



What's in the State Budget?



People First Wisconsin Board Meeting
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Why is the State Budget Important?



- The budget is passed every 2 years.
- It includes funding for things that are important to people with disabilities (like Family Care, IRIS, transportation, etc.)
- The budget determines how much money will be spent on different programs and services.
- We are covering the Governor's budget proposal. The Legislature will now make changes.



Some things in the budget are good,
some things are bad, anything can be
changed.



Transportation



- The budget includes more money for specialized transportation. This is money that pays for vans and other vehicles to provide rides in rural and other small towns and cities.



- The budget also includes funding for buses and more money for paratransit funding that will help in larger cities where bus routes have been cut.



Direct Care Workers



- The Governor's budget includes an increase in money for direct care workers in Family Care. It includes a small increase for workers who help people with personal cares like bathing and dressing.



- The budget does not include money for workers in IRIS (only self-directed personal care workers) or people who hire their own workers (do not use an agency) in Family Care.
- The budget does not include money for job coaches.
- The increase for personal care workers does not help enough.



Dental Care



- The Governor's budget includes money to pay dentists more when they treat people with disabilities and when they help more people who use Medicaid/a Forward Card.



Employment



- The Governor's budget includes more money for two programs that will help schools get jobs for youth with disabilities or help them go to college.

- Schools do not have enough money now to buy vans to get students to jobs or to hire job coaches.



- The budget does not include money to help sheltered workshops support more people to get jobs in the community. \$7 million would help 30 providers.



Healthcare



- The Governor's budget would expand Medicaid so that more people can have health care they can afford. This will help some people with disabilities who do not have Medicaid or Medicare and will help many direct care workers who do not earn a lot of money and cannot afford insurance.



Voting



- The Governor's budget makes a change so that when you apply for or renew a driver's license or state ID card you would be automatically registered to vote.



What Happens Next?

- Legislators hear from people like you.
- The Joint Finance Committee holds hearings. You can attend and share your story!
- The legislature makes changes to the budget and votes.
- The Governor may veto parts of the budget.
- The is supposed to be done by June but may take longer!



*Make your ask

1. Introduce yourself

- Your name, where you live.

2. Introduce your issue and experience

- Introduce your issue. Share your personal story.

3. Make your ask

- Tell your legislator what you want? Do you support what is in the Governor's budget, want to see something added or changed, or want something removed?



Questions

