



2009-10 Pennsylvania Education Budget Details As Adopted by the General Assembly on 10-9-09 In HB 1416 and SB 1614

For more information, contact the Education Law Center, www.elc-pa.org

Basic Education funding

State dollars = \$4.871 billion (\$354 million less than 2008-09)

Federal Stimulus Stabilization Dollars = \$654 million
(filling in for a \$354 million rollback in state dollars and also providing a \$300 million increase)

There is a minimum increase for all school districts in the basic education line item of 2 percent, costing over \$9 million.

The geographic cost variable in the basic education formula is changed, adding about \$216 million in state expenditures for about 230 school districts with costs of living lower than the state average. In 2008 the formula saved this amount of funding by lowering state expenditures for low-cost districts.

The requirements are modified for Basic Education Accountability Plans by school districts receiving the largest increases, so that the PA Department of Education can waive these requirements for up to 25% of the increase for districts facing losses in local revenue.

Special Education funding

\$941 million plus an additional \$86 million for the Contingency Fund, Intermediate Units, and Institutionalized Programs, totaling \$1.027 billion

\$173 million for Early Intervention for pre-school children (\$11.6 million lower than 2008-09)

\$0 for Homebound Instruction (\$748,000 less than 2008-09)

\$98 million for Approved Private Schools (\$2 million more than 2008-09)

\$5.5 million for Intermediate Units (\$780,000 less than 2008-09)

The special education formula remains broken. Students with disabilities are the only student group for whom the state formula has not been reformed to consider adequacy factors. Consideration of the school code bill (HB 11) is being delayed, with dozens of legal changes included instead in the annual fiscal code bill which is being adopted with the 2009-10 budget. HB 704, fixing the special education formula, is included in HB 11 and awaits further action this year.

Early Childhood funding

\$86.4 million for Pre-K Counts (same as in 2008-09)

\$271 million for Accountability Block Grants (same as in 2008-09)

\$39 million for Head Start (same as in 2008-09)

Other Education Line Items

Over \$150 million total is cut from a variety of other education line items, many affecting disadvantaged students and districts. For example:

\$59 million for Student Tutoring (Education Assistance Program) (\$5.7 million less than 2008-09)

\$62 million for Career and Technical Education (\$2 million less than 2008-09)

\$25 million for Teacher Professional Development (\$17.5 million less than 2008-09)

\$11.4 million for School Improvement Grants (\$11.4 million less than 2008-09)

\$3.7 million for High School Reform/Project 720 (\$7.1 million less than 2008-09)

\$0 for Teen Pregnancy and Parenthood (\$1.7 million less than 2008-09)

\$60 million for Public Library Subsidy (\$15.7 million less than 2008-09)

\$3 million for Library Access (\$4.3 million less than 2008-09)

\$0 for Safe and Alternative Schools (\$23 million less than 2008-09)

\$0 for Classrooms for the Future (\$45 million less than 2008-09)