

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Summary of 2019-21 Biennial Budget Request

Provisions Related to Elementary and Secondary Education and State Agency Operations

Prepared by the Policy and Budget Team
Department of Public Instruction



October 2018

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
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This publication is available from:

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<https://dpi.wi.gov/policy-budget>

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Table of Contents

Table of Contents	<i>i</i>
KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS AND NOTES	<i>iii</i>
Summary of 2019-21 Budget Request – School Aids and Credits Summary	<i>v</i>
FAIR FUNDING FOR OUR FUTURE – GENERAL AIDS & REVENUE LIMITS	1
TWO-THIRDS FUNDING FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS	1
Restore Two-Thirds Funding for Schools	1
GENERAL AIDS	1
General Equalization Aids	1
General Equalization Aids-Hold Harmless	2
Aid for High Poverty Districts	2
School Levy and First Dollar Tax Credits	2
REVENUE LIMITS	3
Revenue Limit per Pupil	3
Low Revenue Ceiling	3
Counting Pupils for 4 Year Old Kindergarten (4K)	3
Revenue Limit Exemption for Lead Remediation	3
CATEGORICAL AIDS	4
MENTAL HEALTH: EXPANDING ACCESS AND IMPROVING SERVICES	4
School Mental Health Categorical Aid Program	4
Community and School Mental Health Collaborative Grant Program	4
Mental Health Training Programs	4
INVESTING IN RURAL SCHOOLS	5
Sparsity Aid	5
Pupil Transportation Aid	5
High Cost Pupil Transportation Aid	5
SPECIAL EDUCATION	6
Special Education Categorical Aid	6
High-Cost Special Education	6
Supplemental Special Education	6
Special Education – Transitions Incentive Grants	6
Special Education – Transitions Readiness Investment Grants	6
BILINGUAL-BICULTURAL EDUCATION / SUPPORTING ENGLISH LEARNERS	7
Bilingual-Bicultural Aid	7
Supplemental Bilingual-Bicultural Aid (<i>New Program</i>)	7
Targeted Aid for English Learners (<i>New Program</i>)	7
Grants to Support English Learners and Bilingual-Bicultural Education Programs (<i>New Program</i>)	7
TARGETED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES AND OTHER CATEGORICAL AIDS	8
Per Pupil Aid	8
After School Grant Program (<i>New Program</i>)	8
Driver Education Aid (<i>New Program</i>)	8
Milwaukee Mathematics Partnership Grant (<i>New Program</i>)	8
Grants to Support Gifted and Talented Programs	8
Tribal Language Revitalization Grants	9
Robotics League Participation Grants	9

School Breakfast Aid.....	9
School Day Milk Program	9
State Aid to Schools for Early College Credit Program (ECCP)	9
Aid for Early College Credit Program (ECCP) Transportation	10
URBAN EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE.....	11
Early Childhood Education Grant (Categorical Aid).....	11
Summer School Grant (Categorical Aid).....	11
Supporting Great Teachers- National Board Certified Teacher and Master Educator Grants	11
Supporting Great Leaders–Wisconsin Urban Leadership Institute	12
Collaborating with Community Partners.....	12
INDEPENDENT CHARTER SCHOOLS, PRIVATE SCHOOL PARENTAL CHOICE, SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM, AND OPEN ENROLLMENT.....	13
ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT TO PER PUPIL PAYMENT	13
Formula for Per Pupil Adjustment to State Payments	13
INDEPENDENT CHARTER SCHOOL PROGRAM REESTIMATE	14
Legacy ICS Reestimate.....	14
Office of Educational Opportunity (OEO) ICS Reestimate.....	14
MILWAUKEE PARENTAL CHOICE PROGRAM REESTIMATE	14
Program Reestimate.....	14
RACINE AND WISCONSIN PARENTAL CHOICE PROGRAMS REESTIMATES.....	14
RPCP and WPCP Program Reestimate.....	14
SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM REESTIMATE	15
SNSP Program Reestimate	15
SNSP Program Language Changes.....	15
SPECIAL EDUCATION OPEN ENROLLMENT	16
SEOE Program Language Changes.....	16
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND PUBLIC LIBRARIES	17
Public Library System Aid	17
Library Service Contracts.....	17
BadgerLink.....	17
AIDS TO INDIVIDUALS/ORGANIZATIONS.....	18
Special Olympics Wisconsin	18
Very Special Arts Wisconsin	18
Wisconsin Reading Corps	18
AGENCY ADMINISTRATION.....	19
Mental Health and School Climate Training Program	19
Support for the Youth Risk Behavior Survey	19
State Support for State Programs	19
Standard Budget Adjustments	20
STATUTORY LANGUAGE CHANGES.....	21
School District Referenda Scheduling Restrictions.....	21
Alternative Educator Preparation Program.....	21
Opportunity Schools and Partnership Programs (OSPP).....	21
Counting Public School Students for Certain State Grant Programs.....	22

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS AND NOTES

Commonly Used Acronyms

- **CESA** – cooperative educational services agency
- **DIN** – decision item narrative
- **FTE** – full time equivalent
- **FY** – fiscal year
- **FED** – federal revenue
- **JCF** – Joint Committee on Finance
- **LEA** – local educational agency

Fund Sources

- **GPR** – general purpose revenue
- **PR** – program revenue
- **PR-S** – program revenue-service
- **SEG** – segregated revenue

FY19 Base - The total FY19 authorized funding level for an agency or program. The base equals FY19 appropriations, pay plan modifications and any other supplements. It is this base that serves as the beginning point for calculating budget changes for the 2017-19 biennium.

References to Members, Pupils, and Students

Throughout this document there are references to “student(s)”, “pupil(s)”, “member(s)”, and “membership”. These are all references to K-12 students, but the terms “member(s)” and “membership” reflect how students are counted under state law for purposes of state general equalization aid, certain categorical aids, and revenue limits.

Simply put, a district’s “membership” is the total full time equivalent (FTE) of students who are residents of the school district and for whom the district pays the cost of educating. As an example: a district’s “membership” includes residents who attend a public school in a different school district under the open enrollment program (and conversely, excludes non-resident students who attend a public school in the district under open enrollment). This is because each school district incurs a cost, via a reduction in its state general aid, for each resident student who enrolls into a public school in a different school district under the open enrollment program. State law provides for similar adjustments to a district’s membership for other circumstance as well.

