

JTED FUNDING MYTHS **DEBUNKED!**

The truth about JTED Career and Technical Education funding and Arizona's 2016-2017 Budget

The last session of the Arizona State Legislature was unparalleled in its brevity, and the approval of the budget was equally swift. During those evening hours, as legislators faced tough decisions, misinformation circulated regarding the \$29 million cut to the state's 14 Joint Technical Education Districts, which are charged with delivering Career and Technical Education programs to high school age students.



JTED students are double funded:

FALSE

When the Arizona Legislature passed a law in 1990 allowing two or more school districts to form a JTED with voter approval, they recognized the fact that premier Career and Technical Education courses are more expensive to deliver because they must have industry-relevant equipment, and safe facilities. Voters in Arizona have overwhelmingly approved 14 JTED Districts, and the additional 0.25 funding for these programs. JTEDs are only funded once per student, even for thousands of students who enroll in more than one JTED program at the same time.



It's a 7.5% budget cut:

FALSE

Because Arizona's school finance formulas are complicated, it's difficult to see that the cuts amount to a 50% loss of funding to JTEDS. The new budget cuts the whole ADM to districts for every student enrolled in a JTED program by 7.5% starting in 2016. This leaves districts approximately \$4244 in ADM, a loss of \$344 per JTED student. It also cuts JTEDs' 0.25 ADM, and our three largest JTEDs are already held at 95.5% of that funding, so JTED ADM ends up reduced to 88% from its funding, to \$1013. Districts typically receive 70% of JTED ADM, while the balance provides services and central campus programs. This leaves JTED funding for districts at \$709 per student. Under the new budget law, Districts may take JTED ADM to supplant the \$344 loss per student for their Maintenance and Operations budgets, leaving \$365 per student—a 50% budget cut.



JTEDs can increase their local tax rate:

FALSE

JTED's receive revenue from two primary sources: A five cent per \$100 assessed secondary property tax which is set in statute, and state funding earmarked for the JTED districts. All funding for JTED budgets is based on the number of students and the amount of time those students are in class, known as ADM or Average Daily Membership.