

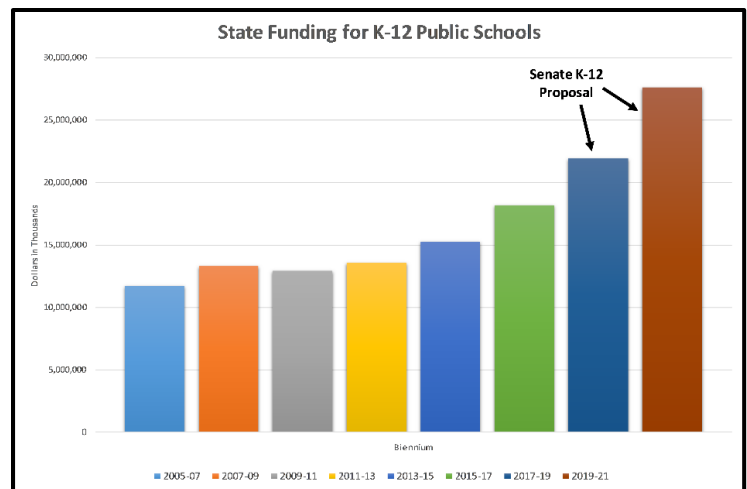


The Senate budget prioritizes Washington's future by:

- supporting the high-quality education system Washington students need and deserve;
- keeping more money in the pockets of working families by not raising taxes;
- protecting our most vulnerable citizens by making critical investments in the social-safety net;
- and making meaningful, affordable investments.

The Senate's \$43 billion operating budget proposal for 2017-19 encompasses the Education Equality Act adopted by the Senate in February, which would dramatically increase per-student funding while equalizing property-tax rates statewide at \$1.55/\$1,000 of assessed value.

Under this plan, state funding for K-12 education will have doubled since 2013, going from \$13.2 billion in 2011-13 to \$27.6 billion in 2019-21.



School funding is focused on the actual needs of each child with a new per-student funding model. Each student is guaranteed \$12,500, receiving additional funds if the child is homeless, from a low-income family, bilingual or has special needs.

While making historic investments in K-12 education the Senate budget preserves and enhances essential social-safety net services that support, care and protect people who need help. We make targeted investments to improve the care and treatment of senior citizens, foster children and people with developmental disabilities and mental illness.

While King County and the greater Puget Sound area have seen significant economic growth and prosperity, it has not been the same for everyone. Unemployment in 37 of our state's 39 counties is still above the national rate.

Knowing that stable tax rates can only help Washington's economy, the Senate built a budget that does not increase the burden on working families and job creators.

The Senate budget preserves the state's four-year balanced-budget law, which ensures budgets will be sustainable over the long term. It also keeps intact the state's Rainy-Day Fund, to be tapped only in case of future economic downturns or other financial emergencies.