

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

Summary of 2025 Act 15 2025-27 State Biennial Budget

(DPI's Biennial Budget Request, Governor Evers' Budget Proposal, the Budget Adopted by the Joint Committee on Finance and Adopted by the Legislature, and the Final Bill Enacted by Governor Evers)

Provisions Related to Elementary and Secondary Education, Public Libraries, and Agency Operation

Prepared by the Policy, Budget, and Research Team
Department of Public Instruction

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KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS AND NOTES

Commonly Used Acronyms

- **CESA** – cooperative educational services agency
- **DIN** – decision item narrative*
- **FTE** – full time equivalent (positions)
- **FY** – fiscal year**
- **ICS** – independent charter school
- **JCF** – Joint Committee on Finance
- **LEA** – local educational agency
- **SEA** – state educational agency

Fund Sources

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

**Note on DINs: In this document, the DIN numbers are included for budget items that originated in DPI’s biennial budget request, submitted in November 2024. Budget items that initiated with the Governor’s proposal, the Joint Committee on Finance, or a legislative house (amendment) do not include a DIN number in this document.*

***The state fiscal is the same as the school district fiscal year: July 1 – June 30.*

****PR-S funding includes revenue from fee-generating activities and funding from revenue that is received from another state agency.*

FY25 Base – The total FY25 authorized funding level for an agency or program. The base equals FY25 appropriations, adjustments resulting from legislation in the 2023-2024 legislative sessions, pay plan modifications, and any other ongoing supplements provided by the Legislature. It is this “adjusted” base that serves as the beginning point for calculating budget changes for the 2025-27 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.

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 from where they reside under the public school 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 similar adjustments to districts’ membership for other circumstances.

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

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). Revenue limit membership also includes students attending certain independent charter schools (newer authorizers). 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. 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).

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 DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

BIENNIAL BUDGET TIMELINE

November 14, 2024 – DPI submits its full 2025-27 biennial budget request for elementary and secondary education funding, public libraries, and agency operations to the Department of Administration (DOA). Part 1 of DPI’s request (agency operations and public libraries) was submitted on September 15, 2024.

February 18, 2025 – Governor Evers introduces his 2025-27 biennial budget proposal for all state agencies (2025 AB-50/SB-45).

May 8, 2025 – JCF adopts motion #4, which removed several provisions of the Governor’s 2025-27 biennial budget proposal from consideration. The K-12 policy and funding provisions that the Committee removed under motion #4 are noted as such in this summary. JCF also adopts motion #6, which included standard budget adjustments, reestimates for sum sufficient appropriations, and operational budget reductions to specified appropriations.

June 12, 2025 – JCF takes action on the biennial budget for elementary and secondary education funding, public libraries and lifelong learning, and DPI operations (omnibus motion #48).

July 1, 2025 – JCF takes final action on the biennial budget, adopting additional budget items for K-12 schools as part of the final omnibus motion #130.

June 2, 2025 – The Senate and the Assembly adopt SB 45 (as amended by JFC and Senate).

June 3, 2025 – SB 45 is enrolled and presented to the Governor. Governor Evers signs the budget bill into law as 2025 Act 15 (reflects partial vetoes). Act 15 is published.

July 4, 2025– 2025 Act 15 is generally effective (except as specified in the Act).

NOTE: This document summarizes proposed changes to current law appropriations and programs that are included in the Department’s 2025-27 biennial budget request. DPI’S full request, with additional information for each item summarized below, can be found [here](#).

[[https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/policy-budget/pdf/2025-27 DPI Budget Request FINAL-12.12.2024.pdf](https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/policy-budget/pdf/2025-27_DPI_Budget_Request_FINAL-12.12.2024.pdf)]

For summaries of changes in 2025 Act 15 for all state agencies, see the Legislative Fiscal Bureau’s [web page for budget summaries for all state agencies](#).

[2015 Act 15](#) (enacted bill with Governor’s vetoes)

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

2025 ACT 15: BUDGET FOR K-12 SCHOOL AIDS

Aid Program	FY25 Base	FY26	FY27	Biennial Change
Categorical Aid Programs				
Per Pupil Aid	587,812,400	579,526,500	574,720,600	(21,377,700)
Special Education Categorical Aid	574,777,700	782,408,800	871,826,900	504,680,300
Achievement Gap Reduction Contracts	109,184,500	109,184,500	109,184,500	-
Sparsity Aid	28,614,000	29,510,000	29,730,000	2,012,000
Pupil Transportation Aid	24,000,000	24,000,000	24,000,000	-
High-Cost Transportation Aid	22,800,000	22,800,000	22,800,000	-
High-Cost Special Education Aid	14,480,000	29,086,700	54,450,300	54,577,000
Aid for school mental health programs	12,000,000	12,000,000	12,000,000	-
Bilingual-Bicultural Aid/English Learner Aid	10,089,800	10,089,800	10,089,800	-
School-based mental health service grants	25,000,000	40,000,000	10,000,000	-
State 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 Grants	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	-
Special Education Transition Incentive Grant	3,600,000	3,600,000	3,600,000	-
School Breakfast Grant	2,510,500	2,510,500	2,510,500	-
Peer Review and Mentoring Grant	1,606,700	1,606,700	1,606,700	-
Rural Teacher Talent Pilot Program	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	-
Special Education Transition Readiness Grant	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	-
Summer School Programs Grant (MPS only)	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	-
4K Start Up Grant	1,350,000	1,350,000	1,350,000	-
School Day Milk Grant	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	-
Grant for information technology education	875,000	875,000	875,000	-
Robotics League Participation Grant	750,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	500,000
Gifted and Talented Grant	474,400	474,400	474,400	-
Transportation Aid for Open Enrollment & ECCP	454,200	454,200	454,200	-
Peer to Peer Support Grants	250,000	250,000	250,000	-
SAGE Debt Service Aid	133,700	133,700	133,700	-
Supplemental Aid	100,000	100,000	100,000	-
TEACH Debt Service Aid (DOA appropriation)	98,200	98,200	98,200	-
Early Literacy Supports (grant program) - <i>NEW</i>	-	37,100,000	-	37,100,000
GPR Categorical Aids	1,454,899,500	1,722,097,400	1,765,193,200	577,491,600
Tribal Languages (PR)	222,800	222,800	222,800	-
Aid for AODA (PR)	1,284,700	1,284,700	1,284,700	-
PR Categorical Aids	1,507,500	1,507,500	1,507,500	-
School Library Aids, SEG-USF	52,000,000	70,000,000	70,000,000	36,000,000
Educ Telecomm Access (DOA), SEG-USF	12,283,300	12,283,300	12,283,300	-
SEG-USF* Categorical Aids	64,283,300	82,283,300	82,283,300	36,000,000
Total Categorical Aids	1,520,690,300	1,805,888,200	1,848,984,000	613,491,600
General Equalization Aids**	5,581,190,000	5,581,190,000	5,581,190,000	-
Total State School Aids	7,101,880,300	7,387,078,200	7,430,174,000	613,491,600
School Levy Tax Credit	1,425,000,000	1,425,000,000	1,425,000,000	-
Total Categorical & General School Aids & Tax Credits	8,526,880,300	8,812,078,200	8,855,174,000	613,491,600
State Residential Schools (GPR)	14,281,400	14,887,500	14,887,500	1,212,200
TOTAL STATE SUPPORT	8,541,161,700	8,826,965,700	8,870,061,500	614,703,800

*SEG-USF: Segregated funds from the Universal Services Fund, which is overseen by the Public Service Commission.

**The appropriation for High Poverty Aid under Wis. Stat. sec. 20.255(2)(bb), which is considered a "general aid" appropriation, remains at \$0 for FY26 & FY27; therefore, it has been removed from this table. The amount shown for General Equalization Aid in this table reflects only the appropriation under Wis. Stat. sec. 20.255 (2)(a).

GENERAL AID, REVENUE LIMITS, PER PUPIL AID, TAX CREDITS

DIN 6000 – GENERAL EQUALIZATION AID AND REVENUE LIMITS

General Equalization Aid

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$332,759,000 GPR in FY26 and \$672,316,000 in FY27 in the appropriation for general equalization aid to mitigate increases in the school property tax levy arising from proposed increases in revenue limit authority.
- Raise the secondary cost ceiling from 90 to 100 percent of the prior year state average shared costs (results in a larger portion of shared costs being aided at the secondary level).
- Raise the special adjustment aid amount from 85 to 90 percent of the district's prior year aid eligibility (protects districts from significant decreases in aid from year to year).
- Count students who attend a full-day, full week 4K program as 1.0 FTE, for purposes of general aid membership and revenue limit membership for school districts, as well as for pupil counts for independent charter schools, for private schools participating in one of the state's parent choice programs, and for the Special Needs Scholarship Program.

