

# **Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Summary of 2017-19 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**



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**Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction  
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## KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

### APPROPRIATIONS

GPR - Appropriations financed from general purpose revenues available in the state's general fund.

FED - Appropriations financed from federal revenues.

PR - Appropriations financed from program revenues, such as user fees or product sales.

PR-O - Program Revenue-Operations - Appropriations financed from revenue generated from agency operations.

PR-S - Program Revenue-Service - Appropriations financed from funds transferred between or within state agencies for the purpose of reimbursement for services or materials.

SEG - Appropriations financed from segregated revenues.

### OTHER

FY - Fiscal Year, for example: FY18 means the 2017-17 state fiscal year (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018)

FTE - Full-Time Equivalent Position

FY17 Base - The total FY17 authorized funding level for an agency or program. The base equals FY17 appropriations, pay plan modifications and any other supplements. It is this base that serves as the beginning point for calculating budget changes for 2017-19.

Joint Finance – Legislative Joint Committee on Finance

### NOTE:

- If the Governor denied the agency's request and the provisions were not subsequently included by the Joint Finance Committee or the Legislature, the last entry for an item will be "**GOVERNOR**" and indicate that the agency request was denied.
- Where an item indicates "**GOVERNOR/JOINT FINANCE**" as the last entry, the Joint Committee included the same provisions as the Governor and there were no further modifications to the provisions under that item by the Legislature or the Governor's vetoes.

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## Summary of 2017-19 Budget Request – School Aids and Credits Summary

