In FY 2021, foundation funding was deducted from resident district allocations and followed students to community/STEM schools, the largest school choice program in Ohio. That year, community/STEM schools enrolled about 7% (117,700) of students.

Importance of Primary and Secondary Education to State Budget

GRF K-12 Spending* (FY 2021):

LARGEST share of STATE GRF
SECOND largest share of STATE & FEDERAL GRF

Foundation Funding By Formula Component**

The opportunity grant, the largest component (57%), is combined with local contributions to provide uniform base per pupil funding ($6,020) for every student across the state.

The formula provides a higher state per-pupil opportunity grant to lower property wealth districts.

Foundation Funding Supported Over $1.3 Billion in School Choice Spending in FY 2021

In FY 2021, foundation funding was deducted from resident districts’ allocations and followed students to community/STEM schools, the largest school choice program in Ohio. That year, community/STEM schools enrolled about 7% (117,700) of students.

Low Wealth Districts Receive More Foundation Funding Per Pupil Than High Wealth Districts

A major goal of the foundation formula is to neutralize the effect of local property wealth disparities on students’ access to basic education opportunities.

Data Sources: Ohio Department of Education, Ohio Legislative Service Commission

* Includes non-district transfers supported by other funds

** In FY 2021, foundation funding was provided to school districts in the same amounts as FY 2019 and then reduced to help balance the state budget in the wake of the economic disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The amounts reported are before budget reductions.