GOVERNOR:

- Increase funding by \$493,800,000 GPR in FY26 and \$699,900,000 GPR in FY27. *Change to department's request: +\$160,041,000 in FY26 / +\$27,584,000 in FY27.*
- Adopt the department's requests to raise the special adjustment aid amount from 85 to 90 percent of the district's prior year aid eligibility, and to count students who attend a full-day, full week 4K program as 1.0 FTE.
- Deny the department's request to raise the secondary cost ceiling from 90 percent to 100 percent of the prior year state average shared costs.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration the requests related to special adjustment aid and counting 4K pupils for state general aid and revenue limit calculations. Deny the Governor's request for additional funding for state general aids for K-12 schools.
- **Funding will remain at \$5,581,190,000 in FY26 and in FY27.**

Revenue Limits

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request that the per pupil revenue limit adjustment be raised to \$425 in FY26, and beginning in FY27, restore prior law practice of indexing the per pupil revenue limit adjustment to inflation (the March Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers, CPI-U). The resulting per pupil revenue limit adjustment is estimated at \$437.75 in FY27.

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

- Beginning in FY26, set the low revenue ceiling to equal 98 percent of the prior year's state average revenue per member attributable to the per pupil revenue limit adjustment, the low revenue ceiling, and the base hold harmless adjustment. The department estimates that the resulting low revenue ceiling will equal \$11,700 for FY26 and \$12,400 for FY27.
- Repeal the statutory limitation currently in effect, under Wis. Stats. sec. 121.905 (1)(b), for districts that have held a referenda for school operations, so that any district whose per-member revenue limit authority falls below the low revenue ceiling threshold can make use of the low-revenue adjustment as intended.
- Restore a school district's ability to make use of the revenue limit exemption for energy efficiency purchases and projects, under Wis. Stat. sec. 121.90 (4)(o).
- Create a new, non-recurring revenue limit exemption for school safety and cybersecurity to allow a school district to raise its revenue limit (by the greater of \$60,000 or \$100 per revenue limit member for a single school year) to pay for school safety and/or cybersecurity purchases, including staff, equipment, software, security systems, and services that relate to improving safety and security in schools, including protecting against cybersecurity attacks.

GOVERNOR:

- Beginning in FY26, index the per pupil revenue limit adjustment to inflation (i.e., the March CPI-U). Estimated per pupil revenue limit adjustments are \$334 in FY26 and \$345 in FY27. Set the low revenue ceiling to \$12,000 in FY26 and \$12,400 in FY27.
- Adopt the department's request to repeal Wis. Stats. sec. 121.905 (1)(b), but deny the remainder of the department's request.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration the provisions related to indexing revenue limit per pupil adjustments to inflation (CPI-U), and deny the remainder of the Governor's request.
- Specify that all 4K pupils will be counted at 0.60 FTE.
- Specify that amounts school districts receive as state aid in lieu of repealed personal property taxes under [Wis. Stat. sec. 79.0965](#) (business and manufacturing personal property) are considered state aid under school district revenue limits. This state aid will reduce a school district's general fund property tax levy, consistent with state aids provided in lieu of tax collections from other tax exempt personal property. First applies to the calculation of revenue limits for the 2025-26 school year.
- **The revenue limit adjustment will be \$325 per pupil in FY26 and \$325 per pupil in FY27. The low revenue ceiling will remain at \$11,000 in both years.**

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

DIN 6001 – PER PUPIL AID

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$88,581,900 GPR in FY26 and \$123,431,900 GPR in FY27 for to fully fund the projected costs of the Per Pupil Aid program.
- Request the payment to school districts be increased from \$742 to \$800 per pupil in FY26 and to \$850 per pupil in FY27 and request that payments be weighted for students in poverty by adding a 20 percent weight for economically disadvantaged students.

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department’s request.

JCF:

- Deny the Governor’s request and reduce the appropriation by \$8,285,900 in FY26 and by \$13,091,800 in FY27, due to projected decreases in revenue limit membership.
- Per pupil aid will remain at \$742 per pupil in FY26 and in FY27.

COMMUNITY-BASED FOUR-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN

GOVERNOR:

- Require DPI to work in consultation with the Department of Children and Families to develop a standard per pupil payment amount applicable to, and model contracts for, school district agreements with child care providers participating in mixed delivery models through the community approach to four-year-old kindergarten. See also [“Community-Based Four-Year-Old Kindergarten”](#) (under “Other Agencies”).

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

SCHOOL LEVY TAX CREDIT (SLTC)

GOVERNOR:

- Increase funding for the SLTC by \$125,300,000 GPR in FY26 and by \$249,700,000 in FY27. The SLTC is a tax relief mechanism, reducing local property taxes for all property taxpayers based on their school district's proportion of the state's total school levy.

JCF:

- Deny the Governor’s request (no change in funding).

Note: Act 15 increases funding for the First Dollar Tax Credit (FDTC) by \$1,772,000 GPR in FY26 and in FY27. Funding for the FDTC is in the same appropriation as the SLTC [under [s. 20. 835 \(3\) \(b\)](#)], but it is distributed on a different basis than the SLTC.

CATEGORICAL AIDS

DIN 6002 – SPECIAL EDUCATION CATEGORICAL AID

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$820,517,300 GPR in FY26 and \$1,166,550,300 GPR in FY27 to increase the reimbursement rate for special education expenditures to 75 percent in FY26 and 90 percent in FY27. Request that the targeted reimbursement rates be specified in statute and that the appropriation type be changed from sum certain to sum sufficient.

GOVERNOR:

- Increase base funding by \$542,949,100 GPR in FY26 and \$587,658,200 GPR in FY27 to increase the reimbursement rate for special education expenditures to 60 percent in FY26 and in FY27. Adopt the department's request to make the appropriation sum-sufficient. *Change to department's request: -\$277,568,200 in FY26 / -\$578,892,100 in FY27 (GPR).*

JCF:

- Increase funding by \$207,631,100 GPR in FY26 and by \$297,049,200 GPR in FY27 to increase the reimbursement rate for special education expenditures to 42 percent in FY26 and to 45 percent in FY27. Deny the Governor's request to specify the reimbursement rate in statute and make the appropriation sum-sufficient. *Change to Governor's proposal: -\$335,318,000 in FY26 / -\$290,609,000 in FY27.*

DIN 6003 – HIGH-COST SPECIAL EDUCATION CATEGORICAL AID

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$20,424,000 GPR in FY26 and \$21,820,000 GPR in FY27 for High-Cost Special Education Aid, to reimburse allowable costs at 60 percent in FY26. Request that the targeted reimbursement rates be specified in statute and that the appropriation type be changed from sum certain to sum sufficient.

GOVERNOR:

- Increase base funding by \$8,789,000 in FY26 GPR and \$9,720,000 GPR in FY27 to increase the reimbursement rate for special education expenditures to 40 percent in FY26 and in FY27. Adopt the department's request to make the appropriation sum-sufficient. *Change to department's request: -\$11,635,000 in FY26 and -\$12,100,000 in FY27 (GPR).*

JCF:

- Increase funding by \$14,606,700 GPR in FY26 and by \$39,970,300 GPR in FY27 to increase the reimbursement of allowable costs to 50 percent in FY26 and to 90 percent in FY27. Deny the Governor's request to specify the reimbursement rate in statute and make the appropriation sum-sufficient. *Change to Governor's proposal: \$5,817,700 in FY26 / \$30,250,300 in FY27.*

DIN 6004 – EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$600,000 GPR in FY26 and \$10,600,000 GPR in FY27, for a new program to support local education agencies (LEAs) and non-school childcare settings in providing required special education services to young children. Funding would be provided to CESAs for supporting the work (\$600,000 annually); state aid for reimbursable expenditures would begin in FY27 (\$10,000,000).

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department's request for \$600,000 GPR annually to support early childhood special education identification efforts, which will provide training and support to school districts, Independent Charter Schools (ICS) and child care providers through partnership with CESAs. Deny the department's request to dedicate state funding for a new aid program. *Change to department's request: -\$10,000,000 in FY27 (GPR).*

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

DIN 6006 – TRANSITION INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases \$300,000 GPR in FY26 and \$400,000 GPR in FY27 to fully fund anticipated claims for the Special Education Transition Incentive Grant program.

GOVERNOR / JCF:

- Deny the department's request.

DIN 6007 – TRANSITION READINESS INVESTMENT GRANT PROGRAM

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases \$1,500,000 GPR in FY26 and \$1,500,000 GPR in FY27 to expand access to the Transition Readiness Investment Grant program. Request elimination of the statutory minimum and maximum grant awards.

GOVERNOR:

- Increase base funding by \$500,000 GPR in FY26 and \$500,000 GPR in FY27. Deny the department's requested program changes. *Change to department's request: -\$1,000,000 in FY26 / -\$1,000,000 in FY27 (GPR).*

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

DIN 6060 – BILINGUAL-BICULTURAL EDUCATION PROGRAM AID

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$18,125,500 GPR in FY26 and \$24,389,700 GPR in FY27, to increase the state reimbursement rate for Bilingual-Bicultural (BLBC) education program state aid, from 9.2 percent under current law, to 25 percent in FY26 and to 30 percent in FY27.

GOVERNOR / JCF:

- Deny the department's request.

DIN 6061 – ENGLISH LEARNER CATEGORICAL AID

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$26,750,000 GPR in FY26 and \$26,750,000 GPR in FY27, to create a new categorical aid program to support English Learner (EL) pupils in school districts and independent charter schools across the state. Funding would provide \$500 per EL student, to ensure state support for ELs in all public schools.

