

SUMMARY OF 2016 BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS - COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND EARLY LEARNING

Voluntary prekindergarten

Appropriates \$25 million in FY17, \$55 million in FY18. Funding is based on the per-pupil formula and is capped at 0.6 ADM. School districts would only receive .412 per ADM in funding if the program is 350 hours. As programs increase their hours, they would receive more per ADM and up to .6 ADM for 510 hours or more of programming.

Funding will be split between urban, suburban and greater Minnesota school districts, and charter schools and awarded based on poverty rates and the lack of three- and four-star Parent Aware rated programs in the area. Other funding streams will also increase because of the addition of per pupil funding (compensatory, ELL, declining enrollment revenue, etc.).

For a district to receive aid, a prek program must include:

- at least 350 hours of instruction each school year
- staff-to-child ratios of one-to-ten and a maximum group size of 20 children
- instructional staff salaries comparable to the salaries of other district kindergarten through grade 12 instructional staff
- measure each child's cognitive and social skills using a formative measure aligned to the state's early learning standards when the child enters and again before the child leaves the program
- comprehensive program content including the implementation of curriculum, assessment, and instructional strategies aligned with the state early learning standards, and kindergarten through grade 3 academic standards
- coordinate appropriate kindergarten transition with families, community-based prekindergarten programs, and school district kindergarten programs
- provide high-quality coordinated professional development, training, and coaching for both school district and community-based early learning providers that is informed by a measure of adult-child interactions and enables teachers to be highly knowledgeable in early childhood curriculum content, assessment, native and English language development programs, and instruction

Teacher shortage

Appropriates the following to address teacher shortages:

- \$2.8 million to lower tuition and to recruit teacher candidates who agree to work in teacher shortage areas
- \$2 million for teacher loan forgiveness program
- \$1.5 million for paraprofessionals pathways to pursue full teacher licensure
- \$310,000 for the Collaborative Urban Educator program
- \$80,000 for statewide educator job board

ECFE home visiting levy

Adds an aid component to the home visiting program in addition to the levy. Appropriates \$1.1 million in FY18.

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School readiness report

Integrates the school readiness biennial plan into the WBWF plan.

Adult Basic Education

Appropriates \$400,000 for ABE grants to support college readiness academy, contextualized GED and navigators services. Also appropriates \$400,000 for grants to three specific community-based organizations that provide ABE programming.

Full service community schools

Appropriates \$1 million in FY17 only.

Quality Rating System

Appropriates \$2 million in FY17 only.

Parent-Child Home Program

Appropriates \$2,000,000 FY17 only.