DEPARTMENT OF LIFELONG EDUCATION, ADVANCEMENT, AND POTENTIAL
Summary of FY 2026-27 Enacted
Public Act 21 of 2026 (Senate Bill 878, Article 11)

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	FY 2025-26 Year-to-Date as of 2/11/26	FY 2026-27 Enacted	*Difference: Enacted From FY 2025-26 YTD* *Amount*	*%*
IDG/IDT	$0	$0	*$0*	*--*
Federal	457,769,900	469,495,500	*11,725,600*	*2.6*
Local	0	0	*0*	*--*
Private	1,000,000	1,000,000	*0*	*0.0*
Restricted	1,880,000	1,897,300	*17,300*	*0.9*
GF/GP	201,593,300	280,821,700	*79,228,400*	*39.3*
Gross	**$662,243,200**	**$753,214,500**	***$90,971,300***	***13.7***
FTEs	348.0	348.0	*0.0*	*0.0*

Note: Appropriation figures for all years include all proposed appropriation amounts, including amounts designated as "one-time."

Overview

The Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential (MiLEAP) is responsible for administering and coordinating statewide education efforts outside of the K-12 school system, which includes child care, child care worker and facility licensing, early childhood education, out of school time, and postsecondary scholarships and transfer opportunities. The department is grouped into three offices overseeing those efforts: the Office of Early Childhood Education, which is focused on child care and child care facilities; the Office of Education Partnerships, which is focused on building relationships in child care and postsecondary arenas; and the Office of Higher Education, which is focused on postsecondary scholarships, transfers and increasing degree and credential attainment.

Major Budget Changes from FY 2025-26 Year-to-Date (YTD) Appropriations		**FY 2025-26 Year-to-Date (as of 2/11/26)**	**FY 2026-27 Enacted Change**
1. Child Development and Care Public Assistance	**Gross**	**$543,312,000**	**$88,071,600**
Increases funding by $88.1 million Gross ($76.9 million GF/GP) to reflect implementation of the May 2026 Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference caseload estimates for the Child Development and Care (CDC) program. This includes an increase of $11.2 million federal. Total funding for the CDC Public Assistance program will be $631.4 million Gross ($239.4 million GF/GP).	Federal	380,801,300	11,171,600
	GF/GP	$162,510,700	$76,900,000
2. Early Childhood Investment Fund	**Gross**	**$0**	**$5,000,000**
Provides $5.0 million GF/GP of ongoing funding for the creation of the Early Childhood Investment Fund, which will be utilized to provide supplemental support to the CDC program, Early On program, Great Start Readiness Program, and programs for infants and toddlers.	GF/GP	$0	$5,000,000
3. Child Development and Care Public Assistance One-Time	**Gross**	**$3,500,000**	**($3,500,000)**
Removes $3.5 million GF/GP of one-time funding for CDC Public Assistance.	GF/GP	$3,500,000	($3,500,000)
4. Time and Attendance Billing System	**Gross**	**$0**	**$2,000,000**
Provides $2.0 million GF/GP of one-time funding to invest in a time and attendance billing system for the CDC program that assists with meeting federal provider compliance provisions.	GF/GP	$0	$2,000,000