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department's request to create the new aid program, but provide each school district and independent charter school with at least one EL pupil, and up to 20 EL pupils, an award of \$10,000, plus \$500 for each additional EL pupil (above 20) in the district or independent charter school. (Same funding level as requested by the department).

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

DIN 6062 – TRIBAL LANGUAGE REVITALIZATION GRANT

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$277,200 PR-S in FY26 and \$277,200 PR-S in FY27 (Tribal Gaming Revenues) to support grants for the purpose of providing effective, innovative instruction in American Indian languages under the Tribal Language Revitalization Grant program. Request that independent charter schools be added as eligible grant applicants.

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department's request.

JCF:

- Deny the Governor's request.

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

DIN 6063 – PUPIL TRANSPORTATION AID

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request that for the Pupil Transportation Aid program, the aid payment for pupils who live 12 or more miles from the school they attend be increased from \$400 to \$450, beginning with aid distributed in FY26 (no funding increase required).

GOVERNOR / JCF:

- Adopt the department's request.

HIGH-COST TRANSPORTATION AID

GOVERNOR / JCF:

- Modify the eligibility threshold for high-cost transportation aid from 140 percent to 135 percent of the statewide average transportation costs.

DIN 6065 – SPARSITY AID

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$896,000 GPR in FY26 and \$1,116,000 GPR in FY27 for Sparsity Aid for school districts to fully fund projected aid eligibility for qualifying school districts
- Request a modification to the current law “stopgap” payment so that a district that loses eligibility for Sparsity Aid because it no longer meets the sparsity criteria (fewer than 10 members per square mile), would be eligible for the stop gap payment equal to 50 percent of the district's prior year aid payment. Under current law, a school district is eligible for the stopgap payment only if it loses eligibility due to exceeding the membership criteria.

GOVERNOR:

- Increase the per pupil payments to eligible school districts, from \$400 to \$500 for tier 1 (745 or fewer members) eligible school districts, and from \$100 to \$200 for tier 2 (between 746 and 1,000 members) eligible school districts.
- Increase base funding by \$10,016,800 GPR in FY26 and \$10,236,800 GPR in FY27 to fully fund aid eligibility. *Change to department's request: +\$9,120,800 in FY26 / +\$9,120,800 in FY27 (GPR).*
- Adopt the department's request for stop gap payments.

JCF:

- Adopt the department's request for increases of \$896,000 GPR in FY26 and \$1,116,000 GPR in FY27 to fully fund aid eligibility. Deny the department's request to modify the current law stop-gap payment criteria.
Change to Governor's proposal: -\$9,120,800 in FY26 / -\$9,120,800 in FY27.

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

DIN 6068 – SCHOOL LIBRARY AID

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$18,000,000 SEG in FY26 and \$18,000,000 SEG in FY27 in the existing appropriation for school library aid. The funding for this aid program is derived from interest earnings on amounts in the Common School Fund, which is overseen by the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands (BCPL).

GOVERNOR / JCF:

- Adopt the department's request.

DIN 6009 – DISTRICT REORGANIZATION - FEASIBILITY STUDY GRANT

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$300,000 GPR in FY27 in a new, continuing appropriation, for grants to school districts to conduct district reorganization feasibility studies.

GOVERNOR:

- Deny the department's request.

DIN 6080 – PERSONAL FINANCIAL LITERACY GRANTS

GOVERNOR:

- Provide \$2,500,000 GPR in FY26 and \$2,500,000 GPR in FY27 in a new, biennial appropriation for grants to school districts and independent charter schools to implement or expand personal financial literacy curriculum and programming, with an emphasis on innovation in personal financial literacy instruction.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

DIN 6081 – COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION GRANTS

GOVERNOR:

- Create a requirement that each high school in the state be required to offer at least one computer science class. Provide \$5,000,000 GPR in FY26 and \$5,000,000 GPR in FY27 for a new grant program to help school districts increase foundational computer science offerings and the digital literacy of students.
- Provide 1.0 FTE GPR permanent position and \$72,500 GPR in FY26 and \$76,600 GPR in FY27 for a computer science education coordinator in the department, and funding for costs related to a computer science education task force.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

DIN 6082 – ROBOTICS LEAGUE PARTICIPATION GRANTS

GOVERNOR / JCF:

- Provide \$250,000 GPR in FY26 and by \$250,000 GPR in FY27 for the current law Robotics League Participation grant program.

DIN 6086 – GRANTS TO REPLACE CERTAIN RACE-BASED NICKNAMES, LOGOS, MASCOTS, AND TEAM NAMES

GOVERNOR:

- Provide \$200,000 PR-S in FY26 and \$200,000 PR-S in FY27 in a new appropriation for a grant program to assist certain school districts in adopting and implementing nicknames, logos, mascots, or team names that is not race-based. (Tribal Gaming Revenue).

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

LAKELAND STAR ACADEMY

JCF:

- Provide \$250,000 GPR in FY26 and \$500,000 GPR in FY27 in a new appropriation for the Lakeland STAR Academy (part of the Lakeland Union High School District). Funding is provided on a one- time basis in the 2025-27 biennium only.

Governor:

- Vetoed the provision in full.

EARLY LITERACY – IMPLEMENTATION OF 2023 ACT 20

DIN 6010 – EARLY LITERACY COACHES

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$11,018,000 GPR in FY26 and \$11,018,000 GPR in FY27 to contract for literacy coaches, and to provide required professional development training, as part of implementing 2023 Act 20.

GOVERNOR:

- Increase base funding by \$7,045,200 GPR in FY26 and \$11,018,000 GPR in FY27 to support 64 literacy coaches in FY26 and 100 literacy coaches in FY27. *Change to department's request: -\$3,972,800 in FY26 (GPR) [no change for FY27].*

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

Note on JCF action taken on 6/27/2025 in executive session under Wis. Stat. sec.13.10:

- The JCF released \$9,009,900 GPR (in FY25) to the department's appropriation for the Early Literacy Coaching program to pay for literacy coaches in schools (as required under 2023 Act 20). This funding is provided on a one-time basis. Funding is provided in a continuing appropriation; at the end of each fiscal year, uncommitted monies carry over into the subsequent fiscal year. Thus, the amount released at the end of FY25 will automatically carry over into FY26. Base funding for going into the 2027-29 biennium will be \$0.

DIN 6011 – EARLY LITERACY – SUMMER READING PROGRAM

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$5,000,000 GPR in FY27 for aid to LEAs to offset the costs of providing intensive summer reading programs required under 2023 Act 20.

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department's request but increase funding by \$2,625,500 GPR in FY27. *Change to department's request: -\$2,374,500 in FY27 (GPR).*

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

DIN 6012 – EARLY LITERACY – TUTORING

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$5,000,000 GPR in FY26 and \$5,000,000 GPR in FY27 in a new, annual appropriation, for grants to non-profit community organizations to provide tutoring services for pupils in 5K through grade three, to improve early literacy.

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department's request but increase funding by \$3,000,000 GPR in FY26 and \$3,000,000 GPR in FY27. *Change to department's request: -\$2,000,000 in FY26 / -\$2,000,000 in FY27 (GPR).*

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

DIN 6013 – EARLY LITERACY – DIAGNOSTIC ASSESSMENT AID

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$2,500,000 GPR in FY26 and \$2,500,000 GPR in FY27 to provide aid to local education agencies (LEAs) to offset the costs of administering diagnostic assessments required under 2023 Act 20.

GOVERNOR / JCF:

- Adopt the department's request but increase funding by \$1,450,000 GPR in FY26 and \$1,450,000 GPR in FY27. *Change to department's request: -\$1,050,000 in FY26 / -\$1,050,000 in FY27 (GPR).*

EARLY LITERACY INVESTMENTS

GOVERNOR:

- Increase funding by \$50,000,000 GPR in FY26 to replace unreleased funding appropriated for use in the 2023-25 biennium, for implementation of the literacy program created under 2023 Wisconsin Act 20 (in addition to DINs 6010 through 6013, above). Funding is provided in the department's continuing appropriation for Office of Literacy [s. 20.255 (1)(fc)] *Change to department's request: +\$50,000,000 in FY26 (GPR).*

JCF:

- Deny the Governor's request. Instead, provide \$37,100,000 GPR in FY26 the biennial appropriation (created under 2023 Act 100) for reimbursements to schools to offset the costs of purchasing allowable literacy curriculum and for costs of professional development training in literacy required under 2023 Act 20. This one-time funding can be used over the biennium. When FY27 closes, any unexpended monies would lapse to the state's general fund. The FY27 base going into the 2027-29 biennium is \$0.

Summary of Funding for Early Literacy under 2025 Act 15 and JCF Action under Wis. Stat. sec. 13.10

Appropriation Title	FY26 Amount	FY27 Amount	Funding Purpose
Office of literacy; literacy program	\$220,900	\$220,900	Office of Literacy operations
	\$9,009,900	\$0	Literacy coaches; one-time funding
Assessments of reading readiness	\$3,601,000	\$3,601,000	Required screeners & diagnostic assessments
Early literacy initiatives; support	\$37,100,000	\$0	Reimbursements for costs of allowable curriculum & required training; one-time funding expires June 30, 2027

BUILDING A STRONG WORKFORCE

Preparing, Recruiting, and Retaining Teachers

DIN 6020 – SUPPORTING FUTURE EDUCATORS

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request a total of \$46,800,000 GPR beginning in FY27, in new sum-sufficient appropriations, to support the department’s future educator stipend proposal.
- Of the total, \$36,000,000 is requested for a program to provide state-funded stipend payments to teacher candidates in a student teaching placement (\$10,000 stipend). In addition, \$10,800,000 is requested for a program to provide state-funded stipend payments to cooperating teachers (\$3,000 stipend).

