

# North Dakota K-12 School Funding Formula

In 2013, the state implemented a K-12 funding formula tied to the cost of providing an adequate education and funded it with a combination of state and local taxes. Local property tax levy authority was decreased significantly with statewide taxes making up the difference. Statewide taxes are now funding approximately 75% of the cost of education.

The local share is 60 mills on taxable valuation and 75%-100% of other local in-lieu of property tax revenue. The state funds the remainder up to the adequate amount.

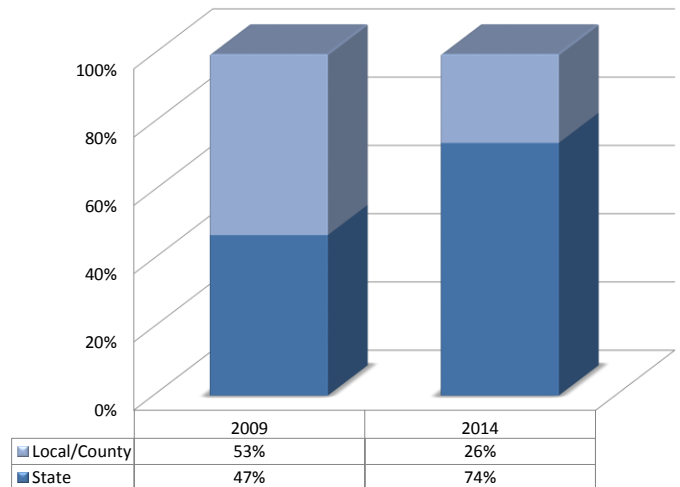
The formula is student driven and uses various weights to account for the increased costs associated with school district size and serving students with special needs. A base per student funding rate is set by the legislature designed to generate the resources necessary to educate students to state standards. In addition, there are transitional adjustments included to minimize budget impacts that inevitably occur when making major changes.

In the end, North Dakota's K-12 funding formula provides a base of financial support per student sufficient to provide an adequate education by school districts, regardless of where the student lives or what the taxable valuation is of the district.

The Legislature, through the interim Education Funding Committee, contracted with Picus-Odden and Associates to conduct a recalibration study to confirm the adequacy of that base level of support.

The consultants use an evidenced – based (EB) model to determine the resources necessary to educate students to college and career ready proficiency. Included in the model are all of the components necessary to meet the standards. This includes core staffing, administration, operations, professional development, technology and instruction materials. Their report was presented to the Interim Education Funding Committee in June, 2014. The report can be found in the meeting minutes at <http://www.legis.nd.gov/assembly/63-2013/interim/15-5088-03000-meeting-minutes.pdf?20141016152129>.

Shift in State and Local General Fund Sources



K-12 School Funding Formula		
<i>Part One: Calculate Base Funding Amount</i>		Example
	Student Membership (ADM)	300
+	Other Program Weighted ADM	30
=	Weighted ADM	330
x	School District Size Factor	1.13
=	Weighted Student Units	373
x	Per Student Rate	9,092
=	Total Formula Amount	3,391,316
+/-	Transition Adjustments	-
=	Total Adjusted Formula Amount	3,391,316
<i>Part Two: Determine State Aid Payment</i>		
Local Share	60 mills times taxable valuation	600,000
	75%-100% of other local in-lieu revenue	60,000
State Share	Difference is State Aid Payment	2,731,316