

The 2025-2027 Biennial Budget

Representative Joe Sheehan

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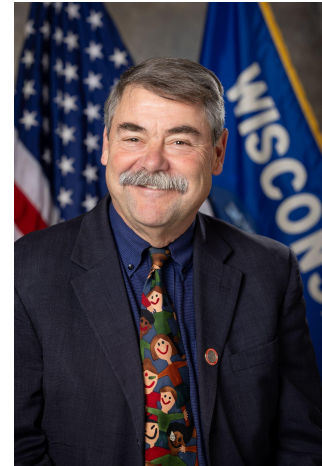


Welcome!

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Governor Evers Budget Listening Sessions

Appleton → La Crosse → Milwaukee → Ashland

- As he did during his first three budgets, Governor Evers conducted a statewide listening session tour to hear directly from Wisconsinites on the issues that matter to them as he prepared for his 2025-27 executive budget.
- Your participation today is another important step in the state budget process.



JFC Roadshow

- The Joint Finance Committee will also be hosting listening sessions in Kaukauna, West Allis, Hayward and Wausau.
- This is another great way to make sure your voice is heard in the budget process.

**Joint Finance
Listening Sessions**

Hayward
April 28th

Wausau
April 29th

Kaukauna
April 2nd

West Allis
April 4th

For more information, visit:
legis.wisconsin.gov/topics/budgetcomments

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State Budget Process and Timeline

WISCONSIN'S BUDGET PROCESS

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

State agencies make budget requests in the fall of even-numbered years.

A budget is proposed by Governor Evers and sent to the Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The budget is received by the Joint Finance Committee (JFC).

The committee holds public hearings regarding the budget, makes changes, and votes to send the proposal to the Assembly and Senate.

The Assembly and Senate receive the budget, make changes, and concur on the same proposal.

A Conference Committee of the Legislature may meet to reconcile differences in versions passed by the two houses.

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

The governor reviews the proposal from the legislature and may veto the entirety, veto portions, or sign the full proposal into law.

With sufficient votes, the legislature can override the governor's vetoes. This rarely happens.



Wisconsin Budget Basics

The next few slides describe some background on the State Budget and will help to understand how the Governor's proposed budget builds on his first three budgets

- State budgets cover two years, a biennium.
- The next budget will start July 1, 2025 and end June 30, 2027.
- Spending can be different in year one or year two.
- The existing budget for the current biennium was a total of **\$99.3 billion**.
- Unlike the federal government, if no budget is agreed to by July 1, 2025, the existing spending continues, there is no government shutdown.

Funding Source Key

GPR: General Purpose Revenue includes Income, Sales, and Corporate taxes, among others.

Example: personal income taxes

FED: Funds from the Federal Government, often to run federal programs.

Example: Medicaid

SEG: Funds raised and spent on a certain or “segregated” purposes.

Example: gas tax revenue used for road funding

PR: Program Revenue raised through fees or fines.

Example: State Park Admission Fees

THE STATE BUDGET

GPR:

GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE

Appropriations financed from general purpose revenues available in the state's general fund.

FED:

FEDERAL

Appropriations financed from federal revenues.

SEG:

SEGREGATED

Appropriations from and/or for specific purposes.

PR:

PROGRAM REVENUE

Appropriations financed from program revenues, such as user fees or product sales.

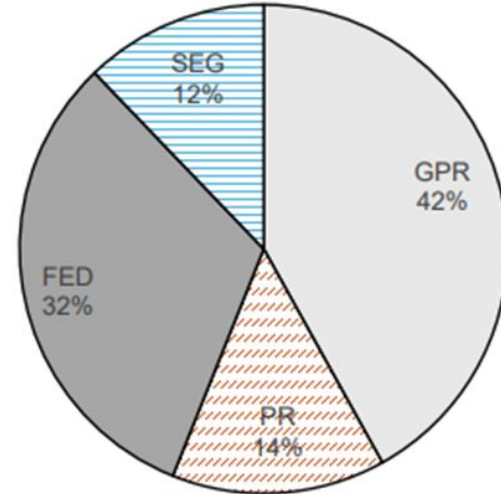
Budget Overview

\$119 Billion in total investment

2025-2026: **\$59.4 Billion**

2026-2027: **\$59.6 Billion**

CHART 1: FISCAL YEAR 2026-27 BUDGET BY FUND SOURCE



State Surplus

- Wisconsin enters this biennium with another surplus of approximately \$4.3 billion.
- The surplus can be attributed to five main factors:
 1. Higher than projected tax collections
 2. Higher than projected opening fiscal balance
 3. Higher than projected state interest earnings
 4. Increased Federal funding during the public health emergency
 5. Lower than projected state expenditures