The department also requests the creation of a similar stipend program for individuals pursuing a master’s degree in library and information sciences who are placed in an internship in a public library. [See DIN 5004 - Supporting Future Librarians.](#)

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the departments request to create the stipend programs, but modify stipend amounts. Increase base funding by \$12,862,500 GPR in FY27. *Change to department’s request: -\$34,062,500 in FY27 (GPR).*
- Change stipend amounts to \$2,500 for teacher candidates in a student teaching placement and for future librarians completing a public library internship or supervised school district placement.
- Change the stipend amount to \$1,000 for cooperating teachers involved in supervising during the student teaching or apprenticeship process.
- Recommend that University of Wisconsin System provide a student enrolled in a UWS institution's educator preparatory program with tuition remission for the semester in which the student is teaching in a K-12 classroom as part of the program's graduation requirements.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

DIN 6021 – GROW YOUR OWN EDUCATORS PROGRAM

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request \$5,000,000 GPR in FY27 in a new, annual appropriation, for a competitive grant program to reimburse local educational agencies for the cost related to “Grow Your Own” initiatives and programs, as a strategy for building the educator workforce in Wisconsin schools. The department also requests authority for a 1.0 FTE GPR position to administer the proposed grant program.

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department's request to create the new aid program but deny the request for position authority. Increase base funding by \$5,000,000 GPR in FY27. *Change to department's request: -\$72,500 in FY26 / -\$96,600 in FY27 (GPR) [related to denying the requested position authority].*

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

DIN 6022 – PEER REVIEW AND MENTORING GRANTS

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$3,713,400 GPR in FY26 and \$3,713,400 GPR in FY27, for increases in funding to support the development of mentoring programs and peer assistance for new teachers, under the existing grant program for peer review and mentoring.
- Request that the appropriation for the grant program be changed from a sum certain to a continuing appropriation, allowing the department to carry over any uncommitted budget authority each year for use in making grant awards in subsequent years.
- Proposed program changes:
 - Increase the cap on grant awards under the grant program to \$50,000
 - Eliminate the requirement that school districts must apply as a consortium.
 - Modify the 20 percent match requirement to be the lesser of 20 percent of the amount of the grant awarded or \$5,000 for participating districts.
 - To accommodate participation by the state's largest school districts in the grant program, the proposed statutory changes also include a maximum grant award of \$100,000 annually and a \$10,000 match requirement for those districts.

GOVERNOR:

- Increase base funding by \$803,300 GPR in FY26 and \$803,300 GPR in FY27. *Change to department's request: -\$2,910,100 in FY26 / -\$2,910,100 in FY27 (GPR).*
- Deny the department's request for program changes.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR SCIENCE TEACHERS

JCF:

- Provide \$250,000 GPR in FY26 and \$500,000 GPR in FY27 for professional development for science teachers in the JCFs supplemental appropriation for the 2025-27 biennium. DPI will be required to submit a request to the JCF under Wis. Stat. s. 13.10 for release of the funding.

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

DIN 6023 – EDUCATORS RISING

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$500,000 GPR in FY26 and \$500,000 GPR FY27 to support Educators Rising-Wisconsin efforts to encourage more high school students to explore future career opportunities in education.

GOVERNOR:

- Provide \$250,000 GPR in FY26 and \$250,000 GPR in FY27 for the proposed grant program. *Change to department's request: -\$250,000 in FY26 / -\$250,000 in FY27 (GPR).*
- Modify the department's request: provide funding for a competitive grant program for entities that provide cocurricular opportunities to public school pupils in grades 6 to 12 that encourage pupils to pursue a career in teaching elementary and secondary grades.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

DIN 6026 – TEACHER APPRENTICESHIP / LICENSING

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$10,000,000 GPR in FY26 and \$10,000,000 GPR in FY27 in a new, continuing appropriation, to support the department's work with institutions of higher education, the Wisconsin Technical College System, and the Department of Workforce Development, in developing a Teacher Apprenticeship program.

GOVERNOR:

- Deny the department's request.
- Require the department to grant an initial teaching license to an individual who completes a teacher apprenticeship as defined by the Department of Workforce Development.

See item "[Wisconsin Fast Forward](#)" under the Other Agencies section of this summary.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

DIN 6027 – FOUNDATIONS OF READING TEST

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request that the current law requirement that an individual successfully pass the Foundations of Reading Test as a requirement for obtaining certain licenses to teach in the state of Wisconsin be eliminated from state law.

GOVERNOR:

- Deny the department's request.

DIN 6008 – REHIRED ANNUITANTS

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request that current law be modified to adjust the criteria under which retired Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) annuitants could be rehired to work, without suspending their annuity, such that only 30 days (rather than 75 days) must pass since the employee left employment with a participating WRS employer, provided that at the time of retirement, the employee does not have an agreement to return to work. The change would be broadly applicable to all WRS annuitants, including rehiring WRS annuitants who are retired former teachers to work in schools.

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department's request.

JCF:

- Deny the Governor's request.

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

Preparing Students for Career and College

DIN 6030 – ACADEMIC AND CAREER PLANNING

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$86,700 GPR in FY26 and \$307,000 GPR in FY27 to support Academic and Career Planning services to school districts throughout the state.

GOVERNOR:

- Increase base funding by \$18,300 GPR in FY26 and \$213,300 GPR in FY27. *Change to department's request: -\$64,700 in FY26 / -\$93,700 in FY27 (GPR).*

JCF:

- Deny the Governor's request.

DIN 6031– EXPANDING CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND CAREER PATHWAYS

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$44,815,000 GPR in FY27, for a new categorical aid program designed to expand Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses and career pathway offerings for students in schools throughout Wisconsin.
- Request authority for 1.0 FTE GPR position to administer the proposed new aid program.

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department's request to create the new CTE/Career Pathways aid program, but modify the proposed grant program as follows:
 - Create a categorical aid for school districts and independent charter schools (collectively, LEAs) for the purpose of increasing high school career and technical education pathways in public high schools.
 - Under the bill, DPI must pay each LEA a proportional amount of the amount appropriated for this purpose, based on the number of pupils in the high school grades in those LEAs in the previous school year divided by the total number of pupils in the high school grades in all LEAs (prior year enrollment data).
- Increase base funding by \$10,000,000 GPR in FY26, in a new biennial appropriation. *Change to department's request for aid: +\$10,000,000 in FY26 / -\$44,911,600 in FY27 (GPR).*
- Deny the request for position authority.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

DIN 6032 – CAREER AND TECHNICAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$4,500,000 GPR in FY26 and \$4,500,000 GPR in FY27 in a new, annual appropriation for grants to Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs), to increase membership and promote robust participation in CTSOs among all students in Wisconsin's schools. The six subject areas identified for CTSO in state statute are: agriculture education, business education, technology education, family and consumer sciences education, marketing education, and health science education.

GOVERNOR:

- Provide \$1,500,000 GPR in FY26 and \$1,500,000 GPR in FY27. *Change to department's request: -\$3,000,000 in FY26 / -\$3,000,000 in FY27 (GPR).*
- Specify that aid would be distributed to each of the six CTSOs based on their share of student members in all CTSOs.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

DIN 6033 – EARLY COLLEGE CREDIT PROGRAM (ECCP) – STATE AID

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$802,000 GPR in FY26 and \$926,000 GPR in FY27, in a new, sum-sufficient appropriation in the department's Chapter 20 appropriations schedule, to fully fund the anticipated claims for tuition reimbursement from schools for ECCP state aid. Request that responsibility for administering the ECCP state aid program be transferred from the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) to the department.

NOTE: base funding for tuition reimbursement to schools under the ECCP is appropriated in the DWD appropriation under Wis. Stat. sec. 20.445 (1)(d). Base FY25 funding for the appropriation is \$478,500 GPR annually; thus, the net impact of this request on the state's general fund is an increase of \$323,500 GPR in FY26 and \$447,500 GPR in FY27.

GOVERNOR:

- Deny the department's request. Instead, increase funding for the existing ECCP State Aid program located in DWD: provide \$323,500 GPR in FY26 and by \$447,500 GPR in FY27.

JCF:

- Modify the Governor's proposal: provide increases of \$252,800 GPR in FY26 and \$328,200 GPR in FY27 in the DWD's appropriation for the ECCP State Aid program. *Change to Governor: -\$70,700 in FY26 / -\$119,300 in FY27.*

DIN 6034 – GED TEST SUBSIDY

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$194,500 GPR in FY26 and \$408,500 GPR in FY27 for a new sum-sufficient appropriation to subsidize testing fees for individuals taking the General Equivalency Diploma (GED) tests.

