257.40 Approval of programs for returning dropouts and dropout prevention – annual report

1. The board of directors of a school district requesting to use modified allowable growth for programs for returning dropouts and dropout prevention shall submit requests for modified at-risk allowable growth, including budget cost, to the department not later than December 15 of the year preceding the budget year during which the program will be offered.

The department shall review the request and shall prior to January 15 either grant approval for the request or return the request for approval with comments of the department included. An unapproved request for a program may be resubmitted with modifications to the department not later than February 1. Not later than February 15, the department shall notify the department of management and the school budget review committee of the names of the school districts for which programs using modified allowable growth for funding have been approved and the approved budget of each program listed separately for each school district having an approved request.

2. Beginning January 15, 2007, the department shall submit an annual report to the chairpersons and ranking members of the senate and house education committees that includes the ways school districts in the previous school year used modified allowable growth approved under subsection 1; identifies, by grade level, age, and district size, the students in the dropout and dropout prevention programs for which the department approves a request; describes school district progress toward increasing student achievement and attendance for the students in the programs; and describes how the school districts are using the revenues from the modified allowable growth to improve student achievement among minority subgroups.   89 Acts, ch 135, §40; 2006 Acts, ch 1152, §28   Section amended

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Data for FY 2007 (2006-2007 school year):

For the 2006-2007 school year, 304 school districts applied for and received funds for Dropout Prevention Programs. A total of $79,551,608.00 was utilized for a total of 108,038 identified students at-risk of dropping out of school. The annual cost per student averages $736.00.

- 304 of the 365 districts applied and were approved (83.29% of districts)

- Size of districts by student population
  - ✓ 0 – 499:   88 districts
  - ✓ 500 – 999:   111 districts
  - ✓ 1,000 – 1,499:   44 districts
  - ✓ 1,500 – 2,499:   31 districts
  - ✓ 2,500 – 9,999:   23 districts
  - ✓ 10,000 and above: 7 districts

- Of the 304 districts using allowable growth, the districts are focusing on the following (districts may select more than one school level service):
  - ✓ Elementary students: 253 districts
  - ✓ Middle/Junior high students: 257 districts
  - ✓ High school students: 259 districts
  - ✓ Alternative school students: 132 districts

- A few examples of types of services currently provided through use of modified allowable growth for at risk:
  - ✓ Before/after school tutoring for at-risk students
  - ✓ Intensive in-school instruction in reading and math
  - ✓ Strategy instruction (study skills, listening skills, note-taking, problem solving, decision making)
  - ✓ Professional development for teachers and support staff (strategies for working with at-risk youth, identification of at-risk students, improved communication between home and school, school climate, positive behavior supports, restorative justice and behavior management)
  - ✓ School-based support services (working with other agencies to provide services within schools)
  - ✓ School to Work Experiences
  - ✓ Service Learning

- Districts must provide information in their Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP) regarding how the modified allowable growth will improve achievement for their at-risk students and those identified minority subgroups.

- Districts must complete an Annual Progress Report (APR) which reports achievement data and is disaggregated into subgroups but the initial collection did not allow us to disaggregate the collected data in a manageable way.

Modified Allowable Growth 06-07