

FEBRUARY PAYMENT INFORMATION

The payment will be electronically transferred to districts' accounts on Thursday, February 20, 2020.

2020 SECTION 31A AT-RISK PAYMENT

The changes to 31a(2) and 31a(4), which holds districts harmless for their first year in Community Eligibility Provision, have been made and the allocations are anticipated to stay fairly stable going forward.

MPSERS RETIREMENT FUNDS

Section 147e payment includes actual amounts reported to Office of Retirement Services (ORS) through Dec 31, 2019 and will continue to be paid on a quarterly basis.

2020 SECTION 51F REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

The appropriation is currently allocated using an initial estimate of 2% of the special education costs. Starting with the March payment, the allocation will be revised and the reimbursement percentage is projected to increase to 2.29%.

KINDERGARTEN EARLY ENROLLMENT

Section 1147 of the Revised School Code continues to allow parents to notify a district of an early kindergarten enrollment if their child will be 5 years of age by December 1 of the school year. Barring a legislative change, a parent's ability to notify a district of an early enrollment in kindergarten will continue in perpetuity. This should not be confused with the transition of the "5 by" deadline for [Great Start Readiness Programs](#) (GSRP).

DAYS, HOURS OF INSTRUCTION, AND 75% ATTENDANCE REPORTING

If a district had a shortfall in meeting one of the requirements, detailed information must be reported through the state reporting system. The responsibility to review and certify district reports as accurate remains a function of the pupil membership auditors. To certify the accuracy of the information, districts will be required to provide documentation of the degree to which they satisfied each of the requirements to the pupil membership auditor. If your district does not already have a method for the capture of this information, contact your pupil membership auditor for the preferred mechanism of capturing this information. If the auditor does not have a preferred method for capturing this information, the Department has prepared [a tool for the purpose](#).

SUPPLEMENTAL COUNT DAY

The second count date of the school year was February 12, 2020. As a courtesy to the field, the Department would like to remind all districts that schools must be open and scheduled for regular instruction on each count day prescribed in legislation. Only a district that is not in session on that day due to conditions not within the control of school authorities will be allowed to use the immediately following day on which the district is in session for count purposes, and only if the district requested and received written approval from the Department for the alternate count date. If your district was closed on count day due to unforeseen conditions, please use the following form to request an alternate count date: <https://fs10.formsite.com/SASF/form8/index.html>.

SECTION 101 – SCHOOL DAY CANCELLATIONS AND FORGIVEN TIME

Section 101 of the State School Aid Act (MCL 388.1701) remains the same as FY 2019 with regard to the cancellation of instructional time. The language continues to grant districts six (6) days and/or the equivalent number of hours to use toward cancellations that occur due to conditions beyond the control of school authorities, commonly referred to as “forgiven time” or “snow days.” Language remains that grants the State Superintendent the authority to grant up to three (3) additional days or equivalent hours cancelled as instruction, provided the cancellation is due to unusual and extenuating circumstances resulting from conditions not within the control of school authorities. Districts must provide strong rationale supporting why these days cannot be rescheduled before the end of the school year. Applications for additional forgiven time will only be accepted through the [online form](#) beginning February 24, 2020.

Districts utilizing options such as professional development to reduce instructional time requirements are less likely to receive approval from the department for additional forgiven time. Applications for additional forgiven time will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. See the [January 30 memo](#) for additional information.

Questions regarding this item should be directed to Jessica Beagle at BeagleJ1@Michigan.gov.

BUDGET TRANSPARENCY REMINDERS

- All schools must use the standard budget transparency logo found on the Department’s website. It must measure at least 150 x 150 pixels and be immediately visible once your Main Home Page has loaded.
- March 1 is the deadline for updating Employee Compensation Information with 2019 calendar year data. A description and cost for each fringe benefit must be disclosed.
- Current year budgets/amendments must be posted within 15 days of board approval.

Questions related to Budget Transparency may be directed to Chad Urchike at UrchikeC1@michigan.gov or 517-335-1261.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- March 18, 2020 is the deadline for ISDs to submit to the Center for Educational Performance and Information the Audited FTE Counts for the October 2, 2019 Pupil Membership Count Day.
- February 12 was the FY 2020 Supplemental count date. The Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) records for the Supplemental count date are due to the Center by March 18, 2020 and are to be certified by March 22, 2020.
- The proration factor for Section 31a – At Risk funding is 78.75499748%.
- The Section 22d(4) funds are being paid at \$51.6215930741 per pupil.
- The Headlee Obligation for Data Collection funds are being paid at a rate of \$25.7943012993 per pupil.

*Do you have questions about the information appearing in this UPDATE? Call the consultants identified above or **Phil Boone, State Aid and School Finance, MDE**, phone: 517-335-4059, fax: 517-241-0196, e-mail: BooneP2@Michigan.gov