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department's request.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

DIN 6035 – INNOVATIVE EDUCATION PRACTICES

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$500,000 GPR in FY26 in a new biennial appropriation to create a model "Portrait of a Graduate" (POG) resource for schools, focusing on career-connected learning and Personalized Competency-Based Learning (PCBL).
- Request an increase of \$2,000,000 GPR in FY27 in a new, continuing appropriation for a new grant program that would award funding to school districts to implement a POG program and facilitate the implementation of innovative education practices in schools.
- Request authority for 1.0 FTE GPR position to coordinate the creation of the model POG resource and to administer the proposed implementation grant program.

GOVERNOR:

- Deny the department's request.

DIN 6036 – PARTICIPATION IN GRADUATION CEREMONIES

AGENCY REQUEST:

- The department requests a statutory language change to state law to prohibit schools from restricting students who have unpaid fees from participating fully in graduation ceremonies.

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department's request.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

DIN 5005 – GRANT FOR IT EDUCATION

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$625,000 GPR in FY26 and \$625,000 GPR in FY27, for the Information Technology (IT) Education Grant program.
- Request changes to the statutory language for this program to allow for more flexible use of funds by recipients and to expand the eligibility for receiving funding from the program.

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

GOVERNOR:

- Deny the department's request for increased funding, but adopt the department's requested program changes.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

DIN 5006 – GRANTS FOR IT INFRASTRUCTURE AND CYBERSECURITY

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$13,500,000 GPR in FY26 and \$13,500,000 GPR in FY27 in a new, annual appropriation for a formula grant program to improve information technology (IT) infrastructure in public school districts, independent charter schools, the Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired, the Wisconsin Educational Services Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, tribal schools, and public libraries.
- The requested funding would be allocated as follows: \$12,000,000 would be dedicated to serving LEAs; \$1,000,000 would be dedicated to serving public library systems; and \$500,000 would be used to purchase software licenses and/or other services that would be made available to libraries and LEAs but purchased by the department.

GOVERNOR:

- Deny the department's request, but provide funding under the existing Technology for Educational Achievement program located in the Department of Administration.

See "[Technology for Educational Achievement Program](#)" under the Other Agencies section of this summary.

STUDENT WELLNESS: MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH

Mental Health Programs

DIN 6040 – MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING PROGRAM

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$380,000 GPR in FY26 and \$380,000 GPR in FY27 to increase support for existing mental health training programs and to expand the types of mental health trainings that can be offered beyond the three specific program strategies authorized under current law. Request that the mental health trainings be made available for staff working in out-of-school time programs serving school-aged children and youth.

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department’s request for funding and to expand the types of mental health trainings offered and permit trainings to include staff working in out-of-school time programs that serve school-aged children and youth.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

DIN 6041 – SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$83,888,000 GPR in FY26 and \$83,888,000 GPR in FY27, in the existing appropriation for the school-based mental health service grant program. The increase in funding is intended to expand capacity of school districts and independent charter schools to offer support and resources to students and families in need of mental health services in schools.
- The department also requests the following changes for this program:
 - Modify the allocation of aids so that each district or ICS is awarded \$100 per pupil, with a guaranteed minimum payment of \$100,000 for the smallest districts and ICS. (Current law provides flat dollar amount per pupil).
 - Expand the allowable purposes for which the funding may be used.
 - Specify that aid would be determined based on prior year (rather than current year) membership and enrollment data.
 - Change the appropriation title to “Aid for comprehensive school mental health services”, to better reflect the intended purpose of the aid program.

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department’s request for funding and requested program changes.

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

JCF:

- Provide \$40,000,000 GPR in FY26 and \$10,000,000 GPR in FY27 for the current law school-based mental health services program. Deny the remainder of the Governor's request for changes to the program.
Change to the Governor's proposal: -\$53,888,000 in FY26 / -\$83,888,000 in FY27.

Note: funding for this program was \$50,000,000 in the 2023-25 biennium, at \$25,000,000 each year. The JCF provided the same total biennial funding in 2025-27 (\$50,000,000), but it is allocated differently over the biennium (\$40,000,000 / \$10,000,000).

DIN 6042 – MENTAL HEALTH CATEGORICAL AID – STAFF

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$62,752,000 GPR in FY26 and \$67,237,000 GPR in FY27, to expand the current law Aid for School Mental Health Programs to include reimbursement for expenditures made for pupil services staff, rather than just for school social workers. Request that the aid program be restructured to eliminate the current law two-tiered aid model (reimburse all allowable expenditures at the same rate). Request to change the name of the program to “Aid for school mental health programs; pupil services staff” to better reflect the purpose of this aid program.

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department's request for funding and requested program changes.

JCF:

- Deny the Governor's request.

DIN 6043 – PEER-TO-PEER SUICIDE PREVENTION GRANT

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$350,000 GPR in FY26 and \$350,000 GPR in FY27, to expand the use of peer-to-peer suicide prevention programs in more Wisconsin schools. Request a statutory change to increase the maximum grant award for Peer-to-Peer Suicide Prevention Grants from \$1,000 to \$6,000.

GOVERNOR:

- Increase base funding by \$250,000 GPR in FY26 and \$250,000 GPR in FY27 and adopt the department's request to raise the maximum award amount. *Change to department's request: -\$100,000 in FY26 / -\$100,000 in FY27 (GPR).*

JCF:

- Removed from consideration.

DIN 6044 – AODA PREVENTION GRANTS

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$233,900 PR-S in FY26 and \$233,900 PR-S in FY27 to expand support for alcohol and other drug abuse (AODA) prevention programs in schools that are provided under the current law AODA programs.
- Request an increase of \$4,520,000 GPR beginning in FY27 to restore funding for the AODA program that existed under prior law [Wis. Stat. sec. 20.255 (2) (dm), Grants for alcohol and other drug programs], as a continuing appropriation, to increase support to school districts to expand existing programs and/or implement new AODA prevention programs.

GOVERNOR:

- Deny the department's request.

Physical Health & Wellness

DIN 6045 – ACCESS TO PERIOD PRODUCTS IN SCHOOLS

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Propose that all school districts and independent charter schools (collectively, local educational agencies, or LEAs) be required to provide access to feminine hygiene products to any student who needs them, at no charge to the student.
- Request increases of \$500,000 GPR in FY26 and \$500,000 GPR in FY27 in a new, annual appropriation, to be distributed as aid to LEAs with the highest concentrations of economically disadvantaged students to reduce the financial burden on LEAs associated with purchasing feminine hygiene products.

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department’s request.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

DIN 6046 – GRANTS FOR OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME PROGRAMS

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Provide \$20,000,000 GPR in FY27 for a new, continuing appropriation, for a grant program to support the expansion of out-of-school time programs offered through local educational agencies and community-based organizations providing out-of-school time programming for school-aged children and youth.

GOVERNOR:

- Deny the department’s request.

DIN 6047 – SAFE DRINKING WATER IN SCHOOLS

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$2,500,000 GPR in FY27, in a new, annual appropriation, to provide grants to school districts and independent charter schools to purchase water bottle filling equipment that includes a water filtration component.

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department’s request to create the new safe drinking water grant program but provide \$250,000 GPR in FY27. *Change to department’s request: -\$2,250,000 in FY27 (GPR).*

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

DIN 6092 – HEALTH EMERGENCIES IN LEARNING PLACES (HELP) GRANTS

GOVERNOR:

- Provide \$10,000,000 GPR in FY26 in a new, biennial appropriation, for a new grant program to help school districts, independent charter schools, and private schools participating in a parental choice program prepare for and respond to health emergencies in school buildings.
- Allow LEAs and private parental choice schools to use HELP grants to support the purchase of automated external defibrillators, carbon monoxide detectors, and opioid antagonists to place in school buildings.
- Requires LEAs and private parental choice schools to maintain the following:
 - A cardiac emergency response plan for cardiac emergencies that occur on school property.
 - An adequate supply of opioid antagonists on site.
 - A carbon monoxide detector in each room of a school that contains a fuel-burning, forced-air furnace or a boiler, or as otherwise required by the Department of Safety and Professional Services.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

Healthy Meals for All

DIN 6050 – SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION AID

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$146,328,000 GPR in FY26 and \$147,816,600 GPR in FY27 in a new, sum sufficient appropriation, to provide supplemental aid payments to schools participating in the national school lunch and breakfast programs. Schools receiving the supplemental aid payments would be required to eliminate fees charged to any student for meals served in schools under the national school lunch/breakfast programs.
- Request authority for 1.0 FTE GPR permanent position.

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department’s request to create the new program, but begin funding in FY27. Increase base funding by \$147,720,000 GPR in FY27 (reflects reestimates of projected costs). *Change to department’s request: -\$146,328,000 in FY26 / -\$96,600 in FY27 (GPR).*
- Deny the department’s request for 1.0 FTE GPR permanent position.

JCF:

- Removed from consideration.

DIN 6051 – SCHOOL BREAKFAST GRANT

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$3,027,400 GPR in FY26 and \$3,082,100 GPR in FY27 for reimbursements under the School Breakfast Program (SBP), to fully fund the statutory rate of 15.0 cents for each breakfast served.
- Request to allow reimbursements for institutions that are not eligible for participation in the SBP under current law: 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), as defined under Wis. Stat. sec. 115.76 (14g).
- Request a change in statute to cease payment of aid under the SBP to an institution that ceased to operate at any point during or at the end of the previous school year.

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department’s request.