<b>Categorical Aid Programs</b>	<b>FY17 - Base</b>	<b>FY18</b>	<b>% Ch from PY</b>	<b>FY19</b>	<b>% Ch from PY</b>	<b>Total Change to Base</b>
Special Education	\$ 368,939,100	\$ 397,600,000	7.8%	\$ 428,700,000	7.8%	\$ 88,421,800
Per Pupil Aid^	\$ 211,248,200	\$ 230,000,000	8.9%	\$ 230,000,000	0.0%	\$ 37,503,600
SAGE	\$ 109,184,500	\$ 109,184,500	0.0%	\$ 109,184,500	0.0%	\$ -
Pupil Transportation	\$ 23,954,000	\$ 24,000,000	0.2%	\$ 24,000,000	0.0%	\$ 92,000
Sparsity Aid	\$ 17,674,000	\$ 21,500,000	21.6%	\$ 21,600,000	0.5%	\$ 7,752,000
Bilingual-Bicultural	\$ 8,589,800	\$ 12,900,000	50.2%	\$ 13,400,000	3.9%	\$ 9,120,400
Special Education-High Cost ("Additional")	\$ 8,500,000	\$ 10,500,000	23.5%	\$ 10,700,000	1.9%	\$ 4,200,000
Tuition Payments	\$ 8,242,900	\$ 8,242,900	0.0%	\$ 8,242,900	0.0%	\$ -
High Cost Transportation	\$ 7,500,000	\$ 12,700,000	69.3%	\$ 12,700,000	0.0%	\$ 10,400,000
Head Start Supplement	\$ 6,264,100	\$ 6,264,100	0.0%	\$ 6,264,100	0.0%	\$ -
Educator Effectiveness	\$ 5,746,000	\$ 5,746,000	0.0%	\$ 5,746,000	0.0%	\$ -
School Lunch Match	\$ 4,218,100	\$ 4,218,100	0.0%	\$ 4,218,100	0.0%	\$ -
Aid for CCDEB's	\$ 4,067,300	\$ 4,067,300	0.0%	\$ 4,067,300	0.0%	\$ -
School Breakfast Grants	\$ 2,510,500	\$ 5,200,000	107.1%	\$ 5,500,000	5.8%	\$ 5,679,000
Special Education-Supplemental	\$ 1,750,000	\$ 1,750,000	0.0%	\$ -	-100.0%	\$ (1,750,000)
Peer Review & Mentoring	\$ 1,606,700	\$ 1,606,700	0.0%	\$ 1,606,700	0.0%	\$ -
4K Start Up Grants	\$ 1,350,000	\$ 1,350,000	0.0%	\$ 1,350,000	0.0%	\$ -
TEACH Debt Service	\$ 1,085,900	\$ 1,085,900	0.0%	\$ 1,085,900	0.0%	\$ -
School Day Milk	\$ 617,100	\$ 617,100	0.0%	\$ 617,100	0.0%	\$ -
Open Enroll Transportation	\$ 434,200	\$ 2,600,000	498.8%	\$ 2,900,000	11.5%	\$ 4,631,600
Gifted and Talented Grants	\$ 237,200	\$ 1,000,000	321.6%	\$ 1,000,000	0.0%	\$ 1,525,600
SAGE-Debt Service	\$ 133,700	\$ 133,700	0.0%	\$ 133,700	0.0%	\$ -
Spec Ed: Transition/Incentive Grants	\$ 100,000	\$ 2,700,000	2600.0%	\$ 3,600,000	33.3%	\$ 6,100,000
Supplemental Aid (Laona)	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	0.0%	\$ 100,000	0.0%	\$ -
Youth Options Transportation	\$ 17,400	\$ 20,000	14.9%	\$ 20,000	0.0%	\$ 5,200
Aid for CESAs	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
CTE Incentive Grants	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
STEM Grants	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
BLBC Supplemental Aid	\$ -	\$ 2,100,000		\$ 2,200,000	4.8%	\$ 4,300,000
Targeted Aid for English Learners (TAFEL)	\$ -	\$ 2,200,000		\$ 2,200,000	0.0%	\$ 4,400,000
ESL and Bilingual Capacity Building Grants	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 750,000		\$ 750,000
Dual Language Immersion Start Up Grants	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 750,000		\$ 750,000
Mental Health Categorical Aid	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 3,000,000		\$ 3,000,000
Mental Health Collaboration Grants	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 2,500,000		\$ 2,500,000
Transition Readiness Investment Grant	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 1,500,000		\$ 1,500,000
Rural Schools Teacher Retention Grant	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 5,500,000		\$ 5,500,000
<b>GPR Categorical Aids</b>	<b>\$ 794,070,700</b>	<b>\$ 869,386,300</b>	<b>9.5%</b>	<b>\$ 915,136,300</b>	<b>5.3%</b>	<b>\$ 196,381,200</b>
Tribal Languages (PR)	\$ 222,800	\$ 222,800	0.0%	\$ 625,000	180.5%	\$ 402,200
Aid for AODA (PR)	\$ 1,284,700	\$ 1,284,700	0.0%	\$ 1,284,700	0.0%	\$ -
<b>PR Categorical Aids</b>	<b>\$ 1,507,500</b>	<b>\$ 1,507,500</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>\$ 1,909,700</b>	<b>26.7%</b>	<b>\$ 402,200</b>
School Library Aids	\$ 38,000,000	\$ 35,000,000	-7.9%	\$ 37,000,000	5.7%	\$ (4,000,000)
Educ Telecomm Access-DOA	\$ 10,105,100	\$ 10,105,100	0.0%	\$ 10,105,100	0.0%	\$ -
<b>SEG Categorical Aids</b>	<b>\$ 48,105,100</b>	<b>\$ 45,105,100</b>	<b>-6.2%</b>	<b>\$ 47,105,100</b>	<b>4.4%</b>	<b>\$ (4,000,000)</b>
<b>Total Categorical Aids</b>	<b>\$ 843,683,300</b>	<b>\$ 915,998,900</b>	<b>8.6%</b>	<b>\$ 964,151,100</b>	<b>5.3%</b>	<b>\$ 192,783,400</b>
<b>General Aids</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>		<b>\$ -</b>		<b>\$ -</b>
General Equalization Aids	\$ 4,584,098,000	\$ 4,686,352,000	2.2%	\$ 6,010,000,000	28.2%	\$ 1,528,156,000
Gen Aids-Hold Harm Sum Suff	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 6,000,000		\$ 6,000,000
High Poverty Aid	\$ 16,830,000	\$ 16,830,000	0.0%	\$ -	-100.0%	\$ (16,830,000)
<b>Total General Aids</b>	<b>\$ 4,600,928,000</b>	<b>\$ 4,703,182,000</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>\$ 6,016,000,000</b>	<b>27.9%</b>	<b>\$ 1,517,326,000</b>
<b>Total State School Aids</b>	<b>\$ 5,444,611,300</b>	<b>\$ 5,619,180,900</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>\$ 6,980,151,100</b>	<b>24.2%</b>	<b>\$ 1,710,109,400</b>
School Levy Tax Credit^	\$ 1,003,000,000	\$ 1,003,000,000	0.0%	\$ -	-100.0%	\$ (1,003,000,000)
<b>Gen Aid and Tax Credits</b>	<b>\$ 5,603,928,000</b>	<b>\$ 5,706,182,000</b>	<b>1.8%</b>	<b>\$ 6,016,000,000</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>\$ 514,326,000</b>
<b>Total Cat/Gen School Aids &amp; Credits</b>	<b>\$ 6,447,611,300</b>	<b>\$ 6,622,180,900</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>\$ 6,980,151,100</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>\$ 707,109,400</b>
State Residential Schools	\$ 11,237,900	\$ 10,919,100	-2.8%	\$ 10,919,100	0.0%	\$ (637,600)
<b>Total State Support</b>	<b>\$ 6,458,849,200</b>	<b>\$ 6,633,100,000</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>\$ 6,991,070,200</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>\$ 706,471,800</b>