The singular term “member” generally means 1.0 FTE pupil, unless otherwise stated (e.g., with respect to four-year-old kindergarten, which may reference 0.5 FTE or 0.6 FTE pupil).

Membership for general equalization aid purposes uses prior year data. A district’s total membership includes the average of the September and January pupil counts (converted to FTE), and adds in the district’s FTE pupils for summer school and interim session, as applicable. General aid membership now also includes resident students of the district who enroll in the Racine and the Wisconsin private school parental choice programs (if the student first enrolled in those programs in the 2015-16 school year or after), and for a subset of

independent charter schools. Finally, adjustments are made to reflect students enrolled part-time in the school district, in the Youth Challenge Academy program, and for some students in foster care placements.

Membership for revenue limit purposes uses current and prior year data. It is comprised of the three-year rolling average of FTE of the third Friday in September student count, plus 40 percent of summer school FTE (if applicable).

While general equalization aid membership is calculated differently than membership for revenue limit purposes, the concept of a member (a resident for whom the district pays the cost of educating) is the same for both purposes.

In this document, references to “pupil” (e.g., “per pupil adjustment”), in the context of state aids and revenue limits, has the same meaning as “member”, as described above.

Summary of 2019-21 Budget Request – School Aids and Credits Summary

Department of Public Instruction 2019-21 Biennial Budget Request						
	<u>FY19 - Base</u>	<u>FY20</u>	<u>FY20 to Base</u>	<u>FY21</u>	<u>FY21 to Base</u>	<u>Total Change to Base</u>
Categorical Aid Programs						
Per Pupil Aid	\$ 549,098,400	\$ 545,700,000	\$ (3,398,400)	\$ 543,800,000	\$ (5,298,400)	\$ (8,696,800)
Special Education Categorical Aid	\$ 368,939,100	\$ 444,000,000	\$ 75,060,900	\$ 900,000,000	\$ 531,060,900	\$ 606,121,800
Achievement Gap Reduction (AGR)	\$ 109,184,500	\$ 109,184,500	\$ -	\$ 109,184,500	\$ -	\$ -
Sparsity Aid	\$ 25,213,900	\$ 35,000,000	\$ 9,786,100	\$ 35,000,000	\$ 9,786,100	\$ 19,572,200
Pupil Transportation	\$ 24,000,000	\$ 24,000,000	\$ -	\$ 24,000,000	\$ -	\$ -
High Cost Transportation	\$ 12,700,000	\$ 15,000,000	\$ 2,300,000	\$ 15,000,000	\$ 2,300,000	\$ 4,600,000
Spec Educ-High Cost	\$ 9,353,800	\$ 9,353,800	\$ -	\$ 9,353,800	\$ -	\$ -
Personal Electronic Computing Device Grant	\$ 9,187,500	\$ 9,187,500	\$ -	\$ 9,187,500	\$ -	\$ -
Bilingual-Bicultural	\$ 8,589,800	\$ 22,700,000	\$ 14,110,200	\$ 35,400,000	\$ 26,810,200	\$ 40,920,400
Tuition Payments	\$ 8,242,900	\$ 8,242,900	\$ -	\$ 8,242,900	\$ -	\$ -
Head Start Supplement	\$ 6,264,100	\$ 6,264,100	\$ -	\$ 6,264,100	\$ -	\$ -
Educator Effectiveness	\$ 5,746,000	\$ 5,746,000	\$ -	\$ 5,746,000	\$ -	\$ -
School Lunch Match	\$ 4,218,100	\$ 4,218,100	\$ -	\$ 4,218,100	\$ -	\$ -
Aid for CCDEB's	\$ 4,067,300	\$ 4,067,300	\$ -	\$ 4,067,300	\$ -	\$ -
School Performance Improvement Grant	\$ 3,690,600	\$ 3,690,600	\$ -	\$ 3,690,600	\$ -	\$ -
Spec Educ-Transition Incentive Grant	\$ 3,600,000	\$ 3,600,000	\$ -	\$ 3,600,000	\$ -	\$ -
Mental Health Collaboration Grants	\$ 3,250,000	\$ 10,250,000	\$ 7,000,000	\$ 10,250,000	\$ 7,000,000	\$ 14,000,000
Mental Health Categorical Aid	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 25,000,000	\$ 22,000,000	\$ 25,000,000	\$ 22,000,000	\$ 44,000,000
School Breakfast Grants	\$ 2,510,500	\$ 5,300,000	\$ 2,789,500	\$ 5,400,000	\$ 2,889,500	\$ 5,679,000
Spec Educ-Supplemental	\$ 1,750,000	\$ 1,750,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,750,000)	\$ (1,750,000)
Peer Review & Mentoring	\$ 1,606,700	\$ 1,606,700	\$ -	\$ 1,606,700	\$ -	\$ -
Spec Educ-Transition Readiness Grant	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 3,500,000	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 3,500,000	\$ 7,000,000
Summer School Programs Grant (UE)	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 3,600,000	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 3,600,000	\$ 7,200,000
4K Start Up Grants	\$ 1,350,000	\$ 1,350,000	\$ -	\$ 1,350,000	\$ -	\$ -
TEACH Debt Service	\$ 1,000,600	\$ 1,000,600	\$ -	\$ 1,000,600	\$ -	\$ -
School Day Milk	\$ 617,100	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 382,900	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 382,900	\$ 765,800
Rural Teacher Talent Pilot Program	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -
Transportation Aid for OE	\$ 454,200	\$ 434,200	\$ (20,000)	\$ 434,200	\$ (20,000)	\$ (40,000)
Transportation Aid for ECCP [Separate]	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 40,000
Robotics League Participation Grants	\$ 250,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 500,000
Gifted and Talented Grants	\$ 237,200	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 762,800	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 762,800	\$ 1,525,600
SAGE-Debt Service	\$ 133,700	\$ 133,700	\$ -	\$ 133,700	\$ -	\$ -
Supplemental Aid	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -
Consolidation Aid	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
BLBC Programs Grant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 5,000,000
BLBC Supplemental Aid	\$ -	\$ 2,400,000	\$ 2,400,000	\$ 2,400,000	\$ 2,400,000	\$ 4,800,000
Targeted Aid for English Learners (TAFEL)	\$ -	\$ 3,400,000	\$ 3,400,000	\$ 3,400,000	\$ 3,400,000	\$ 6,800,000
Driver's Education	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 2,500,000
Milwaukee Math Partnership	\$ -	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 12,500,000
Community Engagement Grants UE	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 2,000,000
WI Urban Leadership Institute Grant (UE)	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 500,000
After School Grant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,000,000	\$ 20,000,000	\$ 20,000,000
Early Childhood start up (UE)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 5,000,000
ECCP Aid for Schools (Tuition Reimbursements)*	\$ -	\$ 1,753,500	\$ 1,753,500	\$ 1,753,500	\$ 1,753,500	\$ 3,507,000
GPR Categorical Aids	\$ 1,171,756,000	\$ 1,321,203,500	\$ 149,447,500	\$ 1,826,353,500	\$ 654,597,500	\$ 804,045,000
Tribal Languages (PR)	\$ 222,800	\$ 222,800	\$ -	\$ 485,000	\$ 262,200	\$ 262,200
Aid for AODA (PR)	\$ 1,284,700	\$ 1,284,700	\$ -	\$ 1,284,700	\$ -	\$ -
PR Categorical Aids	\$ 1,507,500	\$ 1,507,500	\$ -	\$ 1,769,700	\$ 262,200	\$ 262,200
School Library Aids	\$ 37,000,000	\$ 37,000,000	\$ -	\$ 37,000,000	\$ -	\$ -
Env Educ, Forestry-UW	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Env Educ, Env. Assess-UW	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Educ Telecomm Access-DOA	\$ 15,984,200	\$ 15,984,200	\$ -	\$ 15,984,200	\$ -	\$ -
SEG Categorical Aids	\$ 52,984,200	\$ 52,984,200	\$ -	\$ 52,984,200	\$ -	\$ -
Total Categorical Aids	\$ 1,226,247,700	\$ 1,375,695,200	\$ 149,447,500	\$ 1,881,107,400	\$ 654,859,700	\$ 804,307,200
General Aids						
General Equalization Aids	\$ 4,656,848,000	\$ 4,846,848,000	\$ 190,000,000	\$ 6,170,000,000	\$ 1,513,152,000	\$ 1,703,152,000
Gen Aids-Hold Harmless (Sum Sufficient)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,800,000	\$ 5,800,000	\$ 5,800,000
High Poverty Aid	\$ 16,830,000	\$ 16,830,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (16,830,000)	\$ (16,830,000)
Total General Aids	\$ 4,673,678,000	\$ 4,863,678,000	\$ 190,000,000	\$ 6,175,800,000	\$ 1,502,122,000	\$ 1,692,122,000
Total State School Aids (no tax credit)	\$ 5,899,925,700	\$ 6,239,373,200	\$ 339,447,500	\$ 8,056,907,400	\$ 2,156,981,700	\$ 2,496,429,200
School Levy Tax Credit^	\$ 1,090,000,000	\$ 1,090,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,090,000,000)	\$ (1,090,000,000)
Total Cat/Gen School Aids & Credits	\$ 6,989,925,700	\$ 7,329,373,200	\$ 339,447,500	\$ 8,056,907,400	\$ 1,066,981,700	\$ 1,406,429,200
State Residential Schools	\$ 10,918,900	\$ 11,277,100	\$ 358,200	\$ 11,277,100	\$ 358,200	\$ 716,400
Total State Support	\$ 7,000,844,600	\$ 7,340,650,300	\$ 339,805,700	\$ 8,068,184,500	\$ 1,067,339,900	\$ 1,407,145,600
Percent change to base:			4.85%		15.246%	10.05%