JCF:

- Removed from consideration.

DIN 6052 – SCHOOL DAY MILK PROGRAM

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$211,100 GPR in FY26 and \$247,800 GPR in FY27 to fully fund projected claims under the Wisconsin School Day Milk program.

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department’s request.

JCF:

- Removed from consideration.

DIN 6053 – GRANT FOR MILK COOLERS AND DISPENSERS

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$150,000 GPR annually, beginning in FY27, in a new, annual appropriation, for a competitive grant program that would reimburse School Food Authorities (SFAs) for the cost of purchasing milk coolers and milk dispensers that do not qualify for reimbursement under a federally funded program for purchase of equipment.

GOVERNOR:

- Deny the department’s request.

DIN 6054 – LOCAL FOOD TO SCHOOLS PROGRAM

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$5,000,000 GPR in FY26 and \$5,000,000 GPR in FY27 in a new, annual appropriation, for the creation of a new Local Food to School grant program.

GOVERNOR:

- Deny the department’s request.

DIN 6055 – AMERICORPS FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$250,000 GPR in FY26 and \$250,000 GPR in FY27 in a new, annual appropriation, to be a dedicated source of state match for the AmeriCorps Farm-to-School federal grant program.

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department’s request.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

PARENT CHOICE IN EDUCATION

Per Pupil Payments and Open Enrollment Full-Time Transfer Amount

AGENCY REQUEST:

- The department proposes that the per pupil payments for the following programs be modified in FY26 and FY27:

Program	Per Pupil Payment			Change to Prior Year	
	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY26	FY27
Public School Open Enrollment	\$8,962	\$9,445	\$9,933	\$483	\$488
Public School Open Enrollment - Special Education	\$13,814	\$14,297	\$14,785	\$483	\$488
Independent Charter Schools	\$11,729	\$11,729	\$12,400	\$0	\$571
Private School Parental Choice (grades K-8)*	\$10,237	\$10,237	\$10,237	\$0	\$0
Private School Parental Choice (grades 9-12)*	\$12,731	\$11,700	\$12,400	\$(1,031)	\$600
Special Needs Scholarship Program	\$15,409	\$14,297	\$14,785	\$(1,112)	\$488

*For FY27, the per pupil payment amount is to be equal to the low revenue ceiling (LRC) amount for school districts, which is estimated at \$12,400 for the 2026-27 school year (FY27). See [DIN 6000](#) - General Equalization Aid and Revenue Limits.

GOVERNOR:

- Deny the department’s proposed changes to per pupil payments for the open enrollment (OE) transfer amounts, for independent charter schools (ICS), and for private schools participating in one of the state’s private school parental choice programs (Choice) or the Special Needs Scholarship Program (SNSP).
- Modify the current law method for adjusting per pupil payments for these programs by indexing payments to increases in public school revenue limit per pupil adjustment and the change in the payment to school districts under the Per Pupil Aid program each year. Per pupil adjustment amounts under the Governor’s budget proposal:

Year over Year Change in:	FY26	FY27
Per Pupil Revenue Limit Adjustment	\$334	\$345
Per Pupil Aid Payment	\$58	\$50
Total Adjustment for OE, ICS, Choice, SNSP	\$392	\$395

- Per pupil payment amounts under the Governor’s proposal:

Program	Per Pupil Payment		
	FY25	FY26	FY27
Public School Open Enrollment	\$8,962	\$9,354	\$9,749
Public School Open Enrollment - Special Education	\$13,814	\$14,206	\$14,601
Independent Charter Schools	\$11,729	\$12,121	\$12,516
Private School Parental Choice (grades K-8)	\$10,237	\$10,629	\$11,024
Private School Parental Choice (grades 9-12)	\$12,731	\$13,123	\$13,518
Special Needs Scholarship Program	\$15,409	\$15,801	\$16,196

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

JCF / LEGISLATURE:

- Deny the Governor’s request for changes to the indexing mechanism.
- Maintain the current law indexing mechanism for determining adjustments to per pupil payments for ICS, Choice, and SNSP.
- For the public school open enrollment program, increase the full time transfer amount by an additional \$500 in FY26 and in FY27.
- The resulting per pupil adjustment amounts for these programs are estimated as follows:

Year over Year Change in:	<u>FY26</u>	<u>FY27</u>
Categorical Aid Change per Pupil	\$315	\$103
Revenue Limit Per Pupil Adjustment	\$325	\$325
Change to the Low Revenue Ceiling Amount	\$0	\$0
Total Adjustment for ICS, Choice, SNSP	\$640	\$428
Total Adjustment for Full Time Open Enrollment Transfer	\$1,140	\$928

- The resulting per pupil payment amounts for these programs are estimated as follows:

Program	<u>Per Pupil Payment</u>		
	<u>FY25</u>	<u>FY26</u>	<u>FY27</u>
Public School Open Enrollment	\$8,962	\$10,102	\$11,030
Public School Open Enrollment - Special Education	\$13,814	\$14,454	\$14,882
Independent Charter Schools	\$11,729	\$12,369	\$12,797
Private School Parental Choice (grades K-8)	\$10,237	\$10,877	\$11,305
Private School Parental Choice (grades 9-12)	\$12,731	\$13,371	\$13,799
Special Needs Scholarship Program	\$15,409	\$16,049	\$16,477

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

DIN 6070 – INDEPENDENT CHARTER SCHOOLS - REESTIMATE

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request adjustments of \$6,212,900 GPR in FY26 and \$17,245,300 GPR in FY27 in the appropriation for independent charter schools (ICS) authorized by the City of Milwaukee, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Waukesha County Executive and University of Wisconsin-Parkside (i.e., under Wis. Stat. sec. 20.255 (2)(fm) – “2r charter schools”).
- Request adjustments of -\$4,990,400 GPR in FY26 and -\$1,879,500 in the appropriation for ICS authorized by the Office of Educational Opportunity at the University of Wisconsin System (i.e., under Wis. Stat. sec. 20.255 (2)(x) – “2x charter schools”). The requested changes reflect enrollment estimates and the department’s proposal for per pupil payments in FY26 and FY27.

GOVERNOR:

- Increase base funding for 2r charter schools by \$10,245,700 in FY26 and \$18,477,300 in FY27 to reflect estimated enrollment and per pupil payments in the Governor’s proposal.
- Adjust base funding for 2x charter schools by -\$4,107,600 in FY26 and -\$1,608,500 in FY27 to reflect estimated enrollment and per pupil payments in the Governor’s proposal.

JCF:

- Modify funding to reflect estimated enrollment and per pupil payments under Act 15.
Change to base funding:
 - \$12,797,200 in FY26 and \$21,461,800 in FY27 for 2r charter schools
 - -\$3,549,100 in FY26 and -\$935,000 in FY27 for 2x charter schools
- Resulting appropriations:
 - \$128,282,800 in FY26 and \$136,947,400 in FY27 for 2r Charter Schools
 - \$27,955,000 in FY26 and \$30,569,100 in FY27 for 2x Charter Schools

DIN 6071 – MILWAUKEE PRIVATE SCHOOL PARENTAL CHOICE PROGRAM – REESTIMATE

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$1,068,700 GPR in FY26 and \$21,071,700 GPR in FY27 in the appropriation for the MPCP. The requested changes reflect enrollment estimates and the department’s proposal for per pupil payments in FY26 and FY27.

GOVERNOR:

- Increase base funding by \$20,723,100 GPR in FY26 and \$34,248,300 GPR in FY27.

JCF:

- Modify funding to reflect estimated enrollment and per pupil payments under Act 15.
Change to base funding: \$ 28,024,300 in FY26 and \$ 56,653,900. Resulting appropriations: \$341,682,400 in FY26 and \$370,312,000 in FY27.

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

DIN 6072 – RACINE AND WISCONSIN PRIVATE SCHOOL PARENTAL CHOICE PROGRAMS - REESTIMATE

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$16,813,500 GPR in FY26 and \$58,661,000 GPR in FY27 in the appropriation for the Racine Parental Choice Program (RPCP) and the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP). The requested changes reflect enrollment estimates and the department's proposal for per pupil payments in FY26 and FY27.

GOVERNOR:

- Increase base funding by \$33,915,500 GPR in FY26 and \$47,105,400 GPR in FY27.

JCF:

- Modify funding to reflect estimated enrollment and per pupil payments under Act 15. Change to base funding: \$ 40,762,700 | FY26 and \$ 94,148,700.
- Resulting appropriations: \$316,062,600 in FY26 and \$369,448,600 in FY27.

DIN 6073 – SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM – REESTIMATE

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$2,755,100 GPR in FY26 and \$10,326,600 GPR in FY27 in the appropriation for the Special Needs Scholarship Program. The requested changes reflect enrollment estimates and the department's proposal for per pupil payments in FY26 and FY27.

GOVERNOR:

- Increase base funding by \$7,446,700 GPR in FY26 and \$8,493,300 GPR in FY27.

JCF:

- Modify funding to reflect estimated enrollment and per pupil payments under Act 15. Change to base funding: \$8,299,900 in FY26 and \$16,545,200 in FY27.
- Resulting appropriations: \$53,443,100 in FY26 and \$61,688,400 in FY27.

