

Submitter: cindy mahoney
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Labor and Business
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1506
OPPOSE

what the heck did y'all do with the money from last year's 2 year budget?

In 2025, the Oregon Legislature approved a record \$11.36 billion to \$11.4 billion for the State School Fund (SSF) for the 2025–2027 biennium. This represents a roughly 11% increase over the previous biennium's funding.

Here is a breakdown of the 2025 legislative funding for schools and unions:

Public Schools Funding (2025-2027 Biennium)

State School Fund (K-12): Lawmakers authorized \$11.36 billion for the main state school fund, which supports K-12 school districts, education service districts, and local schools.

Total K-12 Investment: Including local school revenue, the total investment is approximately \$16.7 billion for the 2025–2027 biennium.

Additional Funding Initiatives:

\$1.1 billion for the Student Investment Account (SIA).

\$618.3 million for the Statewide Education Initiatives Account.

\$82 million passed in April 2025 for summer literacy programs (House Bills 2007 and 5047).

\$3.1 million for the School Safety and Emergency Management Program.

\$76.8 million from the Common School Fund, which is a record-high distribution for 2025.

Funding Formula Change: The legislature passed House Bill 2140, which updated how the Current Service Level (CSL) is calculated, raising baseline state funding by \$600 million for K-12 education to better account for rising costs.

Union and Labor-Related Funding

PERS Liability Buy-Down: Lawmakers approved \$166 million through SB 849 to buy down Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) liability for 2025–26, aimed at helping districts avoid layoffs.

Unemployment Benefits for Striking Workers: The legislature passed a bill making striking public employees, including teachers, eligible for unemployment benefits.

Union Advocacy Wins: The Oregon Education Association (OEA) successfully advocated for reducing the planned "ending fund balance" set-aside from 1.5% to 1.25%, freeing up more immediate funding for schools.