Generally Allowable Use of Funds for School Safety and Mental Health (Section 31aa)
Fiscal Year 2027
Office of Health and Safety

(School Year 2026-27)

Fund Source	Intent and Purpose
Section 31aa, Subsection 2 (31aa(2))	**Improve Student Mental Health** • The purpose of this subsection is to improve student mental health. • Funds are available for districts, intermediate districts, nonpublic schools, and the Michigan School for the Deaf for activities to improve student mental health. • Allowable activities and expenditures can be found starting on page 3. • Funds are allocated on a per-pupil-basis and capped at $73.53 per pupil.
Section 31aa, Subsection 3 (31aa(3))	**Improve Student Safety** • The purpose of this subsection is to improve student safety. • Funds are available for districts, intermediate districts, nonpublic schools, and the Michigan School for the Deaf. • Funds are awarded to entities that agree to the legislative language around a comprehensive investigation in the case of a mass casualty event. • **Only staff allowed under this section must meet the legislated definition of a School Resource Officer (SRO)** • Allowable expenditures can be found starting on page 3. • Funds will be allocated on a per-pupil-basis and capped at $147.06 per pupil.

For clarification questions, or questions about allowability of expenditures,
reach out to mde-31aa@michigan.gov

Generally Allowable Use of Funds	Mental Health Funding (31aa(2))	School Safety Funding (31aa(3))
Hiring or contracting support staff, including psychologists, social workers, counselors, nurses, community health workers, and marriage and family therapists. For questions about other allowable positions, please contact MDE-31aa@Michigan.gov.	Yes	No
Purchasing and implementing mental health screening tools	Yes	No
Purchasing a statewide integrated technology platform	Yes	No
Providing consultation with behavioral health clinicians to respond to complex student mental health needs	Yes	No
Purchasing and implementing an online behavioral health tool	Yes	No
Hiring or contracting a behavioral health coordinator	Yes	No

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Generally Allowable Use of Funds	Mental Health Funding (31aa(2))	School Safety Funding (31aa(3))
Evidence-based training to support mental health	Yes	No
Costs associated with collaboration between school employees, families, and community partners	Yes	No
Costs associated with conducting needs assessment and resource mapping	Yes	No
Implementing cell-phone-free school policies	Yes	No
Purchasing and implementing an evidence-based character-and relationship-building education program that includes family engagement, service learning, and project-based character development	Yes	No
Coordination with local law enforcement	No	Yes
Training for school staff on threat assessment	No	Yes
Training for school staff and students on threat response	No	Yes

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Generally Allowable Use of Funds	Mental Health Funding (31aa(2))	School Safety Funding (31aa(3))
Training for school staff on crisis communication	No	Yes
Safety infrastructure (i.e. cameras, door blocks, hardened vestibules, window screening, technology to operate buzzer systems, firearm detection software)	No	Yes
Age-appropriate training for students and families on responsible firearm ownership (safe handling and safe storage)	No	Yes
School resource officers and safety dogs (contracted dogs only)	No	Yes
Student safety management system	No	Yes
A secure platform administered by state police to house all school safety-related items	No	Yes

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Generally Allowable Use of Funds	Mental Health Funding (31aa(2))	School Safety Funding (31aa(3))
Emergency infrastructure needs to respond to an immediate threat to the health or safety of students (**PRIOR APPROVAL NEEDED**)	No	Yes
Contract with a vendor for a comprehensive safety and security assessment or security event assessment	No	Yes
Emergency response system	No	Yes
Employee assistance programs	No	No
Gym memberships	No	No
Playgrounds, including equipment, landscaping, and materials	No	No
Renovation costs not associated with student safety	No	No
Deans of Students	No	No
Direct purchase of safety dogs	No	No

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Generally Allowable Use of Funds	Mental Health Funding (31aa(2))	School Safety Funding (31aa(3))
Direct purchase or contracting for therapy animals and supplies/training for therapy dogs	No	No
Hall monitors	No	No
Classroom teachers	No	No
Paraprofessionals	No	No
Therapists who are not mental health providers. such as occupational therapists, speech pathologists, physical therapists, etc.	No	No
Coaches including but not limited to academic coaches, counselor coaches, etc.	No	No
Security personnel who do not meet the legislated definition of an SRO. **Directors of security and chief of security are not considered an SRO under the legislated definition and are not allowable.**	No	No

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Generally Allowable Use of Funds	Mental Health Funding (31aa(2))	School Safety Funding (31aa(3))
School-branded items (i.e. shirts, toys, mugs/cups, pens, etc.)	No	No
Mental health supplies not associated with resource mapping and needs assessments	No	No
Food for events, snack carts, prizes, staff rooms, etc.	No	No
Gift cards or other incentives	No	No
Prizes, rewards, PBIS supplies, etc.	No	No

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