

# Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

## 2007-2009 Education Agenda



## Biennial Budget Highlights

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State Superintendent

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**Department of Public Instruction  
2007-2009 Education Agenda**

**Biennial Budget Highlights**

This document summarizes the State Superintendent's 2007-2009 biennial budget request. Proposals are organized according to the following major budget themes:

- *Global Literacy and Competitiveness*
- *Milwaukee Package*
- *Rural Initiative*
- *Libraries*
- *Improving Student Achievement/Closing the Achievement Gap*
- *Agency Operations and Resources*
- *School Finance and Revenue Limits*

The complete department biennial budget can be found online at [www.dpi.state.wi.us](http://www.dpi.state.wi.us).

<u>Request Title</u>	<u>DIN #</u>	<u>Dollars</u>	<u>FY08</u> <u>Source</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Dollars</u>	<u>FY09</u> <u>Source</u>	<u>FTE</u>
<b><u>Global Literacy and Competitiveness</u></b>							
Heritage Languages Provide funding for the Heritage Language portfolio, a pilot project which demonstrates how children speaking languages other than English in their homes can have their heritage language proficiency assessed, valued, and maintained.	4001	\$52,500	GPR		\$148,500	GPR	
World Languages Initiative for Elementary Schools Provide funding for the first year of a project entitled the World Languages Initiative for Elementary Schools. Twenty-five new sites will be added each year through the first four years of the program. The grant will pay a portion of teaching salaries for teachers hired under this program for a limited time during the build-up of the program, starting with first grade and adding a grade level each year until the language instruction is in place in grades 1-6.	4002	\$0			\$837,500	GPR	
Wisconsin Education for STEM Provide funding to address achievement and participation gaps in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) and in career pursuits regarding these fields. Help PK-12 educators develop classroom assessment models to better identify and support students in their STEM-related learning. \$61,500 annually for mini-grants to school districts on a competitive basis for seed money to develop innovative STEM instructional programming targeting students underrepresented in STEM and increase academic and technical achievement.	4003	\$157,500	GPR		\$157,500	GPR	
International Education Provide funding to support the following activities in international education: the Japanese Teacher Seminar, the China Initiative, and the France Exchange Projects.	4004	\$38,000	GPR		\$38,000	GPR	
Career and Employability Skills Provide \$50,000 in each year of the biennium to fund career counseling professional development to get high quality post-secondary and career counseling services to more pre-K-12 students in an equitable manner. Also provide \$75,000 in each year of the biennium for the development, validation, training, and implementation of a web-based Employability Skills Assessment (ESA). This new system would be created by the Center on Education and Work (CEW) at the University of Wisconsin. The ESA could support the state's Employability Skills Certificate program and would be aligned to the Wisconsin Career Assessment currently available to eighth and tenth grade students.	4005	\$125,000	GPR		\$125,000	GPR	

<b><u>Milwaukee Package</u></b>	<b><u>DIN #</u></b>	<b><u>Dollars</u></b>	<b><u>FY08 Source</u></b>	<b><u>FTE</u></b>	<b><u>Dollars</u></b>	<b><u>FY09 Source</u></b>	<b><u>FTE</u></b>
Restore Arts to MPS Provide funding for a competitive grant to support arts education in Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) elementary schools. The grant would be awarded annually for two years. The grantee would award subgrants to qualifying MPS elementary schools. The department recommends that the grant program be a vehicle for reaching students of color and English language learners. The arts programs proposed should focus on the cultural heritage of the students.	4501	\$0			\$1,000,000	GPR	
Preschool-Grade 5 Program The additional funding will provide an inflationary increase to the program to maintain efforts to close the achievement gap in high-poverty schools. The increase would be spread across the 38 schools that currently participate in the program (\$367,700 / 38 schools = average of \$9,676 per school).	4502	\$367,700	GPR		\$367,700	GPR	
Extended Calendar Pilot Grants to MPS Provide grants in FY09 to MPS for up to three extended calendar pilot projects. An extended-year calendar is where a school goes beyond the traditional 180 days and/or summer school offerings to provide additional days of classroom instruction. Summer learning loss will be reduced during a shorter summer break.	4503	\$0			\$1,500,000	GPR	
Engaging Partners for Student Success/Service Learning Provide \$150,000 annually for professional development in service learning will be made available to teachers, guidance counselors, and appropriate administrators in MPS using Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) members. Family-School-Community Partnerships (FSCP) and family service corps teams will improve service learning by bringing two other important groups (community leaders and family members) to join schools in utilizing service learning as a means to keep students focused on their studies and improve achievement. Positions will oversee VISTA members.	4504	\$165,000 \$67,400	GPR PR-S	1.5	\$165,000 \$86,700	GPR PR-S	1.5
Restore Driver Education Aid for Low-Income Pupils Create a new categorical aid program to provide \$150 per pupil for MPS students taking an approved driver education (DE) course. To qualify for the aid, eligible students' families or guardians would need to be free and reduced-price lunch (FRL) income-eligible, and MPS would reduce their DE student fee by \$150.	4505	\$100,000	GPR		\$100,000	GPR	

