

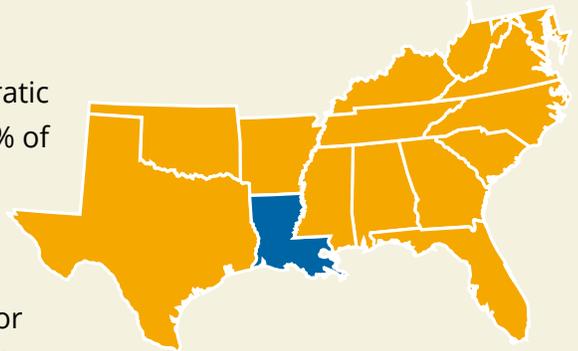


Louisiana

STATE BUDGET ANALYSIS

HIGHLIGHTS FROM GOVERNOR JOHN BEL EDWARDS' PROPOSED EDUCATION BUDGET

Governor John Bel Edwards is notably one of the few Democratic governors in the Deep South, winning his election in 2016 with 56% of the vote. The state's superintendent of education, John White, was appointed by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) in 2012 but did not approve the governor's budget because it fails to increase investments for Pre-K. However, Governor Edwards' proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2020 includes a \$1,000 pay raise for Louisiana's teachers and a \$500 pay raise for school support staff. Additionally, the proposed budget increases investments to the state's K-12 funding formula that would result in the base per-pupil funding changing from \$3,961 to \$4,015. Additionally, according to the Louisiana Department of Education, the state's graduation rate has increased by 5.8% to 78.1% in 2018. The state's latest NAEP scores, however, indicate that 56% of 4th graders scored at or below Basic in Reading.



LOUISIANA'S EDUCATION BUDGET PRIORITIES

| Core Louisiana Education Programs | FY 2020 Proposed Budget | FY 2019 | FY 2018 |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Early Childhood or Pre-K Funding | \$82,541,000 | \$82,541,000 | \$76,363,000 |
| K-12 Funding Formula | \$3,583,408,000 | \$3,438,191,000 | \$3,436,832,000 |
| Education Savings Account | \$41,966,000 | \$41,966,000 | \$39,866,000 |
| Teacher Pay Raise | \$101,334,000 | N/A | N/A |

1. The budget breakdown is a snapshot of the education budget rather than an exhaustive listing of every line item.
2. The budget line items listed in the chart above are selected based on the priorities of SEF. We believe these programs are most closely associated with student success or the most significant impediments in the education system.
3. The state education program charts may differ from state to state due to different budget development processes and a respective governor's education priorities.



AREAS OF PROMISE

Governor Edwards Recommends:

- A 4% increase to the state's K-12 funding formula.
- A \$101 million investment in pay raises for teachers and support staff.



4% ↑

**INCREASE TO
STATE'S K-12
FUNDING FORMULA**



\$101M ↑

**PAY RAISES FOR TEACHERS
AND SUPPORT STAFF**

AREAS OF CONCERN

Governor Edwards Recommends:

- No increase of funding for early-childhood education.
- A maintaining of funding for Louisiana's school voucher program.



**NO INCREASE OF
FUNDING FOR
EARLY-CHILDHOOD
EDUCATION**



**CONTINUED
FUNDING OF THE
SCHOOL VOUCHER
PROGRAM**

EQUITY RECOMMENDATIONS

Governor Edwards and the Louisiana State Legislature should: (1) adopt and sign into law the teacher and school support personnel pay increases, (2) increase investments in high-quality Pre-K services, and (3) eliminate or defund Louisiana's school voucher program.