



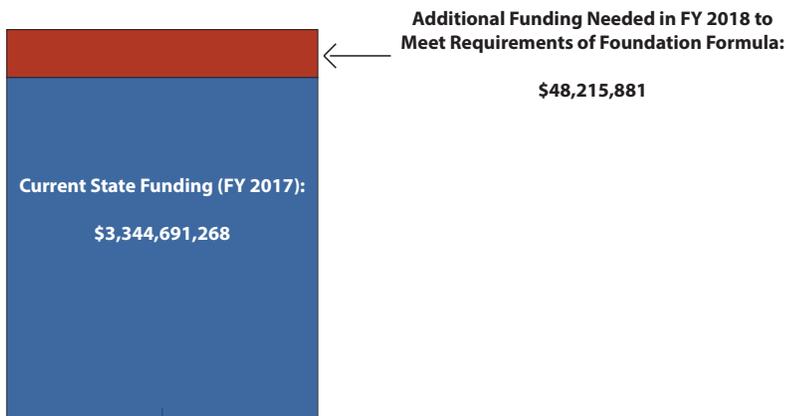
Quality K-12 Education

Education provides kids a path to a better future, and quality public schools are the bedrock of successful communities.

Unfortunately, Missouri hasn't lived up to its promised funding for our schools for years. As a result, local governments are shouldering more of the responsibility for school funding, setting the stage for enhanced disparities in educational opportunity between school districts.¹

Fulfill state promises for school funding so kids from across the state can be prepared for success throughout their lives, no matter their zip code.

Fulfilling State's Promised Education Funding Attainable in FY 2018



- In 2016, the legislature passed changes to the formula used to determine state funding for school districts (known as the “foundation formula”).
- As a result of these changes, for the first time since 2010, it's within reach for the state to provide the promised level of school funding.
- What's more, fully funding Missouri's school funding formula would trigger a much needed expansion of school-based preschools – better preparing young children to enter kindergarten.²

The Bottom Line: Fully funding our public schools will make good on our state's fundamental obligations to provide for public education and allow all kids an opportunity for a better tomorrow, whether they live in a town of 500 or 500,000.

Notes

1. “Investing in Our Students: K-12 Education,” Missouri Budget Project, October 2015, available at: <http://www.mobudget.org/investing-students/>

2. Missouri House Bill 1689, approved in the 2014 legislative session and implemented in the 2015-2016 school year, allowed funding for school-based preschools to be included in the calculation of the Foundation Formula to serve children in school districts that were unaccredited or provisionally accredited. The bill also included a provision to extend that preschool funding to all school districts in the year after the Foundation Formula reaches full funding levels. As a result, meeting the required level of funding for the Foundation Formula in the 2018 budget will not only provide full state aid to local school districts for the first time since 2010, it will trigger a much needed expansion of funding for preschool.