Major Budget Changes from FY 2025-26 Year-to-Date (YTD) Appropriations		FY 2025-26 Year-to-Date (as of 2/11/26)	FY 2026-27 Enacted Change
5. College Success Fund and Student Wraparound Supports	**Gross**	**$1,000,000**	**($687,500)**
Reduces one-time funding by $687,500 GF/GP for College Success Fund and Student Wraparound Supports, which provides competitive grants to community colleges, public universities, and private colleges and universities for student support services and efforts to improve degree and certificate completion rates. Total funding for College Success Fund and Student Wraparound Supports will be $312,500 GF/GP.	GF/GP	$1,000,000	($687,500)
6. Child Care Licensing and Regulation	FTE	167.0	0.0
Reduces funding by $500,000 GF/GP, which supports the operations of the Child Care Licensing Bureau. Total funding for Child Care Licensing and Regulation will be $29.5 million Gross ($3.1 million GF/GP).	**Gross**	**$29,987,600**	**($500,000)**
	Federal	25,904,800	0
	Restricted	501,700	0
	GF/GP	$3,581,100	($500,000)
7. Nonpublic Dual Enrollment	**Gross**	**$3,500,000**	**$500,000**
Removes $3.5 million GF/GP of one-time funding and replaces with $4.0 million GF/GP of ongoing funding for a net $500,000 GF/GP increase for the nonpublic dual enrollment program, which pays the tuition of eligible nonpublic school students enrolled in postsecondary institutions, to reflect implementation of May 2026 Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference estimates. Total funding for nonpublic dual enrollment will be $4.0 million GF/GP.	GF/GP	$3,500,000	$500,000
8. Reenrollment Services	**Gross**	**$0**	**$500,000**
Provides $500,000 GF/GP of one-time funding to increase the recruitment and reenrollment of students who leave postsecondary education without obtaining a degree, certificate, or credential.	GF/GP	$0	$500,000
9. Student Financial Assistance Programs	FTE	50.0	1.0
Transfers $159,700 GF/GP and authorization of 1.0 FTE position from Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver to Student Financial Assistance Programs to consolidate student financial assistance programs under one line item (See Item #10). Total funding for Student Financial Assistance Programs will be $9.8 million Gross ($8.5 million GF/GP).	**Gross**	**$9,597,700**	**$159,700**
	Restricted	1,270,800	0
	GF/GP	$8,326,900	$159,700
10. Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver	FTE	1.0	(1.0)
Transfers $159,700 GF/GP and authorization of 1.0 FTE position from Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver to Student Financial Assistance Programs to consolidate student financial assistance programs under one line item (See Item #9).	**Gross**	**$159,700**	**($159,700)**
	GF/GP	$159,700	($159,700)
11. Ensuring Access to Postsecondary Opportunities	**Gross**	**$260,000**	**($135,000)**
Reduces one-time funding by $135,000 GF/GP for Ensuring Access to Postsecondary Opportunities, which supports public outreach to raise awareness among men of postsecondary opportunities. Total funding for Ensuring Access to Postsecondary Opportunities will be $125,000 GF/GP.	GF/GP	$260,000	($135,000)
12. Michigan Center for Adult College Success	**Gross**	**$1,000,000**	**$62,500**
Increases one-time funding by $62,500 GF/GP for the Michigan Center for Adult College Success. Total funding for the Michigan Center for Adult College Success will be $1.1 million GF/GP.	GF/GP	$1,000,000	$62,500

Major Budget Changes from FY 2025-26 Year-to-Date (YTD) Appropriations		FY 2025-26 Year-to-Date (as of 2/11/26)	FY 2026-27 Enacted Change
13. Child Development and Care External Support	**Gross**	**$11,028,800**	**$45,300**
Provides additional $45,300 federal for defined calculations from an interdepartmental grant with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to support CDC-related activities, including program eligibility determinations and responding to administrative hearings. Total funding for CDC External Support will be $11.1 million Federal.	Federal	11,028,800	45,300
	GF/GP	$0	$0
14. Before and After School Administration	**Gross**	**$371,200**	**($30,000)**
Reduces funding by $30,000 GF/GP for Before and After School Administration, which administers funding provided in Sec. 32m of the School Aid Act for programs to provide additional education opportunities to students in grades K to 12. Total funding for Before and After School Administration will be $341,200 GF/GP.	GF/GP	$371,200	($30,000)
15. Removal of FY 2025-26 One-Time Appropriations	**Gross**	**$1,240,000**	**($1,240,000)**
Removes $1.2 million GF/GP of one-time funding that was included in the FY 2025-26 budget to support the following: • Michigan Center for Civic Education ($1.0 million GF/GP) • Community College Workforce Initiative ($240,000 GF/GP)	GF/GP	$1,240,000	($1,240,000)
16. Economic Adjustments	**Gross**	**NA**	**$884,400**
Reflects increased costs of $884,400 Gross ($358,400 GF/GP) for negotiated salary and wage increases (3.0% on October 1, 2026), actuarially required retirement contributions, worker's compensation, building occupancy charges, rent, and other economic adjustments.	Federal	NA	508,700
	Restricted	NA	17,300
	GF/GP	NA	$358,400

Major Boilerplate Changes from FY 2025-26

***Sec. 204. Internet Availability of Required Report* – REVISED**
Requires MiLEAP to use internet to fulfill reporting requirements; requires transmission of reports via email and internet posting of reports. Adds language originally included in Sec. 225 that requires MiLEAP to post each required report in a single archivable location on the department's website and maintain previous reports grouped by fiscal year and renumbers as Sec. 205.