NOTE: This document summarizes proposed changes to current law appropriations and programs that are included in the Department’s 2019-21 biennial budget request. The full request, with additional information for each item summarized below, can be found at: <https://dpi.wi.gov/policy-budget/biennial-budget/current>.

FAIR FUNDING FOR OUR FUTURE – GENERAL AIDS & REVENUE LIMITS

State Superintendent Evers submitted the Fair Funding for Our Future: School Finance Reform package as part of his 2019-21 biennial budget request. The package was made up of various items within both the general school aids and revenue limits subsections of this summary. For a complete review of Fair Funding for Our Future, please visit: <https://dpi.wi.gov/budget/funding-reform>

TWO-THIRDS FUNDING FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Restore Two-Thirds Funding for Schools

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Restore the prior law definition of “two-thirds” funding for public schools, and the prior law provisions pertaining to the state’s commitment to fund two-thirds of public education costs, that were generally in effect from FY97 through FY03.
- Beginning in FY20, the department’s request provides requisite funding for general and categorical school aids to fulfill the prior law “two-thirds” funding definition.

GENERAL AIDS

General Equalization Aids

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$190,000,000 GPR in FY20 and \$406,322,000 GPR in FY21, for general equalization aids for public school districts in Wisconsin and implement the state superintendent’s “Fair Funding for Our Future” (Fair Funding) school finance reform formula changes. The amounts reflect increases to all general school aids of 4.1 percent and 4.6 percent annually, over the biennium.

Note: these amounts exclude \$1,090,000,000 GPR that would be transferred from the School Levy Tax Credit (SLTC; \$940,000,000) and the First Dollar Credit (FDC; \$150,000,000), to the General Equalization Aid formula for FY21, because that amount would be appropriated in FY22. See “School Levy and First Dollar Tax Credits” item, below.

- Request to modify the school aid formula to:
 1. Include a 20 percent weighing factor to reflect income/poverty for pupils who meet the criteria for free and reduced price lunch eligibility;
 2. Raise the secondary cost ceiling from 90 percent to 100 percent of the statewide average shared cost per FTE general aid member;
 3. Modify the Special Adjustment Aid eligibility threshold from 85 percent to 90 percent of the prior year state general aid amount; and
 4. Provide for minimum state general aid of \$3,000 per FTE general aid member.

General Equalization Aids-Hold Harmless

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$5,800,000 in FY21 in a new, sum sufficient appropriation, to provide hold harmless aid to certain districts, to ensure that every district receives the same amount of total state support, as compared to current law, accounting for the School Levy Tax Credit amounts.

