



## Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DPI 9/10/2015

LRB Number	15-3132/1	Introduction Number	SB-254	Estimate Type	Original
<b>Description</b> Achievement Gap Reduction program					

### Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill makes various changes to the "Achievement Gap Reduction" (AGR) program created in 2015 Wisconsin Act 53.

The AGR program is a categorical aid program that provides funding to participating schools for low-income pupils enrolled in participating grades if the participating school complies with a contract (an AGR contract) entered into by a school board, on behalf of the participating school, with the Department of Public Instruction (DPI). A participating grade is a grade from kindergarten to third grade that is subject to an AGR contract.

Under current law, the strategies described below related to class size and tutoring must be implemented in one or more classes in one or more participating grades at each participating school and the instructional coaching strategy described below must be provided for one or more teachers of one or more participating grades at each participating school. Under current law, a school board that enters into an AGR contract must implement one or more of the following strategies:

1. Reduce the class size to 18 pupils or, if a classroom has at least two regular classroom teachers, to 30 pupils; and provide professional development on small group instruction.
2. Provide instructional coaching for teachers.
3. Provide one-to-one tutoring to pupils who struggle with reading or math.

Under SB 254, an AGR contract must require a school board to implement one or more of the strategies described below in each class in each participating grade at each participating school. This addresses concerns regarding Act 53 language, whereby a school could potentially implement an AGR strategy in only one classroom, for example, but receive funds for students in all classrooms in grades K-3.

This bill clarifies payment processes to ensure the state appropriately pays aid for pupils in classrooms in which implementation strategies as required under the AGR Program are utilized. This will ensure program benefits are directed towards only eligible pupils.

This bill also delays the first annual evaluation of the AGR program by one school year. Under the bill, DPI must first arrange for an annual evaluation of the AGR program in the 2018-19 school year.

Local: The bill clarifies language contained in Act 53 and is not expected to result in additional costs.

State: None

### Long-Range Fiscal Implications