positions	173.00

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is organized in seven divisions--Air Quality, Chemistry, Water Quality, Municipal Facilities, Waste Management, Accounting, and the Office of Director.

Selected Base Budget Information

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
1. Includes salary and benefits funding for 173.00 FTE positions, including temporary salaries	\$12,772,055	\$25,983,975	\$38,756,030
2. Includes funding for operating expenses primarily related to travel, rental expenses, repairs, information technology-related expenditures, professional fees and services, and chemistry laboratory supplies	\$3,553,928	\$11,903,904	\$15,457,832
3. Includes base budget funding for capital projects, including extraordinary repairs and equipment greater than \$5,000	\$4,800	\$1,008,700	\$1,013,500
4. Includes funding for grants	\$20,000	\$37,178,118	\$37,198,118

Continuing Appropriations

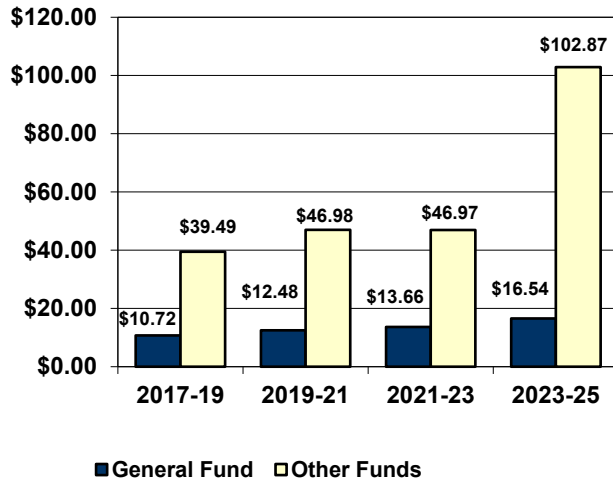
Environmental quality restoration fund - North Dakota Century Code Section 23.1-10-02 - Allows DEQ to provide immediate and timely response to catastrophic events that threaten the public and environmental health and when the responsible party is late in responding or cannot be located. The fund is to be administered by DEQ and may be used by the department for costs of environmental assessment, removal, corrective action, or monitoring as determined on a case-by-case basis. If, on the first day of July in any year, the amount of uncommitted or unrestricted money in the environmental quality restoration fund is more than \$5,000,000, the amount in excess of \$5,000,000 must be transferred to the general fund. The balance in the fund as of June 30, 2024, was \$7,706,264. After deducting the outstanding obligations, \$2,392,956 was transferred to the general fund.

Petroleum tank release compensation fund - Section 23.1-12-29 - Provides a continuing appropriation to DEQ to reimburse claims made under the chapter.

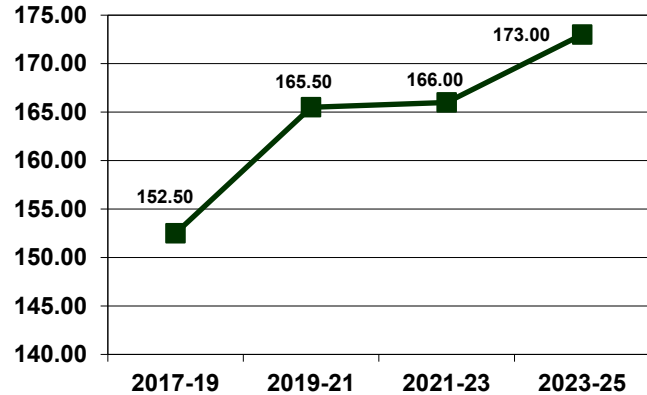
Historical Appropriations Information

Agency Appropriations and FTE Positions

Agency Funding (Millions)



FTE Positions



Ongoing General Fund Appropriations

	2015-17	2017-19	2019-21	2021-23	2023-25
Ongoing general fund appropriations	N/A	\$10,724,151	\$12,480,922	\$12,661,075	\$16,350,783
Increase (decrease) from previous biennium	N/A	N/A	\$1,756,771	\$180,153	\$3,689,708
Percentage increase (decrease) from previous biennium	N/A	N/A	16.4%	1.4%	29.1%
Cumulative percentage increase (decrease) from 2015-17 biennium	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Major Increases (Decreases) in Ongoing General Fund Appropriations

2017-19 Biennium

- Removed 1 FTE electronics technician II position from the Air Quality Division of the Environmental Health Section and related funding for salaries and wages (\$111,233)
- Adjusted the funding source for litigation fees related to the Environmental Protection Agency lawsuit to provide funding from the strategic investment and improvements fund instead of the general fund (\$500,000)

2019-21 Biennium

- Removed 3 FTE positions, including 1 FTE administrative assistant, 1 FTE office assistant, and 1 FTE legal assistant, and related funding for salaries and wages (\$94,123)
- Added 2 FTE positions and related funding from the general fund and the petroleum release compensation fund for salaries and wages and operating expenses to transfer the petroleum tank release program from the Insurance Department to DEQ \$297,217
- Added 2 FTE positions and funding for salaries and wages in the 1st year of the biennium related to the state assuming primacy over the Quad O and Quad Oa federal air pollution programs \$384,356
- Added 8 FTE positions and funding in the 2nd year of the biennium related to the state assuming primacy over the Quad O and Quad Oa federal air pollution programs \$1,056,767
- Reduced funding for operating expenses related to training water treatment system operators to provide a total of \$125,000 from the general fund (\$55,000)
- Added funding for Microsoft Office 365 licensing expenses \$20,048

2021-23 Biennium

- Decreased funding for temporary salaries (\$138,050)
- Transferred 1 FTE computer and network specialist III position to the Information Technology Department for the information technology (IT) unification initiative, including a decrease in salaries and wages and an increase in operating expenses \$2,022

- 3. Removed 2 FTE environmental scientist II positions paid from the general fund and restored other positions from special funds (\$360,800)
- 4. Decreased funding for operating expenses (\$614,873)
- 5. Increased funding for cost to continue operating expenses and grants, including funding to fully fund the Quad O and Quad Oa program, increases in IT data processing, IT equipment, and repairs \$362,474

2023-25 Biennium

- 1. Added funding for 1 FTE human resource director position in the Office of the Director and related operating expenses of \$15,165 \$94,718
- 2. Added funding for 1 FTE assistant director in the Office of the Director and related operating expenses of \$15,167 \$127,704
- 3. Added funding for 1 FTE civil rights and environmental justice position in the Office of the Director and related operating expenses of \$25,168 \$85,341
- 4. Added funding for 1 FTE accountant budget specialist III position in the Office of the Director and related operating expenses of \$10,500 \$80,141
- 5. Added equity funding for salaries and wages to reclassify chemist and environmental scientist positions \$2,000,000
- 6. Added funding for operating expenses related to laboratory information management system maintenance and hosting \$280,000

One-Time General Fund Appropriations

	2015-17	2017-19	2019-21	2021-23	2023-25
One-time general fund appropriations	N/A	\$0	\$0	\$1,000,000	\$187,800

Major One-Time General Fund Appropriations

2017-19 Biennium

None \$0

2019-21 Biennium

None \$0

2021-23 Biennium

- 1. Added one-time funding for a laboratory information management system \$1,000,000

2023-25 Biennium

- 1. Added one-time funding for operating expenses related to chemistry laboratory inflation \$116,800
- 2. Added one-time funding for operating expenses for environmental data system development \$71,000