Key Pieces of the Governor's Budget

We are about to cover A LOT of information. It's hard to summarize everything that is in the budget, but if you only remember a few things about this presentation, remember:

- More than \$2 billion in tax relief
- The most Pro-Kid Budget in State History
- Makes WI the first state in America to start auditing insurance companies over denying Wisconsinites' Healthcare claims
- Restoring funding to the UW System
- Supporting America's Dairyland

Governor Evers' Breakthrough Budget Will...



Governor Evers delivering his budget address at the State Capitol on February 18th, 2025

Invest In What's Best For Kids: K-12

After a decade of disinvestment, Governor Evers is working to reverse the trend and provide the necessary funding for our public schools.

- This past year a record number of school districts went to referenda to make up for the lack of funding they receive from the state. Parents should not have to make a choice between affording their home and a good education for their child.
- **This budget will provide \$3.15 billion for public schools overall!**
 - Special education funding.
 - Includes increasing the reimbursement rate to 60%.
 - Equalization aid.
 - Per pupil revenue limit increase in 2025-2026.
 - Student mental health services.
 - Universal school breakfast and lunch.
 - Improving literacy and reading outcomes.

Invest In Wisconsin Families: Tax Relief

Wisconsinites are finding it harder than ever to make ends meet while millionaires and corporations are receiving huge tax breaks.

- The budget aims to...
 - Create a new rate for top tax bracket, giving Wisconsin \$1.3 billion in revenue over the next biennium.
 - Cap corporate credits, giving Wisconsin \$800 million in revenue over the next biennium.

Families and seniors are contending with rising prices across every sector.

- This budget would provide **more than \$2 billion in overall tax relief!**
 - Property tax relief.
 - Sales tax relief on everyday household items and utilities.
 - Addressing the affordability & accessibility of child care, and support of child care workers.
 - Expanding of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).
 - Expanding the personal tax exemption under the Wisconsin individual income tax.

Invest In Healthcare & Clean Water

- **Introducing and improving policies for affordable healthcare.**
 - Reducing prescription drug prices, setting price ceilings, and addressing prescription price gouging.
 - Expanding BadgerCare to provide quality, affordable healthcare coverage.
 - Expanding healthcare and procedures insurance companies are required to cover & taking action to protect consumers from unreasonable medical bills.
 - Cracking down on health insurance claim denials through auditing.
- **Invests \$300 million to keep lead out of our water.**
 - Accelerate removal of lead service lines across the state.
 - Relaunch the Windows Plus Program to support lead-safe renovations in schools, homes, and child care centers.
- **Allocates \$145 million to address PFAS contamination.**
 - New PFAS Community Grant Program to aid municipal systems with testing and elimination.
 - New County PFAS Well Testing Grant Program.
 - \$2 million to address water contamination emergencies.

The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund and Capital Budget

The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship provides crucial support to local governments, state park friend groups, land trusts, and conservation organizations across the state.

- Governor Evers' budget includes a \$1 Billion investment over the next 10 years into our state's lush environment by reauthorizing the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship through 2036.
- Some of our district's top Knowles-Nelson projects include **Kohler-Andrae State Park**, **South Pier Park & Lakefront Trail**, and **Sheboygan Harbor**
- Governor Evers' Capital Budget also Includes \$1.4 million for renovations to the nature center in Kohler-Andrae State Park.

How You Can Stay Engaged & Make A Difference

- Write a 'Letter to the Editor' in your local paper
- Write to Joint Finance Committee members
- Attend and testify at a public hearing of the Joint Finance Committee
- Engage with family, friends, and neighbors on issues in the budget important to you and our community
- Stay engaged throughout whole process, including in May and June when Joint Finance and legislature will be voting

Questions?

Thank you for coming!

Representative Joe Sheehan

*Please reach out to me at
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