**NOTE:** This document summarizes proposed changes to current law appropriations and programs that are included in the Department's 2017-19 biennial budget request. The full request, with additional information for each item summarized below, can be found at: <http://dpi.wi.gov/policy-budget/biennial-budget/current>.

## **GENERAL SCHOOL AIDS**

*State Superintendent Evers submitted the Fair Funding for Our Future: School Finance Reform package as part of his 2017-19 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 <http://dpi.wi.gov/budget>*

### **General Equalization Aids**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request \$102,254,000 GPR in FY18 and \$422,902,000 GPR in FY19 to fund 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 2.2 percent and 6.6 percent annually, over the biennium. [Note: these amounts exclude \$1,003,000,000 GPR that would be transferred from the School Levy Tax Credit (SLTC; \$853,000,000) and the First Dollar Credit (FDC; \$150,000,000), to the General Equalization Aid formula for FY19, because that amount would be appropriated in FY20. 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 for 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 pupil; 3) adjust 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 pupil.

### **General Equalization Aids-Hold Harmless**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request \$6,000,000 in FY19 to fund a new hold harmless provision for the 25 to 26 districts that would not do better under the Fair Funding model (compared to current law, accounting for the School Levy Tax Credit amounts). This appropriation would be sum sufficient to ensure that no district receives less state general aid under the Fair Funding model than it would have under current law.

### **Aid for High Poverty Districts**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request to maintain High Poverty Aid base funding for FY18, and to eliminate the program in FY19 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 \$1,003,000,000 GPR combined from the School Levy Tax Credit (SLTC; \$853,000,000) and the First Dollar Credit (FDC; \$150,000,000) into general equalization aids beginning

with the FY19 state aid payments. However, since the current SLTC and FDC are paid to municipalities in the subsequent state fiscal year, the general equalization aids appropriation [s. 20.255 (2) (ac), Wis. Stats.] will not reflect the transfer until FY20. The Department proposes to have the SLTC and FDC amount paid to school districts from the FY20 appropriation but reflected as a FY19 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 to \$200 per pupil in FY18 and \$204 per pupil in FY19.

### **Low Revenue Ceiling**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request to modify the current law low-revenue ceiling threshold of \$9,100 per pupil by phasing in the increase, to \$9,500 in FY18 and then \$9,900 in FY19.

### **Counting Pupils for Summer School**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request to modify the current law to allow school districts to count 100 percent of their summer Full Time Equivalent (FTE) pupils in the revenue limit membership calculation.

