
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

December 16, 2020



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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SCHOOL BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE — DECEMBER 2020

Meeting. The School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) met on December 15, 2020.

Supplementary Weighting. The SBRC approved supplementary weightings for school districts for the 2020-2021 school year. These weightings do not include operational function sharing. Overall, supplementary weightings are up 1.4% from the previous year. The weightings will be included in the FY 2022 School Budget Aid and Levy.

On Time Funding. The SBRC approved modified supplemental amounts (MSAs) for 106 school districts where certified enrollment in FY 2021 exceeded certified enrollment from the previous year, which is used for funding calculations in the current fiscal year. The total MSAs statewide approved by the SBRC for FY 2021 for on time funding total \$15.7 million, a decrease of \$23.2 million (-59.6%) from FY 2020.

Open Enrollment Out Applications. The SBRC approved MSAs for 281 school districts for open enrollment students in FY 2021 for whom a district is required to pay tuition in FY 2021, but who were not included on the certified enrollment count from the previous year. The total MSAs statewide approved by the SBRC for FY 2021 for open enrollment total \$40.2 million, an increase of \$11.8 million (41.3%) from FY 2020.

Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Applications. The SBRC approved MSAs for 176 districts for LEP education beyond five years. The total MSAs statewide approved by the SBRC for FY 2021 for LEP education total \$11.8 million, an increase of \$364,300 (3.2%) from FY 2020.

Excess Limited English Proficiency Costs. The SBRC approved MSAs for 130 districts for excess LEP costs for FY 2020. The total MSAs statewide approved by the SBRC for FY 2020 for excess LEP costs total \$17.6 million, an increase of \$1.6 million (10.0%) from 2019, pending additional Department of Education review of denied school districts.

Special Education Balances. The SBRC approved two items for special education balances:

- Approved that no deductions may be made from school district budgets for excess special education support services fund balances in the Area Education Agencies due to no balances exceeding 10.0%.
- Approved all districts requesting an MSA for excess special education costs for FY 2020. The total requested statewide is \$162.5 million, an increase of \$19.6 million (13.7%) from FY 2019.

Class-Action COVID-19 Transfer Requests. The SBRC approved fund transfer requests for FY 2020 due to COVID-19 related expenses for two school districts, Woodbury Central Community School District and Sergeant Bluff-Luton Community School District. The total amount approved by the SBRC is \$123,400.

Additional Modified Supplemental Amounts. The SBRC approved additional MSAs for the following districts:

- \$131,300 for Audubon Community School District for hazard abatement.
- \$18,700 for Gladbrook-Reinbeck Community School District for hazard abatement.
- \$28,600 for South Central Calhoun Community School District for hazard abatement.
- \$76,900 for Southeast Webster-Grand Community School District for hazard abatement.

- Up to \$1.5 million for Sioux Center Community School District for costs contributing to construction of the district's new high school building.
- \$88,400 for Prairie Valley Community School District for nonbudgeted expenditures incurred due to the district's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The SBRC approved the waivers but tabled additional MSAs for the following districts until after a proposed work session to discuss changes on how late-filers for programs related to at-risk students, alternative programs and alternative schools, and returning dropouts are submitted to the SBRC:

- \$275,500 for Alta-Aurelia Community School District for programs related to at-risk students, alternative programs and alternative schools, and returning dropouts.
- \$463,500 for Carroll Community School District for programs related to at-risk students, alternative programs and alternative schools, and returning dropouts.
- \$170,600 for Clarinda Community School District for programs related to at-risk students, alternative programs and alternative schools, and returning dropouts.
- \$110,600 for Collins-Maxwell Community School District for programs related to at-risk students, alternative programs and alternative schools, and returning dropouts.

More Information. Additional information is available upon request.

Next Meeting. The next scheduled SBRC meeting will be held January 25, 2021.

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