STATE SCHOOL AID UPDATE

Michigan Department of Education



DECEMBER 2019

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL OF YOU

Superintendent Michael Rice and the State Aid and School Finance Unit of the Office of Financial Management (Jeff, Brian, John, Chris, Chad, Jessica, Carri, and Phil) wish each of you a Happy Holiday Season! Also, we wish you the best for the upcoming New Year. As always, we encourage you to feel free to contact us with questions or concerns that we may be able to help with. In addition, we would like to thank you for the support and encouragement that you express to us when we talk on the phone or meet occasionally in person at meetings and other functions.

2020 SCHOOL AID BUDGET SUPPLEMENTAL

Governor Whitmer has been presented with Senate bill 154, which will restore a number of items that were vetoed from the 2020 school aid budget. Restored items include the foundation increase for public school academies, isolated district funding, early literacy coaches, and summer school literacy intervention grants, among others. While the legislation is not signed yet, we look forward to that happening soon, and anticipate being able to include most, if not all restored items in the January 2020 school aid payment.

JANUARY 10, 2020 REVENUE ESTIMATING CONFERENCE

A revenue estimating conference will be held on January 10, 2020 to update revenue projections for fiscal year (FY) 2020 and FY 2021, and to make initial projections for FY 2022. The results of that conference will be reported in the January UPDATE, and will have an effect on school aid for those years. For detailed information on the January revenue estimating conference, go to the House of Representative Fiscal Agency website or Senate Fiscal Agency website following the conference.

DECEMBER PAYMENT INFORMATION

The December state school aid payment is the third regular payment of the 2020 fiscal year. The payment will be electronically transferred to the districts' accounts on Friday, December 20, 2019.

Pupil membership – October 2019 unaudited pupil count data reported to the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) via the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) were used in the calculation of the blended membership count for the December payment.

Updated categoricals – The following categoricals were updated in the December payment although the updates may not have affected the allocation amounts for all districts. If the allocation amount for your district has changed and you have questions concerning that change, contact the consultants below:

- State Technology Data Hubs Section 22m (Barry Tiedeman – Center for Educational Performance and Information, 517-284-4147, <u>TiedemanB@Michigan.gov</u>)
- Great Start Readiness Program (Becky Pennington Office of Great Start, 517-241-7005, PenningtonB@michigan.gov)

2019-20 PUPIL ACCOUNTING MANUAL

The 2019-20 Pupil Accounting Manual has been released along with a document noting significant changes. Both documents are found on our <u>website</u>. Following the initial

release, the department was notified of an issue with Section 5-O-D. The current version of the manual includes updates to this section.

BUDGET TRANSPARENCY REMINDER

On December 1, we began reviewing budget transparency websites for compliance. Section 18 of the State School Aid Act includes penalty language for noncompliance. Districts have 30 days from the date of our correspondence to make the necessary updates. If compliance is not met after 30 days, state school aid will be withheld from your next payment.

You do not have to wait for our review. When your transparency page is ready for review, please let Chad Urchike know and your page will be given priority.

Budget transparency guidance may be found on our <u>website</u>. It contains information on all of the required data elements, the prescribed form and manner, and examples of the required transparency reports. Please direct budget transparency questions to Chad Urchike at <u>UrchikeC1@Michigan.gov</u> or 517-335-1261.

CALL TO UPDATE EEM BUSINESS MANAGER CONTACT

Help us reach you with important financial information by adding or reviewing your district's Business Manager contact information in the Educational Entity Master (EEM). By adding a Business Manager contact, you help ensure timely receipt of communications regarding matters like indirect costs, Section 23a membership and Section 25g categorical adjustments.

The district's <u>EEM</u> authorized user has access to add additional contacts. To identify the current authorized user, you have two options:

- 1. Send a message to the district authorized user by searching for your school in the <u>EEM</u>-Search window, click the link for your district, and then click the "Contact Authorized User" button near the top-left of the window.
- 2. Email CEPI Customer Support at cepi@michigan.gov or call 517-335-0505 x3.

Additional documentation: <u>How to Add, Remove or Edit a Contact Type in the Educational</u> Entity Master.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- The proration factor for the Section 31a At Risk funds is 79.72873316%.
- The Headlee Obligation for Data Collection funds are paid at \$25.8104968402 per pupil.

^{*}Do you have questions about the information appearing in this UPDATE? Call the consultants identified above or **Phil Boone, Assistant Director, Financial Management, MDE**, phone: **517-335-4059**, fax: **517-241-0196**, e-mail: BooneP2@Michigan.gov