

**Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction**

**2015-2017 Executive Biennial Budget Request Highlights  
Submitted by Governor Walker  
2015 Senate Bill 21/Assembly Bill 21**



**February 2015**

# **Governor Walker's 2015-2017 Biennial Budget Highlights**

This document summarizes Governor Walker's biennial budget bill (2015 SB 21/AB 21) as it relates to K-12 education. Proposals are organized according to the following major budget themes:

*General School Aids* (pg. 2)

*Revenue Limits* (pg. 2)

*Categorical Aids* (pg. 2)

*Choice, Charter, Open Enrollment and Special Transfer Programs* (pg. 3)

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The Governor's complete biennial budget bill can be found at <http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2015/related/proposals/sb21.pdf>

Governor's 2015-17 Budget Proposal Request Title	DIN #	FY16						
		Dollars	Source	FTE		Dollars	Source	FTE
<b>General School Aids</b>								
General Equalization Aids Increases	7101	\$0	GPR	0.00		\$108,137,500	GPR	0.00
<u>Whole Grade Sharing</u> Permit districts to enter into whole grade sharing agreements; provide for a "base guarantee aid" for these districts for 5 years after entering into the WGS agreement and then in years 6 and 7, provide 66% and 33%, of the WGS base guarantee aid amounts. (Additional aid would be received through the equalization aid formula; no new funds appropriated for WGS).		\$0	GPR	0.00		\$0	GPR	0.00
<b>Revenue Limits</b>								
Per Pupil Increase - no increases (\$0/\$0); Low Revenue Ceiling threshold - maintain at \$9,100; No changes to revenue limit calculation (denied request to modify the exemption for refunded / rescinded taxes).	6000							
<b>Categorical Aids</b>								
<u>Sparsity Aid</u> Approves DPI's request to fully fund at \$300/pupil and remove the FRL eligibility criterion for eligibility.	6011	\$4,220,700	GPR	0.00		\$4,220,700	GPR	0.00
<u>Pupil Transportation Aid Reimbursement Rate</u> Approves DPI's request to increase the pupil transportation rate for pupils transported over 12 miles from \$275 to \$300 to assist districts in funding high-cost transportation services; funded within the base level.	6012	\$0	GPR	0.00		\$0	GPR	0.00
<u>Pupil Transportation Aid for Independent Charter Schools</u> Approves DPI's request to allow ICS to be eligible to claim Pupil Transportation Aid in the same manner as school districts.	6012	\$250,400	GPR	0.00		\$250,400	GPR	0.00
<u>High Cost Pupil Transportation Aid</u> Approves the DPI's request to increase funding to reimburse at 50% of estimated eligible costs and to introduce a new eligibility criterion, to exclude from eligibility any district with more than 50 pupils (members) per square mile.	6013	\$2,500,000	GPR	0.00		\$2,500,000	GPR	0.00
<u>Per Pupil Aid</u> Eliminates funding in FY16, restore as a sum-certain appropriation in FY17; provides aid in FY17 on a one-time (non-base building) basis.	7102	\$0	GPR	0.00		\$141,907,800	GPR	0.00
<u>Career/Tech Ed Grants</u> Transfers responsibility for the program to DWD.	7104	(\$3,000,000)	GPR	0.00		(\$3,000,000)	GPR	0.00
<u>School Library Aids reestimate</u> Approves DPI's request to increase funding to reflect reestimate of revenues available from the Common School Fund.	7010	\$2,000,000	SEG-O	0.00		\$4,000,000	SEG-O	0.00

<i>Governor's 2015-17 Budget Proposal</i>	<u>DIN</u>	<u>FY16</u>			<u>FY17</u>		
Request Title	#	<u>Dollars</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Dollars</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>FTE</u>
<b>Charter, Choice, Open Enrollment and Special Transfer (Chapter 220) Programs</b>							
<u>Independent Charter School Per Pupil Payment</u> Maintains per pupil payment at the current law level of \$8,075; modify funding to reflect reestimated costs based on estimated enrollments.	7001	\$2,422,500	GPR	0.00	\$6,460,000	GPR	0.00
<u>Independent Charter Schools Oversight Board</u> Creates a charter school oversight board, which would have responsibility for approving new independent charter school authorizers, and increase funding for independent charter schools to reflect an anticipated increase in enrollment.	7111	\$4,037,500	GPR	0.00	\$4,037,500	GPR	0.00
<u>Parental Choice Program Reform [replaces DPI's requests for Milwaukee, Racine and Statewide Parental Choice Programs]</u> 1) Increases funding for all parental choice programs to reflect estimated enrollments. 2) Eliminates the cap on the number of participants in the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program. 3) Funds payments to new students in the Wisconsin and Racine Parental Choice Programs with the equalization aid allocated to the student's resident school district. 4) Retains the current law per pupil payment levels of \$7,210 for students in grades K-8 and \$7,856 for students in grades 9-12 for students participating in the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program and students who began participating in the Wisconsin and Racine Parental Choice Programs before the 2015-16 school year. 5) Implements several modifications to statutory language (partially approved DPI's request).	7103	\$4,938,100	GPR	0.00	\$12,281,100	GPR	0.00
<u>Open Enrollment</u> Maintains the current payment level for full time open enrollment at \$6,635 per pupil for the biennium; no changes to the Open Enrollment Program.		\$0		0.00	\$0		0.00
<u>Special Transfer (Integration Aid) Program</u> Closes the Special Transfer Program to new students effective with the 2015-16 school year, but allow any student attending a school under this program during the 2014-15 school year to continue through graduation from High School.		\$0		0.00	\$0		0.00