## CATEGORICAL AIDS

### *Mental Health: Expanding Access and Improving Services*

#### **School Mental Health Categorical Aid Program**

##### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request \$3,000,000 GPR beginning in FY19 to create a new categorical aid program to support school district and independent charter schools in the provision and expansion of mental health services, by reimbursing school districts for expenditures on social worker services (district employees or contracted services).

#### **Community and School Mental Health Collaborative Grant Program**

##### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request \$2,500,000 GPR beginning in FY19 to create a new grant program. Under this new grant program, the Department would award grants to school districts and operators of independent charter schools, to be used for the purpose of providing mental health services to pupils, in collaboration with community health agencies. Strategies may include co-locating community mental health clinics in schools and providing screening and intervention services.

See also [“Mental Health Training Support”](#) under [“AGENCY ADMINISTRATION and AIDS TO INDIVIDUALS/ORGANIZATIONS”](#)

### *Investing in Rural Schools*

#### **Sparsity Aid**

##### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request \$672,200 GPR in FY18 and \$935,300 in FY19 to fully fund estimated eligible costs for the Sparsity Aid categorical grant program under current law (\$300 per member for districts up to 745 members and fewer than 10 members per square mile).
- Request \$3,173,500 GPR in FY18 and \$2,981,100 in FY19 to create a second tier of eligibility within the Sparsity Aid categorical grant program, to expand eligibility to school districts that have sparse pupil populations and a general aid membership between 746 and 1,000.

#### **Rural Schools Teacher Retention Grant**

##### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request \$5,500,000 GPR in FY19 to support the establishment of the Rural Schools Teacher Retention Grant program. Provide grants to school districts that are eligible for the Sparsity Aid program in an amount equal to \$750 per licensed full-time equivalent teacher. Rural schools would be able to use the grants to provide direct support to teachers, for the following allowable purposes: 1) competitive compensation, 2) continuing education or training, 3) obtaining additional credentials, or 4) other professional training.

## **Pupil Transportation Aid**

### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase to the reimbursement rate for pupils transported over 12 miles from \$300 to \$365 per pupil beginning in FY18.
- Request an increase to the reimbursement rate for pupils transported between 2 and 5 miles to and from summer school classes, from \$4 to \$10 per pupil; and for pupils transported over 5 miles to and from summer school classes, from \$6 to \$20 per pupil.
- Request \$46,000 GPR in FY18 and in FY19 to fully fund estimated eligible costs for the pupil transportation aid program.

## **High Cost Pupil Transportation Aid**

### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request \$5,000,000 GPR in FY18 and \$5,000,000 GPR in FY19 to increase the reimbursement rate for high cost transportation aid from 60.4 percent (in FY16) to 100 percent of eligible costs.
- Request \$200,000 GPR in FY18 and \$200,000 GPR in FY19 to create a “stop gap” mechanism under which a school district would be eligible for an aid payment equal to 50 percent of its prior year aid award if the district received aid in the prior fiscal year, but lost eligibility in the current year because its transportation cost per member exceed 150 percent of the statewide average cost per member. This would be a one-time payment for eligible districts; eligibility for High Cost Transportation Aid would be redetermined in the following year.

## **Open Enrollment – Aid for Transportation**

### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$2,165,800 GPR in FY18 and \$2,264,800 GPR in FY19 to fully fund state aids for claims submitted by families related to the costs of transportation for pupils participating in the state’s Open Enrollment or Course Options programs.

## **Youth Options – Aid for Transportation**

### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$2,600 GPR in FY18 and \$2,600 GPR in FY19 to fully fund state aids for claims submitted by families related to the costs of transportation for pupils participating in the state’s Youth Options program.

## *Special Education*

### **Special Education**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request \$28,660,900 GPR in FY18 and \$59,760,900 GPR in FY19 to increase the reimbursement rate to 28 percent in FY18 and 30 percent in FY19.

### **High-Cost Special Education**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request \$2,000,000 GPR in FY18 and \$2,200,000 GPR in FY19 to fully fund projected claims under the high-cost special education categorical aid program. The Department also requests modifying the program to allow for reimbursement of 100 percent of eligible prior year costs above the \$30,000 per pupil high-cost threshold.