Aid for High Poverty Districts

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request to maintain High Poverty Aid base funding for FY20, and to eliminate the program in FY21 and transfer the base level funding of \$16.8 million into the general equalization aids appropriation as part of the Fair Funding for our Future proposal.

School Levy and First Dollar Tax Credits

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request to transfer the \$1,090,000,000 GPR combined from the School Levy Tax Credit (SLTC; \$940,000,000) and the First Dollar Credit (FDC; \$150,000,000) into general equalization aids beginning with the FY21 state aid payments.
- Since the current SLTC and FDC are paid to municipalities in the subsequent state fiscal year, the general equalization aids appropriation will not reflect the transfer until FY22. The department proposes to have the SLTC and FDC amount paid to school districts from the FY22 appropriation but reflected as a FY21 general equalization aid payment (as is \$75 million in delayed general aid payments that are distributed to districts in July, but counted as revenue in the just ended fiscal year, under current law).

REVENUE LIMITS

Revenue Limit per Pupil

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase for the per pupil revenue limit adjustment for school districts, to provide \$200 per pupil in FY20 and \$204 per pupil in FY21.

Low Revenue Ceiling

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Increase the current law low-revenue ceiling threshold of \$9,400 per pupil (FY19), to \$9,700 in FY20 and then to \$10,000 in FY21.

Counting Pupils for 4 Year Old Kindergarten (4K)

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Beginning in FY21, modify current law to allow school districts to count 4K students enrolled in a full-day program as 1.0 FTE in the pupil counts that are the basis of school districts' general aid membership and revenue limit membership, and the basis of state payments to private parental choice schools and independent charter schools. Current law permits 4K students to be counted as either 0.50 FTE or 0.60 FTE (if additional hours of outreach are provided), regardless of whether the 4K program is operated as a part-day or a full-day program.

Revenue Limit Exemption for Lead Remediation

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Create a non-recurring revenue limit exemption for lead remediation. A school board would be allowed to approve, by resolution, exceeding the district's revenue limit for the purpose of identifying and fixing lead contamination in the district's buildings. The exemption could be used to make debt service payments if the district borrows funds for the lead remediation project.

CATEGORICAL AIDS

MENTAL HEALTH: EXPANDING ACCESS AND IMPROVING SERVICES

School Mental Health Categorical Aid Program

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$22,000,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to expand the categorical aid for school mental health programs and provide reimbursements on the basis of expenditures for all pupil services categories, as opposed to just school social workers (i.e., expenditures for school counselors, school nurses, and school psychologists would be aidable). The department also requests modifications to the program so that all eligible claimants will receive at least some aid at the Tier 2 aid level.

Community and School Mental Health Collaborative Grant Program

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$7,000,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to expand the School-Based Mental Health Services Grant program, in order to support more school districts and independent charter schools in connecting youth to needed mental health services.

Mental Health Training Programs

See also "[Mental Health Training Support](#)" under "[AGENCY ADMINISTRATION](#)".

INVESTING IN RURAL SCHOOLS

Sparsity Aid

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$9,786,100 GPR in FY20 and \$9,786,100 in FY21 to fully fund the Sparsity Aid categorical aid program, based on projected membership in eligible school districts at \$400 member, and to create a second tier of eligibility within the program to expand Sparsity Aid to school districts that meet the sparsity criteria (fewer than ten members per square mile) and have 746 or more members. Districts meeting the second tier criteria would be eligible to receive aid in the amount of \$100 per member.
- Request a statutory change to the Sparsity Aid program to provide the stopgap payment for one year to districts that lose eligibility for Sparsity Aid because the district no longer meets the sparsity criteria.

Pupil Transportation Aid

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request a statutory change to the Pupil Transportation Aid program to increase the amount paid to school districts and independent charter schools, for each student transported over 12 miles to and from the school attended in the regular school year, from \$365 to \$375.
- Request a statutory change to eliminate the requirement that the department prorate aid payments for summer and interim session transportation based on the number of days a student rides the bus.

High Cost Pupil Transportation Aid

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$2,300,000 GPR in FY20 and FY21 to increase the reimbursement rate for the High Cost Transportation Aid categorical aid program from 84.9 percent in FY18 to 100 percent of eligible expenditures.
- Request a statutory change to eliminate the \$200,000 cap on total stopgap payments, whereby school districts that have lost eligibility for High Cost Transportation Aid receive an aid payment equal to 50 percent of its prior year aid award (prorated, if necessary).

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Special Education Categorical Aid

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$75,060,900 GPR in FY20 and \$531,060,900 GPR in FY21 to increase the reimbursement rate for aidable special education costs, from approximately 25-26 percent currently, to 30 percent in FY20 and 60 percent in FY21.

High-Cost Special Education

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Maintain base funding and request that the appropriation type be changed to sum sufficient, to allow all eligible claims to be fully paid. Also request modifying the program to allow for reimbursement of 100 percent of eligible prior year costs above the \$30,000 per student high cost threshold.

Supplemental Special Education

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Maintain base funding for FY20.
- Request a decrease in of \$1,750,000 GPR in FY21, and to repeal the supplemental special education categorical aid program, beginning in FY21. Eligible LEAs will benefit from additional funding provided under the Special Education Categorical Aid and the High-Cost Special Education Aid programs.

Special Education – Transitions Incentive Grants

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Maintain base funding and request that the appropriation be fully expended on an annual basis, with individual incentive grants capped at \$1,500 per qualified survey response. School districts and independent charter schools are eligible for incentive grants.

Special Education – Transitions Readiness Investment Grants

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$3,500,000 GPR in FY20 and FY21 to expand the Transition Readiness Grant program, from \$1,500,000 to \$5,000,000 annually.

BILINGUAL-BICULTURAL EDUCATION / SUPPORTING ENGLISH LEARNERS

Bilingual-Bicultural Aid

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$14,110,200 GPR in FY20 and \$26,810,200 in FY21 to increase the state reimbursement rate for Bilingual-Bicultural; (BLBC) education programs, from roughly 8 percent under current law, to 20 percent in FY20 and to 30 percent in FY21.

Supplemental Bilingual-Bicultural Aid (New Program)

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$2,400,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to create a new program, Supplemental Bilingual-Bicultural (BLBC) Aid. Under this new program, the department would award \$100 per English Learner (EL) to school districts with EL student populations below the statutory threshold, as specified under s. 115.997 Wis. Stat., for the current law BLBC program, and thus do not receive BLBC state aid.

