

State of Wisconsin Biennial Budget Cycle 2005-07

The state's biennial (two-year) budget process can be seen as a continuous cycle, moving from submittal of agency budget requests to submission of the Governor's budget to legislative authorization of appropriations, to agency expenditure of those appropriations, to review of agency expenditures and then, beginning again, with subsequent agency budget requests.

For the 2005-07 biennial budget, the key timeframes are as follows:

June 2004—Governor and Department of Administration (DOA) issue biennial budget instructions.

September 2004—Agencies submit their biennial budget requests to the Governor.

September - December 2004—DOA analyzes agency budget requests, makes modifications and then recommendations to the Governor for possible inclusion in the Governor's budget request.

January 2005—Governor submits 2005-07 biennial budget request. If an item from an agency's budget request is not included, it will need to be added back into the Governor's budget bill through the amendment process during legislative budget deliberations.

February - June 2005—Legislative review and modification of the Governor's biennial budget bill. This includes review by the Joint Finance Committee.

July/August 2005—Legislature delivers amended budget bill to Governor for review, approval and/or partial veto. Governor typically signs budget with several vetoes.

Additional questions on the biennial budget process can be directed to Mike Bormett, Policy and Budget Director at 608-266-2804.