### **Supplemental Special Education**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Redirect the \$1,750,000 GPR funding in the supplemental special education categorical aid program to the State's additional ("high-cost") special education aid program, beginning in FY19.

### **Special Education – Transitions Incentive Grants**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request \$2,600,000 GPR in FY18 and \$3,500,000 GPR in FY19 to fully fund the Transition Incentive Grant program, which provides payment to school districts based on postsecondary education and employment outcomes for pupils with disabilities. The requested amount would fully fund anticipated survey participation and reported outcomes on the survey. Under the current appropriation, the \$1,000 statutory payment must be prorated to approximately \$60 per eligible survey outcome.

### **Special Education – Transitions Readiness Investment Grants**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request \$1,500,000 GPR in FY19 to establish a new grant program that would expand the capacity of school districts to provide transition services for pupils with disabilities. This initiative will focus on supporting school districts in their efforts to identify and create competitive work opportunities for pupils with disabilities who are not currently not served by existing programs and successfully placing those pupils in meaningful work opportunities.

## *Bilingual-Bicultural Education / Supporting English Learners*

### **Bilingual-Bicultural Aid**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$4,310,200 GPR in FY18 and \$4,810,200 GPR in FY19 to increase the state reimbursement rate for Bilingual-Bicultural (BLBC) education programs in both years, from the current rate of approximately eight percent, to 12 percent of approved prior year expenditures for school districts required to offer BLBC programs.

### **Supplemental Bilingual-Bicultural Aid**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request \$2,100,000 GPR in FY18 and \$2,200,000 GPR in FY19 to create a new categorical aid program, Supplemental Bilingual – Bicultural (BLBC) Aid. The Department would award \$100 per English Learner (EL) pupil to districts that have EL populations below the statutorily-defined concentrations (within in language groups and grade bands) that trigger a required BLBC program and make the district eligible for current law BLBC Aid.

### **Targeted Aid for English Learners**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request \$2,200,000 GPR in FY18 and \$2,200,000 GPR in FY19 to create a new categorical aid program to provide aid to school districts in an amount equal to \$100 for each English Learner (EL) pupil whose English language proficiency is classified at a level 1, 2, or 3, based on the annual English Language Proficiency Assessment.

### **Grants to Support ESL and Bilingual Capacity in Schools**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request \$750,000 in FY19 to create a grant program focused on increasing the number of English as a Second Language (ESL) and bilingual education teachers in school districts that have a significant number of English Learner (EL) pupils, but lack the qualified professionals to teach those pupils. This program seeks to help current teachers and paraprofessional staff to acquire a bilingual and/or ESL supplemental license.

## *Targeted Learning Opportunities and Other Categorical Aids*

### **Per Pupil Aid**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$18,752,000 GPR in FY18 and \$18,752,000 GPR in FY19, to reflect projected aid amounts under the Per Pupil Aid program, and to reflect the Department's proposed use of a weighting mechanism within the Per Pupil Aid formula. The proposed weighting would target aid increases to school districts with pupils who fall into the following three demographic categories: economically disadvantaged (ED) pupils, English learner (EL) pupils, and pupils in foster care placements (FC pupils). Under the Department's proposal, a 20 percent weight would be applied to each pupil that satisfies one or all of the criteria specified above, up to a total additional weight of 60 percent.

### **Dual Language Planning and Startup Grants**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request \$750,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY19, to create a new grant program to support school districts in planning for and starting up dual language programs. Under this proposal, the Department would award grants to school districts in amounts up to \$25,000 per applicant to reimburse for eligible costs, which include expenditures for curriculum, materials, textbooks, consultation for planning, staff time, travel, and professional development.

### **Grants to Support Gifted and Talented Programs**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request \$762,800 in FY18 and in FY19 to increase the appropriation for grants to support gifted and talented programs, in order to reach more pupils in more schools. Additionally, request changes to allow all school districts to apply for grants, expand the types of allowable activities and programs, and ensure the needs of historically under-identified and under-represented pupils are being served.

