

OVERVIEW of FUNDING & POLICY for PUBLIC EDUCATION

SHARE
of funding for
school operations
(percentage of total)



FEDERAL



U.S. Congress



Sets certain school policies, most notably around testing, but plays a limited role overall. Funding that is supplied supports students with disabilities, high-poverty schools, and child nutrition.

11%

STATE



Governor

Has the power of the bully pulpit, but limited influence beyond having the power to veto state budgets and appoint State Board of Education members

North Carolina General Assembly (NCGA)

Senate & House of Representatives



- ◆ Body most directly responsible for school funding and policies
- ◆ Provides the majority of school funding by setting tax policy, determining how funds are distributed across districts, and establishing school spending rules
- ◆ Sets majority of policies including learning standards and teacher pay scales
- ◆ Has constitutional responsibility for providing a system of public education that adequately serves every child

65%

State Board of Education (SBE)

Supervises use of federal and state funds for public schools

State Superintendent

Department of Public Instruction (DPI)

Implements laws passed by NCGA and provides technical assistance to schools

COUNTY



Board of Commissioners

sets local taxes and determines how to use revenue for school expenses not provided by the state

has authority to provide additional funds to district

historically, counties have been responsible for funding facility maintenance and new school construction

School Board

carries out educational program and sets local policy according to parameters determined by DPI

hires district superintendent

manages financial affairs and provides strategic planning

24%

\$ = denotes governing body that generates funds for public education



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PUBLIC EDUCATION POLICY: The North Carolina General Assembly (NCGA)



The NCGA decides on the level and distribution of public school funding as part of the state budget.

- NCGA members are elected in even-numbered years and serve a 2-year term.
- At the beginning of a new term, the NCGA creates a budget for the next funding period.

House of
Representatives
120
members



North Carolina General Assembly
(NCGA)

Senate
50
members

LONG, SHORT, and SPECIAL SESSIONS

ODD-NUMBERED YEARS

A "LONG" session is for drafting the bi-annual state budget and typically lasts 6 months or longer.

EVEN-NUMBERED

A "SHORT" session only addresses issues (or new appropriations) that have arisen between budgets.

AS NEEDED

A special session can be convened if a specific need arises; a special session can also be called by the Governor.

The JOURNEY from BILL to LAW

START



bills can start on House floor or Senate floor

