

# CHANGES FOR 2008–09 BUDGETS

## STATE FUNDING FORMULA CHANGES

### **State Basic Education Allocated Salaries**

A 4.4 percent salary increase is provided for all state-funded formula staff. This is comprised of a 3.9 percent I-728 COLA and an additional 0.5 percent COLA.

The minimum state funding for staff units have been increased as follows:

- Classified formula staff units \$31,865.
- Certificated administrative units \$57,986.
- Certificated instructional units \$34,426.

### **Classified Staffing Ratio**

The state funded classified ratio has been increased from 1/59 (16.949/1000) to 1/58.75 (17.021/1000).

### **Health Benefit Rate Increase**

The health benefit funding rate is increased from \$707.00 per employee per month to \$732.00.

### **NERC Rate Increase**

The NERC rates were increased based on inflation, plus an additional increase. The rates for 2008–09 are: Basic - \$10,178, Vocational - \$24,999, and Skills Center - \$19,395.

### **Full Day Kindergarten**

Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) will be funded for an estimated 20 percent of the state enrollment based on highest poverty and approved applications. A list of eligible schools has been posted to our website at <http://www.k12.wa.us/SAFS/08budprp.asp>. Funding will be calculated using the general apportionment formula including the 2008–09 annual average FDK FTE enrollment, district staff mix and the K-4 CIS funding ratio.

This funding will be paid under Revenue Account 3100. Districts should record expenditures under program 01.

The FDK FTE enrollment will not be used in any other funding formula calculations. However it will be used in the K-4 and K-12 staff ratio calculations.

### **I-732 Student Achievement Funds**

The rate for student achievement funding is increased to \$458.10 per FTE student.

### **Vocational Equipment Replacement Allocations**

The Legislature continued funding for Vocational Equipment Replacement. The funding rates are \$75 per Vocational student FTE and \$125 for Skills Center student FTE.

### **Local Effort Assistance**

The percent increase in basic education funding per pupil for use in calculating the 2009 levy lid and LEA was increased to 6 percent.

### **Learning Assistance Program**

The funding rate was increased to provide an additional \$15,065,000 in allocations to fund the extended learning opportunities of ESSB 6673. Also an additional allocation is provided to

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districts that have a prior year bilingual percent greater than 20 and free and reduced price lunch percentage greater than 40.

### **Pupil Transportation Assistance**

The \$12.5 million for temporary assistance to school districts for pupil transportation programs will be distributed based on actual expenditures for state funded transportation. Allocations will be calculated after the expenditures for 2007–08 are available.

### **National Board Certified Teachers Bonus**

The eligibility for the additional \$5,000 National Board Bonus for teachers in challenging schools has been revised. The current requirement for at least 70% poverty for eligible schools will be revised for 2008–09 to at least 50% poverty for high schools, at least 60% poverty for middle schools, and at least 70% poverty for elementary schools. The list of schools eligible for 2008–09 for the National Board Certified Teachers Bonus will be posted by May 1<sup>st</sup> on our website at: <http://www.k12.wa.us/SAFS/08budprp.asp>

National board certified teachers who become principals shall continue to receive the basic bonus for as long as they are principals and maintain the national board certification.

The national board bonus will count towards retirement benefits. Therefore the payment to the district will include the employer's retirement cost of 8.46%.

### **Promoting Academic Success**

The Promoting Academic Success (PAS) program has been discontinued.

### **Fringe Benefits Percentage**

The legislative budget revised the employee fringe benefits and retirement rates.

	<b>2007–08</b>	<b>2008–09</b>
Certificated Maintenance	14.11	16.75
Classified Maintenance	17.04	18.72
Certificated Increase	13.47	16.11
Classified Increase	13.54	15.22
	<b>DRS Rates for 2007–08</b>	<b>DRS Rates for 2008–09</b> (effective date)
TRS	5.82	8.46 (September 1, 2008)
PERS	6.13	8.31 (July 1, 2008)
SERS	5.88	7.54 (September 1, 2008)

For more information on DRS benefit rates visit their website at:  
<http://www.drs.wa.gov/employer/default.htm>

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## NEW PROGRAMS AND FUNDING

### **Library Program Funding**

The Legislature provided an estimated \$4.09 per annual average FTE student to maintain and improve library materials, collections and services. These funds shall be used to augment current funding for librarian programs provided through basic education and other existing funding mechanisms. In order to receive this allocation, districts must agree that to the maximum extent possible they will ensure that library programs and services are equitably provided throughout the district. These assurances will be made by districts via the iGrants system. This funding will be paid under Revenue Account 3100. Districts should record expenditures under program 01.