***Sec. 206. Communication with the Legislature* – REVISED (UNENFORCEABLE)**
Prohibits MiLEAP from taking disciplinary action against an employee for communicating with a legislator or staff unless the communication is prohibited by law and the department is exercising its authority. Renumbers as Sec. 222. *(Governor's signing letter states this section is unenforceable.)*

***Sec. 214. Access to State and Local Government Services* – DELETED**
Deletes language that prohibits appropriations from being used to restrict or impede a marginalized community's access to government resources, programs, or facilities; requires local governments to report any action or policy that interferes with the duties of local health officers.

***Sec. 217. State Administrative Board Transfers* – REVISED (UNENFORCEABLE)**
Authorizes the legislature to intertransfer funds via concurrent resolution if the State Administrative Board transfers funds. Renumbers as Sec. 204. *(Governor's signing letter states this section is unenforceable.)*

***Sec. 218. Work Project Appropriations Status Report* – REVISED**
Requires MiLEAP to report information on all work project accounts, including the status of each account and the amount of any funds that lapsed from previous accounts. Adds additional reporting date of April 15 and renumbers as Sec. 220.

***Sec. 222. Requirement to Expend Available Work Project Authorization* – REVISED (UNENFORCEABLE)**
Prohibits appropriations from being expended until all existing work project authorization available for the same purpose is exhausted, to the extent possible. Renumbers as Sec. 219. *(Governor's signing letter states this section is unenforceable.)*

LIFELONG EDUCATION, ADVANCEMENT, AND POTENTIAL

Major Boilerplate Changes from FY 2025-26

***Sec. 226. Prioritizing In-Person Work* – REVISED**
Requires MiLEAP to maximize utilization of its in-person workforce, prioritize occupancy utilization, and ensure occupancy rates are 80% or higher. Revises with a technical change adding timesheet reporting and renumbers as Sec. 223.

***Sec. 227. Impact of Federal Policy Changes Report* – REVISED**
Requires MiLEAP to report quarterly on federal policy changes that are expected to affect department operations, affect groups the department engages with, or create a regulatory gap. Revises language to require reporting on reductions or changes that would improve or impede MiLEAP's ability to safeguard public health or welfare due to federal policies.

***Sec. 228. E-Verify Requirement* – DELETED**
Deletes language that requires MiLEAP to require contractors and subcontractors to use the E-Verify system to verify that all persons hired during the contract term are legally present and authorized to work in the United States; authorizes MiLEAP to verify the information directly or to receive certification from the contractor; requires MiLEAP to submit a report describing the processes it develops and implements; defines E-Verify.

***Sec. 228. State Fiscal Recovery Funds Expended* – NEW**
Adds language that directs the state budget director to ensure state fiscal recovery funds are expended by December 31, 2026, and any state fiscal recovery funds that would lapse after September 30, 2026 are automatically reappropriated for the same purpose as originally authorized.

***Sec. 229. State Fiscal Recovery Funds Reallocation Authorization* – NEW**
Adds language that directs the state budget director to reallocate state fiscal recovery funds that are in jeopardy of not meeting the expenditure deadline of December 31, 2026, and must notify the legislature within 10 days after making the reallocation.

***Sec. 230. Severance Pay Report* – NEW**
Adds language that requires MiLEAP to report on any amounts of severance pay for high-ranking department officials within 14 days of the severance agreement signing and report the total amount of severance pay for the prior fiscal year.

***Sec. 231. Precontract Risk Assessment Requirement* – NEW**
Adds language that requires MiLEAP to use the Department of Technology, Management, and Budget's (DTMB) precontract risk assessment program to evaluate financial compliance, security risks, and insurance requirement prior to executing a contract.