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

Program Changes

GOVERNOR:

- Implement the following changes to current law:
 - Require all teachers providing instruction in schools participating in a parental choice program or the SNSP, with some exceptions, to hold a license or permit issued by DPI (beginning July 1, 2028).
 - Require the inclusion of the gross reduction in state general aid as a result of private choice and special needs scholarship programs on property tax bills to increase public awareness of parental choice program costs.
 - Cap the number of available seats in each parental choice program and the SNSP beginning in FY27 using the respective program's FY26 headcount.
 - Continue the 10 percent maximum participation of school district membership in the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

DIN 5001 – PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM AID

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$2,000,000 SEG in FY26 and \$4,000,000 SEG in FY27, to support the operations and maintenance of public library services in Wisconsin.

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department's request.

JCF:

- Increase funding by \$1,000,000 SEG in FY26 and \$2,000,000 SEG in FY27.
Change to Governor's request: -\$1,000,000 in FY26 and -\$2,000,000 SEG in FY27.

DIN 5002 – LIBRARY SERVICE CONTRACTS

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$619,200 SEG in FY26 and \$666,600 SEG in FY27 to fully fund the estimated costs of the library service contracts maintained by the department.

GOVERNOR / JCF:

- Adopt the department's request.

DIN 5003 – BADGERLINK AND NEWSLINE FOR THE BLIND

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$96,600 SEG in FY27 to increase funding for the contracts with all current BadgerLink vendors and to maintain Newsline for the Blind services.

GOVERNOR / JCF:

- Adopt the department's request.

DIN 5004 – SUPPORTING FUTURE LIBRARIANS

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request an increase of \$125,000 GPR in FY27 in a new, sum-sufficient appropriation, for a \$5,000 stipend payment program to support individuals pursuing a career as a public library professional and placed as an intern in a public library setting.

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the request to create the stipend programs, but modify stipend amount. Provide \$62,500 GPR in FY27 (\$2,500). *Change to department's request: -\$62,500 in FY27 (GPR).*

JCF:

- Deny the Governor's request.

AIDS TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

DIN 7001 – ADULT LITERACY GRANTS

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$66,800 GPR in FY26 and \$66,800 GPR in FY27 in the appropriation for adult literacy grants.

GOVERNOR:

- Increase base funding by \$716,800 GPR in FY26 and \$716,800 GPR in FY27. *Change to department's request: \$650,000 in FY26 / \$650,000 in FY27 (GPR).*

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

DIN 7002 – ARTS FOR ALL

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$100,000 GPR in FY26 and \$100,000 GPR in FY27 in the appropriation for the organization Arts for All (formerly, Very Special Arts). The department also requests the appropriation title be changed from Very Special Arts to “Arts for All” to reflect the organization’s legal name change.

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department’s request.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

DIN 6087 – MENTOR GREATER MILWAUKEE

GOVERNOR:

- Provide \$150,000 GPR in FY26 and \$150,000 GPR in FY27 in a new appropriation for MENTOR Greater Milwaukee, to support relationships between kids and trained, caring adults to assist the kids in fulfilling their potential.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

DIN 6088 – GRADUATION ALLIANCE

GOVERNOR:

- Provide \$3,000,000 GPR in FY26 and \$3,000,000 GPR in FY27 in a new appropriation for the Graduation Alliance, which works to reengage high school students who have, or are in danger of, dropping out of school.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

DIN 6089 – LITERACY LAB

GOVERNOR:

- Provide \$1,092,500 GPR in FY26 and \$1,125,300 GPR in FY27 in a new appropriation for The Literacy Lab, which will provide evidence-based literacy interventions in Milwaukee and Racine schools.

JCF:

- Deny the Governor's request.

DIN 7003 – SPECIAL OLYMPICS

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$100,000 GPR in FY26 and \$100,000 GPR in FY27 in the appropriation for the organization Special Olympics Wisconsin.

GOVERNOR:

- Increase base funding by \$300,000 GPR in FY26 and \$300,000 GPR in FY27.
Change to department's request: \$200,000 in FY26 / \$200,000 in FY27 (GPR).

JCF:

- Adopt the department's request; increase base funding by \$100,000 GPR in FY26 and \$100,000 GPR in FY27.
Change to Governor's request: -\$200,000 in FY26 / -\$200,000 in FY27 (GPR).

Items added by the Joint Committee on Finance

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

JCF:

- Increase funding by \$300,000 GPR in FY26 and by \$300,000 in FY27 above base level funding of \$200,000 GPR annually.

RECOVERY HIGH SCHOOLS

JCF:

- Increase funding for operational grants made to Recovery High Schools by \$250,000 GPR in FY26 and by \$250,000 in FY27 above base level funding \$500,000 GPR annually. Funding is provided on a one-time basis.

WISCONSIN READING CORPS

JCF:

- Increase funding by \$250,000 GPR in FY26 and by \$250,000 in FY27 above base level funding \$2,000,000 GPR annually.

AGENCY OPERATIONS

REDUCE FUNDING FOR GENERAL OPERATIONS

JCF:

- Reduce the department's appropriation for general program operations by 10 percent, decrease the appropriation by \$1,313,300 GPR in FY26 and \$1,313,300 GPR in FY27.
- Place \$1,000,000 GPR in FY26 and \$1,000,000 GPR in FY27 in the Committee's supplemental appropriation; require the department to submit a request for release of the funding, to be used for the department's general operations.

TRANSFER GPR POSITION AUTHORITY

JCF:

- Transfer 1.0 GPR position and the associated \$220,900 GPR in annual funding for the director of the Office of Literacy from DPI's general program operations appropriation to the continuing appropriation for the Office of Literacy.

DIN 7030 – IT SYSTEMS MODERNIZATIONS

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$5,000,000 GPR in FY26 and \$1,000,000 in FY27 in a new GPR continuing appropriation to be used to support the work of modernizing several major information technology (IT) systems maintained by the department for administering core agency functions.

GOVERNOR:

- Increase base funding by \$1,000,000 GPR in FY26 and \$500,000 GPR in FY27. *Change to department's request: -\$4,000,000 in FY26 / -\$500,000 in FY27 (GPR).*

JCF:

- Deny the Governor's request.

DIN 7031 – SUPPLIES & SERVICES INFLATIONARY INCREASE

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases to provide a five percent increase for the supplies and services budget line for sum certain operations appropriations in the departments chapter 20 appropriations schedule (operational appropriations):
 - \$1,477,000 GPR in FY26 and FY27
 - \$683,400 PR in FY26 and FY27
 - \$105,500 SEG in FY26 and FY27

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department's request.

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

JCF:

- Approve an increase of \$50,000 GPR in FY26 and \$50,000 GPR in FY27 in the department's appropriation for general program operations for the state's two residential schools – the Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired and the Wisconsin Education Services and Programs for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.
- Deny the remainder of the Governor's proposal.

DIN 7032 – SUPPORT FOR STATE PROGRAMS

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request increases of \$381,800 GPR in FY26 and \$564,200 GPR in FY27, and the creation of 5.0 FTE GPR permanent positions, to support the existing core functions of the department.
- Request an increase of \$85,300 PR in FY26 and \$111,100 PR in FY27, and the creation of 1.0 FTE PR permanent position, funded with a fee assessed on private schools participating in the Special Needs Scholarship Program (SNSP), to support a dedicated auditor position for the SNSP.

GOVERNOR:

- Increase base funding by \$170,600 GPR in FY26 and \$222,200 GPR in FY27 for 2.0 FTE GPR permanent positions.
Change to department's request: -\$211,200 in FY26 / -\$342,000 in FY27 (GPR).
- Deny the department's request for a 1.0 FTE PR permanent position.
Change to department's request: -\$85,300 in FY26 / -\$111,100 in FY27 (GPR).

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

DIN 7033 – TRANSFER HEAD START STATE SUPPLEMENT GRANT PROGRAM TO DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request that statutory authority for administering the Head Start State Supplement (HSSS) program under Wis. Stat. sec. 115.3615, and the GPR budget authority that supports the HSSS program under Wis. Stat. sec. 20.255 (2) (eh), be moved from the department to the Department of Children and Families (DCF), effective with FY26.

GOVERNOR:

- Adopt the department's request.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

DIN 7034 – LICENSING OPERATIONS

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request that the current law requirement that ten percent of licensing application fee revenue be lapsed to the state general fund at the end of each fiscal year be repealed, to allow the department to utilize the revenue from application fees to support agency operations associated with teacher licensing.
- The estimated revenue gained by the department as a result of eliminating the lapse is estimated at \$450,000 PR annually (FY26 and FY27).
- Request the creation of 3.0 FTE PR permanent positions for agency operations associated with teacher licensing and educator preparation program approval.
- Rather than lapsing amounts to the state's general fund, this proposal would allocate the retained revenue for the proposed positions and other operational costs (supplies and services).

GOVERNOR:

- Approve the department's request to eliminate the required lapse equal to ten percent of licensing application fee revenue.
- Provide authority for 2.0 FTE PR permanent positions.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration the request to eliminate the current law required lapse of 10 percent of annual revenue from license application fees.
- Deny the Governor's request for position authority for agency operations.

