



DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

November 2025



Demographics

Delaware's public education system serves a diverse and growing PK-12 population of more than 142,000 students. Delaware learners represent a rich mix of backgrounds, languages, and learning needs. This diversity is a key strength and provides essential context for understanding student outcomes, identifying needs, and shaping strategies.

What does public education look like **in Delaware?**



52% Male
48% Female



43

Local Education Agencies
(19 Districts, 24 Charters)



142,495

Public School Enrollment
(District and Charter)



19,032

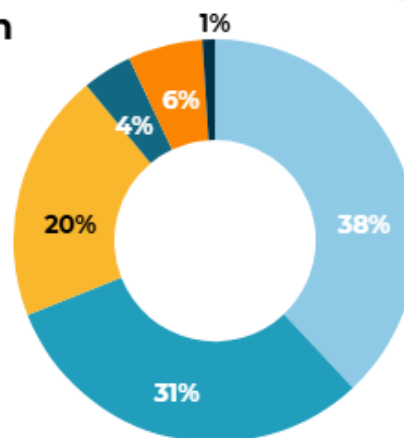
Charter School Enrollment

Student Population

13%
Multilingual Learners

19%
Students with Disabilities

27%
Low Income



- **38%** White
- **31%** Black
- **20%** Hispanic
- **4%** Asian
- **6%** Multi-Racial
- **>1%** Native American
- **>1%** Pacific Islander

Highlights



Early literacy



Academic opportunities



Career & technical education



AI, innovation, and digital readiness



Assessment systems and transparency



Celebrating and supporting all school staff

Governor's priorities

Priorities and Building Blocks

Building from clear priorities to measurable results



EARLY LEARNING

Expanding early education means giving every child a strong start — through safe and enriching learning environments, greater access to early childhood programs, and well-trained teachers who understand how young children grow and learn.



ENVIRONMENTS CONDUCTIVE TO LEARNING

Creating strong schools means we're building safe, caring, and welcoming schools where every student feels they belong. This means supporting teachers as collaborative professionals, ensuring a strong pipeline of qualified educators, and empowering skilled leaders who can guide schools toward continuous improvement.



RIGOROUS STANDARDS

Aligning standards, curriculum, and assessments so all students can meet high expectations. This work strengthens accountability systems to focus on student success, expands clear pathways from school to college or careers, and builds strong technical and vocational options connected to real industries and opportunities.



EQUITABLE ACCESS

Advancing equitable access means preparing all learners and educators in AI literacy, digital citizenship, and the safe, ethical use of technology — while strengthening targeted supports for students with the greatest needs and ensuring leaders deliver consistent, coherent implementation across the system.



ENGAGED COMMUNITY

Strengthening community engagement means nurturing trusting, communicative partnerships with families and building broad community support for education through collaboration, teamwork, and advocacy.

Early learning

Key Goal:

- Expand high-quality, universally funded Pre-K so 70% of 4-year-olds can enroll by 2028.

Focus Areas:

- Workforce development
- Program quality and standards
- Access and family supports



Environments conducive to learning

Key Goals:

- Improve student belonging and reduce absenteeism.
- Strengthen instructional leadership.
- Build and retain a strong educator workforce.

Focus Areas:

- Well-being supports
- Leadership development
- Workforce pipelines & retention



Rigorous standards

Key Goals:

- Increase 3rd-grade literacy proficiency.
- Improve graduation and 9th-grade on-track rates.
- Strengthen CCR pathways.

Focus Areas:

- Science of Reading
- Data-driven decision-making
- High-quality instructional materials



Equitable access

Key Goals:

- Strengthen ESSA monitoring.
- Implement AI strategies and digital proficiency.
- Support struggling or identified schools.

Focus Areas:

- Funding reform
- AI and digital literacy
- Inclusive instruction and supports



Engaged communities

Key Goals:

- Increase dashboard use for transparency & decision-making.
- Support adult learners, afterschool, and community programs.

Focus Areas:

- Partnerships
- Community communication
- Continuous improvement



Why these priorities matter

- Ensures measurable progress toward statewide goals.
- Strengthens alignment.
- Builds public trust through transparency.
- Supports students from early learning through graduation.



Our call to action

Together, we will deliver for students





OPERATING BUDGET REQUEST





FY27 Operating Budget Request Door Openers

FY26 Salary/OEC Contingency

AS PROVIDED BY OMB

\$97,445.3

Educator Step Increases/Para Salar.