### **Tribal Language Revitalization Grants**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request \$562,200 PR-S in FY19 for a new Young Learners Tribal Language Revitalization initiative, including \$402,200 PR-S to increase the existing funding for grants and \$160,000 PR-S to fund operations of programs in partnership with Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc. (GLITC). The source of PR-S funds is Tribal Gaming Revenues received by the state.

### **Peer Review and Mentoring Grants**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request statutory language changes to promote participation in the peer review and mentoring program by districts with the greatest need for support in mentoring teachers, and to more effectively make use of the resources under this program. Proposed changes include removing the consortium requirement, in

order to permit individual school districts to submit grant applications, and increasing the maximum award amount for any one proposal from \$25,000 to \$100,000.

### **School Breakfast Aid**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$2,550,300 GPR in FY18 and \$2,851,000 in FY19 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.
- Request \$139,200 GPR in FY18 and \$138,500 in FY19 to fund reimbursements under the SBP at 15.0 cents for each breakfast served in the following institutions: 1) Independent Charter Schools; 2) the Wisconsin Educational Services Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing; 3) the Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired; and 4) residential care centers for children and youth (RCCs).
- Request a statutory language change to direct the Department to cease payment of School Breakfast aid to an institution that ceased to operate at any point during or at the end of the previous school year.

### **School Library Aids Reestimate**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request a decrease in expenditure authority of \$3,000,000 SEG in FY18 and \$1,000,000 in FY19 for the appropriation for school library aids to reflect reestimates of available funding.

# INDEPENDENT CHARTER SCHOOLS AND PRIVATE SCHOOL PARENTAL CHOICE PROGRAMS

## **Independent Charter School Program Reestimate**

### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request a decrease of \$9,175,200 GPR in FY18, and a decrease of \$3,584,800 GPR in FY19, in expenditure authority under the appropriation for payments to Independent Charter Schools, to reflect projected enrollments and per pupil payments of \$8,474 in FY18 and \$8,736 in FY19.
- Request a modification to current law to eliminate duplicative reporting requirements under this program.
- Permit Independent Charter Schools to be aided for summer school membership, in the same manner that public school districts are currently aided for summer school membership.

## **Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP) – Reestimate**

### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$8,766,500 GPR in FY18, and an increase of \$20,575,500 GPR in FY19, in expenditure authority under the appropriation for payments under the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program, to reflect projected enrollments and the following per pupil payments: for FY18, \$7,609 for grades K-8 and \$8,255 for grades 9-12; for FY19, \$7,871 for grades K-8 and \$8,517 for grades 9-12.

## **Racine and Wisconsin Parental Choice Programs (RCPC, WPCP) – Reestimate**

### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$6,041,000 GPR in FY18, and an increase of \$16,591,200 GPR in FY19, in expenditure authority under the appropriation for payments under the Racine and Wisconsin Parental Choice Programs, to reflect projected enrollments and the following per pupil payments: for FY18, \$7,609 for grades K-8 and \$8,255 for grades 9-12; for FY19, \$7,871 for grades K-8 and \$8,517 for grades 9-12.

*The Department proposes additional changes the statutory language in ss. 118.60, and 119.23, Wis. Stats., in order to address several program implementation issues, and to make technical corrections, related to the MPCP, RPCP and the WPCP. The requested changes to existing state law, and rationale for each change, are enumerated below.*

- Require private schools to be non-profit organizations.
- Change the due date for the summer school report from October 1 to September 15.
- Remove the continuing eligibility report, as the new accountability provisions will provide better information.
- Modify the disclosure of information reporting requirements to: 1) require continuing schools to provide signatures of new board members, and upon request, provide the statutory school policies to the Department; 2) require new schools to submit to the Department the board member signatures and copies of the schools' policies by the January 10 prior to first year of school participation in the program; and 3) provide that continuing schools policies would be provided to the Department upon request.
- Require new private schools to be fully accredited to participate in choice programs in the future.

