

Welcome!
We will begin shortly!





2026-2027 Aspire Budget Webinar

Aspire's annual webinar on
the State K-12 budget

February 12, 2026
4:00 – 4:30 pm
Hosted by Michael Wimbish (CFO)

Today we will share...

- **Budget headlines** from the Governor's recently released 2026-2027 CA preliminary budget.
- **Current Aspire financial context that will inform** budgeting our approach.
- Ways we will continue to **navigate this financial context grounded in our Core Values.**



2026-2027 Preliminary CA Budget Headlines

Headlines from Governor's preliminary 26-27 budget

The Good News...

Economic Environment

- Continue to see strong economic indicators (stock market

K-12 Funding

- Per pupil funding growth rate of 2.41%.
- New State discretionary one-time funding

Continued Investments

- Governor proposes continued investments in key funding sources including Community Schools, Universal TK, Expanded Learning, and Universal Meals,

Headlines from Governor's preliminary 26-27 budget

The Uncertainty...

Economic Outlook

- Are recent AI fueled economic gains one-time or ongoing?

Deficit Debate

- Discrepancy in deficit estimates between the Governor's Office (\$3B) and the Legislative Analyst's Office (\$18B)

Federal Funding

- The preliminary budget does not address potential backfills for Federal funding cuts.



Aspire Budget Timeline

2026 -2027

Feb. 17
–
Early
March

Round 1 School
site budget
meetings

March

Round 1 HO & RO
budget meetings

March-May

Informal site
level budget
check-ins as
needed

Mid May

May revise
budget release

*Governor
releases
updated budget*

Late May
–
Early June

Round 2 site
level budget
meetings

June 18

Final Budget
presented to
Aspire Board of
Directors for
approval

By
June 30

CA State
budget is
finalized

Aspire Financial Context

We continue to monitor multiple factors affecting the public school sector as a whole

"The 3 E's and one O"

One-time Funding

We have used up our one-time COVID stimulus funding

Economy

Federal funding uncertainty creates potential downstream impact to CA State economy

Enrollment

Declining enrollment nationwide

Employees

Recruiting, retaining, compensating Talent competitively



Student Needs