



# Investing in Student Potential

## Special Education Funding Proposal Comparison

Follow these links for more information on the [funded enrollment cap and the special education funding formula](#).

**Current Law**

[House Bill 1436](#)

[Senate Bill 5311](#)

<i>Special Education Funding Multiplier</i>		Full implementation of changes to multipliers reached in 2026-27	Full implementation of changes to multipliers reached in 2023-24
<b>Aged 3-5</b>	1.15	1.15	1.2
<b>Gen Ed &gt; 80%</b>	1.0075	1.059	1.12
<b>Gen Ed &lt; 80%</b>	0.995	1.043	1.06
<i>Special Education Funded Enrollment Cap</i>	13.5%	Increases cap starting in 2023-24 and eliminates cap by 2027-28	Increases Cap to 15% starting in 2023-24
<i>Other Policy Changes</i>			
<i>Identifying Disproportionality in Identifying special education services</i>	--	OSPI will review data for disproportionate identification of students and assist school districts in implementing inclusionary teaching practices	No Changes
<i>Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee performance audit</i>	--	Will conduct a performance audit of the state's special education system on several topics, including recommendations for funding formulas changes	No Audit Required

<p><i>Use of Basic Education funding for Special Education Services</i></p>	<p>--</p>	<p>Allows the use of basic education allocations for special education and requires OSPI to redirect up to 50 percent of a school district's basic education allocation generated by students receiving special education services to fund special education expenditures</p>	<p>Directs the development of an allocation and cost accounting system that ensures that state basic education allocations are directed to a student's special education program and recorded as special education costs when basic education services are provided in an alternative setting</p>
<p><i>Special Education Ombuds</i></p>	<p>--</p>	<p>No changes</p>	<p>Each <a href="#">Educational Service District</a> will be provided at least one special education Ombuds through the <a href="#">Office of Education Ombuds</a>. The ombuds will advocate on behalf of students and assist students and parents with IEP development and meetings</p>
<p><i>Increased Funding Levels for Special Education (Per Biennium)</i></p>		<p>2023-2025: \$177.2 million 2025-2027: \$251.7 million 2027-2029: \$301.1 million</p>	<p>2023-2025: \$358.6 million 2025-2027: \$426.7 million 2027-2029: \$446.1 million</p>

- ❖ This table highlights some key elements of the proposals to increase special education funding that have been passed out of their respective chambers as of March 6, 2023.

***Our Vision: Every individual thrives in a learning-friendly environment where they feel safe, supported, and challenged.***