Targeted Aid for English Learners (New Program)

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$3,400,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to create a new categorical aid program to provide aid to school districts in an amount equal to \$100 for each English Learner student (EL) whose English language proficiency is classified at a level 1, 2 or 3 on the annual English Language Proficiency Assessment. School districts would receive aid under this new program regardless of the district's eligibility for the current law Bilingual-Bicultural (BLBC) Aid program, or the department's proposed new Supplemental BLBC Aid Program.

Grants to Support English Learners and Bilingual-Bicultural Education Programs (New Program)

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$5,000,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY21, to create a new, discretionary grant program to support educational programming for ELs and for bilingual-bicultural (BLBC) education in schools.

TARGETED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES AND OTHER CATEGORICAL AIDS

Per Pupil Aid

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Continue funding Per Pupil Aid at the FY19 payment of \$654 per pupil, and request a decrease in expenditure authority of \$3,398,400 in FY20 and a decrease of \$5,298,400 in FY21, to reflect the amount required to fund payments, based on estimated statewide revenue limit membership in FY20 and FY21.

After School Grant Program (New Program)

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$20,000,000 GPR beginning in FY21, to create a new state-funded afterschool grant program that would provide ongoing support to afterschool program sites and out-of-school time programs. The primary purpose of this grant program will be to sustain high quality programs while expanding access to underserved communities.

Driver Education Aid (New Program)

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$2,500,000 GPR beginning in FY21, to create a new categorical aid program to offset the costs of providing driver education (DE) instruction. School districts, independent charter schools, and Cooperative Educational Services Agencies (CESAs) [collectively, LEAs] would be eligible to receive state aid based on the number of economically disadvantaged students who, in the prior school year, have completed a department-approved DE course of instruction, including both in-classroom and behind the wheel instruction. For each qualified student, the LEA would be eligible to receive up to \$200 in state aid, provided the LEA reduces or waives the fee normally charged for DE instruction, for the qualified student.

Milwaukee Mathematics Partnership Grant (New Program)

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$2,500,000 GPR in FY20 and \$10,000,000 GPR in FY21 to create a new program for a mathematics partnership of the Milwaukee Public Schools district (MPS) and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee to select, train, place, and support a Mathematics Teacher Leader in school buildings in MPS, as part of a systematic and comprehensive plan for improving mathematics teaching and learning in MPS schools. The overarching goal of the MMP is to raise student achievement in math and to narrow persistent achievement gaps among student groups in MPS.

Grants to Support Gifted and Talented Programs

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$762,800 GPR in FY20 and in FY21 to increase the appropriation for grants to support gifted and talented programs, in order to reach more students in more schools.
- Request modifications to the program to: 1) give applicants flexibility in the strategies they pursue to support gifted and talented students; and 2) focus the overarching goal of the program to identify and serve

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

students that have been historically under-identified, and hence underrepresented in gifted and talented programming.

Tribal Language Revitalization Grants

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$362,200 PR-S beginning in FY21, for a new Young Learners Tribal Language Revitalization initiative, including \$262,200 PR-S to increase the existing funding for grants and \$100,000 PR-S to fund operations of programs in partnership with Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc. The source of PR-S funds is Tribal Gaming Revenues received by the state.

Robotics League Participation Grants

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$250,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to fully fund the anticipated demand for Robotics League Participation grants.

School Breakfast Aid

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$2,789,500 GPR in FY20 and \$2,889,500 in FY21 to increase the state reimbursement rate for the School Breakfast Program (SBP) to 15.0 cents for each breakfast served to school districts and private schools.
- Expand eligibility for the program to Independent Charter Schools, the Wisconsin Educational Services Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, the Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired, and residential care centers for children and youth (RCCs). Request \$120,000 GPR in FY20 and FY21 to fund reimbursements under the SBP at 15.0 cents for each breakfast served in these institutions.

School Day Milk Program

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$382,900 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to increase the reimbursement rate for the Wisconsin School Day Milk Program from 58 percent (in FY17) to 100 percent of eligible expenditures.

State Aid to Schools for Early College Credit Program (ECCP)

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$1,753,500 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to reflect the transfer of the appropriation for tuition reimbursements to schools under the Early College Credit Program, from the Department of Workforce Development to the Department of Public Instruction. Also, request that aid payments be based on prior year data. While this request represents an increase to the department's appropriations schedule, it would be offset by an equal reduction to DWD's appropriations schedule, under Wis. Stat. Chapter 20.

Aid for Early College Credit Program (ECCP) Transportation

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request a statutory change to the appropriation language governing the program that provides aid to parents who incur transportation costs related to their child (or children) participating in the Open Enrollment program and/or the ECCP to ensure transparency in the administration of both programs.
- Reduce the appropriation by \$20,000 GPR in both FY20 and FY21 as an offset to the department's request to provide \$20,000 GPR in both FY20 and FY21 in a new, annual appropriation specifically for ECCP transportation aid payments.

URBAN EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE

The five largest school districts in Wisconsin educate roughly 20 percent of the 860,000 students in the state. In addition, these same five districts represent disproportionate shares of student groups who experience the largest academic achievement gaps in Wisconsin's schools). In conjunction with the state's planning around the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the department is proposing to enhance student learning and close the achievement gaps in the Big Five districts, through expanded state funding that will be targeted to five specific interventions. These recommendations were developed in conjunction with the leaders in Wisconsin's five largest school districts (the "Big Five"), which include: Green Bay Area Public School District, Madison Metropolitan School District, Milwaukee Public Schools, Kenosha Unified School District, and Racine Unified School District.

Early Childhood Education Grant (Categorical Aid)

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$5,000,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY21, to create an early childhood education grant program. The program would provide support the state's very large urban districts to either start up a new or expand an existing program offering high quality early childhood education to children in the district, as a way to ensure all children have a successful start to school. The proposed grant would provide \$1,000 for each student attending an early childhood education program to each of the Big Five school districts.

Summer School Grant (Categorical Aid)

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$3,600,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to expand the current law Summer School Grant to Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) to the Big Five school districts. The grant award for MPS would be increased, from \$1.4 million to \$2.0 million (annually), and the remaining \$3.0 million would be distributed evenly to the remaining four school districts (i.e., \$750,000 annually for the each of the other Big Five school districts). Funding would allow districts to offer additional learning opportunities to students when they are normally out of school as a way to reduce summer learning loss and thereby improve general academic performance.

