



Allegheny Intermediate Unit Applauds Educational Investments in Pennsylvania's 2024-2025 Budget

Homestead, PA – July 12, 2024 - With the passage of the new 2024-2025 state budget, the Allegheny Intermediate Unit (AIU) is excited to see targeted investments in public education that will bolster the efforts of school districts across the state. The increase in funding demonstrates a recognition of the vital role education plays in shaping the future of our communities and the overall well-being of our young people.

Among other items, the new budget includes a \$225 million increase through the state's basic education fair funding formula and \$493 million in an adequacy supplement to support schools that have been traditionally underfunded. An additional investment of \$48 million is being made in Pennsylvania's Pre-k Counts and Early Intervention programs, and an additional \$100 million has been earmarked for special education funding. Career and technical education centers will receive an additional \$30 million while \$100 million has been allocated to the Public School Facility Improvement Grant Program.

While the budget did not include everything requested by school district leaders, the AIU's executive director Dr. Bob Scherrer said that he is heartened by the increased investments in public education and the cooperation across the political aisle.

"Our new state budget represents a good first step to meeting the obligations set by the Commonwealth Court last year and making strategic investments in the future of our schools," he said. "We thank our state leaders in both parties for listening to the recommendations of the Basic Education Funding Commission and for working together for the benefit of our students."

One year ago, the Commonwealth Court declared Pennsylvania's school funding system unconstitutional. From September to January, the Basic Education Funding Commission traveled across the state, hearing testimony from a variety of educational stakeholders. The AIU provided testimony during this process, advocating for increased basic education funding, additional investments in special education, increased funding for early childhood programs, and adjusting the funding formula for cyber charter schools. In January, the commission voted on a [final report](#), highlighting specific recommendations that were in line with the AIU's testimony.

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ABOUT THE AIU

An educational service agency, the Allegheny Intermediate Unit (AIU) is part of Pennsylvania's public education system and serves schools, children, youth, and families in suburban Allegheny County. Among the largest of the state's 29 intermediate units, the AIU employs about 1,200 individuals and has an annual budget exceeding \$200 million.