**Rural Initiative**

Transportation Aid There are two components to this request: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the reimbursement rate for pupils transported over 12 miles from \$180 to \$220 per pupil for both years of the 2007-09 biennium. No</li> </ul>	5001	\$0			\$0		
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additional GPR funds are needed; the base appropriation is projected to be sufficient.

- Request statutory language similar to that in 2005 Assembly Bill 726 which allows schools to claim refunds of the motor vehicle fuel tax.

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Sparsity Aid for Small/Rural Districts Create a new statewide program for small, rural districts that meet certain criteria and provide them with additional funding to be used for locally-determined purposes. Criteria: Under 2,000 students; less than 15 students per square mile; minimum free and reduced lunch (FRL) of 20%. \$300/student for districts above 40% FRL, \$150/student between 20-40% FRL.	5002	\$0			\$26,462,400	GPR	
Declining Enrollment Revenue Limit Exemptions The department proposes further assisting declining enrollment districts by: (1) Providing that all districts receive at least their prior year's base revenue limit, even if their enrollment decline along with their inflationary adjustment and low-revenue ceiling increase (if applicable) are less than their base; and (2) Increasing the current 75 percent declining enrollment provision to a full, hold harmless provision on a non-recurring basis.	5003	\$0			\$0		
<b><u>Libraries</u></b>							
Badgerlink Provide funding to maintain the current level of services through BadgerLink based on five-year contract prices. This represents a 1.5 percent increase in FY08 and 2.4 percent in FY09 (over FY08). The department also requests \$442,800 SEG annually in both FY08 and FY09 for the addition of one or more encyclopedias in BadgerLink for users of all ages and/or materials to assist pupils in completing classroom assignments.	5501	\$489,100	SEG		\$538,400	SEG	
Public Library System Aid Current law requires the department to include a 13 percent index level of funding for public library systems in its biennial budget request. In FY06, the index of state aid to local and county aid for public library service is estimated to have fallen to 8.1 percent.	5502	\$9,639,400	GPR		\$10,394,200	GPR	
Library Delivery Services Provide funding to cover the increasing delivery costs incurred by public library systems.	5503	\$382,000	GPR		\$401,000	GPR	
Library Service Contracts Fully fund library service contracts and to purchase and maintain a Digital Talking Books server. These contracts assure that students and other individuals have equal access to informational materials required to do coursework, meet curriculum needs, or pursue personal interests regardless of where they live, their special needs or circumstances.	5504	\$257,300	GPR		\$220,300	GPR	

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School Library Aids Reestimate Reflects a reestimate of projected school library aids from the Common School Fund. Aid to school libraries is distributed to school districts for the purchase of instructional media center materials.	5505	\$6,000,000	SEG		\$11,000,000	SEG	
<b><u>Improving Student Achievement/Closing the Achievement Gap</u></b>							
Bilingual-Bicultural Education Aid Increase Provide funding to maintain the state's reimbursement of approximately 12 percent of approved prior year costs for school districts required to offer bilingual-bicultural education programs.	6001	\$1,055,800	GPR		\$2,040,900	GPR	
Expanded Bilingual-Bicultural Education Aid Create a new bilingual-bicultural categorical aid program to award \$350 per limited-English proficient (LEP) pupil to districts that have LEP populations below the statutory threshold and thus do not qualify for categorical aid under state law, but are still educating LEP students.	6002	\$0			\$6,195,000	GPR	
SAGE Program – Fully Fund at \$2,250/pupil Provide increases to fund the statutory increase in the state Student Achievement Guarantee in Education (SAGE) aid from \$2,000 per low-income student to \$2,250 per low-income student.	6003	\$10,366,900	GPR		\$10,366,900	GPR	
SAGE Program – Add New Schools The department proposes to allow a “fourth wave” of roughly five schools to join the SAGE program beginning in the 2008-09 school year. Some schools may have missed the opportunity to apply for SAGE during initial enrollment windows and the department does not currently have the authority to accept new SAGE contracts.	6004	\$0			\$540,000	GPR	
Precollege Scholarship Program Provide a five percent increase for the Precollege Scholarship Program. This increase is necessary so the program can continue its work preparing students for college who otherwise may not pursue a postsecondary education.	6005	\$108,900	GPR		\$108,900	GPR	
Assuring Early Learning Opportunities Provide funding to support a coordinated program of quality early learning opportunities and to strengthen the Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards. Also permit each school district that adopts a “community approach” to early care and education to count an additional 0.1 FTE toward state aid and revenue limits for each 4K pupil enrolled in the district. Request 1.0 FTE responsible for overseeing the review and approval of all higher education early childhood level education programs and licensing of early childhood education professionals.	6006	\$272,200 \$70,500	GPR PR-S	1.0	\$194,900 \$92,100	GPR PR-S	1.0