Supporting Great Teachers- National Board Certified Teacher and Master Educator Grants

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$571,200 GPR in FY20 and \$652,900 GPR in FY21, to reflect projected grant awards under the program.
- Beginning in FY20, modify the continuing grant amount as follows:
 - Increase the continuing grant amount, from \$5,000 to \$15,000 annually, for eligible individuals teaching in very high poverty schools located in districts with a student enrollment of at least 18,000.
 - Increase the size of the continuing grant, from \$5,000 to \$10,000 annually, for eligible individuals teaching in high poverty schools located with a student enrollment less than 18,000.
 - Maintain continuing grants for individuals teaching in non-high poverty schools at the current law amount of \$2,500 annually.

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

Supporting Great Leaders–Wisconsin Urban Leadership Institute

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$250,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, for a new grant program for the Wisconsin Urban Leadership Institute, to expand training, coaching, and support for principals in all of the Big Five school districts.

Collaborating with Community Partners

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$1,000,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, for a new Community Engagement grant program, to support the Big Five school districts in working collaboratively with partners in their communities, to improve outcomes for students.

INDEPENDENT CHARTER SCHOOLS, PRIVATE SCHOOL PARENTAL CHOICE, SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM, AND OPEN ENROLLMENT

ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT TO PER PUPIL PAYMENT

Formula for Per Pupil Adjustment to State Payments

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Modify the calculation for the annual adjustment to the per pupil payment for independent charter schools (ICS), private schools participating in a parental choice program or the Special Needs Scholarship Program (SNSP), and for the full time transfer amount under the public school Open Enrollment (OE) program (applies to both the special education OE and the regular OE transfer amounts).
 - The department recommends that just two factors be included in the annual adjustment: 1) the dollar amount of the revenue limit adjustment per revenue limit member provided to public school districts; and 2) the dollar increase in the payment per revenue limit member under the Per Pupil Aid program [per Wis. Stats. Sec. 115.437].
 - Current law specifies that the dollar increase in state appropriations for most categorical aid programs, divided by the prior year revenue limit membership, is added to the revenue limit per pupil adjustment, to determine the annual adjustment to the per pupil payments for ICS, private school choice & SNSP schools, and OE transfer amounts*.
- The resulting adjustments, based on the department’s request for the per pupil revenue limit adjustment, and for Per Pupil Aid, would be \$200 for FY20 and \$204 for FY21.
- The adjustments to the per pupil payments would provide annual increases of 2.3 percent for ICS; 2.4 percent (grades 9-12) and 2.6 percent (grades K-8) for private choice schools; 1.6 percent for SNSP schools and for special education OE students; and, 4.0 percent for the (non-special education) OE full time transfer amount*.

*For the transfers of aid for non-special education students participating in OE, the per-pupil adjustment would continue to be increased by an additional \$100 in FY20 and in FY21, per 2017 Act 59 (under Wis. Stat. 118.51(16) (a) 3.c.). The 4 percent annual increase to the OE transfer amount reflects the additional \$100 provided in FY20 and FY21.

Per Pupil Payments for ICS, Private Choice, SNSP, and OE Programs

Program	Per Pupil Payment			Annual Increase	
	FY19 (Base)	FY20	FY21	FY20	FY21
Independent Charter Schools	\$8,619	\$8,819	\$9,023	\$200	\$204
Private School Choice (grades K-8)	\$7,754	\$7,954	\$8,158	\$200	\$204
Private School Choice (grades 9-12)	\$8,400	\$8,600	\$8,804	\$200	\$204
Spec. Educ. OE & SNSP	\$12,431	\$12,631	\$12,835	\$200	\$204
OE [reflects +\$100 in each year]	\$7,379	\$7,679	\$7,983	\$300	\$304

INDEPENDENT CHARTER SCHOOL PROGRAM REESTIMATE

Legacy ICS Reestimate

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$7,099,400 GPR in FY20 and \$13,910,500 GPR in FY21, to reflect estimates for state aid payments for the legacy “2r” independent charter schools (ICS) authorized by the City of Milwaukee, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and the University of Wisconsin-Parkside, under Wis. Stat. sec. 118.40 (2r).

Office of Educational Opportunity (OEO) ICS Reestimate

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$3,130,800 GPR in FY20 and \$4,579,100 GPR in FY21 to reflect estimates for state aid payments for the new “2x” ICS authorized by the Office of Educational Opportunity (OEO) within the University of Wisconsin System (UWS), under Wis. Stat. sec. 118.40 (2x).

MILWAUKEE PARENTAL CHOICE PROGRAM REESTIMATE

Program Reestimate

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$19,764,100 GPR in FY20 and \$38,453,700 GPR in FY21 to continue to fund the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP) under Wis. Stats. Sec. 119.23.
- Request to repeal Wis. Stats. Sec. 121.137, an unnecessary provision under current law that requires that 6.6 percent of the state general aid reduction to MPS related to the MPCP be paid directly to the City of Milwaukee and then requires the City to pay that same amount back to MPS. This payment back and forth between the City of Milwaukee and MPS serves no useful purpose. Additionally, under current law, the MPS share will be reduced by 3.2 percent points each year, to eventually phase out the MPS share of the MPCP costs, by FY25 (the MPS share of the MPCP aid reduction will fall to 6.4 percent in FY23).

RACINE AND WISCONSIN PARENTAL CHOICE PROGRAMS REESTIMATES

RPCP and WPCP Program Reestimate

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$25,128,900 GPR in FY20 and \$53,802,200 GPR in FY21 to continue to fund the Racine Parental Choice Program (RPCP) and the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP) under Wis. Stats. Sec. 118.60.
 - Increases for the RPCP: \$4,479,000 in FY20 and \$8,904,100 in FY21.
 - Increases for the WPCP: \$20,649,900 in FY20 and \$44,898,100 in FY21.

SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM REESTIMATE

SNSP Program Reestimate

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$3,373,700 GPR in FY20 and \$7,578,500 GPR in FY21 to continue funding the Special Needs Scholarship Program (SNSP) under Wis. State. sec. 115.7915. In addition, the department recommends several changes to existing SNSP statutory language (see below).

