



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** September 17, 2015

**TO:** Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents  
Public School Academy Directors

**FROM:** Kyle Guerrant, Deputy Superintendent *KG*

**SUBJECT:** State School Aid Section 23a Pupil Counts

Section 23a of the State School Aid Act [MCL 388.1623a] describes dropout recovery programs that qualify for the “special membership counting provision” found in Section 6(4)(dd) of the State School Aid Act [MCL 388.1606]. In certain circumstances, the full-time equivalency (FTE) for pupils participating under Section 23a can exceed 1.0. The funds used to cover the portion of the FTE above 1.0 are appropriated in Section 25g of the State School Aid Act [MCL 388.1625g].

The special membership counting provisions provide a secondary funding mechanism for pupils who were counted in membership during the fall or spring, who then go on to be enrolled in another district in a program provided under Section 23a, as well as for pupils who were counted in membership by a district who then enroll in that same district’s Section 23a program for the months of June, July, and August.

The membership calculation for a pupil who enrolled in three different districts during a school year, including one district with a Section 23a program, is demonstrated in Example A below. The example shows District A claiming a full membership during the spring before the pupil transferred to District B, where that district claimed the pupil for a full membership during the fall. Following that enrollment, the pupil was enrolled in District C for eight months in a Section 23a program, resulting in 0.67 FTE (1/12 of an FTE for each month completed). The product of the combined membership from these enrollments is 1.67 FTE, with the excess of a full membership (1.0 FTE) to be paid under Section 25g.

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Example A: Section 25g Calculation – Multiple Districts

	Spring 2015	Fall 2015	Blend	Section 23a	Section 25g
District A	1.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	
District B	0.00	1.00	0.90	0.00	
District C	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.67	
			<b>Totals</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>0.67</b>
					$1.00 + 0.67 = 1.67$ $1.67 - 1.00$ $= 0.67$

Example B demonstrates the membership calculation for a pupil who was enrolled in and received instruction from a district during both counts, and then enrolled in a Section 23a program provided by that same district for the months of June, July, and August. The pupil had been enrolled full-time in the district during the spring and fall, generating 1.0 FTE from the two counts. The district went on to count the pupil for three months enrollment in their Section 23a program, which earned the district an additional 0.25 FTE. The membership related to the pupils enrollment that was in excess of 1.0 FTE is funded using Section 25g.

Example B: Section 25g Calculation – Single District

	Spring 2015	Fall 2015	FTE	Section 23a	Section 25g
District A	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	
District A (June)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.083	
District A (July)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.083	
District A (August)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.083	
			<b>Totals</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>0.25</b>
					$1.00 + 0.25 = 1.25$ $1.25 - 1.00$ $= 0.25$

The Department will calculate any necessary adjustments to membership in accordance with the legislation. If the funds appropriated under Section 25g are insufficient to fully fund the adjustments, payments under this section will be prorated.

Please direct questions regarding this change to Brian Ciloski at [ciloskib@michigan.gov](mailto:ciloskib@michigan.gov) or 517-373-3352.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance  
 Michigan Pupil Accounting and Attendance Association