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School Breakfast Reimbursement Rate Increase the per meal reimbursement rate from 10 cents to 15 cents per breakfast served by public and private schools under the state's School Breakfast Program.	6007	\$1,229,700	GPR		\$1,458,200	GPR	
Eliminate Reduced-Price School Breakfast Fee Provide that the state pay the 30 cents charged to each public and private school student for his or her reduced-price breakfast, thus allowing the student to eat a free breakfast.	6008	\$1,100,000	GPR		\$1,100,000	GPR	
Fully-fund School Milk Program Provide full funding to eligible pupils in the Wisconsin school day milk program in both public and private schools. The department prorated claims by paying at 80 percent in FY06. The appropriation has not been increased since FY01.	6009	\$326,300	GPR		\$409,300	GPR	
American Indian Education Provide funding to support a systematic study of the needs of American Indian students to identify critical concerns and possible interventions. The PR-S funding would come from tribal gaming revenues paid to the state.	6010	\$60,000	PR-S		\$40,000	PR-S	
Supporting Gifted and Talented Pupils Provide funding to double the current gifted and talented grant program to benefit more schools and pupils in grades 5 to 8. Although the program served more than 300 Wisconsin pupils in 80 school districts in 2005-06 by providing advanced coursework and other opportunities, there are large numbers of pupils who still require academic challenge.	6011	\$182,000	GPR		\$182,000	GPR	
Expanded Access to School Health Services Create a new grant to public school districts to improve student access to school nurses. The grants will provide approximately 15 FTE school nurse positions at \$60,000 or may be used to provide additional nursing services to schools statewide. In addition, the department requests \$75,000 GPR annually to administer and evaluate the grant program and to provide professional development activities to new and currently practicing school nurses in school districts.	6012	\$1,000,000	GPR		\$1,000,000	GPR	
Before and After-School Programs Create a new \$4,750,000 grant to public schools, community organizations, and local units of government to support and expand extended learning opportunities (before and after-school programs). In addition, the department requests \$250,000 GPR and 1.0 FTE in FY09 to administer the grant, provide technical assistance and provide training to ensure student outcomes and parent satisfaction.	6013	\$0			\$5,000,000	GPR	1.0

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Enhancing PK-16 Councils Provide funding to strengthen the existing UW System regional PK-16 efforts started in 2001. Funding would be split as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$325,000 each year for grants to regional PK-16 councils, with specific membership and duties related to receipt of the grant.</li> <li>\$60,000 each year for four regional "Efficiency Through Collaboration" grants of up to \$15,000 each.</li> </ul>	6014	\$385,000	GPR		\$385,000	GPR	
Online Learning: Promoting Quality Provide funding to enhance the quality of online learning in the state via professional development, student assessments and information for parents.	6015	\$49,000	GPR		\$44,500	GPR	

**Agency Operations and Resources**

Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examination An increase to support and fulfill the department's statutory responsibility to administer and contract for the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examinations.	7003	\$1,400,000	GPR		\$1,400,000	GPR	
Milwaukee Parental Choice Program Auditor Request a school finance auditor to meet the department's responsibilities under 2003 Wisconsin Act 155 which places financial accountability requirements on schools participating in the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP).	7004	\$67,100	GPR	1.0	\$87,800	GPR	1.0
Additional Distance Learning (WESPHH Outreach Program) Provide funding to expand distance learning opportunities offered by the Wisconsin Educational Services Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (WESPDHH). Includes one-time funding of \$100,000 in the first year to establish an additional distance learning classroom and to upgrade telecommunications equipment in the existing classroom. In addition, annual funding of \$5,000 is requested to support additional operational costs of the expanded program.	7005	\$105,000	GPR		\$5,000	GPR	
Mental Health Intervention Program (WSD campus) Provide funding to support the mental health intervention program in the residential hall of the Wisconsin School for the Deaf (WSD).	7006	\$38,300	GPR		\$33,300	GPR	
Statewide Data Systems Provide funding to support and maintain the Wisconsin Student Locator System, the Individual Student Enrollment System, the School Performance Report and the Wisconsin Information Network for Successful Schools. The department also requests \$287,200 GPR in both years of the biennium to provide funding for technical and ongoing support, development, and quality assurance testing for the statewide applications listed above.	7007	\$287,200 \$295,100	GPR PR-S	5.0	\$287,200 \$385,000	GPR PR-S	5.0



