

Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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June 21, 2018

TO:

Representative Gordon Hintz

Room 201 West, State Capitol

FROM:

Christa Pugh, Fiscal Analyst

SUBJECT: GPR Funding as Amount and Percentage Change to 2010-11 for Private School

Choice Programs

At your request, I am providing information relating to GPR funding budgeted for private school choice programs from 2010-11 to 2018-19.

Under the Milwaukee, Racine, and statewide private school choice programs, the state pays a statutorily-determined amount for each pupil attending a private school under the programs. In 2017-18, the payment is equal to \$7,530 for a pupil in grades K-8 and \$8,176 for a pupil in grades 9-12.

Since the beginning of the Milwaukee private school choice program, DPI has been required by law to reduce the general aid for which MPS is eligible in each year by a percentage of the estimated total cost of the program. In 2017-18, the aid reduction is equal to 22.4%, and it will equal 19.2% in 2018-19. This percentage will be reduced by 3.2 percentage points each year until no aid reduction is made beginning in 2024-25.

Additionally, beginning in 2015-16, the full cost of payments for incoming pupils in the Racine and statewide programs (pupils who begin participating in the programs in 2015-16 or later) is reduced from the general aid of those pupils' school districts of residence. School districts are able to count those pupils for general aid purposes on a prior year basis, and receive a revenue limit adjustment equal to the amount of the aid reduction in the current year. The full cost of payments for continuing pupils (those who first participated prior to 2015-16) is funded with state GPR.

The following table shows the GPR appropriation amounts for private school choice programs in each fiscal year from 2010-11 through 2018-19, as well as the total aid reduction in each year. Table 1 also presents the change to the prior year as well as the change to 2010-11.

TABLE 1

Total Cost of Private School Choice Programs
(\$ in Millions)

			Net GPR			
	Total	Aid		Change to	Change to	% Change
	<u>GPR</u>	Reduction	<u>Amount</u>	Prior Year	<u>2010-11</u>	to 2010-11
2010-11	\$130.8	50.2	\$80.6			
2011-12	145.9	56.0	89.9	\$9.3	\$9.3	11.5%
2012-13	157.8	60.6	97.2	7.3	16.6	20.6
2013-14	171.8	56.7	115.1	17.9	34.5	42.8
2014-15	210.5	61.1	149.4	34.3	68.8	85.4
2015-16	229.9	72.7	157.2	7.8	76.6	95.0
2016-17	244.6	<i>7</i> 7.6	167.0	9.8	86.4	107.2
2017-18	269.6	90.6	179.0	12.0	98.4	122.1
2018-19	304.6	113.5	191.1	12.1	110.5	137.1

I hope this information is helpful. Please contact me if you have additional questions.

CP/lb