- Delete current law preaccreditation provisions; they would no longer be needed due to the requirement to be fully accreditation in order to participate in the choice programs in the future (see requested change above).
- Delete the recently enacted new school requirements; they would no longer be needed due to the requirement to be fully accreditation in order to participate in the choice programs in the future (see requested change above).
- Allow parents to access the Department of Revenue (DOR) data directly in the online pupil application to determine income eligibility for the program, so that parents can determined immediately if DOR has their income records. If not, the parent must use the DPI income determination method. Currently, only schools, not parents, can submit data to DOR.
- Repeal s. 118.60 (1m), Wis. Stats., to eliminate the provision that requires the Department to certify the districts eligible to participate in the parental choice program for eligible school districts and other school districts. This is section is no longer necessary, given the provisions under s.118.60, Wis. Stats., that provides for a statewide parental choice program.
- Similarly, repeal s. 118.60 (1) (am), Wis. Stats., to eliminate eligibility criteria that are longer applicable, given the provisions under s.118.60, Wis. Stats., that provides for a statewide parental choice program.
- Repeal language in current law that requires that 6.6 percent of the aid reduction to the Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) district 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. 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.
- Create a provision that provides that a school may be barred from participating in a private parental choice program in the current school year and future years if the school misrepresents information required under the statutes or administrative rules governing the choice programs.

## **Special Needs Scholarship Program**

### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$4,330,800 GPR in FY18, and an increase of \$6,336,700 GPR in FY19, in expenditure authority under the appropriation for payments under the Special Needs Scholarship Program, to reflect projected enrollments and per pupil payments of \$12,286 in FY18 and \$12,548 in FY19; and to provide state payments to participating private schools under the program for summer school provided to pupils receiving a scholarship under the program.

*The Department proposes additional changes the language in ss. 115.7915, Wis. Stats., in order to address several program implementation issues, and to make technical corrections. The requested changes to existing state law, and rationale for each change, are enumerated below.*

- Modify the process for verification that an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Services Plan is in place, so as to: 1) require that the private school directly request verification that a student has an IEP or services plan that meets the SNSP requirement from the local educational agency (LEA) that developed the IEP or services plan; 2) require that the LEA provide a copy of the IEP or services plan to the private school if the LEA has an IEP or services plan that met the SNSP requirement; 3) require that the private school submit eligible applications to the Department after the application has been determined eligible, including the private school receiving a copy of the IEP or services plan that meets the requirements from

the public school district; and 4) provide LEAs with five business days to respond to an IEP or services plan verification request.

- Allow a nonresident school district to complete the three year reevaluation upon written request of the parent. (This proposed change would ensure that a pupil attending a private school under the SNSP in a nonresident district would not be required to be reevaluated by two different school districts and would result in a more consistent and streamlined evaluation process).
- Modify the open enrollment denial requirements for participation in the SNSP to include the following reasons: 1) the special education or related services required in the child's IEP are not available in the resident school district; 2) space is not available in the special education or related services required in the child's IEP; 3) the pupil has been referred for special education, but has not yet been evaluated by the IEP team; and 4) special education or related services and/or space is not available under a newly developed or revised IEP.
- Require all schools to be fully accredited prior to participation in the SNSP and delete the State Superintendent approval process under s. 115.791 (2) (c), Wis. Stats. (The approval process would not be needed if schools are required to be fully accredited prior to participation.)
- Modify the penalties provisions under s.115.791 (8) (a) 1., Wis. Stats., to specify that a school may be barred from participating in SNSP in the current school year and future school years if the school misrepresents information required under the statutes or administrative rule governing the SNSP.

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

### **WISE Suite Data Systems for Public Libraries**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request a statutory change that would allow the Department to use the amounts appropriated under s. 20.255 (1) (e), Wis. Stats. [Student information system, or “WISEdata”], and under s. 20.255 (1) (ek), Wis. Stats [Longitudinal data system, or “WISEdash”], for activities pertaining to establishing and maintaining a public library information system, to perform any of the following activities: purchasing licenses for data collection software; training library staff on the effective use of data in decision-making; establishing digital processes for the efficient collection, analysis, and reporting of data to library patrons and staff; creating dashboard tools for libraries to use internally in analyzing, and report to the public about, library use; developing, implementing, and maintaining technology systems that allow for secure, interoperable data exchange and the automation of work processes; creating an automated system for the initial certification and recertification of public librarians; and establishing library user authentication systems.