SNSP Program Language Changes

AGENCY REQUEST:

The department proposes the following changes to the SNSP statutory language, under Wis. Stat. sec. 115.7915.

- Eliminate provisions in current law that provide for payments to be based on an actual cost basis.
 - Beginning with the 2018-19 school year, a private school may submit a financial statement, along with documentation, disclosing the actual costs for educating an SNSP student to the department. The department is required to share the statement of actual cost with the student's resident school district.
 - If the actual costs included on the statement are greater than the statutory payment under the SNSP program, then, in the following fiscal year, the general state aid reduction incurred by the resident school district to pay the private school for the SNSP will be equal to the actual cost on the statement for that SNSP student, up to an amount equal to 150 percent of the statutory payment under the SNSP (\$18,946 for FY20 and \$19,253 for FY21). The department then must pay the private school the actual cost amount (in the following year), up to 150 percent of the statutory payment (offset by the aid reduction to the resident school district), and, if the actual cost exceeds that amount, the department must also provide aid equal to 90 percent of the actual costs that exceed the aid reduction incurred by the resident school district. The school district of residence receives a revenue limit exemption equal to the aid reduction amount (thus, the aid loss can be made up via the district's tax levy).
 - The provisions related to the payments are not workable and create several administrative/operational issues for schools, parents, school districts, and the department. Specifically, combining a prior year cost payment requirement with a current year payment requirement creates financial hardship and uncertainty for schools and districts. Additionally, neither the department nor the school district of residence have the authority to question the contents of the financial statement. That is, there is no process for the statements to be reviewed, or for the data to be verified of data or audited. This is inconsistent with every other state aid program.
- Eliminate the language under Wis. Stats. s. 115.7915(2)(f), which provides that students may apply at any time in a school year and begin attending at any time during the school year, and instead specify that SNSP schools must accept students on a random selection basis (rather, than first come first serve). This is consistent with the state's other private school parental choice programs.
- Remove the requirement that schools can be approved as a private school by the state superintendent and replace it with the requirement that schools obtain preaccreditation if they are not accredited. Current law requires that schools either be approved as a private school by the state superintendent or be accredited. This change would create consistent requirements between the SNSP and the state's other private school parental choice programs.
- Specify that any schools that first participate in the SNSP in the 2019-20 school year must also participate in at least one of the state's other private school parental choice programs (i.e., the MPCP, RPCP, or the

WPCP). This provision would ensure that private schools participating in the SNSP are also meeting the requirements such as school accountability, financial viability, and teacher credentials.

- Allow students to opt out of religious activities, as provided for under the state's other private school parental choice programs.
- Specify that the provisions governing the charging of fees and tuition that apply in the state's other private school parental choice programs also apply in the SNSP. Currently, all SNSP students can be charged tuition regardless of grade level or income. Under the state's other private school parental choice programs only students in grades 9-12 who have a family income greater than 220 percent may be charged tuition.

SPECIAL EDUCATION OPEN ENROLLMENT

SEOE Program Language Changes

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Eliminate provisions in current law that provide for payments to be based on an actual cost basis.
 - Beginning with the 2018-19 school year, a school district may submit a financial statement disclosing the actual costs of providing a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) for a student with a disability who enrolls in the school district via open enrollment to the department. The department is required to share the statement of actual cost with the student's resident school district.
 - If the actual costs included on the statement are greater than the statutory payment under the SEOE program, then, in the following fiscal year, the general state aid reduction incurred by the resident school district to pay SEOE transfer amount will be equal to the actual cost on the statement for that SEOE student, up to \$30,000. The school district of residence counts that SEOE student for revenue limits, thereby generating taxing authority on behalf of the SEOE student for whom the district's aid is reduced. However, to the extent that the actual cost amount exceeds the resident district's own revenue limit per pupil (for which the statewide average was \$10,555 in FY18), the aid reduction for the SEOE student is not recovered by the school district via the tax levy.
 - The provisions related to the payments are not workable and create several administrative/operational issues for schools, parents, school districts, and the department. Specifically, combining a prior year cost payment requirement with a current year payment requirement creates financial hardship and uncertainty for schools and districts. Additionally, neither the department nor the school district of residence have the authority to question the contents of the financial statement. That is, there is no process for the statements to be reviewed, or for the data to be verified or audited. This is inconsistent with every other state aid program.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Public Library System Aid

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$2,500,000 SEG in FY20 and \$4,000,000 SEG in FY21 for aid to public library systems, to support the operations and maintenance of public library services.

Library Service Contracts

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$133,200 SEG in FY20 and \$168,100 SEG in FY21 to fully fund the estimated costs of the library service contracts maintained by the department.

BadgerLink

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$345,800 SEG in FY21 to increase funding for the contracts with all current BadgerLink vendors and to maintain the current level of services through Newsline for the Blind.

AIDS TO INDIVIDUALS/ORGANIZATIONS

Special Olympics Wisconsin

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$25,000 GPR in FY20 and FY21 to increase funding for Special Olympics Wisconsin.

Very Special Arts Wisconsin

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$25,000 GPR in FY20 and FY21 to increase funding for Very Special Arts Wisconsin.

Wisconsin Reading Corps

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$700,000 GPR in FY20 and FY21 to restore funding for the Wisconsin Reading Corps to the amount provided in FY19, and remove the sunset on state funding.

AGENCY ADMINISTRATION

Mental Health and School Climate Training Program

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request a total increase of \$2,580,000 annually, beginning in FY20, for mental health and school safety trainings and support for schools in the state. The request includes funding increases for the following:
 - \$1,160,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to increase funding for the existing mental health training programs, and to expand the types of mental health trainings that will be offered, as well as to broaden the scope of allowable trainings to include school climate and school safety.
 - \$1,000,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, for enhanced support to the Wisconsin Safe and Healthy Schools Training and Technical Assistance (WISH) Center. This will allow the WISH center to provide increased training opportunities and technical assistance to all school districts.
 - \$310,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to provide a grant to Wisconsin Family Ties to support training of Parent Peer Support Specialists and to maintain their presence in schools, for the purpose of helping families navigate the complement of mental health services available to students in school and the wider community.
 - \$110,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to provide an annual grant to the Center for Suicide Awareness, Inc. to provide funding to support the operation of a text-based suicide prevention program.

