



+ The 2011 - 2012 State Legislature and Advocacy

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Wisconsin Technical College District Boards



Topics ...

2011 – 2012 Session Environment

Key Issues for the Legislative Session

Advocacy and Why it's Important



+ 2010 Wisconsin Elections

SENATE

ASSEMBLY

	D	R
■ 2009-10	18	15
■ 2011-12	14	19

	D	R
■ 2009-10	52	46
■ 2011-12	38	60
■ 1 Independent each session		

(17 of 33 votes to control majority)

(50 of 99 votes to control majority)



2010 Elections

Timing

- Candidates elected November 2 took office January 3
- The new legislative session runs January, 2011 to December, 2012.
- Governor called a Special Session for January – February.
- Regular session is dominated by the biennium budget bill which controls programs and spending for the 2-year period beginning July 1, 2011.
- Stand-alone bills traditionally have a hard time moving until the budget is settled (likely early Summer, 2011.)



+ Major Issues

+ Issue I

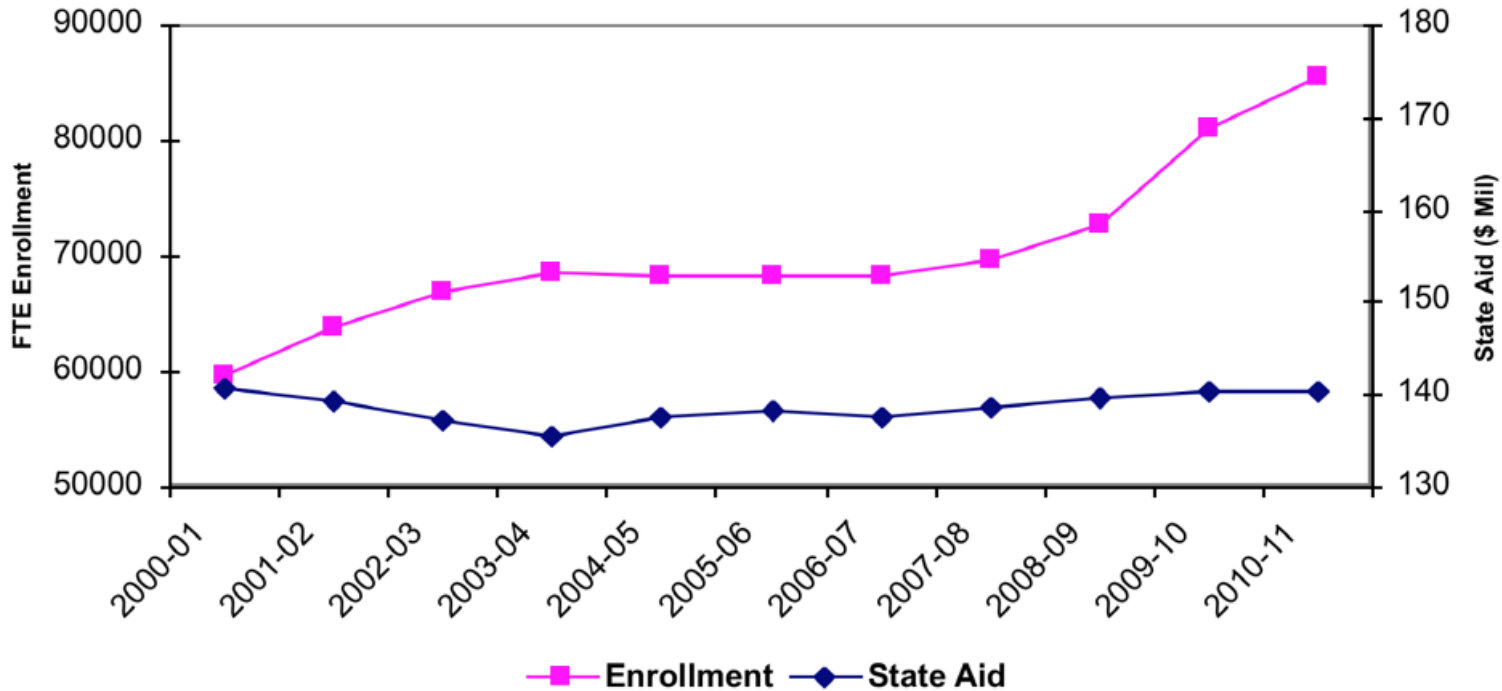
The State Budget

- Introduced by the Governor (typically in February)
- Starts, stops and modifies programs as well as setting spending.
- \$3 Billion estimated structural deficit over biennium.
- Re-written by Legislature's Joint Finance Committee or "JFC"
- JFC now 12 Republicans and 4 Democrats
 - 8 members of each house
 - 6 majority and 2 minority members



