



Transforming Ohio for Growth

Stronger. Together.

CONTINUED STRONG SUPPORT FOR K-12

EDUCATION

Helping Students Get Ready for College and Career Opportunities

The budget builds upon Ohio's progress in K-12 education by giving educators, parents and communities the resources and policies they need to support Ohio's students. Highlights include:

Record Support for K-12 Education: The new budget commits approximately \$10 billion per year to K-12 education, the strongest level ever. The budget also increases funding for key areas like special education, K-3 literacy and career-technical education. A new component in Ohio's school funding formula will reward school districts in a meaningful way, based on their high school graduation rates and reading proficiency. The budget also includes new funding for districts with a low capacity to raise revenues locally and supplemental transportation funds for low density districts.

Continuing the Expansion of Early Childhood Education: The budget provides \$40 million over the biennium to provide high-quality preschool services for disadvantaged children. This builds on progress over the last biennium when Gov. Kasich doubled the number of children from low-income families served in high-quality preschool between 2012-2013 and 2014-2015 and will triple the number served by 2016-2017. More than 17,000 four-year-olds will be served statewide by 2016-2017

Getting More High School Students Access to College-Level Credit (College Credit Plus): Too few Ohio high schools have enough teachers qualified to teach college-level courses, so the budget provides \$10 million to train more teachers in college instruction and provide competitive grants to universities for teachers to become credentialed for college credit plus courses. With more high schools able to offer college-level credit, students can get a jump start on college at no cost and reduce their overall college education costs. Students will also have access to College Credit Plus during summers.

Investing \$30 Million Over Two Years In The Straight A Fund To Encourage Further Innovation: Two years ago, Gov. Kasich created the Straight A Fund to help improve student achievement, increase efficiency and tear down barriers to college and career training. The program sparked a wave of creativity in our schools and the budget will build on that success.

Helping Ohio Adults Without Diplomas Get Back on Track: The budget creates a second round of planning grants of up to \$250,000 for up to five new pilot sites at community colleges or technical centers to assist adults ages 22 or older earn high school diplomas and industry credentials.

Innovative Waiver Extensions: The state superintendent of public instruction will be able to grant 10 additional waivers from state testing and teacher evaluation requirements in order to implement new, innovative educational programs in the 2015-2016 school year.

Ensuring a Right to a Quality Education: Ohio's Educational Choice Scholarship Program has been helping students from under-performing public schools attend private schools for almost two decades. EdChoice scholarship amounts increase to \$4,650 for K-8 and \$5,900 for high school in FY16 and \$6,000 in FY17.

A Continued Commitment to Mentoring: Ohio's Community Connectors mentorship effort has sparked much interest in communities across the state, bringing together parents, schools, communities, faith and value-based groups, and businesses. The budget increases the program's support by \$20 million and continues to match \$3 for every \$1 provided by local partners.

Helping More Students Advance at Their Own Academic Pace: The budget creates as many as five pilot programs that advance students when they master course material.