<i>Governor's 2015-17 Budget Proposal</i>	<u>DIN</u>	<u>FY16</u>			<u>FY17</u>		
Request Title	#	<u>Dollars</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Dollars</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>FTE</u>
<b>Assessments</b>							
<u>Student Assessments</u>							
1) <u>Required State Assessments</u> - prohibits DPI from using the Smarter / Balanced (SBAC) assessments beginning in 2015-16 for any of the exams required under current law (s.118.30) for the 4th, 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th grades [and in effect, for the grades 3 - 8 exams as required under federal law). Also prohibits the State Superintendent from participating in the SBAC Consortium. Provides additional funding to cover the costs associated with contracting with a vendor for state required assessments (other than ACT and DLM - see below).	7112	\$1,500,000	GPR	0.00	\$1,500,000	GPR	0.00
2) <u>ACT and Alternative Assessments (DLM)</u> - approves DPI's request for additional funding for costs of the ACT assessments in grades 9-12 and Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) assessments; as well as to eliminate the requirement that districts administer the fall 9th grade ACT assessment (just one ACT test for 9th graders in the Spring).	7000	\$2,091,400	GPR	0.00	\$3,043,900	GPR	0.00
<u>Alternative Student Assessments</u>							
1) <u>Assessments</u> : permits a school district, independent charter school (ICS) or private school participating in any of the state's Parental Choice Programs to use a test other than that approved/adopted by DPI under s.118.30, provided the test has been approved by the VARC (see below) as an acceptable alternative test, for any grade for which a state assessment is required. Any school district, ICS or private school participating in a Parental Choice Program that chooses to use an alternative assessment must: a) notify DPI of its intent to do so; b) publish its intent and information about the examination on the school's Internet site; c) pay for the difference between the cost of the assessment approved by DPI and the alternative assessment; and d) submit the examination results to VARC (see below).							
2) <u>VARC</u> : Creates a new GPR, annual appropriation to pay the Value Added Research Center (VARC) at the UW-Madison, which is required under the bill to identify three to five nationally recognized, norm-referenced alternative examinations determined by VARC to be acceptable for statistical comparison with examinations adopted or approved by the State Superintendent. Also requires VARC to review all exams results and statistically equate them to the pupil exams required under state law (s.118.30) and provide the statistically equated exam data to DPI and to the public school, ICS or private school participating in a Parental Choice Program.	7112	\$750,000	GPR	0.00	\$750,000	GPR	0.00

<p align="center"><b>Governor's 2015-17 Budget Proposal</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Request Title</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>DIN</b></p> <p align="center"><b>#</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>FY16</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Dollars      Source      FTE</b></p>			<p align="center"><b>FY17</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Dollars      Source      FTE</b></p>		
<b>Accountability</b>							
<u>Common Core</u>							
<p>Provides that the State Superintendent may not "give effect" to any academic standard developed by the Common Core State Standards Initiative and adopted and implemented in this state before the effective date of this bill; further, provides that the State Superintendent may not require any school board to give effect to any such academic standard. Beginning on the bill's effective date, the State Superintendent may not take any action to adopt or implement any academic standard developed by the Common Core State Standards Initiative, and may not direct any school board to adopt or implement any such standard.</p>							
<u>School Accountability</u>							
<p>1) <u>Grades</u>: requires DPI to use an index system to identify a school's level of performance, and a school district's level of improvement, based on letter grades that are tied to the performance categories currently used by DPI (A-Significantly Exceeds Expectations, B-Exceeds Expectations, C-Meets Expectations, D-Meets Few Expectations, and F-Fails to Meet Expectations).</p> <p>2) <u>Measures</u>: makes changes to the measures used to determine school performance and school district improvement; in determining a school's performance or a school district's improvement, DPI must take into account (weight) the percentage of economically disadvantaged pupils enrolled in the school or school district and the length of time a pupil was enrolled in the school or school district.</p> <p>3) <u>Educational Options</u>: requires DPI to provide information on its Internet site regarding the educational options available to all children in the state, including public schools, PCP schools, charter schools, virtual schools, full-time open enrollment, youth options, course options and options for pupils enrolled in a home-based private educational program.</p>							