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

DIN 7050 – PROGRAM REVENUE REESTIMATES

AGENCY REQUEST:

- Request adjustments to program revenue appropriations to reflect anticipated revenue and expenditures: \$506,200 PR-S in FY26 and in FY27; -\$59,000 PR in FY26 and in FY27. (Combined change of \$447,200 PR/PR-S each year).

GOVERNOR / JCF:

- Adopt the department's request.

FUEL AND UTILITIES REESTIMATE

GOVERNOR / JCF:

- Increase base funding by \$58,800 GPR in FY26 and by \$87,000 GPR in FY27 for expected changes in prices and to reflect statistically normal weather conditions.

DEBT SERVICE REESTIMATE

GOVERNOR:

- Decrease base funding by \$177,400 GPR in FY26 and by \$452,300 GPR in FY27 to reflect a reestimate of debt service on authorized bonds.

JCF:

- Modify the Governor's request by decreasing base funding by \$125,000 GPR in FY26 and by \$414,000 in FY27, based on updated estimates.
Change to Governor's request: +\$52,400 GPR in FY26 and +\$38,300 GPR in FY27.

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

Standard Budget Adjustments

DIN 3001 – TURNOVER REDUCTION

AGENCY REQUEST / GOVERNOR:

- Request the following changes: -\$537,100 GPR and -\$610,200 PR-FED in FY26 and in FY27 as the department's required turnover reduction in appropriations funding more than 50 FTE permanent positions.

JCF:

- Impose additional reductions to result in a five percent turnover reduction. Decrease the department's appropriations further, by \$358,100 GPR and \$406,800 PR-FED in FY26 and in FY27. Final turnover reductions are -\$895,200 GPR and -\$1,017,000.

DIN 3002 – NONCONTINUING ITEMS

AGENCY REQUEST / GOVERNOR / JCF:

- Request adjustments: -\$657,300 PR-F in FY26 and -\$1,561,400 FY27 to remove project positions expiring as of December 31, 2026 (9.0 PR-F FTE in FY26, 16.0 PR-F FTE in FY27).

DIN 3003 – FULL FUNDING OF CONTINUING SALARIES AND FRINGE

AGENCY REQUEST / GOVERNOR / JCF:

- Request the following changes: \$1,273,600 GPR, \$251,700 PR, \$332,900 PR-S, and \$3,829,300 PR-FED in FY26 and FY27 to adjust the amount needed to fully fund salary and fringe costs at base FY25 levels.

DIN 3007 – OVERTIME

AGENCY REQUEST / GOVERNOR / JCF:

- Request the following changes: \$274,6600 GPR, \$3,600 PR, \$10,300 PR-S, and \$41,900 PR-F in FY26 and FY27 to restore funds for overtime differential.

DIN 3008 – NIGHT AND WEEKEND DIFFERENTIAL

AGENCY REQUEST / GOVERNOR / JCF:

- Request the following changes: \$55,500 GPR, \$200 PR-S and \$400 PR-F in FY26 and FY27 to restore funds for night and weekend differential removed in the full funding calculation.

OTHER STATE AGENCY PROPOSALS IMPACTING K-12 EDUCATION

Department of Administration (DOA)

MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS AUDIT RESPONSE SUPPORT

GOVERNOR:

- Provide \$5,000,000 GPR in FY26 for payments to the Milwaukee Public School (MPS) District to implement recommendations from instructional and operational audits of the school district initiated by the Governor.
- The payments would be awarded only if the Secretary of the DOA is satisfied the district is making substantial progress on implementation of audit recommendations, and could be used by MPS only for items addressed in the audits, financial reporting software, and data compatibility with state and local finance systems.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

GOVERNOR:

- Require MPS to reimburse the City of Milwaukee for the costs of providing school resource officers for 25 percent of school days to assist in meeting the requirements under 2023 Wisconsin Act 12.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

TECHNOLOGY FOR EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

GOVERNOR:

- The Governor recommends making several adjustments to the Technology for Educational Achievement (TEACH) program, including the following:
 - Reduce existing universal service fund expenditure authority to accommodate increases in spending from the fund at DPI and the University of Wisconsin System.
 - Creating a GPR appropriation to replace the universal service fund reduction.
 - Modifying current law to increase the minimum broadband speed benchmark to align with modern standards.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

Department of Children and Families (DCF)

SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAM

JCF:

- Provide \$65,000,000 GPR in FY26 in a new a sum certain GPR appropriation for a new Elementary School Readiness (ESR) program. DCF would make payments to childcare providers for operating an instructional program that provides four-year-old children with the social and cognitive skills to successfully transition to five-year-old kindergarten in an elementary school setting.

- Under this new program, child care providers* would be:
 - able to use the payments to cover any costs associated with providing the program;
 - able to charge additional amounts to provide care and supervision for a participating child outside of the elementary school readiness program hours; and,
 - eligible for the program if they:
 - are in compliance with all legal, financial, and regulatory requirements imposed by law or by DCF rule,
 - demonstrate to DCF that they will annually provide at least 612 hours of direct child instruction in elementary school readiness and that they will use a curriculum that meets DPI model early learning standards,
 - notify DCF of their intent to participate in the program within the established timeframe and according to application requirements established by DCF, and
 - do not have a contract with a school district to provide a 4K program for the school year in which the child care provider intends to participate in the program.

**Child care provider would mean a provider licensed or certified by DCF.*

- A child would be eligible to participate if the child is four years old on or before September 1 in the school year* they participate in the program; the child's parent or guardian submits an application to participate to the child care provider providing the ESR program; and the participating child care provider has accepted the child's application to attend.

**School year is defined as the academic year that commences July 1 and ends the succeeding June 30 (i.e., the definition that applies to K-12 schools).*

- Teachers in an elementary school readiness program would be required to have either an associate's degree or a bachelor's degree.

- DCF responsibilities:
 - Pay each child care provider an amount for each child participating in the ESR program equal to 60 percent of the sum of the current year low revenue ceiling for school districts [as defined in Wis. Stat. sec. 121.905 (1)], and the current year Per Pupil Aid amount under Wis. State. sec. 115.437 (2) (a).

SUMMARY OF DPI 2025-27 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

- For FY27, the low revenue ceiling amount will be \$11,000 and the Per Pupil Aid payment amount will be \$724; the per child payment for children participating in the ESR program would be 60 percent of \$11,742, or \$7,045.
- Remit the payment via 25% installments in September, November, February, and May.
 - Installment may consist of a single check for all children participating in the school readiness program offered by the child care provider.
- By February 15 each year, post on its website a list of all child care providers that have submitted a notice of intent to participate in the program in the following school year.
- Establish the program and promulgate rules to administer it, including establishing standards for ESR programs, and application requirements for children to enroll and for child care providers to participate.
- Exclude any hours a child participates in the school readiness program from the hours authorized for subsidies in the Wisconsin Shares program.

COMMUNITY-BASED FOUR-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN

GOVERNOR:

- Require DPI, in consultation with DCF, to develop a standard per pupil payment amount to child care providers in school districts participating in mixed delivery models through the community approach to four-year-old kindergarten, and to develop a model contract for school district agreements with child care providers.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME GRANT

GOVERNOR:

- Provide \$11,500,000 GPR in FY27 to establish an out-of-school time grant program to deliver services to school-age youth with the goal of improving social, emotional, academic or career readiness competencies and providing a safe out-of-school time environment.

JCF:

- Remove from consideration.

Department of Workforce Development (DWD)

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION COMPLETION AWARDS

JCF:

- As a reestimate for a sum sufficient appropriation, provide increases of \$125,800 GPR in FY26 and in FY27 for payments to students who complete an industry-recognized certification program that prepares them for occupations as firefighters, emergency medical responders, or emergency medical services practitioners. Payments are \$500 per program completer and are paid to the student completing the program.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION EQUIPMENT GRANTS

GOVERNOR:

- Provide increases of \$200,000 GPR in FY26 and in FY27 for technical education equipment grants to K-12 schools.

JCF:

- Deny the Governor's request.

WISCONSIN FAST FORWARD

GOVERNOR:

- Provide funding for job training support through Wisconsin Fast Forward, including:
 - \$2,000,000 GPR in FY26 for green jobs training
 - \$1,000,000 GPR annually for incentives for school districts to hire teacher apprentices
 - \$500,000 GPR in each year for grants to support health care industry training

JCF:

- Remove from consideration:
 - \$2,000,000 GPR in FY26 for green jobs training
 - \$1,000,000 GPR annually for incentives for school districts to hire teacher apprentices
- Reduce funding for grants to support health care industry training to \$250,000 GPR each year, but on a one-time basis. *Change to Governor: -\$3,250,000 in FY26 and in FY27.*

YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP

GOVERNOR:

- Provide increases of \$3,689,200 GPR in FY26 and \$7,600,000 in FY27 for youth apprenticeship grants and modify DWD's youth apprenticeship grants appropriation from a continuing appropriation to a sum sufficient appropriation. Base funding is \$10,000,000 annually and grants cannot exceed \$1,100 per youth apprentice.

JCF:

- Modify the Governor's request by providing one-time increases of \$2,536,000 in FY26 and \$3,466,000 in FY27 and maintain the appropriation as sum certain (deny Governor's request for sum sufficient). *Change to Governor: -\$1,153,200 in FY26 / -\$4,134,000 in FY27.*

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