Support for the Youth Risk Behavior Survey

AGENCY REQUEST

- Request \$150,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY20, to cover the expenses associated with the purchase and maintenance of a statewide survey data system, including obtaining licenses for department staff who will work with the survey data system, as well as for relevant staff located in county public health department, CESAs, and all school districts.

State Support for State Programs

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Requests an increase of \$216,300 GPR in FY20 and \$286,500 in FY21, and a total of 3.0 FTE GPR permanent positions beginning in FY20, for general program operations. The request for additional permanent position authority includes:
 1. Support for the department's work on the existing, state-funded Special Needs Scholarship Program.
 2. Support for the department's current work on school mental health programs and the proposed expansion of school mental health and school safety programs.
 3. Support for the work associated with the department's proposal to expand state support for English Learner students and for Bilingual-Bicultural programs.

Standard Budget Adjustments

AGENCY REQUEST:

Request adjustments to the agency's base to reflect standard budget adjustments for:

- Turnover reduction (-\$440,500 GPR and -\$525,900 FED, in FY20 and FY21).
- Remove non-continuing items from the base (federal project positions; -8.0 FTE and -\$455,700 FED in FY20, and -8.0 FTE and -\$844,300 FED in FY21).
- Full funding of continuing salaries and fringe (\$425,900 GPR, \$127,900 PR, \$245,800 PR-S, and \$1,143,300 FED, in FY20 and FY21).
- Reclassification and semiautomatic pay progression (\$8,900 PR in FY20 and FY21).
- Overtime (\$273,500 GPR, \$3,600 PR, \$10,200 PR-S, and \$50,100 FED, in FY20 and FY21).
- Night and weekend differential (\$55,500 GPR, \$200 PR-S, and \$400 FED, in FY20 and FY21).
- Full funding of lease and directed moves costs (\$4,700 GPR and -\$10,500 FED in FY20 and \$52,100 GPR and -\$9,900 FED in FY21).

STATUTORY LANGUAGE CHANGES

The department requests the repeal of the statutory language governing policy changes that had been inserted into prior biennial budget bills at the end of the process and then enacted with no real public deliberation.

School District Referenda Scheduling Restrictions

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Repeal the statutory language included in 2017 Act 59 that limits school boards to holding referenda no more than twice in a calendar year and only on regularly scheduled election dates (i.e., primaries and general elections), with an exception for districts that had experienced a natural disaster [provision under Wis. Stat. sec. 67.05 and 121.91].
- Repeal the statutory language that links the authority of a school board to use the low revenue ceiling adjustment in current law to successful passage of referenda in prior years [Wis. Stat. sec. 121.905 (1)(b)]. Essentially, failed referenda within the three prior years make a school district ineligible to use the low revenue ceiling (some exceptions in current law for specific situations). This language was included in 2017 Act 141.

Alternative Educator Preparation Program

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Repeal the statutory language that requires the department to grant an initial teaching license to an individual who has successfully completed an alternative teacher certification program operated by an alternative preparation program provider that is a non-profit organization under section 501 (c) (3) of the internal revenue code, that operates in at least five states and has been in operation for at least ten years, and that requires the candidate to pass a subject area exam and the pedagogy exam known as the Professional Teaching Knowledge exam to receive a certificate. The specific criteria included in the statutory provisions related to the alternative teacher preparation program describe the American Board for Certification of Teaching Excellence (ABCTE). The ABCTE provides an on-line teacher preparation program (with no required in-classroom, face-to-face time with students). The provision should be eliminated to ensure that all licensed educators are fully prepared to teach students in Wisconsin's K-12 schools.

Opportunity Schools and Partnership Programs (OSPP)

AGENCY REQUEST:

- **Opportunity Schools and Partnership Programs (OSPP).** The OSPP was initially created for MPS, under 2015 Act 55; subsequently, 2017 Act 59 added provisions for an OSPP for other eligible districts, as defined in statute. The premise of the OSPP is that schools receiving the lowest rating on the state's School Report Cards should be met with punitive measures – transferred to the OSPP – rather than working with those school districts to identify positive interventions to address core challenges to academic achievement and student outcomes. The current law interventions in low-performing districts (OSPP), have not been effective in addressing student achievement for several reasons: 1) district achievement has rendered the policy moot; 2) interventions are not research-based, eschewing more effective supports that positively impact student achievement. The department recommends full repeal of the current OSPP language and replacing it with a set of supports for persistently struggling (low-performing) districts – as requested under the department's [Urban Excellence Initiative](#).

Technical Changes to Facilitate Administration of New Programs Enacted under 2017 Act 59

Counting Public School Students for Certain State Grant Programs

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Use current year enrollment for basis of distributing aid among individual public schools within the school district, for the purpose of determining aid for the Personal Electronic Computing Devices Grant, under Wis. Stat. sec. 115.438 (1) (a); and for the School Performance Improvement Grant, under Wis. Stat. sec. 115.387 (1) (d).
 - The statute refers to general aid membership for the Personal Electronic Computing Devices Grant, and to revenue limit membership for the School Performance Improvement Grant. In both cases, the use of membership obscures the count for school districts, as compared to the other eligible schools (independent charter, private, and tribal). Membership reflects residents for whom the school district is responsible for paying the cost of education. As such, it includes open enrollment transfers, meaning the count includes resident student who do not attend the resident district and excludes non-resident students who actually attend the school. Also, the membership data is for the prior school year.
 - For these two grant programs, for which all schools in the state are eligible, the basis of the count should be the same for all schools: current year enrollment. This will make the counts consistent between the public schools and the independent charter and private schools. Also, enrollment data is available by grade level (membership data is not); this is critical for the distribution of aid under the Personal Computing Devices Grant, which is allocated on the basis of 9th grade students.

Grants for Bullying Prevention Program

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request a modification to the language to specify that the organization that was awarded a grant under Wis. Stat. sec. 115.28 (45) would continue to receive the grant in FY20 and thereafter. The grant is provided to a non-profit organization to provide training and an online bullying prevention curriculum for pupils in grades kindergarten to 8. The grant was awarded to the Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin (CHW) – the only applicant for the grant in both years – for its online bullying prevention curriculum (“ActNow!”), in both FY18 and FY19.

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

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