Redbook
LBO Analysis of Executive Budget Proposal
Joint Education Oversight Committee
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The Joint Education Oversight Committee (JEOC) is a legislative committee that examines education policy issues and may review and evaluate education programs at school districts, other public schools, and state institutions of higher education.

JEOC’s governing authority consists of five members of the House of Representatives and five members of the Senate.

JEOC employs three full-time permanent staff, including an executive director.

JEOC receives 100% of its funding from the GRF.


- Total funding of $755,331 over the FY 2020-FY 2021 biennium represents a 7.9% increase from the $700,000 appropriated for the FY 2018-FY 2019 biennium.
- Uses of the budget: 91.0% for personal services, 6.1% for supplies and maintenance, and 2.9% for purchased personal services.

### Agency overview

The Joint Education Oversight Committee (JEOC) was created by H.B. 64 of the 131st General Assembly to examine education policy issues. It may also review and evaluate education programs at school districts, other public schools (i.e., community schools, STEM schools, college-preparatory boarding schools, and the schools for the blind and deaf), and state institutions of higher education that receive state financial assistance in any form. In carrying out these reviews and evaluations, JEOC may, among other things, assess how schools and institutions use state money; evaluate pilot programs at these entities based upon innovation, efficacy, and fiscal impact for potential duplication throughout the state; determine whether an education program meets its intended goals; and prepare reports of its findings or results and recommendations to the General Assembly.

Since October 2017, JEOC staff have focused on early learning and development programs, assessments, and the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). JEOC’s published research projects as well as issue briefs, monthly newsletters, and other written work are available on its website at jeoc.ohio.gov/publications.
Analysis of FY 2020-FY 2021 budget proposal

Overview

R.C. 107.03(B) states that “no alterations shall be made in the [budget] requests for the legislative and judicial branches of the state filed with the director of budget and management . . . .” Therefore, the Governor has made no alterations to the budget request submitted by JEOC.

JEOC operating costs are funded by a single GRF appropriation item: 047321, Operating Expenses. Operating costs include payroll and fringe benefit costs, supplies, and maintenance expenses. The preceding table shows JEOC’s actual expenditures from FY 2016 through FY 2018, adjusted appropriation for FY 2019, and the appropriations proposed for FY 2020 and FY 2021. Relative to the FY 2019 adjusted appropriation, FY 2020 proposed funding decreases by about $21,700 (5.4%). However, the FY 2019 amount includes over $48,000 in appropriation rolled over from unspent FY 2018 funds due, in part, to a JEOC fellow leaving the position three months earlier than anticipated and the timing of the agency’s audit. H.B. 49 originally appropriated $350,000 to JEOC in each fiscal year. JEOC’s proposed budget totals to $755,331 over the upcoming biennium, or 7.9% more than the $700,000 appropriated for the current two-year cycle.

The proposed budget authorizes JEOC to certify to the Director of Budget and Management an amount up to the unexpended, unencumbered balance of line item 047321 at the end of FY 2019 and FY 2020 to be reappropriated to FY 2020 and FY 2021, respectively, and reappropriates the certified amounts. As alluded to above, current law contains a similar provision that authorized the reappropriation of the line item’s FY 2018 unexpended, unencumbered balance to FY 2019.

Executive recommendations by expense category

The chart presents JEOC’s FY 2020-FY 2021 biennial budget by expense category. JEOC allocates 91% of its budget for personal services, which provides the wages and benefits for its three full-time staff. This is followed by supplies and maintenance at 6%, which includes funding for an outside audit, news service subscriptions, parking, reimbursements for travel, and office supplies. Purchased personal services allocations, representing about 3% of total biennium funding, may be used to contract for a higher education fellow and purchase data analytics services.