

## CIRCUIT COURTS

### GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Source of Funds	FY13 Adjusted Base	FY14 Recommended	% Change Over FY13	FY15 Recommended	% Change Over FY14
GPR	96,348,500	94,501,000	-1.9	94,501,000	0.0
PR-S	232,700	232,700	0.0	232,700	0.0
TOTAL	96,581,200	94,733,700	-1.9	94,733,700	0.0

### FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION SUMMARY

Source of Funds	FY13 Adjusted Base	FY14 Recommended	FTE Change Over FY13	FY15 Recommended	FTE Change Over FY14
GPR	527.00	527.00	0.00	527.00	0.00
TOTAL	527.00	527.00	0.00	527.00	0.00

### AGENCY DESCRIPTION

The Circuit Courts are Wisconsin's courts of general jurisdiction and consist of 249 judicial positions in 69 judicial circuits. Each county in the state is a circuit, with the exception of Pepin and Buffalo, Menominee and Shawano, and Forest and Florence, which are paired to form three circuits. Where the volume of litigation warrants, a circuit consists of more than one branch (judge). Of the 69 circuits, 41 contain multiple branches.

The Circuit Courts have original jurisdiction in all criminal, civil, juvenile, family and probate cases unless exclusive jurisdiction has been given to another court. The courts have appellate jurisdiction over orders and judgments of the municipal courts and the responsibility to review decisions and orders of state administrative agencies.

For purposes of management, the Circuit Courts are divided into ten administrative districts. Each district has a chief judge appointed by the Supreme Court and a district court administrator who administer the business of the judicial branch in that district in cooperation with the director of state courts at the direction of the chief justice. The first judicial district (Milwaukee County) also has an assistant district court administrator.

## **CIRCUIT COURTS**

### **GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Out-of-State Interpreter Travel
2. Standard Budget Adjustments

#### **ITEMS NOT APPROVED**

3. Bifurcated Small Claims Clerk of Circuit Court Fee
4. Financial Assistance Programs
5. Judicial Compensation

**Circuit Courts**

**Table 1  
Department Budget Summary by Funding Source (in thousands of dollars)**

	ACTUAL FY12	ADJUSTED BASE FY13	AGENCY REQUEST FY14	AGENCY REQUEST FY15	GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FY14	GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FY15
GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE	\$91,582.5	\$96,348.5	\$101,622.6	\$101,814.9	\$94,501.0	\$94,501.0
State Operations	69,687.3	71,671.7	71,939.1	72,131.4	69,824.2	69,824.2
Local Assistance	21,895.2	24,676.8	29,683.5	29,683.5	24,676.8	24,676.8
PROGRAM REVENUE (2)	\$134.0	\$232.7	\$232.7	\$232.7	\$232.7	\$232.7
Local Assistance	134.0	232.7	232.7	232.7	232.7	232.7
TOTALS - ANNUAL	\$91,716.5	\$96,581.2	\$101,855.3	\$102,047.6	\$94,733.7	\$94,733.7
State Operations	69,687.3	71,671.7	71,939.1	72,131.4	69,824.2	69,824.2
Local Assistance	22,029.2	24,909.5	29,916.2	29,916.2	24,909.5	24,909.5

(2) Includes Program Revenue-Service and Program Revenue-Other

**Table 2  
Department Position Summary by Funding Source (in FTE positions) (4)**

	ADJUSTED BASE FY13	AGENCY REQUEST FY14	AGENCY REQUEST FY15	GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FY14	GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FY15
GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE	527.00	527.00	527.00	527.00	527.00
TOTALS - ANNUAL	527.00	527.00	527.00	527.00	527.00

(2) Includes Program Revenue-Service and Program Revenue-Other

(4) All positions are State Operations unless otherwise specified

**Circuit Courts**

**Table 3  
Department Budget Summary by Program (in thousands of dollars)**

	ACTUAL FY12	ADJUSTED BASE FY13	AGENCY REQUEST		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION	
			FY14	FY15	FY14	FY15
1. Court operations	\$91,716.5	\$96,581.2	\$101,855.3	\$102,047.6	\$94,733.7	\$94,733.7
TOTALS	\$91,716.5	\$96,581.2	\$101,855.3	\$102,047.6	\$94,733.7	\$94,733.7

**Table 4  
Department Position Summary by Program (in FTE positions) (4)**

	ADJUSTED BASE FY13	AGENCY REQUEST		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION	
		FY14	FY15	FY14	FY15
1. Court operations	527.00	527.00	527.00	527.00	527.00
TOTALS	527.00	527.00	527.00	527.00	527.00

(4) All positions are State Operations unless otherwise specified

**Circuit Courts**

**1. Out-of-State Interpreter Travel**

The Governor recommends authorizing reimbursement for out-of-state court interpreter costs incurred by the counties for interpreter services. Out-of-state interpreters would be allowed to be reimbursed for travel from their residence to the state border (up to 200 miles roundtrip) in addition to reimbursement for travel within the state. Expanding reimbursement will give counties greater access to rare language interpreters.

**2. Standard Budget Adjustments**

Source of Funds	Agency Request				Governor's Recommendations			
	FY14		FY15		FY14		FY15	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
GPR	-1,847,500	0.00	-1,847,500	0.00	-1,847,500	0.00	-1,847,500	0.00
TOTAL	-1,847,500	0.00	-1,847,500	0.00	-1,847,500	0.00	-1,847,500	0.00

The Governor recommends adjusting the agency's base budget for: (a) full funding of continuing position salaries and fringe benefits (-\$1,846,500 in each year); and (b) full funding of lease and directed moves costs (-\$1,000 in each year).

**ITEMS NOT APPROVED**

The following requests are not included in the Governor's budget recommendations for the Circuit Courts.

Decision Item	Source of Funds	FY14		FY15	
		Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
3. Bifurcated Small Claims Clerk of Circuit Court Fee	GPR	0	0.00	0	0.00
4. Financial Assistance Programs	GPR	5,006,700	0.00	5,006,700	0.00
5. Judicial Compensation	GPR	2,114,900	0.00	2,307,200	0.00
TOTAL OF ITEMS NOT APPROVED	GPR	7,121,600	0.00	7,313,900	0.00

## Circuit Courts