Steady State Support – Booming Enrollment

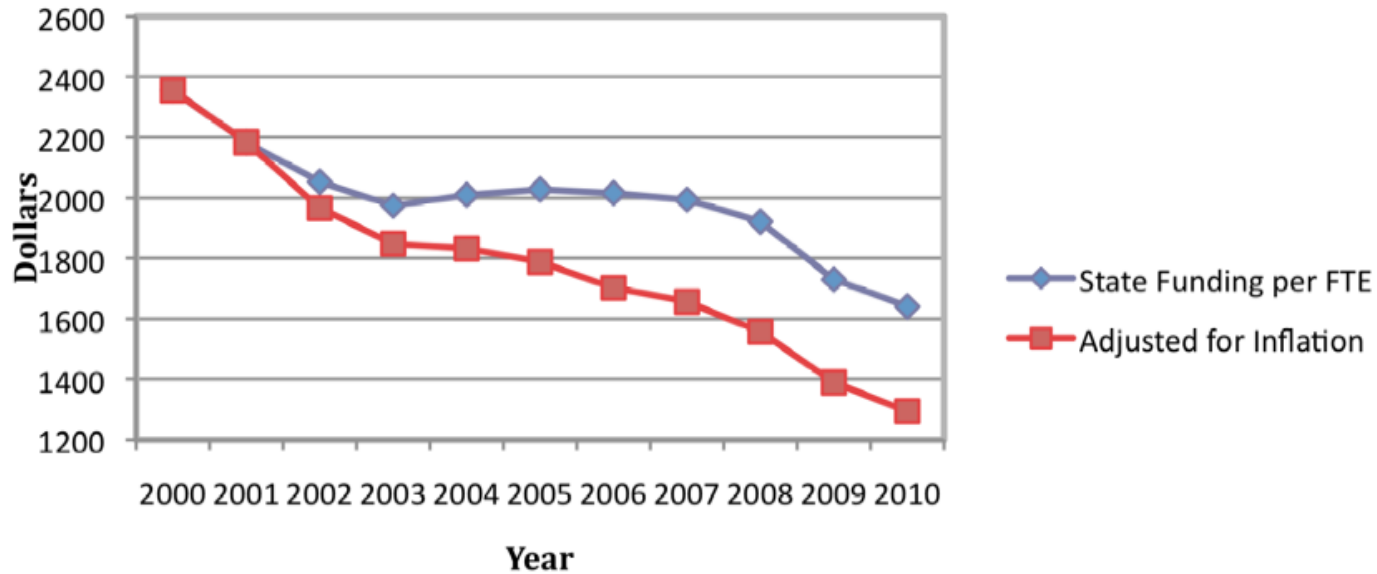
State Aid Support and Enrollment - Wisconsin Technical Colleges





Per Student State Support Plummets

**State Funding per Wisconsin Technical College Student – Actual
and as Affected by Inflation**





+ Major Issues

Other than the state budget

+ Session Issues

Non-Budget

- Levy Authority for operations and debt.
- Pension contributions, Collective Bargaining, Health Insurance
- Governance (elected district boards)
- Professionalism and Credentials
- Micromanagement



+ Advocacy



+ Tests for Success

When stopped by a reporter on the street and asked to name the most important assets of his/her legislative district, the legislator lists your college.

No legislator will willfully hurt or fail to help a critical district asset

Before sponsoring, supporting or opposing a bill, a legislator will want to know what you think.

This provides “early warning” as well as the opportunity for input.

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bachelor degree holders
38,000
enrolled in technical colleges

94%
grads employed
within 6 months

five-year statewide
26% ↑
record enrollments

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Questions and Comments