



OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

APPROPRIATE USE OF FUNDS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Question: Can funds be used reimburse the employment costs for an Assistive Technology Assistant?

Answer: Yes. An AT Assistant could be defined as a non-degreed staff member who consults with LEA staff regarding software and computer uses. This position is fundable to the extent they work with special education teachers related to technology issues. This position should not be listed as a Para-professional.

Funding Sources:

- ARRA Special Education Award

Coding:

- Function Code 225, Object Code 1590

Date Amended/Added: 5/1/2009

Question: Are Assistive Technology Toolkits a reimbursable expenditure?

Answer: Yes. AT Toolkits are reimbursable if purchased for students with IEPs or if purchased for all teachers through a professional development activity. AT Toolkits are not reimbursable if directly purchased for a students without IEPs.

Funding Sources:

- IDEA Special Education Regular Award
- ARRA Special Education Award
- State Aid funds may be used only if AT toolkits are purchased for students with IEPs or for professional development for Special Education Teachers only.

Coding:

- Function Code: 122, Object Code 5110 if purchased for students with IEPs
- Function Code: 221, Object Code 5110 if part of professional development activity

Date Amended/Added: 5/1/2009

EARLY INTERVENING SERVICES

Question: Can funds be used to provide Early Intervening Services to Children in Preschool, ages 3-5?

Answer: No. EIS is specific to IDEA and is defined as services for students without an IEP in Kindergarten through Grade 12, with an emphasis on Kindergarten through Grade 3.

Date Amended/Added: 5/1/2009

COMPUTERS / TECHNOLOGY / SOFTWARE

Question: Can funds be used to "completely refurbish" a computer lab?

Answer: No. However, purchasing technology for a computer lab to accommodate a student's IEP is reimbursable.

Funding Sources:

- IDEA Special Education Regular Award
- ARRA Special Education Award
- State Aid

Date Amended/Added: 5/1/2009

Question: Can funds be used to purchase computers for Special Education Administrators and their assigned Clerical Support Staff?

Answer: Yes. Provided under Permissive Use of Funds, Administrative Case Management, IDEA §613(a)(4)(B).

Funding Sources:

- IDEA Special Education Regular Award
- ARRA Special Education Award

Coding:

- Function Code 226, Object Code 5110

Date Amended/Added: 5/1/2009

Question: Can funds be used to purchase computers for Students with IEPs housed in co-taught classrooms?

Answer: Yes. Computers and technology are reimbursable in order to accommodate a student's IEP.

Funding Sources:

- IDEA Special Education Regular Award
- ARRA Special Education Award

Date Amended/Added: 5/1/2009

Question: Can funds be used by an LEA or PSA to purchase student data tracking systems for students with IEPs, such as Zangle or Power School?

Answer: Yes. The funds used to purchase student data tracking systems should be in proportion to the number of students with IEPs.

Funding Sources:

- ARRA Special Education Award

Date Amended/Added: 5/1/2009

Question: Can funds be used to purchase reading and math intervention software programs to be used for students with or without IEPs in the general education setting?

Answer: Yes. Software expenses are reimbursable in order to accommodate a student with an IEP.

Funding Sources:

- IDEA Special Education Regular Award
- ARRA Special Education Award

Date Amended/Added: 5/1/2009

ADMINISTRATIVE SALARIES / EMPLOYMENT COSTS

Question: Can funds be used to reimburse the employment costs for Special Education Directors, Supervisors, or Clerical Support Staff?

Answer: Yes. Rule 340.1750, requires ISD Directors of special education to be employed/contracted full-time and LEA Directors must be employed/contracted not less than half-time. Any variations to that would require a Waiver of Administrative Rule. Rule 340.1751, requires Supervisors of special education to be employed/contracted not less than half-time. Secretary/Clerical Support Staff working 100% of their employment in special education.

Funding Sources:

- IDEA Special Education Regular Award
- ARRA Special Education Award
- State Aid

Coding:

- Directors: Function Code 226, Object Code 1170
- Supervisors: Function Code 226, Object Code 1160
- Secretary/Clerical: Function Code 226, Object Code 1620

Date Amended/Added: 5/1/2009

Question: Can funds be used to reimburse employment costs for a Teacher Consultant, without a caseload, to support RtI initiatives?

Answer: Yes. A TC without a caseload may support teachers with RtI initiatives as long as they are providing support to classroom teachers and not working directly with students. TCs working directly with students with an IEP must carry a caseload or the LEA must apply for a waiver.

Funding Sources:

- IDEA Special Education Regular Award
- ARRA Special Education Award

Date Amended/Added: 5/1/2009

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT / TRAINING

Question: Can funds be used to support parent/guardian training?

Answer: Yes.

Funding Sources:

- IDEA Special Education Regular Award
- ARRA Special Education Award
- State Aid

Date Amended/Added: 5/1/2009

Question: Can funds be used to provide for Professional Development?
 Can funds be used to reimburse employment costs for non-special education credentialed staff to provide PD services?
 Can funds be used to hire “master subject teachers” in content areas to teach other teachers to improve instruction?
 Can funds be used to provide PD for all staff member in RtI, Positive Behavior and Literacy Supports?

Answer: Yes. Funds may be used to reimburse employment/contracting costs for individuals providing PD. There are no requirements specific to the credentials/certifications of the person providing the PD. In order for the PD to be reimbursable, the skills obtain through the PD must have applicability for students with IEPs.

Funding Sources:

- IDEA Special Education Regular Award
- ARRA Special Education Award

Date Amended/Added: 5/1/2009

Question: Can funds be used to pay for substitutes to release special education and general education teachers to attend professional development?

Answer: Yes. Professional development must be designed to support students with IEPs in the general education setting.

Funding Sources:

- IDEA Special Education Regular Award
- ARRA Special Education Award

Date Amended/Added: 5/1/2009

DATA PERSON

Question: Can funds be used to pay for the employment costs to employ a “Data Person”?

Answer: Yes. This position is reimbursable to the extent they work with IDEA data mandates.

Funding Sources:

- ARRA Special Education Award

Date Amended/Added: 5/1/2009

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

Question: Can funds be used for Early Childhood programs and services for children ages Birth - 2?

Answer: No. Funds are allocated for children ages 3 – 21.

Date Amended/Added: 5/1/2009

Questions regarding any of the information in this document should be forwarded by email to:

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