

EDUCATIONAL BROADCASTING CORPORATION

GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Source of Funds	FY01 Adjusted Base	FY02 Recommended	% Change Over FY01	FY03 Recommended	% Change Over FY02
TOTAL	0	0	0.0	0	0.0

FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION SUMMARY

Source of Funds	FY01 Adjusted Base	FY02 Recommended	FTE Change From FY01	FY03 Recommended	FTE Change From FY02
TOTAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

AGENCY DESCRIPTION

The Governor recommends creating an Educational Broadcasting Corporation to be the principal public broadcasting entity in Wisconsin. A nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation, the corporation's primary mission will be to deliver public radio and television broadcasting services to Wisconsin residents. The corporation will also:

1. Collaborate with the Department of Public Instruction and University of Wisconsin System to provide quality instructional programming to Wisconsin students.
2. Have chief responsibility for the conversion of public television broadcasting from the analog format to the digital format.
3. Work to create a public broadcasting endowment fund.

The corporation will be governed initially by a twenty-member transition board, two-thirds of whom will be appointed by the Governor. The board will also consist of the Department of Administration secretary, the University of Wisconsin System president, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Wisconsin Technical College System director, the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities president, one state Assembly member and one state Senate member.

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RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Restructuring Public Broadcasting

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The Governor recommends creating an Educational Broadcasting Corporation to provide public broadcasting services on a nonprofit, tax-exempt basis. A twenty-member board would be created to manage the transition. The board would draft and file articles of incorporation, draft by-laws, and prepare an application to the Federal Communications Commission to transfer all broadcasting licenses held by the Educational Communications Board and the University of Wisconsin System board of regents to the board. Licenses held by the board of regents for student radio stations would not transfer. If the Federal Communications Commission approves the transfer of licenses to the board, the Educational Communications Board and the University of Wisconsin-Extension public broadcasting division would be repealed and all unencumbered funds at the Educational Communications Board and the University of Wisconsin-Extension would transfer to the board and the Department of Administration. Employees of the Educational Communications Board and the University of Wisconsin-Extension would remain state employees and would contract with the board for their services or would elect to become employees of the board.