LEA Steps (15,523.1) and DOE (351.8)

\$15,874.9

General Contingency (FY27 Unit Growth)

FY27 Projected Unit Growth – 150 Units

\$17,893.6

Student Success Block Grant

Based on estimated growth of schools

\$215.3



FY27 Operating Budget Request

Door Openers (cont'd)

Academic Excellence

Based on PECC salary increases and utilization of positions

\$3,084.7

Cafeteria Funds

Based on FY25 actual costs & a 6% inflation factor for projections

\$2,551.1

Related Services (specialized support)

Based on estimated unit growth (150 units)

\$4,070.6

Public School Transportation

Increased costs for capital, training, McKinney-Vento and enrollment

\$3,240.0



FY27 Operating Budget Request

Door Openers (cont'd)

Driver Education

\$47.6

Increased rates and enrollment growth for summer/evening students

Child Nutrition

\$39.9

HB125 & HB91 fiscal notes (funding free breakfast for all students / free & reduced price lunches for qualifying students)

Digital Learning Operations

\$50.0

Schoology license fee increase

Veterinary Tuition Assistance

\$19.9

SREB's increased veterinary seat cost (\$36,962/seat) for FY27



FY27 Operating Budget Request Door Openers (cont'd)

Contractual Services - Operations Support

\$20.0

Collette Building lease escalator for FY26 & FY27

Southern Regional Education Board (SREB)

\$15.6

Membership fee increase & Crisis Recovery Network

FY26 Actual – Unit Count Growth

-\$17,900.0

Reflective of Decrease in FY26 actual Unit Count Growth (65 Units) vs.
FY26 General Contingency (225 Units)



CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST





Major Capital 5 Year Funding History

Fiscal Year	Amount*
2022	\$229,358.0
2023	\$350,049.9
2024	\$200,483.5
2025	\$160,807.7
2026	\$211,225.8

*Includes City of Wilmington Education Initiatives funded within OMB and Market Pressure.

Minor Capital 5 Year Funding History

Fiscal Year	Amount
2022	\$15,000.0
2023	\$30,000.0*
2024	\$15,000.0
2025	\$30,300.0*
2026	\$30,000.0*

*Funding includes Enhanced MCI funds



FY27 State Funding Summary

	FY27 Governor's Recommended Budget	Balance Remaining (out years)
Ongoing Projects	\$140,229.3	\$207,921.4
100% State Funded Ongoing Projects	\$17,200.0	\$0
Minor Capital Improvements	\$15,000.0	Ongoing
Architectural Barrier Removal	\$160.0	Ongoing
Safety and Security	\$9,138.0	Ongoing
IT Infrastructure	\$9,299.0	-
TOTAL	\$191,026.3	\$207,921.4

Ongoing Projects

	FY2027 Request	Balance Remaining (out years)
Appoquinimink, New Elementary School at Green Giant Road	\$3,878.8	\$34,909.6
Appoquinimink, New MS/HS at Summit Campus	\$73,755.8	\$92,194.8
Colonial, Carrie Downie Elementary School Renovations	\$0.0	\$1,605.6
Colonial, Castle Hills Elementary School Renovations	\$0.0	\$694.4
Colonial, George Read Middle School Renovations	\$136.0	\$1,563.6
Colonial, McCullough MS Renovations	\$4,626.9	\$0.0
Colonial, New Castle ES Renovations	\$0.0	\$971.8
Colonial, Pleasantville Elementary School Renovations	\$215.2	\$2,598.6
Colonial, Southern Elementary School Renovations	\$316.9	\$3,826.6
Colonial, Wallace Wallin School Renovations	\$104.6	\$1,263.6

Ongoing Projects

	FY2027 Request	Balance Remaining (out years)
Colonial, Wilbur Elementary School Renovations	\$0.0	\$2,415.9
Colonial, Wilmington Manor ES Renovations	\$2,662.1	\$0.0
Red Clay, Al duPont High School Renovations	\$770.9	\$9,308.6
Red Clay, Baltz Elementary School Renovations	\$1,320.2	\$15,940.9
Red Clay, Cab Calloway School of the Arts Renovations	\$1,201.4	\$14,506.6
Red Clay, Conrad Schools of Science Renovations	\$12,862.1	\$0.0
Red Clay, Forest Oak ES Renovations	\$6,196.7	\$0.0
Red Clay, HB duPont Middle School Renovations	\$688.2	\$8,310.5
Red Clay, Linden Hill ES Renovations	\$6,406.4	\$0.0
Red Clay, Marbrook Elementary School Renovations	\$528.2	\$6,377.8

Ongoing Projects

	FY2027 Request	Balance Remaining (out years)
Red Clay, North Star Elementary School Renovations	\$190.1	\$2,295.3
Red Clay, Richardson Park ES Renovations	\$7,021.2	\$0.0
Red Clay, Richey Elementary School Renovations	\$422.8	\$5,105.0
Red Clay, Shortlidge Academy Renovations	\$333.9	\$4,032.2
Red Clay, Skyline MS Renovations	\$6,230.0	\$0.0
Red Clay, Warner ES Renovations	\$10,360.9	\$0.0
Totals	\$140,229.3	\$207,921.4



Ongoing Projects 100% State Funded

	FY2027 Request	Balance Remaining (out years)
Brandywine, Bush School	\$17,200.0	-
TOTAL	\$17,200.0	-



Certificate of Necessity Approvals NCCVT

Project	Total State Share	Total Local Share
DE Skills Center Land Purchase and Remodel	-	\$3,500,000
Total Approval	-	\$3,500,000

Questions