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Grants for Master Educators Provide funding to increase the existing sum sufficient national teacher certification grant appropriation to allow teachers receiving master educator licenses through the state process to receive the same grants as those master educators receiving licenses through national certification. In addition, the department requests the program be modified beginning in FY08 to provide an incentive to grant recipients to work in high poverty schools by providing \$5,000, rather than \$2,500, for continuing grants as long as the recipient is employed in a school in which at least 60 percent of the school's pupil population is eligible for FRL.	7008	\$208,000	GPR		\$342,600	GPR	
National Teacher Certification Reestimate Provide funding for payment to teachers who are certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS). The appropriation is sum sufficient, requiring the department to make payments for as many teachers as are eligible in any fiscal year. In addition, the department requests that the program be modified beginning in FY08 to provide an incentive to grant recipients to work in high poverty schools by providing \$5,000, rather than \$2,500, for continuing grants as long as the recipient is employed in a school in which at least 60 percent of the school's pupil population is eligible for FRL.	7009	\$129,400	GPR		\$317,800	GPR	
Newsline for the Blind Provide funding to support the Newsline for the Blind (Newsline) services provided by the Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, which include registering new users, providing technical support, and placing Wisconsin announcements and local information on the Newsline channel. As part of the request, the department is proposing to make the Newsline SEG funding a direct appropriation to the department from the Universal Service Fund (USF), as opposed to the current transfer of SEG/USF funds from the Public Service Commission (PSC) into a PR-S appropriation.	7010	\$38,500	SEG		\$40,500	SEG	
Elimination of Qualified Economic Offer Repeal the QEO provisions related to teacher collective bargaining. Through this action, teachers will no longer be constrained by an artificial limit in terms of their ability to bargain compensation increases. Teachers will be able to collectively bargain under essentially the same parameters as other represented public employees.	7011	\$0			\$0		

<u>School Finance and Revenue Limits</u>	<u>DIN #</u>	<u>Dollars</u>	<u>FY08</u> <u>Source</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Dollars</u>	<u>FY09</u> <u>Source</u>	<u>FTE</u>
General Equalization Aids Fund the general equalization aids share of meeting approximately two-thirds of estimated "partial school revenues." The amounts reflect annual increases of 3.2 percent and 2.5 percent, respectively, over the biennium. The department's request related to general equalization aids reflects other funding requests contained elsewhere in this biennial. To the extent that other requests are denied and/or modified, the amount of general equalization aids needed to fund approximately two-thirds of "partial school revenues" would also change.	7501	\$149,947,800	GPR		\$272,109,600	GPR	
Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP) Reestimate and Funding Change A reestimate of the MPCP as required by current law. In addition, this request includes a change in the state's share of funding for the MPCP from the current 55 percent to 75 percent of the annual cost of the program.	7502	\$8,524,000	GPR		\$18,340,000	GPR	
Milwaukee/Racine Charter School Program (MRCSP) Reestimate A reestimate of the MRCSP, as required by current law.	7503	\$5,153,500	GPR		\$10,199,500	GPR	
Special Education Categorical Aid Increase Provide funding to increase the state's payment of special education costs.	7504	\$25,000,000	GPR		\$50,000,000	GPR	
Low Revenue Ceiling Adjustment Increase the per pupil low revenue ceiling amount by \$300 annually, to \$8,700 in FY08 and to \$9,000 in FY09, to continue to provide the state's lowest spending districts with the opportunity to narrow the disparity with the highest spending districts. This proposal would allow approximately 100 school districts to increase their revenues beyond the annual allowable per pupil adjustment each year without going to referenda.	7505	\$0			\$0		
Fully-fund Open Enrollment Transportation Reimbursement An estimate of funds needed to fully-fund the open enrollment transportation reimbursement appropriation for participating pupils eligible for FRL.	7506	\$323,500	GPR		\$401,800	GPR	
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$225,564,600</b>		<b>8.5</b>	<b>\$436,650,000</b>		<b>9.5</b>