



State of Wisconsin  
2025 - 2026 LEGISLATURE

LRB-1079/P3

KMS:skw

DOA:.....Kretschmann, BB0148 - High-Cost Special Education Aid

**FOR 2025-2027 BUDGET -- NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION**

**AN ACT ...; relating to:** the budget.

---

*Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

**EDUCATION**

**PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**

***High-cost special education aid***

The bill changes the rate at which the state reimburses school boards, operators of independent charter schools, cooperative educational service agencies, and county children with disabilities education boards for nonadministrative costs in excess of \$30,000 incurred for providing special education and related costs to a child (aidable costs). Under current law, DPI must reimburse 90 percent of aidable costs at a rate of 100 percent from a sum certain appropriation. If the amount of the appropriation is insufficient to pay the full 90 percent of aidable costs, DPI must prorate payments among eligible applicants. The bill changes the appropriation to a sum sufficient appropriation and provides that, beginning in the 2025-26 school year, DPI must reimburse 90 percent of aidable costs at a rate of 40 percent.

For further information see the state and local fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

---

***The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:***

**SECTION 1.** 20.255 (2) (bd) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.255 (2) (bd) *Additional special education aid.* ~~The amounts in the schedule~~

A sum sufficient for aid under s. 115.881.

\*\*\*\*NOTE: This SECTION involves a change in an appropriation that must be reflected in the revised schedule in s. 20.005, stats.

**SECTION 2.** 115.881 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

115.881 (2) ~~For~~ In the 2025-26 school year and each school year thereafter, for

**BILL****SECTION 2**

each child whose costs exceeded \$30,000 under sub. (1), the department shall, from the appropriation under s. 20.255 (2) (bd), pay an eligible applicant in the current school year 40 percent of an amount equal to 0.90 multiplied by that portion of the cost under sub. (1) that exceeded \$30,000.

**SECTION 3.** 115.881 (3) of the statutes is repealed.

**(END)**