

WISCONSIN PARENTAL CHOICE PROGRAM (WPCP/Statewide)

**WPCP Facts and Figures for 2017-18
As of October 2018**

In January 2018, there were 153 private schools participating in the WPCP, with a total enrollment of 4,452 students or 4,318.4 full-time equivalent (FTE) in the program.* The 2017-18 WPCP state aid payment for a student enrolled full-time in the WPCP in grade kindergarten through eight is \$7,530 and \$8,176 for a student enrolled full-time in grade nine through twelve. The program is estimated to cost \$33,612,000 in 2017-18.

Act 55 (Wisconsin 2015-17 Biennial Budget) changed the manner in which the WPCP is funded. Students that participated in the program prior to the 2015-16 school year will continue to be fully funded from state general purpose revenue. Pupils who begin attending a private school under the WPCP in the 2015-16 school year and thereafter are referred to as “incoming pupils.” All choice pupils participating in the WPCP must identify their resident public school district (the public school district where they reside on the 3rd Friday in September). State law requires Wisconsin public school districts to have their state general aid reduced by an amount equal to the amount paid by the state to participating private schools attributable to the incoming pupils residing in the district.

If a resident public school district does not receive general aid payments sufficient to cover the incoming choice pupil aid reduction, the balance would be reduced from other state aids received by the district. Incoming pupils in the WPCP are included in their resident public school district’s membership for state general aid purposes in the following year. Districts may not levy to backfill the aid reduction. However, they receive a non-recurring revenue limit exemption equal to their general state aid reduction. For the 2017-18 school year, no more than 2% of pupils residing in a public school district may participate in the WPCP. There were 5,002 students eligible to be included in the statutorily required random drawing conducted by the department in June for districts with more applications than the 2% limit or for schools with more applicants than seats available. There were 428 students selected in the drawing that are not participating in the program. There were 33 students on private school waiting lists and no students on the WPCP waiting list due to the 2% public school district limit. The department is required to fill a seat from a district’s waiting list if a choice student leaves a school and the choice enrollment falls below the 2% limit.

Table 1 shows the WPCP enrollment by grade level. The number of students listed in the table is reported by headcount and FTE. For example, a four-year-old kindergarten student may be counted as 0.5 or 0.6 FTE.

**TABLE 1
WPCP 2017-18 Enrollment by Grade Level***

<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>3rd Friday in September 2017</u>		<u>2nd Friday in January 2018</u>	
	<u>Headcount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Headcount</u>	<u>FTE</u>
4 Year-Old Kindergarten	245	125.2	242	123.7
5 Year-Old Kindergarten	533	517.7	522	506.7
1st Grade	533	533.0	526	526.0
2nd Grade	365	365.0	361	361.0
3rd Grade	310	310.0	304	304.0
4th Grade	280	280.0	275	275.0
5th Grade	282	282.0	275	275.0
6th Grade	288	288.0	281	281.0
7th Grade	259	259.0	246	246.0
8th Grade	227	227.0	223	223.0
9th Grade	480	480.0	476	476.0
10th Grade	311	311.0	303	303.0
11th Grade	227	227.0	224	224.0
12th Grade	194	194.0	194	194.0
Totals	4,534	4,398.9	4,452	4,318.4

* These numbers are as of October 2018 and are subject to change.

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Table 2 provides the total number of students in the WPCP by where (and if) they were enrolled in school in 2016-17.

**TABLE 2
2017-18 WPCP Students' Prior Year Enrollments***

2016-17 Enrollment	3rd Friday in September 2017			
	Headcount**	% of Headcount	FTE	% of FTE
Wisconsin Private School	3,403	75.06%	3,354.4	76.26%
Wisconsin Public School	715	15.77%	707.9	16.09%
No School	250	5.51%	174.0	3.96%
Homeschooled	161	3.55%	158.1	3.59%
Out of State	5	0.11%	4.5	0.10%
Totals	4,534	100%	4,398.9	100%

* These numbers as of October 2018 and are subject to change.

** Of the 3,403 students enrolled in private school in 2016-17, 2,671 (2,669.0 FTE) participated in the WPCP. Of the remaining 732 students (685.4 FTE) enrolled in a private school in 2016-17, 264 (217.4 FTE) students applied to kindergarten, 223 students applied to first grade and 245 students applied to ninth grade for the 2017-18 school year.

There were no students on the WPCP waiting list for the 2017-18 school year due to the 2% public school district limit.

**TABLE 3
2017-18 WPCP Waiting List and 2% School District Limit***

School District	Number Students on WPCP Waiting List	School District 2% Limit
Total Students	0	

*There were 33 students on the WPCP waiting list due to schools limiting the number of seats available.