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<b>Teacher Licensing and Certification</b>							
<u>Alternative Teacher License</u> Requires the State Superintendent to grant a teaching license to any individual who satisfies the following: 1) has a bachelor's degree; 2) demonstrates by passing a competency exam approved by DPI that he or she is proficient in the subject or subjects that he or she intends to teach; 3) has relevant experience, as determined by DPI, in the subject or subjects that he or she intends to teach.	7105	\$20,000	PR-O	0.00	\$20,000	PR-O	0.00
<b>Leveraging Technology</b>							
<u>DET Hosting</u> Partially approves DPI's request; increases funding to pay costs to DET.	5001	\$175,000	GPR	0.00	\$175,000	GPR	0.00
<b>Library Services</b>							
<u>BadgerLink</u> Partially approves DPI's request; increased funding to pay costs of maintaining BadgerLink.	7009	\$245,300	SEG-O	0.00	\$305,700	SEG-O	0.00
<b>Cooperative Educational Service Agencies</b>							
<u>CESAs</u> Eliminates state support for CESAs and permit school districts to opt out of membership in a CESA.	7106	(\$260,600)	GPR	0.00	(\$260,600)	GPR	0.00
<b>School District Operations</b>							
<u>Accountability Reports</u> Requires each school to provide a copy of the school's accountability report to the parent or guardian of each pupil enrolled in the school.							
<u>Educational Options</u> Requires each school district to provide to the parent or guardian of each pupil enrolled in the school with a list of the educational options available to children who reside in the pupil's resident school districts - including public schools, PCP schools, charter schools, virtual schools, full-time open enrollment, youth options, course options and options for pupils enrolled in a home-based private educational program (at the same time the school provides a copy of the school's accountability report, as described above).							

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<b>Department Administration and Other Funding</b>							
Community Eligibility Provision (statutory language change)	7015	\$0		0.00	\$0		0.00
<u>Eliminate Long-Term Vacancies</u> Eliminates 6.21 FTE positions throughout DPI.	8003	(\$159,100)	GPR	-2.96	(\$159,100)	GPR	-2.96
		\$0	PR-F	-1.30	\$0	PR-F	-1.30
		\$0	PR-S	-1.95	\$0	PR-S	-1.95
<u>Debt Service Reestimate</u>	8002	(\$158,700)	GPR	0.00	(\$387,700)	GPR	0.00
<u>Fuel and Utilities Reestimate</u>	8001	(\$19,400)	GPR	0.00	(\$1,200)	GPR	0.00
<u>Program Revenue Reestimates</u>	7011	\$20,100	PR-O	0.00	\$20,100	PR-O	0.00
		(\$93,500)	PR-S	0.00	(\$93,500)	PR-S	0.00
<u>Federal Program Reestimates</u>	7012	\$102,710,000	PR-F	0.00	\$102,710,000	PR-F	0.00
<u>Technical</u> Move 1.19 FTE GPR position between GPR appropriations - no net change.	7006						
<u>Standard Budget Adjustments</u> - Adjusts agency base budget for turnover reduction, removal of non-continuing elements from the base, full funding of continuing salaries and fringe benefits, overtime, night and weekend differential pay, and full funding of lease and directed moves costs (approved DPI's request).	3000						
		\$601,600	GPR	0.00	\$646,000	GPR	0.00
		\$538,200	PR-F	-1.00	\$539,000	PR-F	-6.00
		\$274,200	PR-O	0.00	\$274,200	PR-O	0.00
		\$727,500	PR-S	0.00	\$727,500	PR-S	-1.00
<b>Ongoing Lapse - \$1,049,300 annually from GPR or PR appropriations</b>							