### **Public Library System Aid**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$16,377,100 SEG in FY18 and \$17,004,900 in FY19 to fund public library system aid at a 13 percent index level.

### **Newsline for the Blind**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$16,900 SEG in FY18 and \$35,300 in FY19 to maintain the current level of services for Newsline for the Blind.

### **Library Service Contracts**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$3,200 SEG in FY18 and \$7,100 in FY19 to fully fund the estimated costs of the library service contracts maintained by the Department.

## **AGENCY ADMINISTRATION and AIDS TO INDIVIDUALS/ORGANIZATIONS**

### **Grants for National Board Teacher Certification or Master Educator License**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$284,300 GPR in FY18 and \$303,700 GPR in FY19 to reflect projected grant awards under the program, with the changes proposed by the Department (see below).
- Request changes to increase the size of the continuing grant (beginning in the second year of the grant) to eligible educators who teach in high poverty districts, from \$5,000 to \$7,500, in schools that are not in the Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) district; and increase the size of the continuing grant, from \$5,000 to \$10,000, for eligible educators who teach in high poverty schools located within the MPS district.
- Align the state grant for nationally board certified teachers with the National Board of Professionals Teaching Standards' (NBPTS) change from a 10-year to a 5-year certificate.

### **Mental Health Training Support**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request \$420,000 GPR in FY18 and \$420,000 GPR in FY19 to support training opportunities aimed at increasing capacity within school districts and independent charter schools to provide mental health screening and intervention services to pupils.
- Request authority to create 1.0 FTE GPR permanent position, and \$71,300 GPR in FY18 and \$91,400 GPR in FY19, to administer and support statewide training related to the Screening, Brief Interventions, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT), Trauma Sensitive Schools (TSS), and Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) programs.

### **Very Special Arts**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$11,700 GPR in FY18 and \$11,700 GPR in FY19 to restore funding for Very Special Arts to \$75,000 annually.

### **Repurpose Program Revenue Position**

#### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request to transfer authority for 1.0 FTE PR-S position, from the appropriation for funds transferred from other state agencies, to the appropriation for personnel licensure, teacher supply, information and analysis and teacher improvement. No additional budget authority is requested.

## **Parental Choice Program Position Funding**

### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request authority to create 2.0 FTE GPR permanent positions, and \$120,700 GPR in FY18 and \$159,100 GPR in FY19, to support the Department's work on the Special Needs Scholarship Program, and the Milwaukee, Racine and Wisconsin private school parental choice programs.

## **Program Revenue Reestimates**

### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request an increase of \$3,151,100 PR in FY18 and \$3,207,300 PR in FY19 to reflect projected revenues and expenditures in the Department's program revenue appropriations.

## **Federal Revenue Reestimates**

### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request \$923,600 FED in FY18 and \$923,600 FED in FY19 to reflect projected revenues and expenditures in the Department's federal program revenue appropriations.

## **Standard Budget Adjustments**

### **AGENCY REQUEST:**

- Request adjustments to the agency's base to reflect standard budget adjustments for: 1) turnover reduction (-\$427,900 GPR and -\$494,800 FED in FY18 and FY19); 2) remove non-continuing items from the base (-1.0 FTE and -\$76,200 FED in FY18, and -2.0 FTE and -\$144,700 FED in FY19); 3) full funding of continuing salaries and fringe (-\$823,500 GPR, \$3,100 PR, \$66,100 PR-S and \$843,800 FED in FY18 and FY19); 4) overtime (\$274,500 GPR, \$3,600 PR, \$10,200 PR-S and \$50,200 FED in FY18 and FY19); 5) night and weekend differential (\$55,500 GPR, \$200 PR-S and \$400 FED in FY18 and FY19); and 6) full funding of lease and directed moves costs (\$52,200 GPR and \$16,800 FED in FY18 and \$99,800 GPR and \$18,200 FED in FY19).