

2015 Wisconsin Act 53

Achievement Gap Reduction (AGR) Program

On July 1, 2015, [2015 Wisconsin Act 53](#) was signed into law by Governor Walker. Act 53, Student Achievement Guarantee in Education (SAGE)/Achievement Gap Reduction (AGR) law, [s.118.43](#) and [s.118.44](#), Wis. Stats., prohibits the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) from renewing five-year SAGE contracts that expired on June 30, 2015 or any year thereafter. However, the law provides DPI the authority to issue a one-year extension under the existing terms on SAGE contracts which expired on June 30, 2015. If your SAGE school recently submitted a five-year achievement guarantee contract renewal application, your school may participate in the SAGE program for the 2015-16 school year under a one-year contract extension. If your SAGE school has a contract that extends beyond the 2015-16 school year, your school may participate in the SAGE program until the end of the existing contract.

Act 53 also allows all current SAGE schools to opt into the new AGR program as early as the 2015-16 school year. DPI will provide more information to school districts soon, but you should consider the following requirements when making your decision:

Student Achievement Guarantee in Education (SAGE)

- Continue SAGE up to the end of your current SAGE contract. NOTE: SAGE schools with contracts that expired in June 2015 will be able to continue SAGE through the end of the 2015-16 school year with a one-year contract extension based on the recently submitted application
- Maintain current SAGE rules including class size ratios of 18:1 or 30:2 in kindergarten through grade 3
- Plan for the transition to the AGR program
- Annually report to DPI:
 - class size and low-income student counts
 - end-of-year and financial report

Achievement Gap Reduction (AGR)

- Complete a five-year AGR contract application to begin in the 2015-16 school year
- Plan which AGR strategy/strategies your school will implement to achieve compliance with the new program:
 - one-to-one tutoring provided by a licensed teacher
 - instructional coaching for teachers provided by a licensed teacher
 - maintaining 18:1 or 30:2 classroom ratios and providing professional development on small group instruction
- Annually report to DPI:
 - class size and low-income student counts
 - description of strategies that the school board plans to implement
 - description of the strategies that the school board did implement
 - end-of-year and financial report
- Report to the school board at the end of every semester:
 - implementation of required strategies
 - performance objectives
 - progress in closing the achievement gap

CONTACTS AND ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

Please contact us with any questions about the SAGE and AGR programs:

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