Items Not Included in the Governor's Budget Bill	DIN #	FY16			FY17		
		Dollars	Source	FTE	Dollars	Source	FTE
Wisconsin STEM Center (Program Operations)	4003	\$700,000	GPR	0.00	\$700,000	GPR	0.00
STEM Grants	4004	\$250,000	GPR	0.00	\$250,000	GPR	0.00
Wisconsin School Safety Center (Program Operations)	4005	\$700,000	GPR	0.00	\$700,000	GPR	0.00
School Violence Prevention Programs (School Safety Grants)	4006	\$0	GPR	0.00	\$2,000,000	GPR	0.00
DET Hosting - Hardware upgrades	5001	\$300,000	GPR	0.00	\$300,000	GPR	0.00
Digital Learning Portal - WISElearn	5002	\$1,060,000	GPR	0.00	\$945,000	GPR	0.00
Digital Learning Portal - grants for e-publications or public & public school libraries	5002	\$1,000,000	GPR	0.00	\$2,000,000	GPR	0.00
Fair Funding (General, High Poverty & Fair Funding Hold Harm Aid)	6000	\$112,039,500	GPR	0.00	\$341,609,500	GPR	0.00
Special Education Categorical Aid	6002	\$25,164,900	GPR	0.00	\$60,683,900	GPR	0.00
High-Cost Special Education Categorical Aid	6003	\$7,100,000	GPR	0.00	\$7,350,000	GPR	0.00
Supplemental Special Education Categorical Aid	6004	\$0	GPR	0.00	(\$1,750,000)	GPR	0.00
Special Education Open Enrollment Transfer Amount	6005	\$0	GPR	0.00	\$0	GPR	0.00
Bilingual-Bicultural Education Aids	6006	\$3,949,200	GPR	0.00	\$4,256,200	GPR	0.00
Expanded Bilingual-Bicultural Education Aids	6007	\$0	GPR	0.00	\$2,300,000	GPR	0.00
Special Education Better Bottom Line Transitions (incentive payments)	6008	\$0	GPR	0.00	\$5,848,000	GPR	0.00
Special Education Better Bottom Line Job Development Coordinators	6009	\$0	GPR	0.00	\$1,500,000	GPR	0.00
Career Pathways - Bridge Support	6010	\$0	GPR	0.00	\$4,000,000	GPR	0.00
Open Enrollment Aid for Transportation	6014	\$1,458,800	GPR	0.00	\$1,641,800	GPR	0.00
Youth Options Aid for Transportation	6015	\$5,600	GPR	0.00	\$5,600	GPR	0.00
SAGE Reestimate	6016	\$0	GPR	0.00	\$11,190,500	GPR	0.00
School Breakfast Grants	6017	\$393,500	GPR	0.00	\$541,500	GPR	0.00
Per Pupil Aid – Reestimate	6020	(\$315,000)	GPR	0.00	(\$630,000)	GPR	0.00
Gifted and Talented Grants	6025	\$762,800	GPR	0.00	\$762,800	GPR	0.00
Milwaukee Succeeds	6027	\$250,000	GPR	0.00	\$250,000	GPR	0.00
State Tuition & OE Transfers (statutory language change)	6030	\$0	GPR	0.00	\$0	GPR	0.00
Supplemental Aid	6031	\$0	GPR	0.00	(\$100,000)	GPR	0.00
Milwaukee, Racine and Statewide Parental Choice Program reestimates	7002	\$17,028,800	GPR	0.00	\$37,293,600	GPR	0.00
Choice Program Position Funding	7003	\$119,500	GPR	1.00	\$254,100	GPR	2.00
Open Enrollment Position Authority Funding	7004	\$171,500	GPR	1.75	\$171,500	GPR	1.75
Transfer of Position Authority (approved position swap, but not exp. Authority)	7006	\$100,400	GPR	0.00	\$100,400	GPR	0.00
Choice Program Position Funding	7003	(\$119,500)	PR-F	-1.00	(\$119,500)	PR-F	-1.00
Open Enrollment Position Authority Funding	7004	(\$171,500)	PR-F	-1.75	(\$171,500)	PR-F	-1.75
Choice Program Position Funding	7003	\$0	PR-O	0.00	(\$134,600)	PR-O	-1.00
Teacher Certification (additional position authority)	7005	\$140,200	PR-O	3.00	\$187,000	PR-O	3.00
Tribal Language Revitalization Grants	6026	\$0	PR-S	0.00	\$400,200	PR-S	0.00
Tribal Language Revitalization Ops	6026	\$0	PR-S	0.00	\$160,000	PR-S	0.00
Library System Aid (13%)	7007	\$13,879,500	SEG-O	0.00	\$14,168,400	SEG-O	0.00
BadgerLink - Online Content	7009	\$191,100	SEG-O	0.00	\$191,100	SEG-O	0.00
BadgerLink - Computer Skills Module	7009	\$50,000	SEG-O	0.00	\$50,000	SEG-O	0.00