***Sec. 233. Legislatively Directed Spending Items* – REVISED**
Requires the legislature to provide the department and the state budget director with a list of legislatively directed spending items; provides requirements for the administration of grants; provides requirements for grant agreements; requires grant recipients to respond to reasonable information requests; provides deadline for grant expenditure; requires MiLEAP to post information about grant recipients on its website. Revises to require the legislature to work with the State Budget Office on the list of legislatively directed spending items, deletes various grant and administration requirements. Renumbers as Sec. 227.

***Sec. 706. Dual Enrollment Task Force* – DELETED**
Deletes language that creates a task force to recommend improvements to the dual enrollment system; specifies task force duties and appointees; requires a report submitted by September 30, 2026.

***Sec. 1006. Early Childhood Investment Fund* – NEW**
Adds language that creates the Early Childhood Investment Fund in the Department of Treasury. Provides that money in the fund at the end of a fiscal year does not lapse; specifies that expenditures from the fund is to add supplemental support for various state-supported child care programs. Requires MiLEAP to report on expenditures by January 1, and restricts use of the fund for the CDC program for FY 2026-27.

***Sec. 1011. CDC Payments Based on Enrollment* – REVISED**
Requires MiLEAP to implement payments to providers based on enrollment rather than attendance. Revises language to implement payments based on a child's care services agreement and agreed upon hours per week, specifies providers must complete time and attendance records daily, and details policies around billing for absent children.

Major Boilerplate Changes from FY 2025-26

***Sec. 1030. Administration of Tri-Share Program* – REVISED**
Requires funding appropriated in part 1 to be used to continue the Tri-Share Child Care program; requires the department to establish and support regional facilitator hubs and statewide services; requires the creation of benchmarks for the regional facilitator hubs; allows facilitator hubs licensed in the state to enroll children living in Wisconsin with a parent who is employed in Michigan. Adds language that requires MiLEAP to innovate program and administration options to attract employer participation.

***Sec. 1101. Child Development and Care Public Assistance One-Time Funds* – DELETED**
Deletes language that requires funds to be used to begin implementing prospective payments to child care providers, which would be required under recent federal guideline revisions.

***Sec. 1101. Reenrollment Services* – NEW**
Adds language that states funds would be used to deliver reenrollment services for students with some college and no degree to increase the number of Michigan adults with a postsecondary degree, certificate, or credential.

***Sec. 1102. College Success Fund and Student Wraparound Supports* – DELETED**
Deletes language that states $500,000 would be used to support Hunger-Free Campus activities, which some community colleges and public universities implemented as a pilot program during the prior fiscal year, and $500,000 would be used to support reenrollment initiatives for citizens with some college but no degree or credential.

***Sec. 1105. Community College Workforce Initiative* – DELETED**
Deletes language that authorizes up to $240,000 to be used to convene a workgroup that would document and publish a statewide approach for small and medium size employers to obtain workforce training for employees at community colleges.

***Sec. 1105. Time and Attendance Billing System* – NEW**
Adds language that states MiLEAP shall use the funds to invest in a time and attendance billing system that assists in meeting federal provider compliance provisions.

***Sec. 1106. Michigan Center for Civic Education* – DELETED**
Deletes language that requires $1.0 million to be allocated to the Michigan Center for Civic Education, a nonprofit organization that improves law and civic education for youth through engagement programs.

FY 2025-26 Supplemental Appropriation Items **Public Act 21 of 2026 (Senate Bill 878, Article 18)**		**Appropriation Change**
1. Child Development and Care Public Assistance Includes $43.9 million in federal fund authorization to cover payments to child care providers to reflect implementation of the May 2026 Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference caseload estimates for the CDC program.	**Gross** Federal GF/GP	**$43,860,000** 43,860,000 $0
2. Dual Enrollment Payments Includes $500,000 GF/GP of one-time funding to the nonpublic dual enrollment program to fully reimburse program-related costs.	**Gross** GF/GP	**$500,000** $500,000

FY 2025-26 Supplemental Boilerplate Items
Public Act 21 of 2026 (Senate Bill 878, Article 18)

Sec. 575. Dual Enrollment Payments
Requires dual enrollment payments to be distributed as provided under the Postsecondary Enrollment Options Act, 1996 PA 160, and the Career and Technical Preparation Act, 2000 PA 258, as determined by the department.